

**WORKSESSION MINUTES**  
**College Park City Council**  
**Tuesday, July 5, 2022**  
**7:30 p.m. – 9:22 p.m.**

**This was a hybrid meeting: Online via Zoom;  
In-person in the Council Chambers of City Hall.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Wojahn; Councilmembers Kabir, Kennedy, Esters (by Zoom), Whitney, Adams, Rigg, Mackie and Mitchell.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kenneth Young, City Manager; Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager; Yvette Allen, Assistant City Clerk; Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney; Kiaisha Barber, Youth, Family and Senior Services Director, Val Graham, Student Liaison and Adrian Andriessens, Deputy Student Liaison.

Mayor Wojahn opened the virtual Worksession at 7:30 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence to remember Jack Robson and the Highland Park shooting victims.

The City launched a soft opening of reporting system on our website for residents to report general concerns and or complaints about property in the City. Link: [www.collegeparkmd.gov/tellus](http://www.collegeparkmd.gov/tellus).

The next concert series “Friday Night LIVE” will be held on the plaza at the new City Hall building: July 15th – Theme: Salsa and Fiesta; August 12th – Theme: Sing me the Blues; and September 9<sup>th</sup> – Theme: Oktoberfest!

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda without amendment, Mitchell/Whitney, passed 8-0.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1.** Clarification on permitted use of the City Seal. Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney, reviewed the staff report.

Under 15 United States Code §1052 (Lanham Act), a municipality may not copyright its flag or coat of arms or other insignia. There are no automatic protections against use by others that the City can claim. The use of governments flags or other insignia are subject to constitutional challenges under the First Amendment. The use of City insignia as part of a political campaign, such as a candidate standing in front of a City flag or seal or other insignia when speaking, or using them on flyers, is protected by the First Amendment speech and should not be prohibited. The City can prevent the use of its insignia when it’s used improperly or if a person gives the impression that the City is a sponsor or supporter of an activity or entity.

The Mayor and Council suggested that the College Park Board of Elections be more specific in the Election handbook about the use of the City insignia for candidates. Requested the attorney to draft a policy for use of City insignia for commercial ventures. Council will revisit their Rules at a later date to include use of the seal, for current Council, when advertising a district meeting that is not supported by the entire Council.

2. Discussion of expanding the City's provision of health and human services for residents, including virtual mental health services, medical services (health officer) staff, and partnerships needed to support such programs. Kiaisha Barber, Youth, Family and Senior Services Director, reviewed the staff report. After discussion with Council, a needs assessment of health and human services in the City should be conducted, likely by an outside consultant. A pilot program for covering costs for adult mental health sessions, working with existing online programs and the estimated cost will be drafted for consideration
  
3. Future Agenda Items: Affordable Housing Study – Mayor Wojahn

**Adjourn:** Rigg/Mitchell, 8-0, 9:22 p.m.

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Yvette Allen  
Assistant City Clerk

Date  
Approved