

COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND

August 4, 2008

Mayor Bill Gardiner called the meeting of the Council to order at 7:50 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland.

Present were Mayor Bill Gardiner, Council President Bill Tierney, and Council Members Ruth Ann Frazier, Paula Perry, Mark Matulef, and Nicole Hinds. Council Vice President Anthony Patterson, and Council Members Marc Tartaro, Carlos Lizanne, Krista Atteberry, and Douglas Dudrow were absent.

Also present were City Administrator Murphy, Assistant City Administrator Jones, Chief of Police Holland, City Treasurer Oliphant, Community Development Manager Chandler, and City Clerk Barber.

Note for the Record: Mayor Gardiner allowed the presentation from the Maryland State Highway Administration to start prior to taking the official roll call. The presentation started at 7:36 p.m.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Peter Campanides from the Maryland State Highway Administration addressed the Mayor and Council on SHA proposed changes to the intersection of East-West Highway and Queens Chapel Road located in Hyattsville. Mr. Campanides noted many conflicts that the intersection present especially when dealing with pedestrian safety concerns. Mr. Campanides addressed the pedestrian safety concerns and provided some alternatives to help improve pedestrian safety at the intersection. Mr. Campanides noted that the project has yet to be funded for construction, but was seeking the City's support. Mr. Campanides closed with responded to questions of clarification given by the Mayor and Council on the scope of the project.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council Member Perry moved that the Mayor and Council approve the agenda as amended, as Mayor Gardiner requested that an addition item be placed on the agenda for Council's consideration and per Council's request all the consent items be move to the action agenda. The motion passed, unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Andrea Ross, 6006 37th Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council; she thanked the City for their work in addressing concerns from the residents of her area, and is pleased with the outcomes.

Mr. David Marshall, 6000 Block of 37th Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council with his comments and concerns on items on the current agenda. Mr. Marshall closed by stating the definite change to the environment on his street since the issue and concerns raised by the residents had been fixed by the City.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Council President Tierney moved that the Mayor and Council approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes of July 14, 2008, and July 28, 2008, and the Council Meeting Minutes of July 21, 2008. The motion passed, unanimously.

Note for the Record: Council President Tierney pulled the Closed Session Summary for July 2008 pending additional clarification.

CONSENT ITEM:

Council President Tierney moved that the Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Maryland State Highway Administration conveying the City's support for the plan improvements at the intersection at East-West Highway and Queens Chapel Road and to request the Town of University Park convey the same message. (Motion# 143-08-08) The motion passed, unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

Council President Tierney moved that the Mayor and Council adopt Hyattsville Ordinance 2008-07, an ordinance to establish a City Homeowner's Tax Credit Program, to be effective starting with FY09, to supplement the State of Maryland's program and provide real property tax relief to City residents of limited financial means. (Second Reading) (Motion# 132-08-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the issue at length. The motion failed with Council Member Perry voting against.

Council Member Frazier moved that the Mayor and Council accept and authorize the expenditure of a \$1,500.00 donation by Prince George's County Council- District 2 Delegation. The purpose of the donation is the result of a special appropriations grant for your organizations use with the National Night Out Event (Tuesday, August 5, 2008). (Motion# 133-08-08) The motion passed, unanimously.

Council Member Hinds moved that the Mayor and Council authorize the scheduling of a Public Hearing on September 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. for the Designation of a Residential Parking Permit Area for the 4100 – 4200 Blocks of Quintana Street, 6200 Block of 41st Place, 4100 Block of Roanoke Road and the 6200 Block of 41st Avenue. (Motion# 136-08-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the issue at length. The motion failed with Council Member Frazier and Perry voting against.

Council Member Hinds moved to authorize the scheduling of a Public Hearing on September 15, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. for the installation of Traffic Calming Devices in the

4100 – 4200 Blocks of Quintana Street, 6200 Block of 41st Place, 4100 Block of Roanoke Road and the 6200 Block of 41st Avenue. (Motion# 137-08-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the issue at length. The motion failed with Council Member Frazier and Perry voting against.

Council Member Frazier moved that the Mayor and Council authorize City Staff to schedule a Community Meeting on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. with a location to be determined for the purpose of discussing the proposed installation of sidewalk for 38th Avenue, Hyattsville. (Motion# 135-08-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the issue at length. The motion passed, unanimously.

Council Member Perry moved that the Mayor and Council accept and authorize the expenditure of \$250,000 awarded to the City by Community Legacy funds through the State of Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for revitalization activities at the building located at 4318 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, in accordance with the terms of the grant. (Motion# 134-08-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the issue briefly with Community Development Manager Chandler responding to questions of clarification given by the Mayor and Council on the item. The motion passed, unanimously.

Council President Tierney moved that the Mayor and City Council authorize the City Administrator to execute a lease with the United States Postal Service (USPS), upon review and approval for legal sufficiency by the City Attorney, for the USPS parking lot located at 4325 Gallatin Street, for a three year lease beginning June 1, 2008, and ending May 31, 2011, for a total of three years at an annual amount of \$9,000.00, with a total cost of \$27,000.00. (Motion# 138-08-08) Assistant City Administrator Jones provided a brief overview of the item to the Mayor and Council. The motion passed, unanimously.

Council Member Perry moved that the Mayor and City Council authorize the City Administrator to enter into a contract for architectural services for first floor framing construction drawings for the building formally known as “The Arcade” located at 4318 Gallatin Street, upon review of the City Attorney. (Motion# 139-08-08) Community Development Manager Chandler provided a brief overview of the architectural firm and their work on the project. The motion passed, unanimously.

Council Member Frazier moved that the Mayor and City Council authorize the City Administrator to proceed with the purchase of two (2) Pay-by-Space pay stations and the required installation, from Duncan Solutions in the amount of \$17,351.00 to replace the previous single pay station for City Parking Lot # 1. (Motion# 141-08-08) Assistant City Administrator Jones responded to questions of clarification given by the Mayor and Council on the item. The motion passed, unanimously.

Council Member Matulef moved that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Administrator to make the following changes to the City’s Personnel Manual:

Amend paragraph six (6) in Part (F) of Section VII – Compensation Practices that establishes the level of the standard salary increase that employees will receive if they are promoted, from the current language which reads

“When an employee is promoted to another grade, the new appointment will be made at the comparable salary in the new grade rounded to the next step, but in no case less than 1.03 of current salary.”

To

“When employees are promoted from one grade/rank (old) to another grade/rank (new), they will be placed on the new grade/rank at the lowest step in that grade/rank that yields a salary increase of at least half of the simple grade to grade difference (as shown on the pay table) between their old and new grades/ranks plus pro-rata share of the difference between their current step and next step in their old grade/rank as follows:

Date of most recent scheduled evaluation/merit increase	Pro-rata adjustment
Less than 3 months before promotion	None
More than 3 months but less than 6 months before promotion	25% of the difference between their step before promotion in old grade/rank and next step in old grade/rank
More than 6 months but less than 9 months before promotion	50% of the difference between their step before promotion in old grade/rank and next step in old grade/rank
More than 9 months before promotion	75% of the difference between their step before promotion in old grade/rank and next step in old grade/rank

Retroactive to January 1, 2008

If there are changes made to individual grades/ranks on the City pay tables before the start of the fiscal year 2009, anyone placed on one of those grades, since January 1, 2008, as the result of a promotion, is subject to being moved to a step other than the one they were originally placed on in conformance with the promotional policy above. (Motion# 89-05-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the item at length. City Treasurer Oliphant responded to questions of clarification on the issue given by the Mayor and Council. A roll call vote was taken on the motion. The motion failed with Council President Tierney, and Council Members Frazier, Perry, and Hinds voting against and Council Member Matulef voting for.

The Mayor and Council discussed the following motions regarding personnel: Motion#89-05-08 Personnel Policy and Manual Update (Note: Item will have to be given a new Motion# as the motion has failed) and Motion # 113-08-08 Additional Step

Recommendations to Pay Tables. Mayor Gardiner noted that these items would be brought back to Council at the first meeting of September (September 8, 2008).

Council President Tierney moved that the Mayor and City Council approve the City's Fiscal Year 2009 Goals and Outputs document with the provided resource allocations. (Motion# 111-08-08) The Mayor and Council discussed the issue at length. Mayor Gardiner responded to comments on the document presented that were given by the Council. The motion passed, unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Motion# 140-08-08 4318 Gallatin Street Rehabilitation: Construction Management Agreement

Mayor Gardiner provided a brief overview of the item. At the request of the Mayor Community Development Manager Chandler provided to the Council the scope of work for the project. Mr. Stuart Eisenberg, CDC Executive Director addressed the Mayor and Council and provided additional comments on the scope of work for the project and the services that are being provided from the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation (HCDC) for the project. The Mayor and Council decided to take official action of the item. **Council Member Perry moved that the Mayor and City Council authorize the City Administrator to extend the present Project Management Contract for the rehabilitation of 4318 Gallatin Street with the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation. The City was awarded a \$ 250,000 Community Legacy Grant for continued reconstruction of the former Arcade for future use as a Municipal Annex facility on the strength of its progress on the project through collaboration with the Hyattsville CDC. The service contract enables the City to focus its FTE resources on its core functions cost effectively assures construction oversight for this project. The scope of services remains the same; the agreement service fee is \$25,000 (10% of the grant).** (Motion#140-08-08) The motion passed, unanimously.

Mayor Gardiner noted that the Council would discuss at the first meeting of September (September 8, 2008) the Committee Policies and Council Policies.

Council Member Perry moved that the Mayor and Council close the Council Meeting of August 4, 2008, to discuss a personnel matter. (Motion# 142-08-08) A roll call vote was taken on the motion. The motion passed, unanimously.

Mayor Gardiner noted that the Council would not be returning to open session.

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The Council Meeting of August 4, 2008 ended at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglass A. Barber, City Clerk