



FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

Incorporated 1949

53rd Year, Issue No. 17

December 2006

State of the Town

The Town has been under going some turmoil since the suspension of the Mayor.

The Town Council and I have been working very diligently to make sure that all Town services are being taken care of in a professional and timely fashion. The bulk trash tax has been repealed and the majority of the citizens have received their refunds. The Town Council and I have appreciated your patience and input in getting the Town back on a positive track.

It's the citizens that make this Town great! I have always said that this is a great place to live and it is. The Town Council and I look forward to meeting and exceeding your needs. If you have any concerns or questions about town business, please do not hesitate to contact anyone of us. We are here to serve you and that is our job.

As Acting Mayor it has been a pleasure to act on your behalf. The Town government is in great shape, we have successfully taken care of the street repair debt and all of our bills have been paid. If there is anything that the Council and Mayor can do for the Town and its citizens, we would like to hear from you, please call your Ward representative or myself (the Acting Mayor).

Sincerely,

Larry M. Stoner
Acting Mayor



Happy Holidays from the Mayor and Town Council!

Acting Mayor Larry M. Stoner, Sr.
(301) 839-1030 ext. 222
mayor.fh@verizon.net

TOWN COUNCIL:

Ward I

C. Lynn Smith-Barnes—(301) 839-1030 ext. 234

WARDIHandinHand@aol.com

George Wiggers—(301) 839-1030 ext. 240
wiggers@forestheights.biz

Ward II

Clifton Atkinson—(301) 839-1030 ext. 233
cliftonatkinson1@yahoo.com

Andrea McCutcheon—(301) 839-1030 ext. 239
DREINWARD2@aol.com

Ward III

Worthington Ross—(301) 839-1030 ext. 235

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Phone: (301) 839-1030

Bonita Anderson, *Town Clerk*—ext. 221
townclerk.fh@verizon.net

Ronnette Watts, *Town Treasurer*—ext. 223
towntreasurer.fh@verizon.net

Lillian King, *Receptionist*—ext. 229
receptionist.fh@verizon.net

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 686-1432—ext. 231

Javier Nazario, *Supervisor*

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Phone: (301) 839-4040

Michael Eubank, *Chief of Police*—ext. 224
fhpd2004@verizon.net

Latessa Crawford, *Police Clerk*—ext. 225
policeclerk.fh@verizon.net

FOREST HEIGHTS BUSINESS SECTION

HOUSE FOR RENT

5610 Delaware Drive
Forest Heights, MD 20745
\$1725—per month

"AVAILABLE NOW! Single family home, four bedroom, two baths, fenced in backyard and front yard, wall-to-wall carpet, updated appliances, central AC/heat and more! Near Livingston Rd and South Capitol St. For more info, call 202-352-4353."



METROPOLITAN MORTGAGE BANKERS, INC.
1717 Elton Road, Suite 211
Silver Spring, MD 20903
Maryland's 2004 "Broker of the Year"

Dear Neighbor,

As a Forest Heights Community resident, and a licensed and bonded mortgage loan officer, I would like to share some information with you about our homes. As you know, prices have increased dramatically, but so have their values and the equity we now have in them. This gives us an opportunity to free up some cash for paying off debt or making a large purchase, through refinancing.

We, at Metropolitan Mortgage Bankers, Inc. could possibly get you a lower rate. Rates are still very low but will soon rise. In addition, those of us who have mortgage insurance might be able to eliminate it.

At my company we have a large selection of low-rate mortgage programs from which to choose.

If you or anyone you know is interested in discussing some possible options, please call me toll-free at (888) 231-5363 x162 or on my cell at (301) 370-5297.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth D. Schools
Mortgage Banker



‘IN THE BEGINNING’

\$120 (ADULTS) \$95 (TEENS)

A new play at the SIGHT AND SOUND THEATRE—*Lancaster, Pennsylvania*

DATE: Saturday, April 7, 2007 (Showtime 12 noon)

Leaving Rivertowne Commons, Home Depot area, 8:30 am (return 7:00 pm)

Cost includes dinner buffet, transportation, show tickets,
bus games/snacks

**For additional information and/or seat reservation,
Contact Carolyn @ (301) 839-5621**

**LIBERTY RESTORATION LLC
HOME IMPROVEMENTS**

Concrete—Asphalt Driveways/Masonry
Patios/Brick/Stone/Retaining Walls Steps
Tree and Snow Removal Fence-Deck
Installation/Repair. Basement.
Residential or Commercial
Licensed and Bonded
Call for a free estimate.—

Mr. Bill Robinson
(301) 996-1865

(301) 442-8410—cell

“When Quality Counts...Call Us”



The Forest Heights Freedom Fighters

encourage each resident of the town to get out
and VOTE on January 24th, 2007.

Returning the voice of the citizens to the citizens
has been our only mission.

Your voice can only be heard through your vote.

If you need a voter registration card they are
available at the Town Hall.



ADVERTISEMENT IN THE FOREST HEIGHTS NEWS

ATTENTION RESIDENTS ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR TOWN NEWSLETTER

WE ARE SEEKING ARTICLES FOR OUR COMMUNITY BUSINESSES AND SERVICES SECTION . CIRCULATION IS APPROXIMATELY 1,000 WHICH INCLUDE DISTRIBUTIONS TO FOREST HEIGHTS RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, COMMUNITY CHURCHES & OTHER PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES.

MONTHLY ADVERTISEMENT RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FULL PAGE—\$10

BUSINESS CARD—\$10

QUARTER—\$25

HALF PAGE—\$50

MINIMUM 2 MONTHS ADVERTISEMENT

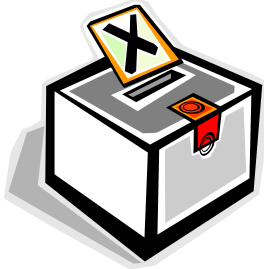
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT BONITA ANDERSON AT (301) 839-1030

MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN OF FOREST HEIGHTS

RESOLUTION 39-06

**CHARTER AMENDMENT ADVISORY QUESTIONS
AT THE NEXT FOREST HEIGHTS TOWN ELECTIONS**



The following advisory questions shall be placed on the ballot. The Council intends to consider the results of the citizen votes on these in the introduction and possible passage of additional charter amendment resolutions to be initiated by the Town Council under Article 23A § 12 and 13.

YES or NO

Question #1: Change the authority of the Mayor regarding appointments

Amend Section 33-18.(b) Appointments of the Town Charter by striking out the current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below:

Appointments. The Mayor, with the approval of the Council, shall appoint the heads of all offices, departments, and agencies of the Town government as established by this Charter or by ordinance. All paid appointees in the employ of the Town of Forest Heights including the Town Treasurer, Town Clerk, the Chief of Police and other department heads whose appointment(s) are secured by the approval of the Town Council of Forest Heights, shall retain their appointment and employment with the Town of Forest Heights until at least a majority of the Town Council of Forest Heights approve, through formal voting, said appointee's termination after having convened a hearing, before the Town Council, of the charges warranting said appointee's dismissal. Recommendation to terminate any appointment rests solely and exclusively with the Mayor of the Town of Forest Heights. All subordinate officers and employees of the offices, departments, and agencies of the Town government shall be appointed and/or removed by the respective department or agency head with the approval of the Mayor and Town Council, in accordance with rules and regulations in any merit system which may be adopted by the Council. In the absence of a department head, promotion or removal of subordinate officers and employees shall be made by the Mayor with the written approval of majority of the Town Council and in accordance with any budget and merit system which may be adopted by the Council.

and inserting the words that existed in an equivalent section of the Charter prior to November 16, 2005 as indicated in the following bold type:

The Mayor, with approval of the Council, shall appoint the heads of all offices, departments, and agencies of the Town government as established by this Charter or by ordinance. All office, department and agency heads shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. All subordinate officers and employees of the offices, departments, and agencies of the Town government shall be appointed and removed by the Mayor, in accordance with rules and regulations in any merit system which may be adopted by the Council.

Question #2: Term of Office of the Mayor

The term of office for Mayor should be reduced from the current four years and revert to two years as existed prior to November 16, 2005.

Question #3: Term of Office of Council members.

The term of office for Council members should be reduced from the current four years and revert to two years as existed prior to November 16, 2005.

Question #4: Restore the supervisory authority of the Mayor over the Treasurer

Amend Section 33-18.(d) Finances; budget; of the Town Charter by striking out the current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below:

Finances; budget. The Mayor shall prepare or have prepared annually a budget and submit it to the Council.

and inserting the words that existed in an equivalent section of the Charter prior to November 16, 2005 as indicated in the following bold type:

Finances; budget. The Mayor shall have complete supervision over the financial administration of the Town government. He shall prepare or have prepared annually a budget and submit it to the Council. He shall supervise the administration of the budget as adopted by the Council. He shall supervise the disbursement of all monies and have control over all expenditures to assure that budget appropriations are not exceeded.

Question #5: Restore the Mayor as Direct Supervisor of the Treasurer

Amend Section 33-40 and Section 33-41. Treasurer, appointment; compensation and supervision by striking out the current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below:

There shall be a Treasurer appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council. He shall serve at the pleasure of the Council. His compensation shall be determined by the Council. The Treasurer shall be the financial officer of the Town. The financial powers of the Town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Council.

The Treasurer shall have authority and shall be required to:

and inserting the words that existed in the Charter prior to November 16, 2005 as indicated in the following bold type:

There shall be a Treasurer appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council. He shall serve at the pleasure of the Council. His compensation shall be determined by the Council. The Treasurer shall be the financial officer of the Town. The financial powers of the Town, except as otherwise provided by this Charter, shall be exercised by the Treasurer under the direct supervision of the Mayor.

Under the supervision of the Mayor, the Treasurer shall have authority and shall be required to;

Question #6 Restore the Mayor as Countersigner on Town Checks

Amend Section 33-50 regarding the signing of checks by deleting current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below:

All checks issued in payment of salaries or other municipal obligations shall be issued and signed by the Treasurer, the Council President, and one other councilperson and in the absence of the council President, one other councilmember. In the absence or unavailability of the Treasurer, the Town Clerk shall be responsible for signing all checks in payment of salaries or other municipal obligations.

and inserting the words that existed in the Charter prior to November 16, 2005 as indicated in the following bold type:

All checks issued in payment of salaries or other municipal obligations shall be issued and signed by the Treasurer and shall be countersigned by the Mayor.

Question #7 Repeal the Code of Conduct Section of the Town Charter

To Strike Section 33-93 Section 33-93. Code of Conduct.

Amend the Town Charter by repealing Section 33-93 regarding suspending elected officials from office by deleting current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below:

Public officials, appointed or elected, are expected to display a high level of professionalism and integrity in their service to the Town of Forest Heights. Accordingly, any public official in the Town of Forest Heights, appointed or elected, shall be subject to the following provisions: (a) Charter Violations. Any violations of the Charter of the Town of Forest Heights, as determined by a 2/3 majority Council vote, shall be grounds for immediate suspension from office for a period of not more than 180 days. Suspension from office shall only be effected with a 2/3 majority Council vote. In the case of the Mayor being suspended, the Council shall carry out the duties of the Mayor until said suspension expires. (b) Pending Criminal Charges. Any Town Official facing pending criminal charges may be subject to suspension of duties pending the outcome of the criminal charges against him. Suspension from office shall only be effected with a 2/3 majority Council vote. In the case of the Mayor being suspended, the Council shall carry out the duties of the Mayor until said suspension expires. The terms of suspension shall be clearly delineated by resolution. (c) Conviction of a Crime. Any Town Official convicted of a crime may be subject to expulsion from office. Expulsion from office shall only be effected with a 2/3 majority Council vote. The terms of the expulsion shall be clearly delineated by resolution. Any public office made vacant through expulsion shall be filled in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Charter.

Question #8 Repeal the definitions of Mayor and Council and Councilmen

Amend the Town Charter by repealing Section 33-92 regarding suspending elected officials from office by deleting current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below

(a) Any reference of "Mayor and Council" in this Charter shall be construed to explicitly and emphatically refer to the Town Council as a body. This term in no wise shall be construed to grant veto power to the Mayor.

(b) The term "Mayor and Council", "Council", "Town", and "Mayor and town Council", shall be used interchangeably throughout this charter and shall be construed as meaning the entire legislative body of the Town of Forest Heights.

(c) Terms "Councilmen" and "Councilpersons" are considered synonymous when used throughout this Charter.

Question #9 Remove the Council supervision of the Town Clerk and Treasurer

Amend the Town Charter by repealing Section 33-64 regarding supervision of the Town Clerk and Treasurer by the Town Council by deleting current wording that was inserted by Charter Amendment on November 16, 2005 as indicated by italic type below

The Mayor, with the approval of the Council, shall appoint a Town Clerk. The Town Clerk shall attend the meetings of the Council and shall keep a full and accurate record of the proceedings of the Council. He shall be custodian of the official records (other than the records of the Treasurer and the Board of Registrations and Elections) of the Town and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the Mayor and Council. The Town Clerk may act as the Treasurer for no more than ninety days the term of which may be extended by a majority vote of the Council. The Town Clerk shall prepare and submit a weekly report concerning town affairs to the Council. The Town Clerk shall be supervised by a Councilperson selected by a majority of the Council. The Town Clerk shall be bonded.

and inserting the words that existed in the Charter prior to November 16, 2005 as indicated in the following **bold** type:

The Mayor, with the approval of the Council, shall appoint a Town Clerk. The Town Clerk shall attend the meetings of the Council and shall keep a full and accurate record of the proceedings of the Council. He shall be custodian of the official records (other than the records of the Treasurer and the Board of Registrations and Elections) of the Town and shall perform such other duties as may be required by the Mayor and Council. The Town Clerk may be the same person as the Treasurer.

Question #10 Remove the Mayor as a member of the Council and elect a Councilman at-large.

Amend the Town Charter by removing the Mayor as a member and Chair of the Town Council, and elect a Councilman at-large to provide for a tie-breaking vote on the Town Council.

Question #11 Authorize the Council President to act as Mayor.

Amend the Town Charter by specifically authorizing the Council President to assume all the duties and responsibilities of the Mayor's office for a limited period until a new mayor is elected either by the Council or in a special plebiscite election.

TOWN TRASH COLLECTION

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

PICK-UP DAYS BEGIN AT
6:30 a.m.

MONDAY—*Recycling*

TUESDAY—*Trash*

WEDNESDAY—*Bulk & Yard
Waste*

FRIDAY—*Trash*

*You must use trash
containers with lids*

Trash consist of all mixed combustibles and non-combustibles including garbage, household trash, paper, rags, and cardboard. Trash should be placed within two feet of the curb line.

The County also collects recyclable materials in the Town on **MONDAY** (plastics, newspapers, etc.)

Every WEDNESDAY, tree trimmings, grass and leaves will be picked up, provided they are no longer than 4 feet and tied in small bundles. Grass clippings should be in trash bags.

Whenever Prince George's County Government holidays are celebrated on a Tuesday or Friday, trash will not be picked up on those days, nor will there be a make up date. However, trash will be picked up on the next regular scheduled pick-up date. Your cooperation with Town Ordinances for disposing of residential trash is important for maintaining health and property values in the

Town.

THANK YOU!



**RECYCLE BINS FOR
RESIDENT**

PLEASE CALL (301) 952-7630

WORK SESSION & TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE

******TOWN MEETING******

December 20, 2006



Town Meetings are always held on the third Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. during the months of September - June.

Mayor/Council Work Sessions are held on the first Monday of the month (Tuesday when Monday is a holiday or as absolutely necessary).

Meetings are open to the public.

Mayor/Council Work Session

- Monday, Dec. 4 @ 7:30 pm
- Monday, Jan. 8, 2007 @ 7:30 pm

Town Meeting

- Wednesday, Jan 17, 2007 @ 8 pm
- Wednesday, Jan 21, 2007 @ 8 pm

Deadline to submit articles for the January 2007 newsletter is December 22, 2006. Articles are to be turned in via email to townclerk.fh@verizon.net or mailed to the Municipal Building at 5508 Arapahoe Drive, Forest Heights, MD 20745.

OXON HILL FOOD PANTRY

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
 4915 St. Barnabas Road
 Oxon Hill, MD 20745

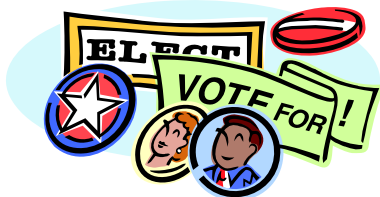


"The Oxon Hill Food Pantry provides emergency food rations to needy individuals and families in Forest Heights and the surrounding area. It operates on Tuesday, and Saturday from 10 am to 1:00 pm and on Thursday evening from 6—8 pm. For more info, call (301) 899-8358."

TOWN ELECTION JANUARY 24TH, 2007 TOWN HALL

**IF YOU ARE RUNNING FOR MAYOR
 OR A COUNCIL SEAT—WARD I-II-III**

DEADLINE FOR FILING IS DECEMBER 20TH, 2006. PLEASE PICK UP A CERTIFICATE OF NOMINATION AT THE TOWN HALL MONDAY—FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:30 AM—4:30 PM.



CRIME REPORT POLICE CHIEF UPDATE

November 2006

November 2006

Theft	3
Property Damage	0
Vehicle Impound	2
Theft from Auto	3
Stolen Tag	0
Robbery.....	0
Stolen Auto	1
Vandalism to Auto	3
Assault.....	0
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	0
B & E.....	1
Arrest	4
Sex Offense	0
Missing Person	2
Carjacking	1
Domestic Violence	1
Lost Property.....	1

Forest Heights Police Dept.
 (301) 839-4040
 Eastover District IV Police
 (301) 749-4900
 Maryland Park Police
 (301) 459-9088



CURFEW REMINDER: ALL TEENS AGES 16 AND UNDER SHOULD NOT BE ON THE STREETS DURING THE HOURS LISTED BELOW WITHOUT AN ADULT.
FRIDAY—SATURDAY: 12:00 AM TO 5:00 AM
SUNDAYS—THURSDAY: 10:00 PM TO 5:00 AM