

EXECUTIVE SESSION – February 28, 2006

City Clerk Donna K. Spickler called the Executive Session to order at 4:07 p.m., on Tuesday, February 28, 2006. On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember K. S. Cromer, the City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to meet in closed session at 4:08 p.m. in accordance with the provisions of the annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508(a) #1 to consider the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction. The Council also agreed that Councilmember L. C. Metzner would act as Chairperson of this Executive Session and the Regular Session. No formal action was taken at the session. The meeting was held in Room 407, 4th floor at the City Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

18TH REGULAR SESSION – February 28, 2006

Councilmember L. C. Metzner called this 18th Session of the Mayor and City Council to order at 7:03 p.m., Tuesday, February 28, 2006, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Present were Councilmembers K. B. Aleshire, K. S. Cromer, L. C. Metzner, P. M. Nigh and A. Parson-McBean; City Administrator Bruce J. Zimmerman, City Attorney William Nairn and City Clerk D. K. Spickler.

The invocation was offered by Councilmember Penny M. Nigh. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Councilmember Metzner announced the Rules of Procedure for this meeting will be followed as adopted June 21, 2005. It was announced that the use of cell phones and electronic devices during meetings is restricted and that all correspondence for distribution to elected officials should be provided to the City Clerk and should include a copy for the City Clerk for inclusion in the official record.

The next scheduled meetings are: Work Sessions beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, Tuesday, March 14, 2006, Tuesday, March 21, 2006 and the Regular Session on Tuesday, March 28, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Deerfield Knolls, Planned Unit Development (PUD), ZM-2005-05

Stuart Bass, Comprehensive Planner, stated Revere Development Company, Gaithersburg, Maryland, has submitted an application for the establishment of a Planned Unit Development, Deerfield Knolls. The property is bounded by Mitchell Avenue, Burhans Boulevard, and Norfolk Southern Railroad. The area proposed for the PUD is 6.1 acres. The existing zoning is R2 (Residential) and C2 (Commercial General).

The Hagerstown Zoning Ordinance lists five general requirements for the establishment of a PUD District:

1. The area proposed for a Planned Unit Development shall be under one ownership.
2. The site shall be of a size and shape suitable for the development.
3. Can the site be adequately serviced with public water and sewerage facilities?
4. The site shall be located adjacent to adequate highway facilities capable of serving existing and anticipated traffic
5. The owners or developers must indicate that they plan to begin construction within one year of final approval.

Staff also considers other requirements to the establishment of a PUD:

1. Relationship to the Comprehensive Plan
2. Suitability of the Proposed Zoning District
3. Compatibility of Existing and Proposed Development
4. Population Change
5. Off-Street Parking
6. Special Design Requirements

Staff acknowledges that the proposal meets the technical requirements of a Planned Unit Development as outlined in the Zoning Ordinance. However, their concern relates to the purpose, as described in Section 68-22.1, “the purpose of the PUD is to provide for planned development incorporating a variety of uses and density levels” and also states further that a PUD “provides for a total development concept, including a variety of housing types.” This proposal, consisting of 84 townhouse units, to be developed and sold as a condominium regime, does not meet this criteria. A design concern is the extensive use of garages and driveways fronting the street, which will also create a cluttered streetscape of garage fronts and render the sidewalks almost nonexistent. However, recognizing the property’s site constraints and the fact that it has been vacant for a number of years, this proposal does present a feasible development alternative.

The Planning Commission recommends approval, with Staff conditions and that the proposed recreation area be open to the community.

Mr. Bass entered the following as Exhibits:

1. Certificate of Advertisement
2. List of adjacent property owners
3. Planning Commission file by reference

Bruce Pitts, 12619 Friendship Development in Gaithersburg, Maryland, was at the meeting to present the PUD Plan. He stated revisions have been made to the plan in response to comments from the Council at the November, 2005 Work Session. The plan includes homeownership for the condominiums. If approved, the developer will move forward immediately with the site plans. The property is completely surrounded by R2 (Residential) properties. The adjacent units are small duplexes and single family homes. The density has been reduced to 13.7 units per acre. The plan now denotes a 15' use easement immediately behind each townhouse exclusively for the owner of that townhouse. The stormwater management ponds were relocated as much as feasible, from a grading perspective, away from roadways and significant berming/landscape buffering was provided. The backs of all townhouses adjacent to roadways have been significantly buffered with berms and plantings. Peleton Street and Mineral Avenue were made public roadways with standard road widths and sidewalks. A landscape strip with street trees was added along each side of Peleton Street and Mineral Avenues. Additional areas were opened up for utility transformers and easements. A board-on-board fence and evergreen landscape buffer was added along the common property with the railroad. Two tot-lots were added to the plan in addition to the recreation area; and all will be open for public use. A landscape buffer was added around the entire perimeter of the project. The site was reconfigured to incorporate all 2-car garage townhouses with 2-car driveways in order to provide 4 parking spaces per unit, and the Home Owners Agreement (HOA) documents will prohibit garages from being turned into living space. The N. Burhans Boulevard entrance to the site was moved as far south as possible to maximize sight distance. Notes and details were added to clarify/answer comments from the water department and other City departments.

Mr. Pitts stated there is hardly a site available that is smarter in-fill development than this one. The development will provide reasonably priced housing for the City's work-force. With utilities already being available and having adequate capacity, and with the site being so proximate to the center of the City, this project epitomizes smart-growth like few others can.

Councilmember Cromer stated she is glad to see the berm has been addressed. She asked what the average price would be for the townhomes. Mr. Pitts stated the price is expected to be in the low \$ 200,000.00. He pointed out these townhomes have a larger square footage area than normal townhomes.

Councilmember Nigh stated she is concerned about the development of this land because the quarry is so close. She asked if a higher fence could be installed to keep people out of the quarry. Mr. Pitts stated a higher fence could be installed.

The following testimony was presented:

1. Karen Near, 440 Carrolton Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, stated she is in favor of the PUD designation. The area is used as a dumping ground. Homeless people use the area as a gathering place. She is concerned for the safety of her granddaughters. One granddaughter was bitten by a dog.

Children go this area to do nasty things because no one is going to go in there.

2. Kare Olson, 440-442 Carrolton Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, stated she is concerned about the junk that is dumped in the area. She supports the development. Any improvement in her water pressure would be appreciated.

Councilmember Aleshire stated he is not sure the development would guarantee an increase in the water pressure. The applicant has stated the street would be developed to public standards, but he did not mention the right of ways. This development will not be able to be built overnight due to constraints of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance and sewer allocation. He wants to make sure everyone is aware that this is a planned unit development and not the typical townhouse. These are condominiums. The tot lots are only 25 feet in diameter and are located on the side of a hill. He mentioned that it will be written into the deeds that the garages cannot be used for additional living space. He believes there should be development on this property, but he is not sure this is the type it should be. He asked how much forestry is incorporated on site. The Planning Commission review statement is short. He considers this as, basically, a rezoning request. He thinks this body is beyond the need to accept a "feasible" development. He stated they need to work with this developer to make it more than just feasible. He stated he appreciated the testimony presented. He stated the issues of enforcement must be separated from development.

Councilmember Metzner stated the applicant will be asked to respond to the comments at a Work Session.

The hearing was closed at 7:30 p.m. The record will remain open for 10 days for written comments.

MINUTES

On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. S. Cromer and seconded by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire, the Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve minutes, as presented, for Mayor and Council meetings held on January 24, 2006, January 31, 2006 and February 7, 2006.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember K. S. Cromer, the Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Police Department: Police Building Renovation – Continuing On-Going Replacement and Repair of Heating System – Johnson Controls (Sparks, Maryland) \$ 12,465.00

2. Water and Sewer Department: Instrument Air Compressor for Oxygen Building – M2T Technologies Lotepro Group (Peeksville, New York)
\$ 18,500.00
3. Finance/Information Technology: Unattended Backup/Storage Area Network Solution – MASI/Left Hand Networks (Hagerstown, Maryland)
\$ 83,770.00
4. Public Information: Design Services for Market House HVAC System at Market House – L. S. Grim Consulting Engineers (Hagerstown, Maryland) \$ 13,600.00
5. Parks and Recreation: Concession Stand Operations for City Park and Pool – J & L Concessions (Hagerstown, Maryland) Will pay the City:
\$ 13,202.10 in 2006, \$ 13,450.00 in 2007, \$ 13,450.00 in 2008,

\$ 13,600.00 in 2009, \$ 13,600.00 in 2010 and \$ 13,650.00 in 2011.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Approval of an Ordinance: Strategic Resources, LLC (Harrison Property/Howell Road)

Action: Councilmember K. B. Aleshire made a motion to adopt an ordinance for a Rezoning Reclassification and Zoning Map amendment, Case No. ZM-2005-04, to rezone 28 acres, more or less, of land located west of and adjacent to Howell Road and south of Antietam Creek, from IR (Industrial Restricted) to R2 (Residential). Councilmember A. Parson-McBean seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Cromer stated making a decision on reclassifying the zoning on this property has been difficult. She has given this issue a lot of thought and has carefully considered all the information presented to her. She considered the comments from residents, attorneys and City planners. She is concerned that changing the zoning will provide the opportunity for the developer to come back to the Mayor and City Council at a future date and claim there has been a change in the neighborhood. She wants the record to reflect that, in her opinion, if the zoning is changed on this parcel, this is the only area where there may have been a mistake in the original zoning. If the developer thought any other area of the total property was zoned improperly, that should have been stated at this time. She thinks the remainder of the property should retain the current zoning classification. She doesn't want all of the property (which is prime commercial land) to turn into a bedroom community or residential neighborhoods. She doesn't think the residents in the area want that either. A development of this size would put a

tremendous burden on already overcrowded schools. She has been told the proposed APFO would alleviate the problem and prevent the overcrowded schools from becoming more overcrowded. She fears a development of this size would put a tremendous burden on the Edgewood Drive area. If the hospital moves to Robinwood, the Dual Highway will become a major traffic problem. She has been told that R. Paul Smith Boulevard will help bypass the traffic. She thinks there are benefits to making this parcel residential. The first would be that the road would be built and the remaining land would be open and bring more jobs to this area. The only way to ensure this is if future Councilmembers do not approve a rezoning request ten years from now. The other benefit to approving the rezoning request is that taxes will now be paid. The Harrison family has owned the property since the early 1960's and no taxes have been paid. She understands if the property is rezoned, taxes will be collected when the development begins.

Councilmember Aleshire read into the record a list of reasons for opposition of the requested rezoning based on application for change or mistake as submitted by legal representation for the property owner as well as points as established in the staff report and Planning Commission recommendation:

Applicant Submission: Changes in Neighborhood:

1. General change in real estate market for this area for IR – The obvious changes in development in this neighborhood as defined have occurred, but for commercial and business uses rather than additional residential development as requested.
2. Planned US Rt. 40/Edgewood Intersections Improvements – This change is merely in the planning stages and has not actually occurred. Further, these road improvements as envisioned by the TIS, have been both reduced in scale and delayed with no assurance that improvements will be made to aid in reducing the negative impacts of the proposed development. As provided in the applicant information, the proposed development WILL have a negative impact on existing failing intersections that serve the neighborhood as defined.
3. Planned road improvements as defined in the R. Paul Smith Boulevard Alignment Study, December 2002 – This study is merely that, a study, and does not constitute either physical improvement as changes in the character of neighborhood, nor provide any timeframe for when such improvements will be made.
4. Addition of Hagerstown Heart Group Development 2002 – This change in the neighborhood is a commercial development that occurred on the same parent tract, and therefore supports

- maintaining the property in question for similar IR commercial/industrial uses.
5. Addition in 1992 of Hagerstown Commons Shopping Center – This development located on an adjacent tract zoned with the City’s most intense commercial designation further supports the lack of change in the character of the neighborhood to provide zoning for incompatible residential uses.
 6. Addition of dental office in 1989 – As noted in Number 4, this development occurred on the parent tract and supports the establishment of this neighborhood for primarily commercial and industrial zoned uses.

Mistake:

1. Failure to adhere to initial Planning Commission Recommendation to zone property residential – The property came into the City prior to being provided a zoning classification in 1977, at which time there were no requests to develop the property for residential use.
2. City council findings in 1978 and 1983 for mistake in zoning property IR – The request for rezoning was to reclassify the property for commercial uses, and the second request was also for commercial uses until switched to R-4 (not R-2), one case of which was overturned by the court and the other withdrawn. Therefore no mistake was ever established by either case, and no changes to that affect were made by the City Comp Plan update as recently as 1997 to allow for either request to be followed through in a comprehensive rather than piecemeal fashion to justify either request.
3. The property has not been significantly developed in 30 years – The applicant sites at least two commercial/industrial uses that have been developed on the parent tract in the specified time, and staff report sites at least one other commercial/industrial development currently being considered, which would be adjacent to the 28 acre part in question.

It appears that the applicant has NOT provided adequate evidence to consider rezoning of the 28 acre parcel, and in fact has provided evidence to the contrary for such consideration. Further, although written specifically in the Planning Commission recommendation and ordinance before this body that the proposed rezoning request ONLY apply to the 28 acre parcel, there is no such guarantee that such language provides adequate justification for this small part of the overall parcel to be considered separate in context from the overall tract and neighborhood as defined that continues to be developed primarily for commercial and industrial uses.

Councilmember Aleshire stated no mistake was ever established. He questioned if future Councilmembers would have the ability to overturn a decision made by this Council.

Councilmember Nigh asked how much of R. Paul Smith Boulevard will be constructed. Jason Divelbiss, Attorney for the Applicant, stated the entire road will be constructed. Councilmember Nigh stated she is concerned that the road will not be completed and the residents may have to pay for the road if a future council reverses a decision made by this council. She is concerned there will a large development and citizens will have to pay for it. She feels the Council are slaves to developers. Councilmember Parson-McBean stated she felt staff did their due diligence and provided good information. She stated if the Council says Staff is right, the property should be rezoned. Councilmember Nigh stated she thinks there has been a mistake made in Staff's recommendations on this rezoning request.

Motion carried, 3-2 with Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and Councilmember P. M. Nigh voting No.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointment of Mayor

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. S. Cromer and seconded by Councilmember P. M. Nigh the City Council unanimously approved, pursuant to Section 515 of Article V of the Charter of the City of Hagerstown, the appointment of Robert E. Bruchey II as Mayor to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term following the resignation of Richard F. Trump. The appointment will be effective immediately upon receiving the oath of office.

Discussion: Councilmember Aleshire stated interviews were held with four applicants. He has great respect for Robert Bruchey, II and the other applicants. He thanked Carol Moller for submitting an application. Ms. Moller has been a mentor of diplomacy and he hopes this Council can lead with as much diplomacy as she has displayed.

Councilmember Parson-McBean agreed with Councilmember Aleshire's comments.

Councilmember Nigh also agreed and she thanked everyone for the effort they put forth during this process. She stated she is sorry they have had to deal with the things they have. She stated there was a regime that wanted this Council out of office. She stated she doesn't believe former Mayor Trump resigned because of the Council. She stated the last eight months

have been more trying for the Council than it was for the Mayor. She thanked Mayor Bruchey for his continued interest. She stated Carol Moller is a great promoter of the City. She stated she feels a requirement for the Mayor is to be combative, when necessary.

Councilmember Metzner agrees with Councilmember Aleshire's comments about Carol Moller. He stated the decision was not a quick one and there was a lengthy discussion. He stated the Council considered who would be best to lead the City and the Council over the next three and a half years. They did not discuss who deserved the appointment, but who would be the best fit. It was a difficult decision.

B. Approval of an Emergency Ordinance: Acquisition of Property Known as 132 Clarkson Avenue

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember A. Parson-McBean the City Council unanimously approved an emergency ordinance authorizing the acquisition of the property known as 132 Clarkson Avenue with an acquisition cost of \$ 7,500.00 to be funded by the City's Community Development Block Grant Fund.

C. Resolution: To Change the Names of Vickie Drive and Merrbaugh Circle to Merrbaugh Drive

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember K. S. Cromer, the City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a resolution to change the street names of Vickie Drive and Merrbaugh Circle to Merrbaugh Drive. This change is recommended by the Planning Commission and Fire & Rescue agencies. The Gateway Crossing development necessitates these two dead end streets becoming a through street named "Merrbaugh Drive". The change will be effective around May 1, 2006.

D. Renewal of City Administrator's Contract

Action: Councilmember K. B. Aleshire made a motion to approval the renewal of the City Administrator's four year contract, at his current rate of compensation. The compensation will be reviewed along with the compensation for all other full-time City positions, as part of the external compensation study being completed by Springsted, Inc. Other than the extension of the term, there are no other changes in the contract. The term of the new contract will be June 13, 2006 through June 12, 2010. Councilmember A. Parson-McBean seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Cromer stated she does not like how long the term of the contract is.

Motion carried 3-2, with Councilmember K. S. Cromer and Councilmember P. M. Nigh voting No.

E. Award of Sewer From the Discretionary Reserve

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember K. S. Cromer, the City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to authorize staff to make the following awards of sewer from the Discretionary Reserve as enabled in the 2006 Sewer Capacity Allocation Program: 800 gallons per day to the Old Antietam Street School renovation project and 3,100 gallons per day of sewer to the Potomac Square townhouse development project.

Discussion: Councilmember Aleshire stated both of these developments are to be owner occupied housing and he hopes that is why the Council supports them.

F. Approval of Raven Rock Stream Agreement

Action: Councilmember K. S. Cromer made a motion to approve an agreement between the City of Hagerstown and the State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources whereas the two aforementioned entities will conduct a stream restoration project on Raven Rock Run in the City of Hagerstown's Edgemont Watershed. Councilmember P. M. Nigh seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Aleshire noted there are up to six clauses in the agreement that alleviate the Federal government's responsibility for maintenance of the stream restoration project.

Motion carried 4-1, with Councilmember K. B. Aleshire voting No.

G. Parkway Neuroscience/City of Hagerstown Letter of Agreement

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember P. M. Nigh, the City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve an agreement between the City of Hagerstown and Parkway Neuroscience & Rehabilitation Center, LLC, of 17 Western MD Parkway, whereas the City of Hagerstown Water Department will contribute to the funding of a wastewater project that will eliminate Wastewater Pump Station #12.

H. Approval of Agreement Designating Hagerstown as a Participating Employer in the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development's House Keys 4 Employees Program

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. S. Cromer and seconded by Councilmember P. M. Nigh, the City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve an agreement between the City and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development designating Hagerstown as a Participating Employer in the House Keys 4 Employees Program. As a Participating Employer, the City will encourage full-time staff to live within the City by offering \$1,500.00 in down payment and closing cost assistance. If the employee purchases a home in the downtown area, the assistance will be \$2,500.00. The assistance will be in the form of a 0%, deferred loan, which will be forgiven after five (5) years if the purchaser continues to occupy the home as their primary residence and remains a full-time employee of the City during that time. The assistance will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the House Keys 4 Employees Program. The staff of the Community Development Department is directed to develop guidelines for and to administer the program.

H. Approval of Wholesale Water Supply Agreement Discount Extension

Action: On a motion duly made by Councilmember P. M. Nigh and seconded by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire, the City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a request for an extension of 60 days for completion of the Wholesale Water Supply Agreements and the associated discount of 16%, until May 1, 2006, so that the proposed agreements may be reviewed and approved by the towns of Funkstown, Williamsport, and Smithsburg.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Harry Talbert, 159 W. Washington Street, Apt. 205, Hagerstown, Maryland, congratulated the new mayor. He stated, on the whole, the Council is doing a good job of running the City. He may not like the decisions that are made, but he will support them.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember L. C. Metzner thanked his fellow Councilmembers for their confidence in him by having him chair the meetings following the resignation of Mayor Trump. He stated tonight was a big night. A Mayor has been appointed that the Staff and citizens know and there is leadership at the helm again. At the same time, the City Administrator's contract was renewed for another four years. The City has come through a time of great instability from the election through a great period of turmoil. The meetings have been effective and efficient. They have come through this time very well. From the day of the election, this City has worked for the future and worked with

management and employees and each other. The decision on the Harrison tract proved there are elected officials who were willing to listen and think and struggle. He stated the former mayor alleged the Council would not do what they actually did tonight.

Councilmember P. M. Nigh thanked Councilmember Metzner for chairing the meetings and conducting the business of the City the way he did. The Council has a good working relationship with each other.

Councilmember K. S. Cromer thanked Councilmember Metzner for ensuring the meetings ran smoothly. She thanked the rest of the Council for the decorum they displayed. She congratulated Robert Bruchey and she is confident the Council made the right decision. She is looking forward to the next three and a half years working with him.

Councilmember A. Parson-McBean thanked all those who took the initiative to apply for the Mayor's position. This was a learning experience for her and made her realize how much people do love Hagerstown. She congratulated Robert Bruchey. She stated the Mayor owes the fourth grade class at Bester Elementary school a pizza party. She thanked Bruce Zimmerman, City Administrator, for what he does and she looks at him with amazement at how he deals with all five councilmembers. He has made Hagerstown a part of who he is and this is obvious in the decisions he makes. She thanked Staff for what they do. She thanked Channel 25 for their series of Black History stories. She thanked Dr. Morgan for agreeing to extend her contract. There will be a Minority Business meeting held on March 8, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.

Councilmember K. B. Aleshire pointed out the recycling initiative will start soon and Neighborhood's First is participating in a pilot program. He stated the County is moving forward with improvements of Mt. Aetna Road in preparation for the hospital's move. At this point, there has not been a great deal of communication between the County and the City. He stated this needs to be discussed to ensure the City's efforts are not in conflict with the County. He expects Mayor Bruchey will deliver the State of the City address on March 7, 2006. He thanked Kathleen Maher, Planning Director, and the Planning Department Staff for moving forward with the draft of the City's APFO. He stated this should be completed in an expeditious manner, as requested by Council. He asked that the City accommodate the request from Tom Riford, Convention and Visitors Bureau for the upcoming convention. He stated the County Planning Commission will be reviewing several developments that will need sizeable amounts of city services. It is imperative that the City address these developments. They will come before the Annexation Review Committee. He stated the Council needs to be cognizant of this and it is an inefficiency until there is a sewer capacity plan in place. He stated he is still serious about the issue of charter reform. This needs to be reviewed again. He hopes when the new Mayor takes office, the Council will take this under further consideration. He stated he did not agree with the Planning Commission's approval of some forestry regulations. He feels the forestry requirements are not being administered properly. He asked the City Attorney to provide an opinion that this is not right. Councilmember

Metzner stated he supports this. He thanked Staff for being concerned about two bills in the House and Senate that will completely break down the annexation laws.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Bruce Zimmerman, City Administrator, stated he thinks this Council was asked to do something that no other Council has had to do – that is to appoint a Mayor. He extended congratulations to Robert Bruchey and he thanked the Council for their efforts.

Rodney Tissue, City Engineer, provided an update on the US 40/Edgewood Drive plans. A meeting is being planned for March 14, 2006 with the County Commissioners, the Mayor and City Council and the State Highway Administration to discuss the project. The meeting will be held at the County Office building at 3:30 p.m.

Kathleen Maher, Planning Director, stated the City is extremely concerned about the annexation bills presented during the legislative session. The Maryland Municipal League is asking all the municipalities to attend the hearings this week. This is dangerous legislation for municipalities. If approved, the bills would cause the City to hand over their long range plans to the County in exchange for the ability to annex property. Comments about the bills were presented in December and will be presented again.

Robert E. Bruchey, II, Mayor, thanked the Council for their vote of confidence. He promised to not let them down.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, on a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember P. M. Nigh, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna K. Spickler
City Clerk

Approved: _____