

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Kimberly B. Lawson, Mayor
LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President
Charlotte Scott, Councilwoman
Eric Emely, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Barbara Ward, Councilwoman (arriving at 6:04 p.m.)
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr. City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Richard Crumbacker; Danny Nelson; Jenny Tawes; Sarah Rayne; Chet Corman; George Friedley; John Dize and son; Margo Green-Gale; Shawna Kearsley & son.

INVOCATION, LORD'S PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to accept the agenda for this evening's meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman Scott made a motion to approve the regular and closed meetings of July 13, 2016 and the closed and work session of July 6, 2016. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Ward arrived at this time (6:04 p.m.)

PRESENTATION OF GOVERNOR'S CITATION TO THE CRISFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

At this time, Mayor Lawson called Jenny Tawes, Chamber Secretary, forward and presented her the Governor's Citation for this year's Clam Bake.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Pollitt presented his bi-weekly report highlighting its contents. (see attached) He also made reference to scheduling a work session with Mrs. Jean Holloway either August 24th or August 31st at 4:30 p.m. concerning the water/sewer rate study.

Councilman Konapelsky addressed Council Vice President Johnson concerning It Takes A Village regarding the need for a meeting to address the demolition process. Council Vice President Johnson advised that she had been following the emails concerning this.

Councilwoman Scott made reference to the final item on Mr. Pollitt's report concerning savings identified in the Hurricane Sandy street paving project which may allow for a little more paving. Mr. Pollitt advised that the cost of asphalt was lower than when the project was bid. Councilman Konapelsky also added that not as much concrete work was needed.

Council Vice President Johnson inquired which street would be paved.

Mr. Pollitt advised that all of Chesapeake Avenue would be paved, as the area must be a through street.

Mayor Lawson noted that he had met with Worth Concrete concerning the south side of Chesapeake Avenue sidewalk. Mayor Lawson noted that the savings also came from having a day to day engineering firm who reviewed finances daily.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Award of Dock Repair Bid for Small Boat Harbor

Mr. Pollitt noted that this would be paid for through Waterway Improvement grant funding and was for the dock at the small boat harbor. He advised that the two bids received were under the estimated cost so that extra money could go toward outfitting the new bulkhead area at the depot with safety features.

Mr. Pollitt advised that the two bids received were from Stevens Marine for \$32,800 and Crisfield Marine for \$35,000.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the lower bid from Stevens Marine.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson noted that Mr. Bozman had advised that Stevens Marine did an excellent job on the piers at Brick Kiln.

Approval of Dockage Fee @ Depot

Mr. Pollitt made reference to a meeting with boat captains Terry and Larry Laird, Brett Thomas and Otis Ray Tyler concerning a dockage fee for the depot. He advised that this meeting received enthusiastic support from the captains.

Mr. Pollitt advised that they would pay a \$250 annual fee, with a five year term and 10% annual fee increase. In turn they have asked for better parking enforcement.

Mr. Pollitt advised that the City needs someone at the depot during busy times to give parking directives and that will also be an ambassador for the City. He advised that the person would be paid.

Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the proposed dockage fee. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward.

M&C72716

Councilwoman Scott commented that paying a parking attendant would use any fees that we collect.

Councilman Konapelsky stated that it would be a low paying position and should be a well-known face for a couple of hours a day. He also advised that the police department needs to monitor parking better in that area.

Mr. Pollitt also noted that we are looking into increasing the fees charged to cruise ships.

Councilwoman Scott commented that the person needs to be a good will ambassador, but also must have some authority when dealing with parking issues.

Council Vice President Johnson noted that the person may also be needed more than two hours on some days.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that a work session is needed at the depot to actually see the activity there.

With no further discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson commented that people have docked there overnight instead of using the Marina.

NEW BUSINESS

Event Application

Mayor Lawson briefed concerning an event application for 2nd Saturday events from Carol Heck, for the Somerset County Arts Council. He noted the event was for August to October 2016 and May to October 2017, and advised only addressing the 2016 events at this time. He advised that they have provided their insurance certificate.

Mayor Lawson advised that they would be using the depot, 9th Street, and Mr. Jay Tawes' portion of the downtown parking lot.

M&C72716

Councilwoman Scott made a motion to approve the 2nd Saturday Event Application for August to October 2016. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL Q & A, DISCUSSION

Mayor Lawson made reference to a proposal to install a 24 hour WBOC-TV weather camera focused on the depot. He advised that the camera would be placed on the Water's Edge Restaurant.

Mayor Lawson advised that the cost is \$1500 a month for an \$18K per year contract. He also advised that the Nelson's of Water's Edge will be paying \$750 per month and three other sponsors are needed.

Mayor Lawson advised that he is asking the Council to approve \$250 per month, or \$3,000 per year.

He advised that this would offer high speed internet connection and broadcasts sixty times per month with a good outreach.

Councilman Emely commented that this is a great idea.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that this is a great idea but he is concerned about the budget and would like a meeting with the Mayor and City Manager to discuss it.

Mayor Lawson advised that he has an idea of others to approach to share the cost and will share this with the Council. Councilman Konapelsky commented that the camera is a great idea, but feels we need to clear up other matters.

Councilwoman Scott stated that this is good for Crisfield and a good opportunity.

George Friedley commented that the depot has the most beautiful sunset.

Mr. Nelson advised that the screen shots will have the Crisfield Water's Edge Café in the logo.

Mayor Lawson advised that the depot is the number one draw to Crisfield and the islands.

Mayor Lawson noted that SHA continues to install the brick on the walkways at nights to 4:00 a.m.

due to the heat. He also made reference to drilling of the sidewalk downtown to put in pvc pipe for signs.

Mayor Lawson advised that he attended the Shorebirds event for Mr. Donnie Drewer's retirement.

Mayor Lawson made reference to getting the maximum out of doing Chesapeake Avenue by grinding and paving. He advised that half of the sidewalk will be repaired or replaced. He noted that the contractors have done a good job.

Mayor Lawson stated that over 4,000 attended the Clam Bake and noted that everything went well with no issues.

Councilman Konapelsky reminded everyone that the Wheels that Heal event is this Saturday from 5-8 p.m.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he has been working with Hurricane Sandy funding Auditors.

He advised that he is impressed by the SOMOS gardens and Water's Edge addition. Councilman Konapelsky advised that State and Federal representatives are impressed by the results of how the Hurricane Sandy money has been spent. He added that the community is coming together.

Councilwoman Scott commented about the beautiful planters around town. She noted that this is the 10th year for Wheels on the Waterfront. Councilwoman Scott noted that this was the 40th Clam Bake and the upcoming 69th Crab Derby. She stated that Crisfield perseveres and commended City workers.

Council Vice President Johnson advised that she had recent guests that were fascinated with Crisfield. She also commented that many of the newly issued garbage cans had been left out at the front of properties.

Mayor Lawson noted that residents are getting used to the new cans. Mrs. Morgan advised that a mailer has been sent out with instructions and noted residents who have disabilities preventing them from putting out their cans can call City Hall.

Councilwoman Ward commented that some residents are putting their cans away later on in the evening when it is cooler.

She also commented that her brother attended the clam bake and was surprised at all of the improvements to the City. She added that Crisfield's name is spreading and it is all good.

Councilman Emely recommended feeding the City workers for all of their hard work getting the town ready for clam bake and other events. Mayor Lawson suggested a picnic.

Councilman Emely also made reference to the recent death of two people from Crisfield;

Craig Whittington and Shanelle Fortune.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the new blacktop, which makes it much more noticeable when people cut their grass and blow it into the street. He advised that the grass gets into the storm drains and causes the streets to flood during heavy rains.

Mayor Lawson made reference to access to the wind turbine and the need for a larger area of fencing after moving the chain link fence. He noted that everyone worked hard on the project that has come together.

Mayor Lawson noted that there were 31 cars at the library last Friday.

Mayor Lawson also commended Mr. Richard Crumbacker on the County Times. He advised he appreciates Mr. Crumbacker's reporting and good press.

PUBLIC INPUT

Danny Nelson commented about the 2nd Saturday and 3rd Thursday Events and use of live music. and problems with a threat from B.M.I.(Broadcast Music, Inc.) concerning its use.

John Dize made reference to the ditch at 23 Anchor Drive which does not drain and is ruining the concrete work there. Mayor Lawson instructed Mr. Pollitt to have Mr. Bozman look at this problem. Mr. Pollitt advised that Mr. Bozman already has.

Shawna Kearsley presented Mayor Lawson a vacation note from her son. She advised that the gardens are doing well and also briefed on SOMOS activities.

Margo Green-Gale commented that the street work is beautiful but symbols for the bike and turn lanes are needed. Councilman Emely advised that they will be labeled.

George Friedley commented about a continuing drainage problem on Chesapeake Avenue.

There being no further business for discussion, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary