

## **COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND**

January 3, 2005

Mayor Bill Gardiner called the meeting of the Council to order at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland.

Present were Mayor Bill Gardiner, Council President Stuart Eisenberg, Council Vice President Paula Perry, and Council Members Douglas Dudrow, Scott Wilson, Ruth Ann Frazier, Christopher Currie (8:25 p.m.), Jon Lewis, , Mary Elwood, and Carlos Lizanne (8:15 p.m.). Council Member Scott Wythe was absent.

Also present were City Administrator Murphy, Director of Recreation and Parks Hager, City Treasurer Oliphant, Supervisor of Code Enforcement Hampton, City Attorney Colaresi, and City Clerk Barber.

Mayor Gardiner requested a moment of silence in honor of the former Mayor Mary K. Prangley and the victims of the recent Tsunami in Asia.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Phil Hager, Director of Recreation, announced the names of the winners of the "Light up the sky" contest for 2004: Ward 1, Third Place, Eric Wingard (4111 Decatur Street), Second Place, William Holland and Marianne LaRouche (4704 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue), First Place, Franklin and Nancy Sipe ( 4011 Buchanan Street). Ward 2, Third Place, Elmer Sorto (5608 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and Bob Minaert (4026 Hamilton Street), Second Place, Joseph Mattingley (4902 40<sup>th</sup> Place), First Place, Edward and Frances Warnick (3706 Jefferson Street). Ward 3, Third Place, Guy and Laura Gienger (3404 Rosemary Lane), Second Place Lynwood and Sonya Baggett (4007 Oglethorpe Street), First Place Douglas and Brenda Brinsfield (3505 Nicholson Street). Ward 4, Third Place, Blanca Figueroa and Lillian Lone (3201 Madison Street), Second Place, Santos Ruiz and Argueta Reina, First Place, Luis Santizo (6006 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue). Ward 5, Third Place, Otto and Lilly Williams (5625 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue), Second Place, Billy and Joyce Davis (5025 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue), First Place, Randolph and Andy Rodney (5022 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue). University Hills Area, Third Place, Ruffin and Joan Woodard (3423 Rutgers Street), Second Place, Cerilo and Paz Fortes (3104 Gumwood Drive), First Place, Giovanna and Bernard Crowley (3324 Gumwood Drive). The Mayor's Choice Winner, Lawrence and Edith Hinds (3509 Nicholson Street).

Mr. Douglas Thompson, 5004 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the opening of Yoga Space (4206 Gallatin Street) in Hyattsville. Mr. Thompson thanked the City for their support and the use of space for the past eight years.

Mr. Mark Matulef, 5716 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council with current issues on the City council's agenda. Mr. Matulef noted he would like to see information on Community Legacy and to get a report to the Planning Committee on the Mustard Building. (4318 Gallatin Street). He would also like to see Community Development Block Grant Funding used to address a Traffic Study for Hyattsville and then be able to provide public comment. He submitted a letter to Mayor Gardiner regarding the Urban Renewal Task Force.

Mr. Marshall, 6000 Block of 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council on the City's leaf collection, stating that this year's collection has been deplorable.

Ms. Kimberly Cahill, 5504 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council with her concerns on a variance (V-165-04 – 5504 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue) that the City would be reviewing at the Council Meeting.

#### **CITY STAFF REPORTS:**

City Administrator Murphy reported to the Mayor and Council welcomed everyone to the New Year. Ms. Murphy noted that the Mayor and Council look at the City's website for the tribute to Mayor Mary Prangley.

Supervisor of Code Enforcement Hampton reported to the Mayor and Council on his recent meeting with Ms. Myers from Mr. Maisel's Development Corporation regarding concerns and issues at the Queens Chapel Town Center.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Council President Eisenberg moved that the Mayor and Council approve the agenda as amended.** The motion passed, unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Council President Eisenberg moved that the Mayor and Council request City staff to send a letter to Ms. Ann Carter, Administrator Prince George's County Board of Appeals regarding V-165-04 (5504 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue) in support of the request and pose "no" objection and with out conditions.** The motion passed, unanimously.

**Council Vice President Perry moved that the Mayor and Council request City staff to send a letter to Ms. Ann Carter, Administrator for Prince George's County Board of Appeals regarding V-176-04 ( 4215 Longfellow Street) in support of the request and pose "no" objection.** The motion passed, unanimously.

Mayor Gardiner provided status updates on several current issues that are being address by the Mayor and Council.

#### Annexation of Prince George's Plaza Metro Station

Mayor Gardiner gave an update on the City current position on the annexation of Prince George's Plaza Metro Station and surrounding adjacent properties. The discussions have taken place with the development at the Metro Station (The Belcrest Center Project) on next steps for the City to take in regards to the annexation process. The Mayor and Council and City Staff discussed the issue at length.

**Council Vice President Perry moved that the Mayor and Council start to identify the properties and the scope of the annexation process or the evaluation of the annexed properties and if possible start the annexation negotiations and make this a priority project.** The motion passed, unanimously.

#### Ward Boundaries for the May 2005 Election

Council President Eisenberg lead the conversation on the issue, he would like to see the City proceed with a development of a redistricting plan for University Hills Area but not to be put in place until the legal issues have been resolved. The Mayor and Council discussed the issue at length with City Staff and were given legal advice by the City Attorney on the issue.

#### Update on City Staff Compensation Studies

Mayor Gardiner provided a brief update on the City's status of the City staff compensation study.

#### Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Update

Mayor Gardiner provided an update on the WSSC site building in Hyattsville (4017 Hamilton Street). WSSC decided to sell the Hyattsville site to the highest bidder with in December 2004. The Mayor and Council discussed the City's options and next steps on this issue and how the City will work with the new owners of property.

**Council President Eisenberg moved that the Mayor and Council schedule a Closed Session to discuss property acquisition and to consult with the City Attorney at the next Council Meeting.** The motion passed with Council Vice President Perry voting against.

**Council Vice President Perry move to adjourn the Council Meeting of January 3, 2005.** The motion passed, unanimously.

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The Council Meeting of January 3, 2005 ended at 10:15 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Douglass A. Barber, City Clerk

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William F. Gardiner, Mayor