

COUNCIL WORK SESSION OF THE CITY COUNCIL HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND

January 10, 2005

Mayor Bill Gardiner called the meeting of the Council to order at 7:35 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 (7:56 p.m.), Scott Wilson, Christopher Currie (7:43 p.m.), Jon Lewis (7:51 p.m.), Scott Wythe, Mary Elwood, and Carlos Lizanne (7:43 p.m.).

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Jonathan Barrett, 6206 43rd Avenue, and on the Hyattsville Legacy Trail Task Force, gave a brief summary to the Mayor and Council on the work that the Hyattsville Legacy Trail Task Force has done. Mr. Barrett noted the preliminary report for their review that was given out to the Mayor and Council at the meeting.

Ms. Mosi Harrington, Executive Director of the Housing Initiative Partnership (HIP) addressed the Mayor and Council on HIP's redevelopment of the 4307 Jefferson Street property and the YMCA contract. Ms. Harrington noted that the YMCA has requested that the size of the proposed pool at the YMCA be cut down from 8 lanes to 6. The Council's intent was to have a full service YMCA with swim meets, a day care center, and other amenities. Ms. Harrington noted that it would still be a full service YMCA. Ms. Harrington submitted a contract change for consideration by the Mayor and Council. The contract deadline for HIP to the City is February 1, 2005.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

CITY STAFF REPORTS:

City Administrator Murphy reported to the Mayor and Council that the interviews for the Planning/Grant Writer had taken place. Ms. Murphy noted she will be on leave the following week.

Chief of Police Holland reported to the Mayor and Council that the department has been receiving a good response to the required False Alarm Registration. The Residential Parking Permit Program is going slow, and many cars have yet to be registered. Chief Holland gave a brief preliminary view of the 2004 Annual Crime Report that is being worked on by the department.

Director of Recreation and Parks Hager reported to the Mayor and Council that on Wednesday, January 19th Kung Fu Classes would begin. Mr. Hager advised that the Magruder Park Picnic Reservations are opened for the year and he provided guidelines for the reservation of picnic spaces in Hyattsville parks.

City Treasurer Oliphant reported to the Mayor and Council on the budget actual report he handed out at the meeting, he briefly reviewed the report. Mr. Oliphant is working with the auditors to schedule a date for them to present the audit report to the Mayor and Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

Council President Eisenberg moved that the Mayor and Council approve the consent agenda following items: (1) to approve proclamations of appreciation to Victory Housing and Miller and Smith for the collaborative work with the community with regards to the WSSC Building site (4017 Hamilton Street; (2) to direct the City staff to write a letter in support of the Gateway CDC ARTvantage Grant proposal; (3) to approve proclamations of congratulations to be sent to Mr. David Love and Mr. Daniel Thompson in honor of their achievement in making the rank of Eagle Scout; (4) to approve a proclamation proclaiming (date to be determined) as “Yoga Day” in the City of Hyattsville. The motion passed, unanimously.

City Attorney Status Update on Council Proposed Changes to Charter, Code, and/or Personnel Manual

City Attorney briefed the Mayor and Council on current City issues he is working on currently for the City. Mr. Colaresi noted a few of the items: the revamping of the Tree Ordinance, and changes to the personnel manual. Mr. Colaresi is also handling the on-going litigation in regards to the annexation of the University Hills area into Hyattsville.

Information for Monthly Department Reports

The Mayor and Council discussed at length with the City staff the document prepared by the Mayor on this issue. The majority of the discussion focused on what items the Council would like staff to provide them in the monthly report. City Administrator Murphy and each department director spoke to the requests in the reports and noted that some information would be a tested to make sure the Mayor and Council is receiving the information they are requesting in the report. Department Directors and City

Administrator Murphy requested clarifications on some of the information requested in the report.

Council Member Wythe moved that the Mayor and Council approve the type of information each City department will provide on a monthly basis to the Council. The document would not include the following: (1) striking reference to sick leave and other paid leave; (2) staffing levels; (3) HCCD report to be placed under Administration; (4) removal of Recycling bins (that is now done by the County). **Council Member Wilson amended the motion to include the full-time staffing levels excluding the Police Department but all other departments remain a part of the report but only be given to Council and not published on the web.** The amendment passed. The motion as amended passed, unanimously.

Proposed Changes to Council Meeting Schedule

The Mayor and Council discussed the issue of proposed changes to the council meeting schedule as prepared by the Mayor. The Mayor and Council reviewed the attached document at length. City Attorney Colaresi provided clarification to the Mayor and Council on the City's charter regarding their meeting schedule.

Redistricting

Council Member Currie moved that the Mayor and Council direct the City Attorney to prepare legislative language that will propose the following Charter changes: (1) the properties annexed into the City of Hyattsville in 2004 shall be incorporated into Ward 3; (2) the terms of office for the May 2005 Municipal Election will be two years instead of four. The Mayor shall appoint a Council Task Force to work with the assistance of staff to prepare five-ward redistricting proposals and four-ward redistricting proposals that shall be presented to the Council and be the subject of a Public Hearing once completed. Once a new redistricting plan is adopted by the Council, it will go into effect prior to the Municipal Elections of May 2007. Council Member Wythe amended the motion to remove item (2) from the motion. A roll call motion was taken. The motion as amended passed with Council President Eisenberg, Council Vice President Perry, Council Member Dudrow, Currie, Wythe, and Elwood voting for and Council Member Wilson voting against. Council Member Lizanne abstained.

4307 Jefferson Street Purchase Contract

Council Member Currie moved that the Council authorize the Mayor to execute the revision to the Housing Initiative Partnership (HIP) contract with the City of Hyattsville regarding the development of the 4307 Jefferson Street site, as requested by the YMCA and HIP to allow changes being made to the design of the swimming pool portion (to go from 8 pool lanes to 6 pool lanes) in the development of the YMCA. The motion passed with Council Member Frazier abstaining.

Council President Eisenberg requested with the Council's consent that the Mayor and Council hold a Public Meeting at 7:30 p.m. prior to the Council Meeting on Tuesday, January 18, 2005 to allow residents and any interested parties the opportunity to discuss the requested changes to the Housing Initiative Partnership' development of the YMCA at the 4307 Jefferson Street site with regards to having a 6 lane swimming pool instead of the original plan of 8 lanes.

Note for the Record: Council Member Frazier left the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Council Vice President Perry moved that the Mayor and Council close the meeting to discuss possible acquisition of property and to consult with the City attorney. The motion passed, unanimously.

The Council Work Session of Monday, January 10, 2005 adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

Douglass A. Barber, City Clerk

William F. Gardiner, Mayor