

MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

MEETING DATE:

February 2, 2009

CALL TO PODIUM:

Sunil Prithviraj
Mary Whalen

RESPONSIBLE STAFF:

Angel Jones, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM:

(please check one)

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| | Presentation |
| X | Proclamation/Certificate |
| | Appointment |
| | Public Hearing |
| | Historic District |
| | Consent Item |
| | Ordinance |
| | Resolution |
| | Policy Discussion |
| | Work Session Discussion Item |
| | Other: |

PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

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| Introduced | |
| Advertised | |
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| Hearing Date | |
| Record Held Open | |
| Policy Discussion | |

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| TITLE: |
| Second Quarter 2008 Employee Recognition Awards |

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| SUPPORTING BACKGROUND: |
| <p>Congratulations to the winners of the Employee Recognition Award for the Second Quarter of calendar year 2008, September 1, 2008 – December 2008.</p> <p>The winners are:</p> <p><u>Employee of the Quarter</u> –</p> <p>Sunil Prithviraj (Building and Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works) was nominated for a quarterly award for his excellent service, productivity and quality of work.</p> <p>Sunil is one of those City employees whose "behind the scenes" responsibilities often allow his exceptional work to go unnoticed. As a member of the Facilities team, Sunil supervises, coordinates, and participates in the servicing, maintenance, and repair of building facilities and equipment and he always responds quickly and with a great attitude. He has a tough job trying to keep a variety of employee personalities happy, but is able to accomplish this with his "can-do" attitude and his willingness to go the extra mile.</p> <p>In addition to his regular duties, Sunil is always willing to help out wherever he can, such as volunteering to open facilities for various training events, or staying late to work with a contractor so as not to impact City offices with repairs, painting, or other maintenance work during regular business hours.</p> <p>Sunil always provides excellent service in a positive and professional manner and has always shown a willingness to help out wherever, whenever he is needed. Congratulations to Sunil on this well-deserved recognition.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">continued.....</p> |

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| DESIRED OUTCOME: |
| Make presentation. |

MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

SUPPORTING BACKGROUND CONT'D

Employee of the Quarter --

Mary Whalen (Sergeant, Police Department) was nominated for a quarterly award for her consistent performance and demonstrating outstanding judgment in an emergency situation.

Sergeant Mary Whalen is assigned to the Administrative Bureau of the Police Department. She volunteered on several occasions to work for a patrol Sergeant when he needed to take leave.

While working in the patrol sergeant's place, Sergeant Whalen heard a call dispatched for two individuals being held at gunpoint. Sergeant Whalen was the first officer to arrive on the scene. As she entered the parking lot, she observed the two subjects, later identified as the victims, standing in the parking lot. A third subject was walking away from the two victims and appeared to be holding something in his right hand that he was attempting to conceal.

The suspect looked towards Sergeant Whalen's police vehicle, but continued to steadily walk towards the apartment building. Sergeant Whalen got out of her vehicle and yelled to the suspect to "stop". The suspect turned toward Sergeant Whalen and pointed a silver colored shotgun in her direction. She drew her weapon and ordered the suspect to put the weapon down. The suspect eventually complied, and Sergeant Whalen was able to place him in custody prior to backup officers arriving on the scene.

Sergeant Whalen's quick response and her ability to calmly evaluate and respond to the potential threat allowed this event to end without anyone being injured. Sergeant Whalen would have been justified in using lethal force against the suspect, but her training, good judgment, and professionalism allowed her to de-escalate the situation without tragedy.

Congratulations to Sergeant Whalen and thank you for a job well done.

MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

MEETING DATE:

February 2, 2009

CALL TO PODIUM:

Capital for a Day Organizing Committee

Gaithersburg Police, Shift 4

RESPONSIBLE STAFF:

Mayor Katz
Angel Jones, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM:

(please check one)

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| | Presentation |
| X | Proclamation/Certificate |
| | Appointment |
| | Public Hearing |
| | Historic District |
| | Consent Item |
| | Ordinance |
| | Resolution |
| | Policy Discussion |
| | Work Session Discussion Item |
| | Other: |

PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

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| Hearing Date | |
| Record Held Open | |
| Policy Discussion | |

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| TITLE: |
| Second Quarter 2008 Employee Recognition Awards |

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| SUPPORTING BACKGROUND: |
| <p>Congratulations to the winners of the Employee Recognition Award for the Second Quarter of calendar year 2008, September 1, 2008 – December 2008. The winners are:</p> <p><u>Team of the Quarter</u> --</p> <p>Capital for a Day Organizing Committee: Fred Felton, Cindy Hines, Britta Monaco, Sarah Paxton, Monica Sanchez (City Manager’s Office) and Laura Sarno (Public Works)</p> <p>This team was nominated for a quarterly award for exceptional performance in planning, organizing, and implementing events associated with the City of Gaithersburg serving as Maryland’s Capital for the Day on November 6.</p> <p>Planning for the event, which relied heavily on input from the Governor’s office, could not commence until mid-October, when the Governor’s staff began to provide details. In all, six press events were planned in an eight-hour period spread throughout the City. While the Governor was involved in all of these activities, his cabinet members were involved in a variety of meetings and tours with their counterparts at the City and County levels.</p> <p>Meeting frequently over just a three-week period, the organizing committee arranged all the logistics for the various press events. Each member of the organizing committee was responsible for a specific venue and Fred and Britta served as liaisons with the Governor’s office to ensure that both the City’s and the State’s needs were met during the event and that communication was maintained between all participants and elected officials.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">continued....</p> |

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| DESIRED OUTCOME: |
| Make presentation. |

MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

SUPPORTING BACKGROUND CONT'D

Capital for a Day was a tremendous success. The events ran smoothly, and the Governor and his staff were exposed to a myriad of innovative and effective initiatives taking place in Gaithersburg. The Capital for a Day Organizing Committee is recognized for the high quality of work under extremely tight deadlines and the exceptional public image of the City that resulted from their efforts.

Team of the Quarter --

Shift 4 Special Search & Rescue Effort Team

Kathy Fairfield, Brian Hurtt and Dan McCarthy (Police)

This team was nominated for a quarterly award for their exceptional performance in locating and rescuing a critical missing person.

A police call went out for a missing elderly woman with several medical conditions who was unfamiliar with the area. The call was originally intended to be held until additional units were available; however, Corporal Kathy Fairfield was monitoring the air and given the circumstances of freezing weather and darkness, she relayed in the call and advised that she and Officer Dan McCarthy would respond to the scene immediately. Once on the scene, they broadcasted a lookout and searched the home and immediate area. Corporal Fairfield requested the Montgomery County Police bloodhound and helicopter to conduct searches of the wooded area in the immediate proximity of the home.

Officer Brian Hurtt also arrived at the scene and rather than wait for the bloodhound and helicopter, elected to start a foot search of the woods, calling the victim's name as he walked. He eventually heard a faint response and continued calling the woman's name until he was able to pinpoint her location.

The victim had fallen into a creek and was soaking wet, had lost her shoes, and was in an advanced state of hypothermia when she was located. Officer McCarthy joined Officer Hurtt and they covered the victim with their coats and massaged her extremities to promote circulation. An attempt was made to get a 4-wheel drive vehicle to the area, but the terrain made that impossible; so Officers McCarthy and Hurtt carried the victim to an area where rescue units could treat her.

The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment and core warming; and her family was greatly appreciative. Without the efforts of these three officers, this situation might have had a much different ending. The Shift Four Special Search & Rescue Effort Team is recognized for their dedication and compassion and for going above and beyond to help save a life.