

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
May 7, 1979

Councilmembers present:

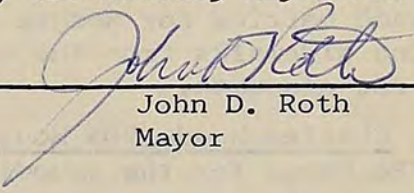
Mayor Roth  
Councilman Faulkner  
Councilman Forshee  
Councilman Garcia  
Councilman Ricks  
Councilwoman Saloma  
Councilman Webb  
Councilman Weisman  
City Administrator Gilsdorf

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Roth at 7:40 PM.

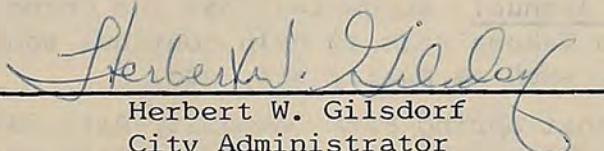
1. Appearance before Prince George's County Council relative to Request for Funding of Fire Department. Mayor Roth reported on the delegation of 50 citizens, plus elected officials and staff persons, that attended the budget hearing in Upper Marlboro. He further reported that he and Councilmembers Garcia and Faulkner would be personally contacting County Executive Hogan regarding fire department funding next year from Prince George's County.
2. Special Exception/Variance Procedures for Zoning Text Amendment 77003. The Mayor and Council discussed how their communication of March 27, 1979 may have left the impression with the Montgomery County Council that they did not want Special Exceptions or Variances made under Text Amendment 77003. Since this was not, strictly speaking, their intent, Mayor Roth agreed to straighten out the matter.
3. Police Department Budget, 1979-80. The operating accounts for the Police Department were discussed at some length by the Mayor and Council.
4. Historic Preservation Ordinance (Montgomery County). It was decided by consensus of the Council that this matter be placed on the May 21 Council meeting agenda.
5. CIB Resolution Amendment. After discussion, the City Administrator was directed to place this matter on the agenda for the May 21 meeting, the effect of the amendment being to change the service dates for CIB members from April through March to September through August.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 PM.

APPROVED

  
John D. Roth  
Mayor

ATTEST

  
Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator



THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
 and  
Public Hearing on Proposed Use of General Revenue Sharing Funds, FY-80  
 May 14, 1979

City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	Asst. City Administrator Nichols
Councilman Forshee	City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Garcia	Police Chief Porter
Councilman Ricks	Public Works Coordinator Robbins
Councilwoman Saloma	Recreation Director Ziegler
Councilman Weisman	Asst. Corporation Counsel Culpepper
EXCUSED: Councilman Webb	

The Mayor and Council of Takoma Park met on May 14 at 8:00 PM, in the Council Chamber, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Md. Following the pledge of allegiance, a motion to approve the minutes of April 23 was made, duly seconded, and approved by the Council.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Roth presented a proclamation to Henry Wagner of the Takoma Park V.F.W. Post #350, which proclaimed the month of May 1979 as "Buddy Poppy Month"; the Mayor crowned Miss Pamela Rohraback as the 1979 Buddy Poppy Princess. Mr. Wagner welcomed all citizens to the Memorial Day services to be held on Monday, May 28, 2:00 PM, in Memorial Park on Philadelphia Avenue, which is co-sponsored by Post 350 and the City.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS

Status of signalization projects at Carroll, Ethan Allen, and Philadelphia Avenues (Councilman Ricks)

CITIZENS' REMARKS

Public Hearing on proposed use of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds for FY-80. The City Administrator stated that this portion of the meeting had been set aside to receive citizen input on the use of approximately \$120,000 Revenue Sharing Funds.

1. Lou D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road: recommended that the Council review the CDBG-Citizens' Advisory Committee's recommendations that were not funded, specifically to purchase the property at the corner of Piney Branch Road and Philadelphia Avenue; that it was suggested in the Master Plan that this land be used as a sound barrier for Hodges Heights community and also the CAC suggested constructing sidewalks from the corner of Philadelphia to the Junior High as a safety factor for students.

2. Charles Wood, 705 Houston Avenue: suggested that the Council consider using FRS Funds for the schools in Takoma Park to help continue some programs which the Counties are cancelling, such as music, art, etc.

Councilman Faulkner reported that Spring Park Community Association had suggested the purchase of snow blowers for use on sidewalks at City buildings and around the City parks for easier pedestrian passage.



3. Kathryn Simpson, 7300 Cedar Avenue: commended the Council for using FRS Funds to replace sidewalks; hoped that this type of program would continue.
4. Ron Albaugh, 7202 Central Avenue: suggested that Flower Avenue street repairs be included in FRS Funds, if not already in the CDBG program. Asst. City Administrator Nichols stated that this type of project was included under CDBG; that local citizens' associations would be asked for input as to how to use the money.
5. Roland Halstead, 7116 Maple Avenue: felt City should not become dependent on FRS Funds for street/sidewalk repairs; that these funds should be used for more progressive things, such as parks, specifically suggesting a small park for the Flower Avenue area.

#### OTHER REMARKS BY CITIZENS

1. John Tucci, 608 Philadelphia Avenue: read the following statement: "Recently there has been a considerable amount of publicity in relation to my former occupation. Some of the news reports have mentioned that I live in Takoma Park. If this has brought some discredit to my community, I would offer my sincerest apologies to my friends and neighbors. I would like to assure you that eventually the entire story of this controversy will be brought to the American people, and I have been burning the night lights working on this project. Also, I might add that my family and myself deeply appreciate all the concern many of you have expressed to us. Thank you very much."
2. Florence Ross, 118 Ritchie Avenue: Mrs. Ross requested that Council give assistance to the residents of the 800 block of Colby Avenue, which has become a gathering place for non-residents who block the street and often become rowdy, asking if "No Loitering" signs could be installed. Mayor Roth stated that the City knows of this problem and has been trying to come up with a solution. Mrs. Ross agreed to assist the Police Chief in establishing contacts with the residents regarding what action they wish to be taken. Councilman Ricks requested that he be involved in this situation, and hoped that it would soon be cleared up.
3. Charles Wood: noted that Houston Avenue is being used as a speedway for cars travelling from Roanoke to Flower Avenue; that he was afraid the problem would become worse once the improvements are completed; also noted that too many busses use the street as a short-cut. Mayor Roth directed the City Administrator to meet with Chief Porter on this problem; Councilman Faulkner suggested the use of "rumble strips".
4. Lou D'Ovidio: noted that SHA had painted left turn lane on Piney Branch Road at Eastern Avenue; suggested further communication on removing the Right Turn on Red signs at Piney Branch and Philadelphia; spoke of five accidents which have occurred in a two-week period on Piney Branch Road, in which cars travelling from D. C. had ended up in residents' front yards; that these accidents took place after midnight when the traffic signals had gone into a blinking yellow stage; asked if the Council could contact D. C. DOT about this and suggest that the signals continue their regular cycle throughout the night. Mr. D'Ovidio spoke of a letter he had received as chairman of the CDBG-CAC from Jacqueline Rogers, Montgomery County Office of Community Development, in which she stated that the County was only responding to desires of elected officials of Takoma Park by including \$100,000 in the City's CDBG allocation for relocation assistance of Winchester-Takoma tenants; Mr. D'Ovidio stated that he was under the impression that the



Council had asked for these funds to be available, but did not want them to be included in the CDBG allocation; felt that the County considers these funds an extra bonus for the City; that the tone of the letter was not good. Mayor Roth said that the Council did not ask for these funds to be included in CDBG, but had requested funds be made available. He noted, however, that if the entire amount is not spent on relocation, surplus could be transferred to other projects; questioned the wisdom of taking a chance on having County revoke funds if they can be transferred. Councilwoman Saloma stated that the City should clarify this situation with the County; felt relocation assistance should have come from the County's social services department.

5. Sammie Abbott, 7308 Birch Avenue: referred to legal notice on County CDBG program, including Winchester-Takoma dislocation funds, in which it was stated that an environmental impact statement was unnecessary because of community support; reiterated Mr. D'Ovidio's concern about these funds. Regarding Neighborhoods Together LEAA grant application, felt there was a reluctance on the Council's part to support this type of program because of competition with City's grant programs. Mayor Roth stated that this was inaccurate; that Neighborhoods Together's application had failed to include the following essential elements: description of all current anti-crime programs operating in community; certification that the proposed activities would be "new" efforts, not currently funded by other LEAA sources; statement as to how program would relate to and cooperate with other federally and state/locally funded efforts.

6. Roland Halstead: described the effects of Montgomery County's proposed Master Plan and Ordinance for Historic Preservation; noted that persons wishing to restore or demolish historic properties would have to submit applications to a Historic Review Committee and this process could take up to 18 months; this could delay restoration projects in the City's Historic Districts. Suggested that Council consider this in their discussion of the Plan.

8. Lou D'Ovidio: encouraged Council to appoint CDBG Citizens' Advisory Committee soon because of short period of time they have to prepare recommendations; Mayor Roth stated that the Council has been discussing this.

#### ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

##### Communications

1. L. Douglas Hotton, District Wildlife Manager. An inspection has been conducted in the Philadelphia Avenue area with some evidence of raccoon damage found; area appears to be good urban raccoon habitat; listed following recommendations that should be followed if community desires to control population: encourage trapping of raccoons during legal fur trapping season by professional fur trappers; reduce denning sites by capping chimneys, securing out-buildings, and removing dead trees; close up sewer entrances to prevent raccoons from using it for cover; reduce food sources by securing trash can lids, advising individuals to stop feeding raccoons and recommending that pet food not be left outside; that two officials have been assigned to this problem and a personal meeting would be arranged. Mayor Roth noted that this problem is not confined to the Philadelphia Avenue area and asked if more suggestions could be offered for control in the entire City; suggested that an article be included in Newsletter and possibly compiling a list of professionals to keep on hand in the City Office.



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Proposed amendment to resolution changing terms of office of Community Improvement Board members to begin September 1 (presently April 1). Mayor Roth moved that the resolution be amended to change the terms of office from April 1 to September 1 with current Board members to serve until that time; this was seconded by Councilman Faulkner and approved unanimously by the Council.

2. Discussion of Montgomery County's Master Plan and Ordinance for Historic Preservation. Mayor Roth stated that this would be an opportunity for the City to obtain some control from the County by requesting that the City be allowed to process applications for restoration/demolition within the City's Historic Districts. Councilman Ricks moved that the Council request this authority; this was seconded by Councilman Weisman. It was noted by Councilmembers that the City would have to establish a commission whose operational criteria should be in correspondence with the County's guidelines. When the motion was put to a vote, it was approved unanimously. Councilwoman Saloma made a motion to request the County to include the City's historic districts on the initial list of protected properties; this was seconded by Councilman Faulkner and approved by the Council. It was the consensus of the Council that a letter be sent to the County and that Councilwoman Saloma testify at the public hearing to be held on May 21.

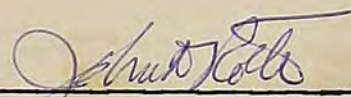
3. Announcement of Public Hearing on 1979-80 Proposed Budget and Proposed Use of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds, FY-80, 8:00 PM, Wednesday, May 30, Council Chamber. It was announced that copies of the proposed Budget would be available the week of May 21, 1979.

4. The City Administrator stated that he had contacted SHA contractor concerning signalization projects at Carroll, Ethan Allen, and Philadelphia Avenues and was told that the work will begin within 2-3 weeks.

5. Regarding correspondence discussed earlier from Montgomery County Office of Community Development, Councilwoman Saloma stated she felt it would be appropriate to reply because of the confusion involved; that the Council did not request dislocation funds be included in the City's CDBG allocations; that type of funding usually comes from the social services department; and perhaps an environmental impact statement should be prepared. It was noted by some Councilmembers that the County may misunderstand and withdraw these funds if a letter is written, although all did agree that funds were not requested to be included in CDBG program. Councilwoman Saloma made a motion that a letter be sent to correct the opinion that the City requested dislocation funds be included in the CDBG allocations; this was seconded by Councilman Ricks. After further lengthy discussion, Councilman Forshee moved that the motion be tabled; this was seconded by Councilman Garcia, but failed when put to a vote. Councilwoman Saloma suggested that the Montgomery County correspondence be reviewed and the proposed letter, specifically the wording, be discussed at the next worksession.

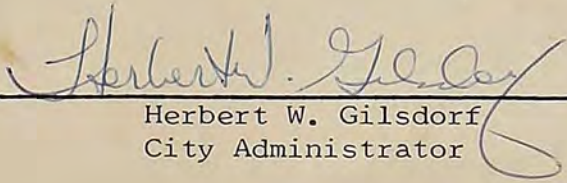
Upon motion, duly seconded, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM, to reconvene on Tuesday, May 29, 1979, at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED



John D. Roth  
Mayor

ATTEST

  
Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
May 21, 1979

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have adopted Ordinance No. 1946 regulating the exterior appearance and maintenance factors of buildings and structures that by reason of deterioration of material, lack of repair or maintenance are, or will become a blighting or deteriorating factor in the neighborhood, or will impair or adversely affect the value of neighboring property, AND

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have heretofore appointed a permanent Community Improvement Board to assist in the administration and enforcement of Ordinance No. 1946, AND

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have received advice from the Community Improvement Board recommending a more effective order and routine of procedure guidelines for the Community Improvement Board and guidelines governing the administration of Ordinance No. 1946:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, that the following procedure shall regulate the administration and enforcement of Ordinance No. 1946:

(a) That a permanent Community Improvement Board be appointed by the Mayor and Council. Such Board shall consist of a General Chairman for a two-year appointment, a General Vice-Chairman for a one-year appointment and a sufficient number of Zone Chairmen to adequately represent the various sections of the City, set up somewhat along the boundary lines of the seven City Election Wards with adjustment of lines in certain sections for practical operation purposes. Appointments of Zone Chairmen shall be for alternate one and two-year overlapping terms for continuity purposes. The General Chairman together with General Vice Chairman and Zone Chairmen shall recommend at least two assistants for each zone. The Mayor and Council shall thereafter appoint the assistants and shall designate the length of the term of one or two-year periods. Appointees shall live in or represent a business establishment in the City of Takoma Park. All terms whether one or two years shall expire August 31.\*/ All interim appointments shall expire on the next August 31\*/ following the date of appointment.

(b) Members of the Community Improvement Board, members of the Police and Fire Department and other City employees are urged to report to the City Administrator any property that appears to be subject to the provisions of Ordinance No. 1946. When the City Administrator receives information from any person concerning a specific property he shall direct the Code Enforcement Officer to observe the premises and issue a report containing the defects observed, sufficient copies of such report to be forwarded to the City Administrator. This process shall be in addition to the normal duties and inspection procedures of the Code Enforcement Division. Upon receipt of any such reports, which shall be numbered for record purposes, the City Administrator shall correspond with the property owner, enclosing therewith a copy of the report as issued by the Code Enforcement Officer. The City Administrator shall simultaneously also send a copy of such report with the date of

\*/ Terms of office amended amended May 14, 1979.



mailing to the property owner noted thereon to each of the following; the Zone Chairman, the General Chairman and the City Councilman who is the liaison with the Community Improvement Board.

(c) Windshield Survey. The Zone Chairman and one or more members of each Zone Committee accompanied by the General Chairman or General Vice Chairman shall conduct within their respective zones, an annual windshield survey between January 2nd and March 1st. Each Zone Chairman shall make a report of all deficiencies within the Zone, described in Ordinance No. 1946, unto the City Administrator on or before March 10th.

(1) Deficiencies other than those described in Ordinance No. 1946 in any type of structure (multiple family, commercial, institutional, industrial or public use) observed by the members of the Community Improvement Board may be reported to the City Administrator though no follow-up of these deficiencies shall be the responsibility of the Community Improvement Board or any of its members.

(2) The members of the Community Improvement Board have a responsibility to report deficiencies that come to their attention between annual windshield surveys. These shall be reported on forms provided, in writing to the City Administrator.

(3) A follow-up survey shall be done in October. A report of corrections of cases cited shall be made to the General Chairman and Code Enforcement Officer and cards of thanks shall be sent by the Zone Chairman to owners of property corrected. A report of this survey shall be provided to the Mayor and Council by the General Chairman.

(d) The City Administrator upon receiving reports from the Zone Chairman from the windshield survey or from any member of the Community Improvement Board between the periods of the windshield survey shall forward the report to the Code Enforcement Officer. Thereafter, the City Administrator and Code Enforcement shall follow the same procedure described in section (b) above to notify the property owners.

(e) Responsibilities of the Zone Chairmen shall be as follows:

(1) Conduct the windshield survey as described in paragraph (c) above. Coordinate dates for the windshield surveys in their respective zones with the General Chairman. Forward results of the survey before March 10th to the City Administrator so that notice to the property owners may be mailed by April 10th.

(2) Assign an area of the zone to each member of the Zone Committee including himself.

(3) Report any unusual delays in action by the Code Enforcement Division to the General Chairman.

(4) Request the General Chairman to obtain a hearing with the City Administrator, or with the Mayor and Council on matters affecting their zone.



-3-

(f) The Code Enforcement Division shall make a report to the Community Improvement Board before the November meeting of the Board on the results of the previous annual windshield survey.

(g) The Community Improvement Board shall meet at least quarterly to evaluate the program and benefit from individual experiences and refine the procedure. The Community Improvement Board shall meet at the call of the General Chairman.

(h) The members of the Community Improvement Board are to refrain from public discussion of the reports made or received.

(i) The City Administrator will assign office staff as required to the Community Improvement Board activities.

ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL, MAY 13, 1974

AMENDED BY MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MAY 14, 1979



CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
May 21, 1979

Councilmembers present:

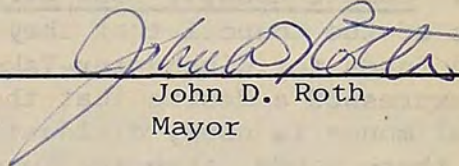
Mayor Roth  
Councilman Faulkner  
Councilman Forshee  
Councilman Garcia  
Councilman Ricks  
Councilman Weisman  
City Administrator Gilsdorf

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Roth at 7:45 PM.

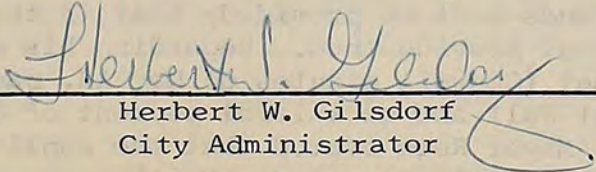
1. Payment to Takoma Park Volunteer Fire Department. Mayor Roth reported on efforts being made by himself, members of the Council, and citizens to lobby Prince George's County Councilmembers in favor of a payment for fire service.
2. Former Georgetown Clinic Space. The City Administrator reported to the Council that this facility would be used by four separate governmental entities, but would retain its community service focus.
3. Two Resubdivisions. The resubdivision of two large lots, one on Ritchie and the other on Geneva, were discussed by the Council. Since no opposition was raised, the matter will be placed on the May 29 Council agenda.
4. Meeting with Citizens Relative to Colby Avenue. The City Administrator reported that he and the Police Chief had met with area residents and had agreed to first try increased police patrols in the 800 block of Colby Avenue. If this does not relieve the problem, then a "No Parking" petition will be circulated for the north side of Colby Avenue.
5. June 25th Council Meeting. After discussion, it was decided to cancel the June 25 Council meeting, but the Mayor advised the City Administrator that he and Councilmembers would retain the option of calling a special meeting for June 27 if one were needed.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

APPROVED

  
John D. Roth  
Mayor

ATTEST

  
Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator



## THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

May 29, 1979

## City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Forshee	Administrative Asst. Swinton
Councilman Garcia	Det. Sergeant Duvall
Councilman Ricks	Public Works Coordinator Robbins
Councilwoman Saloma	Recreation Director Ziegler
Councilman Webb	Corporation Counsel Gingerich
Councilman Weisman	Asst. Corporation Counsel Hoffman

The Mayor and Council of Takoma Park met on May 29 at 8:00 PM, in the Council Chamber, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Md. Following the pledge of allegiance, a motion to approve the minutes of May 14 was made, duly seconded, and approved by the Council.

MAYOR ROTH'S COMMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Roth stated that he was privileged to be present in Annapolis when Governor Hughes signed the Highway User Revenue Sharing Bill which will give municipalities a larger share of the taxes obtained from license tags and gasoline. He invited to attend because of his strong personal support of the bill.

Stated that he, Councilmembers Faulkner and Garcia, and some citizens of the Prince George's section of the City have had a series of meetings with officials of Prince George's County to discuss the funding of the Takoma Park fire station; on May 1, the City provided transportation for a large group of citizens to speak at the budget hearing in Upper Marlboro; he attended a staff worksession on May 7; have had several appointments with Prince George's County Councilmembers (May 17, 18 and 22) which resulted in a 5:3 vote in favor of including funds for this purpose at the fire department budget worksession of May 23; noted his appointment with County Executive Hogan on May 30 to follow-up on this favorable vote and ask for his support; felt it is clear that negotiations are needed with Montgomery County, and if Prince George's County does not include funds in the budget, negotiations will not take place.

CITIZENS' REMARKS

1. Sammie Abbott, 7308 Birch Avenue: stated that he felt it was the consensus of the Council that they had not asked for inclusion of \$100,000 in dislocation funds for Winchester-Takoma tenants as part of the CDBG program and had also expressed a desire that the funds allocated not be lost; noted that when Federal money is used, dislocation funds must be provided; that if the City deletes these funds, then the County must provide them. Regarding his earlier dialogue with the Mayor on the LEAA grant (Council minutes of May 14, page 3, item 5), stated that it had been approved last Fall and an initial payment of \$17,000 made despite the three omissions cited. Mayor Roth stated that the application was defective in that information contained in the grant application was seriously misleading. Mr. Abbott reiterated both points.



2. Ellery Dennison, 7207 13th Place: suggested that funds be appropriated to repair the Council Chamber door, which makes loud noises and distrubs persons attending meeting; regarding Montgomery County's Master Plan and Ordinance for Historical Preservation, stated that he is not opposed to it, but felt it could cause problems in the future--depriving people of their rights in restoration of their homes; requested that SHA synchronize the proposed signals at Carroll-Ethan Allen-Philadelphia Avenues and also Maple and Philadelphia Avenues. Mayor Roth stated that repairs to the Council Chamber door would be looked into; agreed that there could be problems in dealing with the Historic Preservation Ordinance, but noted that it would only affect properties within the City's historic districts; that information from SHA indicates that the signals will be synchronized.

3. Roland Halstead, 7116 Maple Avenue: stated that he is embarassed at the behavior of some citizens and Councilpersons at recent meetings; that citizens have offered some constructive ideas that have been frustrated by the Council; made the following suggestions to correct these problems: Council could allow citizens' remarks on agenda items before the Council takes a vote; Council should enforce the speakers' time limit rule; that Council listen and act upon legitimate citizen suggestions; that the citizens work with the Council to give a stronger citizen-City voice; citizens should show respect for elected officials by not interrupting and failing to stop speaking when told they are out of order. Mayor Roth generally agreed with Mr. Halstead, as did other Councilmembers; the Mayor enumerated several actions taken by the Council which started as citizen suggestions; hoped that the Council and citizens would work for a common cause in the City's interest.

#### ITEMS FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

##### Communications

1. Douglas Ziegler, President, Independence Day Committee. Letter expressing appreciation to Councilmembers who donated their time to work at the Children's Carnival held on May 20; noted the Council's personal interest in raising money for the Fourth of July celebration and that when all bills are paid, there should be approximately an \$800 profit from the Carnival.

2. The City Administrator announced that a free slide presentation will be held on New Zealand and Australia at the Municipal Building on Thursday, May 31, at 8:00 PM.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Resubdivision of property at Geneva and Hilltop, Lot 4, Block 61, B. F. Gilbert's Subdivision--to be redesignated as Lots 26 and 27, R-60 Zone. The City Administrator reported that this would be the dividing of a 3/4 acre lot into two smaller lots; that at this time there is one house on the lot and is being divided to accomodate another R-60 dwelling; the division has already been approved by Park and Planning. Upon motion by Councilman Garcia, duly seconded by Councilman Weisman, it was the consensus of the Council that the resubdivision be approved. When put to a vote, it was approved.

2. Resubdivision of property in 100 block of Ritchie Avenue (north side), Lot 14, Block 61, BFG--to be redesignated Lots 39 and 40, R-60 Zone. The City Administrator stated that these lots are located at Ritchie and Geneva; this would be in conformity with adjoining lots; that the developer has plans to construct two homes that are similar to those being built on Geneva Avenue. Councilman Forshee moved that the Council express no objection to this resubdivision; this was duly seconded by Councilman Ricks and approved by the Council.



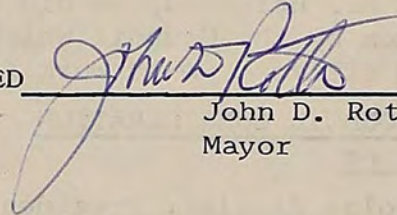
3. Announcement of Public Hearings on 1979-80 Proposed Budget; Proposed Use of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds, FY-80; and Proposed City Tax Rate, FY-80--8:00 PM, Wednesday, May 30, Council Chamber.

4. Councilman Weisman reported on the outcome of the Montgomery County Board of Appeals hearing for a Special Exception for a day care center to be located at 7607 Takoma Avenue; that it was denied with prejudice, which means that it cannot be brought up again; felt that this was due to the letter from the Council which opposed its operation, and because members of the North Takoma Citizens' Association kept close watch on the proceedings--Charlene Cohen, Delores Stowell, Morelyn Weisman, Harry Wickline, and Joe Lerner.

5. Councilwoman Saloma gave a brief summary of her testimony at a public hearing on Montgomery County's Master Plan and Ordinance for Historic Preservation which was discussed at the Council meeting of May 14.

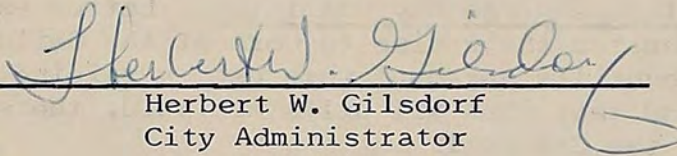
Upon motion, duly seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM, to reconvene on Monday, June 11, 1979, at 8:00 PM.

APPROVED



John D. Roth  
Mayor

ATTEST



Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator



## THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

Public Hearings on  
'Proposed 1979-80 Budget;  
Proposed Use of Federal Revenue Sharing Funds, FY-80;  
Proposed Fiscal Year-1980 City Tax Rate

May 30, 1979

City Officials Present:

Mayor Roth	City Administrator Gilsdorf
Councilman Faulkner	Asst. City Administrator Nichols
Councilman Forshee	City Clerk Pusti
Councilman Garcia	Police Chief Porter
Councilman Ricks	Public Works Coordinator Robbins
Councilwoman Saloma	Recreation Director Ziegler
Councilman Webb	
EXCUSED: Councilman Weisman	

PROPOSED 1979-80 BUDGET

The City Administrator gave a brief summary of the staff-prepared Proposed Budget as follows: this year the City has produced a program budget in response to citizen requests from previous years which is based on the current tax rate of \$1.25 per \$100 assessed value; City employee's proposed salary increase is 7%, to correspond with the President's guidelines; revenues available are \$2.5 million as compared to last year's \$2.4 million which is an increase of about 4%; noted that last year's inflation rate was approximately 9%; a basic program analysis is included for each department which speaks to some of the highlights during the year and, in some instances, gives an analysis of costs and programs for the future; noted the proposal for the retention of the Concentrated Crime Reduction Team whose LEAA grant was not renewed; there will be the addition of a code enforcement officer to be partially funded by CDBG; increase in Government Buildings account due to rise in utilities and the need to replace some equipment.

1. John Tucci, 608 Philadelphia Avenue: questioned the increase in the Treasurer's salary and was told that this account includes four staff persons and not just the Treasurer, who is part-time; noted the decrease in the Newsletter account; the City Administrator stated that this was due to a scare in the printing business last year which never materialized and last year's account was over-budgeted; which explains the decrease this year; concerning the proposed 7% salary increase, noted that as a government employee, he was only receiving a 5.5% increase; the City Administrator stated that the 7% figure was generally agreed upon by representatives of area municipalities/counties.



2. Robert Mandel, 7003 Woodland Avenue: noted several accounts which had been decreased; the City Administrator explained that these were either over-budgeted last year, or senior employees were retiring with replacements starting at a lower salary. Mr. Mandel questioned the addition of another lawyer in the Corporation Counsel's office and the elimination of the Fire Prevention Division; the City Administrator stated that the City has produced a much heavier work load for the Corporation Counsel's office and along with his other clients, this necessitated the addition; that the Fire Prevention has now been turned over to the respective Counties. Mr. Mandel felt that the salaries should be kept at a level corresponding to the counties; that the City loses police officers to counties for more money.

3. Faith Stern, President, Takoma Park Library Board: questioned why the account for road materials decreased; the City Administrator stated that some materials are obtained through the CDBG program and contractors provide materials when retained by the City. Mrs. Stern thanked the Council for their continued support of the Library; that the Library budget is honest in that it proposes to maintain the current level of service and not lower it.

4. David Prosten, 7428 Carroll Avenue: questioned the purchasing procedures of the City and how the Corporation Counsel and auditors are obtained. The City Administrator stated that bids are advertised for purchases over \$1,000 and for anything below that amount, selective/competitive pricing is done; concerning the Corporation Counsel and auditors, it was noted that the same persons have been with the City for several years; that they have a knowledge of the City business and records; that there would be a problem of determining quality of any prospective persons. Regarding the employee's salary increases of 7%, Mr. Prosten asked what was included as benefits and if the 7% included a merit increase. The City Administrator stated that the 7% was an overall increase (merit and cost-of-living combined to equal 7%); fringe benefits include health and life insurance, State Retirement, paid holidays, annual and sick leave benefits. Mr. Prosten suggested that the Council consider keeping the employees' salaries at an even pace with inflation; also suggested that the City solicit bids for a new printing firm for the Newsletter.

5. Lou D'Ovidio, 7324 Piney Branch Road: stated his appreciation of the program budget and suggested for next year the use of three columns--adopted budget, current expenditures, and proposed budget; regarding the increased number of cards issued by the Library, suggested that this might be associated with the Tool Lending Library. Requested explanation of education and training account; the City Administrator stated that employees taking job-related classes that obtain a grade of C or better can be reimbursed through this account. Mr. D'Ovidio stated his approval and suggested it be increased.



6. Sammie Abbott, 7308 Birch Avenue: complemented the program budget for answering many questions and also suggested the use of a current expenditures addendum; proposed that next year a listing of number of positions in each department and a salary breakdown be provided; noted the reimbursements from counties in Revenue Detail and suggested that more money be obtained, especially from Prince George's County; that there should be more information on grant programs and on-going efforts to obtain them; recommended meetings be held by each department with citizens to discuss their budgets and get responses to their programs.

7. Abby Mandel, 7003 Woodland Avenue: noted her concern about employee salaries and questioned how the Council could set the tax rate without knowing whether employees agreed with the proposed salary increase; noted her concern about the continued use of salt on City streets which erodes the cement surface; felt that employees with car allowances should decrease their driving to conserve energy; urged Council not to delete any items from the Recreation and Library budgets and if anything, to increase the budgets.

8. Ed Hutmire, President, Recreation Council: noted his appreciation for the Council's interest and support of recreation programs; recommended two additions that were inadvertently left out of the budget--a telephone answering device to broadcast programs when the office is closed and to notify of cancellations, also a combination file/safe for the office.

9. Carlos Steward, 7710 Maple Avenue: asked for explanation of expenditures that relate to community development and community relations. The City Administrator stated that CDBG funds are reflected throughout the departmental budgets; that community liaison is a part of the City Administrator's office.

10. Ellen Marsh, 7405 Maple Avenue: suggested the use of brick sidewalks; noted their cost efficiency and recommended the 7100 block of Cedar as location for pilot project; recommended increase in City contribution to the Independence Day Committee.

11. David Prosten: concerning the President's wage and price guidelines with which employee's increases correspond, noted that the guidelines are not working; suggested discontinuing business relations, as the government has, with businesses that exceed guidelines.

#### PROPOSED USE OF FEDERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS, FY-80

The City Administrator stated that Federal Law requires a Planned Use Report be presented to the public; briefly listed the items requested by departments. Councilman Ricks requested that two items be added to Planned Use items--telephone answering devices for City office and Recreation Department; it was suggested by Councilmembers that possibly these items could be covered by surplus from current department budgets.



1. Sammie Abbott: recommended that the fee for Landlord-Tenant be deleted from RSF and the money used to beef-up code enforcement and court actions on problem properties.

2. Abby Mandel: questioned guidelines for use of RSF; thought funds were intended for "people projects". The City Administrator stated that the guidelines have been relaxed somewhat and most municipalities are now including these funds in their budgets. Mrs. Mandel suggested the purchase of a small snow plow for clearing sidewalks around City parks, or suggested that a person living nearby be retained to do this job.

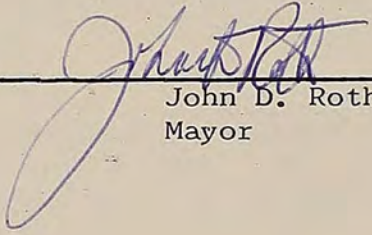
3. Carlos Stewart: asked how the amount of RSF is determined and suggested funds be used for "people projects", such as social services or crime control. The City Administrator stated that funds are determined on a formula basis--population and amount of services provided; that funds come directly from Federal government.

#### PROPOSED FY-80 CITY TAX RATE

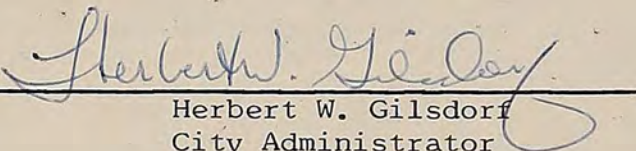
The City Administrator announced that the City Tax Rate as proposed will be \$1.25 per \$100 of assessed property value; that the Tax Rate, Budget, and Federal Revenue Sharing Funds will be presented in ordinance form at the June 11 Council meeting. Councilman Forshee noted that at the same tax rate as last year, the City will be receiving more money because of increased assessments; feared that the City may become dependent on the Federal Revenue Sharing Funds and other Federal funds which may be terminated in the future; City should expend funds with care. It was also noted that under the new three year re-assessment law, the City will be one of the first to be re-assessed.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:15 PM.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

  
John D. Roth  
Mayor

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_

  
Herbert W. Gilsdorf  
City Administrator