

**PUBLIC HEARING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
HYATTSVILLE, MARYLAND**

May 23, 2005

The purpose of this Public Hearing is to allow our residents and any interested parties the opportunity to comment on the Fiscal Year 2006 proposed Real Property Tax Increases and the Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 Capital and Operating Budget.

Mayor Bill Gardiner called the Public Hearing to order at 7:07 p.m. at the Municipal Building, 4310 Gallatin Street, Hyattsville, Maryland.

Present were Mayor Bill Gardiner, Council President Scott Wythe, Council Vice President Paula Perry (7:19 p.m.), and Council Members, Ruth Ann Frazier, Christopher Currie (7:19 p.m.), Mary Elwood, Marc Tartaro, Mark Matulef, and Krista Atteberry. Council Member Jon Lewis and Carlos Lizanne were absent.

Also present were City Administrator Murphy (7:11 p.m.), Chief Holland, Director of Public Works Henry (7:11 p.m.), City Treasurer Oliphant, and City Clerk Barber.

Mayor Gardiner opened the Public Hearing and discussed the ad that was published on the proposed Real Property Tax Rate in the newspaper. He announced the reason for the Public Hearing

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mr. Paul Motsuk, 3511 Lancer Drive, Treasurer of the Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department Treasurer, addressed the Mayor and Council on the HVFD's FY06 budget request to the City; he noted that the request from HVFP came to the City by E-Mail.

Mr. Scott Wilson, 6100 42nd Place, addressed the Mayor and Council; he provided some history on previous budgets (he referenced the FY02 budget). Mr. Wilson stated he would like to see the City keep the current .58 tax rate.

Mr. Ben Lapovsky, 6213 42nd Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council; he is not in support of any proposed increase.

Ms. Belle Waring, 3940 Madison Street, addressed the Mayor and Council; she is in support of the proposed tax increase for improved services. Ms. Waring discussed the City's support of the Hyattsville Life and Times, she is not happy with the paper's journalistic standards.

Mr. David Marshall, 6000 Block of 37th Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council. He asked the Mayor and Council what the tax increase would fund in the FY06 Budget. He noted his concerns for funding of the HVFD and that Hyattsville's budget is the only area

municipality that contributes to a Hyattsville Volunteer Fire Department when other municipalities receive services by HVFD.

Mayor Gardiner provided an overview of what other area municipalities have as their current real property tax rate.

Mr. Bill Tierney 5215 42nd Place, addressed the Mayor and Council, he thanked the Mayor and Council for making an unpleasant decision about raising the taxes of the residents. He noted if residents want the services that they will have to pay for them. He is in support of the proposed tax increase.

Ms. Barbara Crawford 6107 42nd Avenue, addressed the Mayor and Council, she stated her concerns with the proposed FY06 Budget. She doesn't want to see any cuts regarding trash collection. Ms. Crawford thanked the Mayor and Council for their service.

Mr. Stephen Clements, 4017 Kennedy Street, responded to the questions raised regarding the Hyattsville Life and Times Newspaper.

Mayor Gardiner responded to questions and provided clarifications on issues addressed at the Public Hearing.

The Public Hearing ended at 7:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

Douglass A. Barber, City Clerk

William F. Gardiner, Mayor