

The Council Report

MARCH 2003

News from the Friendship Heights Village Council—the elected governing body of the Special Tax District of the Village of Friendship Heights



MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*
FRANCIS R. VALEO, *Chairman*
MAURICE TREBACH, *Vice Chairman*
ELIZABETH DEMETRA HARRIS, *Secretary*
JAMES B. SALTER, *Treasurer*
ROBERT M. SCHWARZBART, *Parliamentarian*
LEONARD E. MUDD, *Historian*

Rebuilding of Humphrey Park To Begin!

Following public discussion at its monthly meeting on March 10, the Village Council approved a bid from William Klingensmith, Inc., to be the General Contractor for improvements to Hubert Humphrey Park. Our architect, Art Robinson, presented the four bids we received and he reviewed various options for the Council to select. He indicated he had worked with the Klingensmith Company on several projects and recommended them highly. They also were the low bidder on this project.

The work will involve replacing all the bricks in the park with new pavers using the "Bethesda standard" (concrete and asphalt base with mortarless joints), which was used for the sidewalk adjacent to Willoughby Park. The fountain will also be replaced, as will the globe lights, benches, trash cans, and handrails.

Paddock/Waterstone will be the subcontractor for the fountain work. They are widely regarded as one of the best in their field, and were recently selected to replace the fountain at the U.S. Capitol. Our fountain will also be upgraded to include fiber optic lighting, which was an option

approved by the Council.

The existing concrete stairs in the park will be replaced with granite, which will also encircle the fountain. The selection of stone was recommended by the architect, as it is more durable than concrete and easy to maintain.

The Council also discussed the option of placing granite spheres on the fountain coping and asked to see a sample sphere put down temporarily to determine if that would be a desirable option.

The total cost of the contract awarded is \$611,569, including the fountain work. In addition, the Council authorized an amount equal to 5% of the total for any extra costs that may arise.

The work will begin shortly and is expected to be completed in August. The interior of the park (including walkways) will be closed throughout construction, and portions of adjacent sidewalks may be closed if necessary to ensure safety. Of course we will work with the contractor to minimize the inconvenience to the community, and we will keep you regularly updated on the progress of construction. We look forward to a beautiful new park for everyone to enjoy later this summer.

Changes to Hecht's Plan

New England Development presented several proposed changes to their plan on March 10. The changes include increasing the residential portion, decreasing the office space, and adding a grocery store. The Council approved the changes, reaffirming its prior support for the plan. The Planning Board will have a public hearing on the changes on April 10.

See Inside:

- **Approved FY 2004 Budget**
- **Village Council Election Guidelines and Information**

Council Cuts Tax Rate 14.3%

The Council approved the FY 2004 Budget at the March 10 meeting. We were pleased to be able to reduce the property tax for the fifth consecutive year while maintaining the many services to the community. I thank all those who participated in the budget process this year.

—Melanie Rose White
Mayor



Mammovan Coming April 21

The Mammovan, a mobile mammography unit from GW Hospital, will visit Monday, April 21, to provide breast screenings. Call 202-741-3020 to make your appointment now. Look for more details in the April Village News.

APPROVED FY 2004 BUDGET

REVENUES

Property tax	\$360,000
Income tax	900,000
Municipal Revenue Sharing	80,000
Gas/highway tax	80,000
Parking violation income	100,000
4602 N. Park Ave. rental	16,000
Interest income	30,000
Village Center rental income	15,000
Permit and license fees	10,000
Newsletter ad income	20,000
Center program/misc. income	7,000

TOTAL REVENUES **\$1,618,000**

EXPENDITURES

General Government

1 Elections	\$0
2A Financial admin/accounting	14,000
2B Administrative costs	12,000
2C Memberships and conferences	20,000
2D Legal counsel and consultants	20,000
2F Village Council reports	12,000
3A Salaries	387,000
3B Health/life/family benefits	70,000
3C F.I.C.A.	30,000
3D Worker's Comp Insurance	1,000
3E Retirement contribution	30,000
4A Xerox copiers	1,000
4B Aquarium	1,900
4C Heating/cooling maintenance	7,000
4D Security system maintenance	2,500
5A Public officials liability ins.	3,000
5B Treasurer's bond	1,000
5C Building/general liability ins.	30,000
6 Telephone and utilities	30,000
7 Hospitality and special events	17,000
8A Equipment and supplies	15,000
8B Office and building furniture	5,000
8C Building improvement	1,000
8D 4602 N. Park maintenance	5,000
8E Computer equip./supplies	5,000
8F Center maintenance - repairs	15,000
8G Maintenance service	82,000

Total General Government **\$817,400**

Public Safety

9A Security patrol contract	\$100,000
9B Police Field Office	5,000
9C Security vehicle maintenance	4,500

Total Public Safety **\$109,500**

Public Works

10 Bus contract	\$265,000
11A Street maintenance	2,500
11B Sidewalk maintenance	10,000
11C Snow removal	35,000
11D Storm drain maintenance	2,500
12A Waste collection	13,000
12B Recycling	1,500
13 Street lighting	12,000
14 Street signs	2,000
15 Trees	6,000
16 Villagescape	6,000

Total Public Works **\$355,500**

Health/Education/Social Serv.

17B Health/social services	10,000
17C Housing program	5,000
17D Scholarship program	10,000

Total Health/Ed/Social Serv. **\$25,000**

Recreation and Parks

18A Equipment rentals	\$1,000
18C Lecture fees	2,000
18D Musicians' fees	25,000
18E Instructors' fees	4,000
18F Trip fees	8,000
18G Art/theme shows	2,000
18H Equipment purchases	2,000
18I Consumable supplies	8,000
18J Art supplies	300
18K Lunches/brunches/teas	13,000
18L Hospitality	1,000
18M Center special events	18,000
18O Current Events Series	10,000
19 Reading Room materials	3,000
20B Flyers	500
20C Village newsletter	49,000
21A Village parks: electricity	3,000
21B Village parks: water	4,300
21C Village parks: fountain maint.	12,000
21D Village parks: lighting maint.	2,000
21E Village parks: furniture	1,000
21F Village parks: walkway maint.	3,000
21G Art fund	5,000
23 Landscaping contract	85,000
24 Arborist contract	10,000

Total Recreation and Parks **\$272,100**

Total Operating Expenditures **\$1,579,500**

General Fund Deposit **\$38,500**

Cap. Imp. Fund Deposit **\$0**

TOTAL EXPENDITURES **\$1,618,000**

Village Council Election Guidelines

Election Date: Monday, May 12, 2003

General Provisions

Election of the Friendship Heights Village Council shall be conducted under the guidance of the appropriate provisions of Article 33 of the Maryland Code, Section 66-4 of the Montgomery County Code, and these By-Laws.

Notice of Election

Notice of the election specifying time, requirements, and the procedures for nomination and voting shall be posted on the Hubert H. Humphrey Friendship Park Bulletin Board at least sixty days prior to the election.

Nomination

Nomination shall be by petition, signed by at least ten registered and qualified voters of the Village, and shall be filed at the office of the Council at least five weeks prior to the election (**by 5 p.m., Friday, April 4, 2003**). Such petition shall include the signature of the candidate indicating willingness to run.

Candidates shall be registered and qualified voters and reside in the Village at the time of the nomination and the election. Any candidate may withdraw his/her petition up to twenty-four hours before the start of the election.

Qualifications for Voting

Any person residing in the Village on the date of the election whose name appears on a list of registered and qualified voters as of two weeks prior to the election, furnished by the Board of Elections of Montgomery County, shall be eligible to vote.

Place of Voting

The polling place or places shall be conveniently located (the Village Center).

Election Officials

Appointment by the Council of the judges and clerks shall be made prior to the election. Assistants may be made available and appointed in a similar fashion. No candidate for Council membership or member of his/her immediate family shall serve as an election official.

Poll Watchers

Poll Watchers appointed by candidates shall be permitted to observe the voting and counting, but shall not interfere in any way with the voting or counting.

Counting of Ballots

Counting shall be conducted by judges and clerks.

Certifying and Reporting of Ballots

The incumbent Mayor shall notify the Montgomery County Council of the election returns, certified by the election judges. Such letter shall be sent by registered mail the day following the election. A copy of this letter shall be retained in the permanent files of the Village.

Absentee Ballots

Any qualified voter shall be entitled to vote as an absentee voter. An application must be received by **Friday, May 2, 2003**. (If you are unable to meet this deadline, call the League of Women Voters representative listed on the absentee ballot application.) Applications for absentee ballots are available at the Village Center. Upon receipt of the application, the Council shall have mailed or delivered to the voter entitled thereto an absentee ballot. (See the April

Council Report for more details.)

No candidate for Council membership shall serve as a duly authorized agent for the purpose of submitting a completed absentee ballot application. A qualified voter shall return an absentee ballot by mail, by delivery in person, or by requesting that an election judge or clerk be dispatched to obtain the absentee ballot on the day of the election. The ballot shall be returned to the Council office or other previously designated location. An absentee ballot received after the time for closing of the polls shall not be counted.

Disclosure

All candidates for the Friendship Heights Village Council must indicate agreement with the following requirements: Each candidate for election to the Council must submit two written financial reports to the Village Office—a preliminary report on the Monday preceding election day (**May 5**) and a final report by 5 p.m. on the Friday after election day (**May 16**).

Each report must include the following items: 1) a list of all contributors and the amount(s) of their contributions made to the candidate; 2) an itemized list of expenditures made by the candidate on his (her) own behalf; 3) a list of all contributors and the amount(s) of their contributions made to another party on behalf of the candidate; and 4) an itemized list of expenditures made by another party on behalf of the candidate.

The data from these reports shall be compiled and posted on the Village bulletin board as soon after receipt as possible. Failure to comply shall disqualify the candidate from assuming office.

FORM 502 MARYLAND TAX RETURN (OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 1999, ENDING) 2002

RESIDENT

Don't forget!

Montgomery **Friendship Heights**

YOUR FILING STATUS—See Instruction 1 to determine if you are required to file.

1. Single

Enter No. Checked (A) × \$1,850 \$



**Friendship Boulevard and North Park Ave.
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**Monday, Mar. 24 Monday, May 19
Monday, Apr. 21 Monday, June 30**



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