

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER, MARYLAND**  
**Mayor and Common Council Meeting of July 27, 2009**

A meeting of The Mayor and Common Council was held in the County Office Building, Room 003, 225 North Center Street, Westminster, Maryland on the evening of July 27, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Utz; Council President Halstad; Council Members Albert, Wack, and Pecoraro; Planning and Zoning Commission Members (in addition to Council Member Albert) Bair, Beaver, and Graham; City Administrator Wolf; Director of Public Works Glass, Chief of Police Spaulding, Director of Recreation and Parks Schroers, Director of Planning, Zoning, and Development Beyard, and Director of Administrative Services and Acting City Treasurer Ehlers; City Attorney Walsh; and City Clerk Taylor were present. Council Member Chiavacci was excused from attending.

Mayor Utz presented a Proclamation making August 4, 2009 Neighbors Night Out in Westminster.

Mayor Utz presented Certificates of Appreciation to several individuals who responded to a recent apartment fire on Robin's Way: Corporal James Pullen, Sergeant Wayne Mann, Westminster Utilities employee Jason Eyler, Private First Class Adam Laser, Detective First Class Richard Lambert, Private First Class Kevin Roberts, and Deputy State Fire Marshals Matthew Wrenn and Kristen Nieberlein. Although the fire completely destroyed one apartment and caused serious damage to the building, no serious injuries occurred.

Council President Halstad welcomed City of Westminster Planning and Zoning Commission Members Bair, Beaver, and Graham.

## **MINUTES:**

Upon Motion of Mrs. Albert, seconded by Dr. Wack and unanimously passed, the Minutes of the Meetings of June 22 (closed session) and July 13 were approved.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Council President Halstad moved to approve the Consent Calendar, which consisted of the June 2009 Departmental Operating Reports, approval of the Employee Assistance Program contract, appointment of the Acting Assistant City Treasurer, and approval of a First Step grant for the Police Department. Mr. Pecoraro moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Dr. Wack seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

## **REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Utz reported on several matters. He summarized the new City website. The Mayor noted that work on the new community building, which will be named the David S. Babylon Building, is underway at City Park. Work on the annual street paving is also underway. Mayor Utz reported that he and Ms. Wolf met recently with the County Director of Budget and Management, Ted Zaleski, concerning the Town-County Agreement for Fiscal Year 2010.

## **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Dr. Wack noted that Ordinance No. 806, on the schedule for approval that evening, will result in substantial water use savings through the replacement of old commodes with newer, water-conserving ones.

Mr. Pecoraro reported that work on the Pennsylvania Avenue Streetscape and Union Street housing projects would occur in concert. On behalf of the Public Safety Committee, Mr. Pecoraro noted that Lieutenant Bassler has been appointed Community Policing Liaison. Lastly, Mr. Pecoraro reported that the

proposed update to the City of Westminster Comprehensive Plan would be the subject of public hearings by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Mayor and Common Council on September 22 and September 28, 2009, respectively, and that the update would be scheduled for adoption on September 28.

Mrs. Albert updated her colleagues and the public on the progress of repairs to the Clock Tower.

### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Doctor Wack moved to adopt Ordinance No. 806, which would authorize a rebate for water conservation in the replacement of certain toilets. Mr. Pecoraro seconded and the Ordinance was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Beyard summarized Ordinance No. 807, which would authorize acceptance of a roadbed deed for the Bolton Hills Subdivision. Upon Motion of Mr. Pecoraro, seconded by Mrs. Albert and unanimously passed, the Ordinance was introduced.

Steven Horn, Director of Planning for Carroll County, presented the County's proposed update to its Master Plan, "Pathways to Carroll's Future Landscape." The presentation consisted of three main topics: preservation of agriculturally zoned land, increase of available marketable land for employment, and the maintenance of a manageable and sustained inventory of land for future residential growth. The Mayor and Common Council discussed the update and thanked Mr. Horn for his presentation.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Mr. Schroers reported on recent activity in the Department of Recreation and Parks. He also noted that Barbara Schmidt, a member of the Recreation

and Parks Advisory Board for several years, was resigning in order to attend to other matters.

Chief Spaulding announced that the third annual “Back to School Shop with a Cop” event would take place in the near future.

Ms. Wolf reported that the City and County have worked very closely on a number of elements in the County’s proposed Master Plan update. She thanked the County and City staff members involved. Ms. Wolf further reported that electronic meeting packets and monthly department reports would be used beginning in August.

Mr. Ehlers thanked the Mayor and Common Council for appointing Ms. Shirley Hampt Acting Assistant Treasurer. He also reported that preparations for the annual audit were underway.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

City resident Lori Graham announced an upcoming one-mile run to benefit Carroll Hospice.

Council President Halstad adjourned the meeting at 8:40 P.M.

Laurell E. Taylor  
City Clerk