

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 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
Erik Emely, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr. City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Absent due to illness in family – Barbara Ward, Councilwoman

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; (arrived at 6:30 p.m.) Chief Michael Tabor;

Dennis Parkinson, Superintendent of Public Works; Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement/

Public Works.

CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR LAWSON

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order, opening with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Lawson requested a moment of silence for California, Las Vegas, Puerto Rico, the City of Crisfield, and America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Pollitt requested that an item be added to Unfinished Business – a motion to extend the period for 2nd Reading of the Ordinance amending Section 112-47(A), Chapter 112, Article X

I-1, for the first meeting in November, on November 8th, 2017.

Approval so moved by Councilman Konapelsky, seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried unanimously 4-0.

Mayor Lawson requested that opening of Hammock Point street bids be added to the end of new business and review of the Arts Council lease be added to unfinished business.

Approval so moved by Councilman Konapelsky, seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried 4-0.

Councilman Emely requested that the Handy proclamation be taken off of the agenda until someone from there is in attendance to accept it.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES A & E WORKSHOP 9/27/17, REGULAR 9/27/17, WORKSHOP 9/29/17

Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the A & E meeting on 9/27/17. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried 3-0. (Councilman Emely and Councilwoman Ward absent)

Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to delay approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 27, 2017 until there is a full quorum. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from the Workshop meeting of September 20, 2017 with a correction on Page 3 - \$7,700 to \$77,000. Motion

seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

FIRST PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

No Public Input was offered at this time.

PRESENTATION OF CITY KEYS

Mayor Lawson presented “Keys to the City of Crisfield” to Mrs. Mary Hall for her kindness to others.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. Pollitt reviewed his bi-weekly report, highlighting its contents. (see report)

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Mike Tabor presented and highlighted his quarterly report. He briefed concerning the recent arsons and homicide in Crisfield, and also made reference to gang presence.

Chief Tabor also commented on overtime expenses for CPD during these recent incidents.

He also noted that the Department may be getting \$5,000 from the State for opioid prevention.

Mr. John Robertson commented about the quick response he received from CPD after hearing gun shots in his neighborhood. He commented that the Chief does a lot.

Mayor Lawson commented that dealing with opioid issues had been the Chief’s area of expertise in his previous job. He also commented that the Chief takes his job very seriously.

Mayor Lawson noted that Councilman Emely has been working on outreach concerning the opioid issues in Crisfield.

Councilman Emely commented that there are two sides of the issue he has been working with; those who are addicted, and the law enforcement agencies

He noted that there is a 24 year old girl that is in rehab right now and that there hasn't been an overdose in a few weeks. He advised that there will be a Red Ribbon week on the 23rd to promote opioid awareness. Councilman Emely commented that we need to go to bat and get help from the Housing Authority.

Chief Tabor advised that he had presented the Housing Authority with a recommendation packet in 2011. He noted that they used to have a banned-list of those who could not come into the Housing Authority, but when cases went to court, they were always nolle prosequi.

Mayor Lawson commented that the banned-list had been determined to be a violation of civil rights.

Chief Tabor made reference to the Annapolis Agreement, preventing you from living in a housing authority if you committed a crime. Mr. Sullivan explained the agreement and noted that the decision to enforce this must be made by the Housing Authority Board members, and suggested reaching out to them to develop policies. Councilman Emely advised that the Board says their hands are tied. Mr. Sullivan advised that we need to know why they are tied.

Councilman Emely asked Mr. Pollitt to schedule a meeting with the Housing Authority Board.

Councilwoman Scott advised that she recalls a conversation with the Director, Mr. Goldsborough, who said the issue is difficult to deal with because the tenants are allowed to have visitors.

Councilwoman Scott inquired about the status of the vehicle fire. Chief Tabor advised that this was an arson and the Fire Marshall is investigating. He also explained how Uniform Crime Reporting is done.

Councilwoman Scott also inquired how the overdoses are monitored. Chief Tabor advised that CPD is keeping a record. He advised that with drug issues, reporting is complicated, as it has crossed all socioeconomic boundaries. He advised that this problem can't be arrested away, and it is a problem all over the country, due to the high content of Fentanyl in Heroin now.

Council Vice President Johnson thanked the Chief and Councilman Emely for the Opioid Initiative. She also commented that people living in the Housing Authority don't create crime, the visitors do. Councilman Emely commented that this is why a meeting with the Housing Authority Board is needed.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement Director/Public Works Director, reviewed his quarterly Code Enforcement report. He noted that the fire department has raised enough money to do their upstairs floor replacement.

Mr. Bozman also noted that the City will be continuing with the walking trail and will be putting

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out an RFP.

Mr. Bozman also noted that with grassing mowing season winding down, Public Works will begin working on storm drains.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REPORT

Mr. Dennis Parkinson, Superintendent of Public Utilities, reviewed his quarterly report.

He noted that the leak at Food Lion had been repaired, but another leak had occurred there.

He advised that there are currently 12-14 leaks in the City. Mayor Lawson noted that 5 of the leaks have been authorized to be repaired. Mr. Sullivan advised that he would have the RFP in two weeks.

Mr. Parkinson noted that there has been no cross-contamination with the leaks.

Mayor Lawson made reference to chlorine levels. Mr. Parkinson advised that well-heads are checked for proper chlorine levels every day.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, presented and reviewed the financial statement for the first quarter. (see attached)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky requested a motion recommending that a motion be made to extend from the period of 8/16/17, for 60 days, the 2nd Reading of the Ordinance amending Section 112-47(A), Chapter 112, Article XI-1, for the first meeting in November, on

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November 8th, 2017.

So moved by Councilman Emely, seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried 4-0.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the lease agreement documents with the Arts Council for the Corbin Library building and asked that it be reviewed by the Council and placed under Unfinished Business for the next regular meeting on October 25, 2017.

Mr. Sullivan advised that this would be a 5 year lease with four 5 year renewal options.

He noted that there are lease restrictions. Councilman Konapelsky advised that we need to look out for future City government, so that they can have some say in the renewal.

NEW BUSINESS

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR LOT CONSOLIDATION

Mr. Bozman reviewed the letter from Billy Drewer, Planning Commission Chairman, concerning a request from Steve Walston for lot reconfiguration of 3 parcels of land on North Somerset Avenue; parcel 1687, lots 1 & 2, parcel 1686 and part of parcel 1685, into one building parcel. He advised that the plan is to construct a storage building, which is allowed in R-1.

Mr. Sullivan advised that the use is of no matter at this time, just the lot consolidation. He advised that the building permit would be subject to the zoning board.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky.

MC101117

Councilwoman Scott commented that Mr. Walston has a right to do this. Councilman Emely noted that he keeps his property "top shelf". Motion carried unanimously 4-0.

Mayor Lawson made reference to bids for the paving of Hammock Pointe. He advised that one bid had been received from Jerry Bozman. Mayor Lawson advised that there is \$130K available. He advised that the bid was for 30' wide by 2 ½" blacktop. Mayor Lawson advised that Goldsborough Concrete would be doing the curbing at the end of Island View for a price of \$5,600 and can start in the next 7 days.

Mayor Lawson reviewed Bozman LLC's bid as follows; Hammock Point Road - \$73,644, Island View cul de sac \$14, 355, for a total bid of \$87,999 plus the \$5,600 for curbing.

Councilman Emely inquired if the job had been bid out and advertised. Mr. Bozman advised that it had not. Councilman Emely advised that he wants it advertised in the paper. Mrs.

Morgan noted that the City is not required to advertise in a paper, but can give out bids and post on the internet. Mayor Lawson inquired if the \$5,600 for curbing could be approved.

Council Vice President Johnson advised that this could not be approved either.

EVENT APPLICATION – HALLOWEEN PARADE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017

Approval so moved by Councilman Emely, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously 4-0.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Konapelsky commented about a local posting of Mayor and Council meetings.

He also made reference to the work session about Carvel Hall and the statement about “hysteria” if the Council doesn’t vote a certain way, and advised that he will not be intimidated.

Councilwoman Scott thanked everyone for coming tonight.

Council Vice President Scott commented that she was asked to hold a work session and agrees with Councilman Konapelsky about the “hysteria” comment, though she does have reservations, but has to make the best decision for the City of Crisfield.

Council Vice President Scott noted that Trick or Treat would be observed on Halloween from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and the City would be closing off Somerset Avenue from Main Street to Potomac Street from vehicular traffic for safety of trick or treaters.

Mayor Lawson suggested Chesapeake Avenue as well. Mrs. Morgan suggested barricading Gandy Lane and running traffic that way.

Councilman Emely also suggested asking Spangler if cars could be parked at Carvel Hall for trick or treating at Cullen Parkway.

Councilman Emely commented that he doesn’t see Cullen Parkway residents as not being City residents since they shop, eat, and work here and need to be respected.

Councilman Emely noted that the Lower Eastern Shore Ambulance and Rescue Squad just signed paper for a \$1/4M new ambulance.

Councilman Emely made reference to the Small Boat Harbor meeting.

Mrs. Morgan also noted that during the meeting, there needs to be a discussion concerning

water and sewer rates. Councilman Emely advised that he feels this needs to be done during another meeting.

At this time, it was concurred that a workshop concerning the Small Boat Harbor and the boat captains at the depot would be held on October 25th at 5:00 p.m.

Councilman Emely also suggested asking the dredging company that is docked across from the Collins Street wharf to dredge out the kayak launch.

Councilman Emely suggested leasing the depot pavilion for restaurant space.

Councilwoman Scott added that the City Dock is a focal point that is under-utilized.

Councilwoman.

In reference to Carvel Hall, Councilwoman Scott advised that she wants to hear from our neighbors outside of the City. She commented that suspicions, doubts, and innuendos have not been proven. She also commented that she doesn't respond well to threats.

Council Vice President Johnson commented that the City was chastised during Hurricane Sandy for the way citizens were handled. She advised that we are responsible for the parameter and want to listen. She advised that she has reservations and cares about all citizens, inside and out.

Mayor Lawson commented that he met with a rental inspection officer that works in Princess Anne but lives in Crisfield, who is available to compile codes, and asked him for a personal service contract. Mayor Lawson commented that some landlords are excellent

and some are slumlords. He would be a rental inspection officer.

He advised that the contract would be presented to Mr. Sullivan.

Mayor Lawson also noted that he attended a State Highway Meeting at the County Commissioners office concerning a building at the Airport for drones as well as addressing them about further golf cart legislation to be taken to the General Assembly.

Council Vice President Johnson asked for clarification regarding the Inspection Officer.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would be Livability Code Officer.

Mr. Sullivan noted that he prepared a Rental Ordinance 5 years ago concerning the former Pines Motel, and it passed for First Reader, but this would have also involved condo owners.

The Ordinance never got revisited.

Mayor Lawson noted that this Ordinance was to define for the Pines, longterm/transient.

FINAL INPUT SESSION

Mr. Billy Colona commented that he doesn't want the City to feel threatened, but just wants them to do what is right. He also commented that at a recent meeting, he felt that Councilman Konapelsky and Mayor Lawson were disrespectful to Tammy Truitt.

Mr. Johns Robertson commented that he thinks it is a good idea to visit one of the poultry waste sites and suggested that the Council and a resident go.

Council Vice President Johnson on behalf of the Council for any feelings of disrespect.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the meeting at Crisfield High School, which allowed ample

time for speakers. He advised that the special meeting was advertised to hear Mr. Dorman speak, but then others who had not spoken at the high school asked to speak as well.

Mayor Lawson advised that the City has been sued before for violations of meeting rules, therefore we have to keep control of advertised meetings. He apologized for any hard feelings.

Mr. Sullivan reminded that the Open Meeting law offers the right to attend, not to participate.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary