

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

VILLAGE COUNCIL

CLARA M. LOVETT, *Mayor*
JOHN R. MERTENS, *Chairman*
MICHAEL J. DORSEY, *Vice Chairman*
PAULA DURBIN, *Secretary*
KATHLEEN COOPER, *Treasurer*
DAVID LEWIS, *Parliamentarian*
MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Historian*
JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*
LESLIE STRATHMANN, *Village Manager 1987-1996*

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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING December 14, 2015

ATTENDEES:

Clara M. Lovett, Mayor; John R. Mertens, Chairman; Michael J. Dorsey, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; David Lewis, Parliamentarian; Melanie Rose White, Historian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and approximately 120 residents.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Mertens called the Village Council Meeting to order.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

The Council heard questions and concerns from members of the audience. Written statements from Barbara Tauben (Highland House West) and Henry Heilbrunn (The Carleton) are hereby made a part of these minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. Lovett made the following announcements:

Please join us at the Center on Friday, January 1, at 2:00 p.m., for our annual New Year's Day Open House.

The Council Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 5, at 5:30 p.m. at the Village Center.

The Capital Improvements Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 12, at 4:00 p.m. at the Village Center.

The Communications Committee will meet on Thursday, January 14, at 6:00 p.m.

at the Village Center.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Durbin presented the public session minutes of the Council meeting held on November 9 and the minutes of the Capital Improvements Committee meeting held on December 8 and recommended approval.

- (R) Ms. Durbin moved, Mr. Lewis seconded, that the public session minutes of the Council meeting held on November 9 and the minutes of the Capital Improvements Committee meeting held on December 8 be approved. The motion carried. (7-0-0)**

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for the period ending November 30, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update from Council Communications Committee on plans to redesign website: Ms. Durbin reported that based on community input, the Communications Committee was soliciting bids for the development of the new site from templates as an alternative to commissioning a customized website. The scope of work has been revised and a consultant has been retained to assist with, *inter alia*, the revision of the scope of work.

Update from Council Capital Improvements Committee on Village Center improvements: Mr. Mertens reported that the Capital Improvements Committee met on December 8. The report from the lighting consultant, Scott Watson was discussed. In response to the recommendations in the report, the staff has implemented a plan to replace all of the light bulbs on a five-year rotating cycle. The lenses will be cleaned or replaced on an ongoing basis.

The Committee also discussed the landscape maintenance contract. The staff will add an option in the specifications to replace the grass in the "oval" in Willoughby Park. The RFP will go out this week.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Mertens introduced this segment of the meeting as a session during which the Council would share with the community information on the interest of at

least two parties in developing all or part of Parcel 6, consisting of the properties located between North Park Avenue and Willard Avenue to the east of 4620 North Park Avenue and west of Shoemaker Farm Lane.

Discussion of Parcel 6. The overview that followed included (1) an introduction by Mr. Elza Hisel-McCoy, senior planner with the Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission, to the County's process for reviewing development proposals and (2) Mayor Clara Lovett's report on specific activity related to the development of Parcel 6. Mr. Hisel-McCoy also covered current zoning regulations and the 1998 Friendship Heights Sector Plan. Each speaker was limited to 15 minutes. Questions from the audience followed.

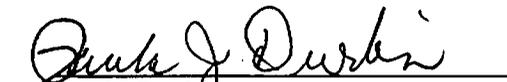
In response to Ms. Durbin's question, Council attorney Ron Bolt advised that now would be the appropriate time to retain an attorney with expertise in land use and zoning in Montgomery County.

- (R) Mr. Dorsey moved, Ms. Lovett seconded, to authorize staff to retain an attorney with expertise in land use and zoning in Montgomery County. Mr. Mertens moved, Mr. Dorsey seconded, to amend the motion to limit costs to \$20,000. The motion carried. (7-0-0)**

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Mertens moved, Mr. Lewis seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Durbin
Secretary