

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Kimberly B. Lawson, Mayor  
Charlotte Scott, Council Vice President  
LaVerne Johnson, Councilwoman  
Mike Atkins, Councilman  
Erik Emely, Councilman  
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman  
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Keith Graffius; John Dize; Carolyn Marquis; Richard Crumbacker; Klaus Trepczyk; Matt Lawson; Eddie Heath; Frankie Pruitt; Doug Crockett; Terry Pehan; Lamont Potter; Ken Wilmer; and Felisa D. Games.

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

Mayor Lawson requested a motion to accept the Agenda for this evening's meeting. So moved by Councilman Atkins, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION

Councilman Emely introduced Mr. Keith Graffius, owner of Crabi Gras, which is opening in Crisfield in May.

Mayor Lawson advised Mr. Graffius that the City has a manufacturing facility available if they need to produce items.

PRESENTATION OF CITY KEYS TO MR. HAROLD FROCK

Mayor Lawson noted that Mr. Frock, Superintendent of Public Utilities, had retired after 32 years. He

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noted that Mr. Frock took ownership of the Plant and advised that he appreciates him and his department. He advised that Mr. Frock was unable to attend this presentation.

Council Vice President Scott made reference to working with Corey Hill of SERCAP (South East Rural Community Assistance Project) concerning improvements to the Plant. She noted that Mr. Hill had commented about the Plant having a great track record, with no fines.

FRANKIE PRUITT, CRISFIELD FIRE CHIEF – RE: BURNING ORDINANCE

Chief Pruitt made reference to the current Burning Ordinance and advised that he would like to have it changed to allow burning on Friday from 1-6p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. He also advised that he would like to have wire added to the list of what can't be burned.

Mayor Lawson noted that the original burn day had been moved from Saturday due to odor, etc., when people were off from work. Councilman Emely advised that this was to accommodate the working man.

Mayor Lawson advised that this could go before the Planning Commission.

Councilman Atkins advised just showing the list of items permitted for burning. Mayor Lawson advised that wire should be specified as non-burnable.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 11, 2015.

Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mayor Lawson noted that (1) he received a letter from Barbara Outten concerning the decision made by the Old State Road water users, advising that the majority are in favor of going with the Sanitary District. He advised that they will still have to buy their water from the City and that the cost can be

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determined after the workshop meeting concerning water rates. (2) Letter from Cindy Stone, CDBG, Re: Carvel Hall compliance – would like to meet Monday or Tuesday. (3) Met with Johnny Goldsborough re: the general cost of concrete installation. He advised that the cost of placing a pad 15 x 45 – 5” thick, stamped, at the end of 10<sup>th</sup> Street is \$5,000. The cost for the Hammock Point Cul De Sac – 210’ of curb, before the bid to pave the road - \$4,500. Mayor Lawson advised letting the 10<sup>th</sup> Street bid out with the guarantee of Community Legacy funding, and the \$4,500 will come from Highway user funds.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to authorize \$5,000 to come from Community Legacy for concrete work at the end of 10<sup>th</sup> Street, and \$4,500 from Highway User for the 210’ of curb at the Hammock Point cul de sac.

Council Vice President Scott inquired if she should recuse herself, as she lives at Hammock Point. The Mayor and Council advised that she is ok, as this involves the road, not her personal driveway.

Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson made reference to a letter from the State Department of Assessments and Taxation concerning the constant yield rate of .8664. He inquired if the City would have to advertise. Mrs. Morgan noted that the City is exempt from advertising.

Mayor Lawson advised that he has been invited by the Maryland Mayor’s Association to testify in front of the General Assembly on March 3<sup>rd</sup> concerning the tax differential.

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### EVENT APPLICATIONS

Mayor Lawson reviewed an event application for a religious service in the Housing Authority. After its review, it was determined that more detail would be needed, and was therefore tabled for the

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next meeting.

Mayor Lawson reviewed an event application for the annual Freedom Fest to be held on Saturday, June 27, 2015 at the depot. Councilman Emely made a motion to approve, contingent upon liability insurance. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL DISCUSSION CONT'D

Mayor Lawson made reference to equipment purchase of white fleet pick-up trucks costing \$22,500 to \$25,000. He advised purchasing three at auction for \$30,000 with a 6 year pay-back period.

He advised that Councilman Emely is working with Tawes Brothers.

Councilman Emely advised that they could be purchased at the Manheim auction, would have two wheel drive and vinyl interior – bare bones.

After further discussion, Councilman Emely made a motion to borrow \$30K with a payback of 6 years.

Councilman Atkins made reference to “buyer beware” and inquired if extra warranty of these trucks could be purchased through Tawes Brothers. Councilman Emely advised that it could not.

Councilwoman Johnson commented that these vehicles are needed for safety.

Council Vice President Scott inquired if this would come out of the line item for equipment.

Mrs. Morgan advised that it would come out of the \$35K set aside for equipment.

Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson noted that Mr. Ben Botti, Site Coordinator, Peninsula-Delaware Disaster Response Team, United Methodist Church, would be bringing in some youth in April to do small projects in the City, such as clean-ups for the elderly, etc.

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Councilman Emely addressed the Action Items and advised that Vehicles is complete, and that bids for heating , the kitchen, and the elevator, at the Fire Hall, would be addressed during budget meetings.

Councilman Emely inquired about 329 Cove Street. Mayor Lawson advised that the City has a clear title and needs to establish criteria for demo. He noted keeping the cost below \$1,500 and advised to move forward.

Council Vice President Scott noted that she is continuing to work on several items.

Councilman Konapelsky noted that he has been re-appointed as Critical Areas Commissioner for the State of Maryland. He also noted that he was recently a speaker at Chesapeake College concerning sea level rise. He noted that there is still a way to go concerning Hurricane Sandy.

Councilman Atkins inquired about the Norris Harbor Drive road repair. Mayor Lawson advised that he will have Mr. Loar prepare an RFP and also advise Mr. Gary Pusey to add the cost of the pipe to the \$1.3M in Sandy Funding request.

Councilman Atkins made reference to nominations to the City Commission.

Mayor Lawson advised that this group would meet for an hour and a half, four times a year, to discuss community issues. He advised that you don't have to live in Crisfield, but must at least own a business here.

Mayor Lawson advised that his nominees were; Mark Metzger, Kathleen Garten, and Quincy Corbin.

Councilman Emely advised his nominee was Lamount Potter. Mayor Lawson commented that Mr. Potter has attended City meetings for many years and also served on the BZA.

Councilwoman Johnson stated that she would present a name at the next meeting.

Council Vice President Scott advised that her nominee was Greg Sutton, Superintendent of Transpor-

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tation, Somerset County Board of Education.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that his nominee was Billie Jo Chandler.

Councilman Atkins presented three nominees via power point presentation; Ken Wilmer, Matt Lawson, and Darlene Taylor.

Mayor Lawson requested one nominee from Councilman Atkins. He advised that this is a total of 10 names. He advised to bring in all names to the next meeting.

Mayor Lawson noted that the Commission would meet four times a year without the Mayor and Council.

Councilman Atkins advised that his nominee was Ken Wilmer. Councilwoman Johnson advised that her nominee was Ronald Sterling, Jr., her grandson.

Councilman Atkins inquired as to how the Mayor and Council would obtain feed-back from the Commission. Mayor Lawson advised that they would elect a Chairman to report to the Mayor and Council.

Councilman Atkins also suggested that the Mayor and Council meet with the entire group.

Mayor Lawson advised that three more members are needed; more female and another youth.

#### PUBLIC INPUT

John Dize commented about previous markings for paving Anchor Drive and advised that it had made the street seem smaller as residents didn't know what the flags indicated.

Felicia Games, a resident of Somers Cove Apartments in the area of Big Willey's made reference to disruptive alarms going off this past Saturday from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Councilman Emely commented that it could be the alarm at the water tower on Broadway, or a weather related alarm somewhere else.

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Mayor Lawson explained the activity that goes on in the Broadway well house and asked Mrs. Gaines to log the incidents and report them to 911. He advised that the City would check with public utilities personnel and advised that it is unacceptable for it not to be turned off. He also noted the possibility of it being at the museum.

Klaus Trepczyk addressed the Mayor and Council concerning the barrels at the wind turbine site.

Mr. Jason Loar explained that they hold the grease that is used for bolt protection of the turbine.

Mr. Trepczyk also inquired about wind turbines at Calvary Estates. Mayor Lawson advised that no public development has occurred there. He also noted that the owner, Mr. Johnson, is out of town.

There being no further business for discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary