

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON
January 2, 1996

The meeting of the City Council Workshop Meeting was called to order by Chairman John A. Schaffer at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Andrew C. Hanko, Council Members Raymond J. Garvey, Stephen L. Keleti, Sarah C. Potter, Administrative Officer Lawrence E. Pierce and Public Works Director Richard E. Robbins.

Council Member Rose M. Hurdle and the Assistant Administrative Officer Carol A. Vitale were excused from the meeting.

Topics of Discussion

Chairman Schaffer reported that Mr. John Onda will be attending the January 3, 1996 City Council Meeting to discuss the vibration issue on 85th Avenue. Mr. Schaffer suggested to Mr. Onda that he attend a City Council Workshop instead of a City Council Meeting so that this could be discussed in length. Mr. Onda declined and further stated that the City is ignoring the problem and he would like his comments televised so that the residents are made aware of the issue as well as his concerns. Mayor Hanko stated that he is gathering information on the use of speed humps and will report his findings at a later date. Concerning vibrations on Carrollton Parkway, Mayor Hanko stated that in order to alleviate traffic on the north side of the street, divert the flow of traffic to the south side. Mayor Hanko is not in favor of this idea, which was presented by Metro officials, since this would prohibit parking on the north side and possibly create an overflow of traffic. Chairman Schaffer suggested that the City conduct a survey.

Mayor Hanko suggested that cones be placed in front of Mr. Onda's house. Council Member Garvey suggested that Mr. Onda submit a letter to the City explaining the reasons why he is prohibiting equipment be placed in his home in order to measure the depth and frequency of vibrations caused by metro buses. Mr. Garvey further stated that Mr. Onda's problem is also the City's problem because the buses are shaking his house and also the foundation of the City's streets. Public Works Director Robbins stated that placing cones in front of Mr. Onda's home is not a good idea because the cones would have to be glued to the street. Mr. Robbins further stated that the City needs concrete evidence to present to WMATA that vibrations are caused by metro buses, and the best alternative would be that the equipment be placed in Mr. Onda's home in order to effectively measure the frequency and depth.

1. Review of the Management Audit Binder Information For Possible Application to the City

Council Member Keleti initiated the discussion by stating that he read the scope, methodology, RVP and the summary of the recommendations of the audit conducted by Aberdeen and supports the idea that the City needs to be audited in a similar fashion. Council Member Potter stated that she prefers a desk audit and favors the audit conducted by Aberdeen. Mayor Hanko asked the Council if the Council body supports the idea that the City be audited. Council Member Garvey replied that he is not in favor of audits and the City is too small and is being managed appropriately. Discussion ensued with Council Member Keleti stating that a management audit is designed to evaluate the economy and efficiency and improve the operations of the City. Chairman Schaffer stated that he is leery of this idea, since the cost of such an audit is approximately \$6,000 to \$10,000. Discussion ensued with Council Member Garvey asking the Administration if the City has the funds to cover the cost of an audit. Administrative Officer Pierce replied that City is in a position to acquire the appropriated funds.

After a lengthy discussion, the Council requested that the Administration include the cost of an audit in next year's budget.

2. Former Prince George's County Council Member Ms. Hilda Pemberton to Attend the City Council Meeting on January 3, 1996

Mayor Hanko reported that Ms. Hilda Pemberton, Vice President of Corporate and Community Relations of Dimensions Health Care System will be present at the January 3, 1996 City Council Meeting to discuss this program with the Council and residents. A five minute video will also be presented.

3. Reminder - P.G.C.M.A. Dinner at the University of Maryland

The P.G.C.M.A. Dinner will be held at the University of Maryland on Thursday, January 4, 1996 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will take place at the University College Center for Adults building located near University Boulevard and Adelphi Road.

4. Consideration to the Proposed Acquisition to Purchase a Chipper Machine

Administrative Officer Pierce initiated the discussion by stating that as a result of the litigation the City was pursuing against PSI Industries in reference to their soil borings test at the Public Works Facility, the case was settled out of court for a total amount of \$27,500. The original claim was for \$65,354. Upon the City Attorney's recommendation, the City settled for \$27,500. The Administration is requesting that the City Council approve the acquisition of a chipper and allocate the \$27,500 to purchase a new unit. The current chipper was purchased in 1968 and is now inoperable. The City is renting a chipper unit at \$250 per day. Public Works Director Robbins is researching available models to determine the most economical unit for the City's needs. Mr. Robbins stated that the chipper is used on a frequent basis and it would be cheaper to buy a unit rather than rent one as the City is currently doing. Council Member Garvey asked the Administration the Attorney's fee to represent the City in this case. Mr. Pierce replied that the City paid \$2,000-\$3,000 to the City Attorney. Mr. Robbins stated that according to Mr. Manzi, the City received .47 cents on the dollar and it was to the City's advantage to settle out of court for a total amount of \$27,500.

After a lengthy discussion, the Council agreed to designate the \$27,500 to purchase a chipper machine. The item was placed on the Wednesday Agenda for approval.

5. Consideration to the City Council Minutes

December 18, 1995 - Corrections to the Minutes of the City Council Workshop Meeting were submitted to the recording secretary.

The item was placed on the Wednesday Agenda for approval.

December 20, 1995 - Corrections to the Minutes of the City Council Meeting were submitted to the recording secretary.

The item was placed on the Wednesday Agenda for approval.

6. Review of the List of Bills

The List of Bills were reviewed and placed on the Wednesday Agenda for approval.

7. Report of the Mayor and Council

Mayor Hanko reported the following issues:

- Mayor Hanko reported that he personally delivered a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Joseph Llyod for participating in the City's House Decorating Contest.
- Mayor Hanko reported that he has not heard from Mr. and Mrs. Seimah to discuss the City's dual rear wheel policy.
- Mayor Hanko reported that he will be meeting with the Mayors from College Park and Greenbelt on January 12, 1996 to discuss the option of contracting with Greenbelt to utilize their Police force to patrol the City instead of the County's Police Department. Council Member Potter requested that the Council receive a copy of the Minutes to this meeting.

Administrative Officer Pierce reported the following issues:

- Administrative Officer Pierce reported that the Administration received 32 applications to the Code Enforcement Officer position.
- Administrative Officer Pierce reported that Bridgett, Mock and Associates will be working on the July, August, and September financial statements next week, which will be distributed at the next City Council Workshop Meeting.

Public Works Director Robbins reported the following issues:

- Public Works Director Robbins reported that the City's new trash truck will arrive in the next few weeks.

Council Member Keleti reported the following issues:

- Council Member Keleti asked the status of the City's Codification. Mr. Pierce replied that this packet is at the printing stage and shall be presented to the Council for review in February.

Council Member Potter reported the following items:

- Council Member Potter asked Mayor Hanko if any cases of crime was reported over the holiday season. Mrs. Potter reported that a resident's car was vandalized.

Council Member Garvey reported the following issues:

- Council Member Garvey stated that the Contract Police are not visible and the residents feel that the Police are not patrolling the City as anticipated.
- Council Member Garvey stated that curb parking should be prohibited at the New Carrollton Shopping Center and requested that the Contract Police patrol this area on a more frequent basis.

Chairman Schaffer reported the following issues:

- Chairman Schaffer reported that his neighbor's Honda was stolen from their driveway on New Year's Eve.
- Chairman Schaffer asked if the Tot Lot playground was completed by Christmas. Mr. Pierce replied that due to the weather, the Tot Lot playground was not completed and should be completed by January 20, 1996.

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8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at
8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Claudia M. Jones

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Recording Secretary