

## MINUTES

The Mayor and Council met in regular session on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Corbin Gallery and Studio.

### PRESENT

LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President  
Barbara Ward, Councilwoman  
Nelson Sheppard, Councilman  
Jimmy Ford, Councilman  
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr. City Manager  
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer  
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Mike Tabor, Chief of Police; Jimmy Charles, Superintendent of Public Works; D.J. Parkinson, Superintendent of Public Utilities; and Kristie Eberly, Circuit Rider.(see sign-in sheet for others in attendance)

Absent due to work commitment – Mayor Barry Dize  
Absent – Councilwoman Gail Lankford

### LORD’S PRAYER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Council Vice President Johnson called the meeting to order, opening with the Lord’s Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

She requested an amendment to the Agenda to move Mr. Pollitt’s report before Mrs. Morgan’s. Councilman Sheppard made a motion to approve the amendment to the Agenda. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously 4-0.

### **Public Hearing for an Ordinance Amending Article VII (“Golf Carts”), Section 106-33 of the City of Crisfield Municipal Code, titled “Operation on public highways”**

Council Vice President Johnson reviewed the notice for the Ordinance amending Article VII for operation on public highways. Council Vice President Johnson asked for any proponents of the Ordinance. Mr. Pollitt read aloud a letter from the Somers Cove Marina in favor of the Ordinance.

Council Vice President Johnson asked for any opponents of the Ordinance. No opposition was offered.

At this time, the Public Hearing closed.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader Ordinance 689 Amending Chapter 106 of the City Code entitled Vehicles and Traffic

Prior to 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader, Mr. Sullivan noted some new language that needed to be added, since the 1<sup>st</sup> Reader. He advised that the language matches the State language; on page 3, 106-33A.

At this time, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to accept the language amending 106-33A. Motion seconded by Councilman Ford and carried unanimously, 4-0.

Councilman Sheppard then made a motion to accept Ordinance 689 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader. Motion seconded by Councilman Ford and carried unanimously, 4-0.

**Public Hearing for an Ordinance Amending Chapter 84 of the City of Crisfield Municipal Code, to Add a New Article II, Titled “Vacant and Blighted Building Registration”, Which Shall Be Codified at Section 84-4 of the City of Crisfield Municipal Code**

Council Vice President Johnson opened the hearing, noting the previously held work session.

Council Vice President Johnson called for any proponents of the proposed Ordinance. There were none. Council Vice President Johnson called for any opponents of the proposed Ordinance. There were none.

At this time, the Public Hearing closed.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reader – Vacant and Blighted Building Registration Ordinance #690

With no further discussion concerning the Vacant and Blighted Building Registration Ordinance, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to adopt Ordinance #690 for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously 4-0.

City Manager’s Report

Mr. Richard Pollitt, Jr. City Manager reviewed his bi-weekly report, highlighting its contents. Mr. Pollitt noted that in the past few years, the Mayor and Council has approved a holiday meeting schedule of one meeting in November and one meeting in December, and also closing City offices on December 26<sup>th</sup>, with employees using their own time for this day.

At this time, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to approve the holiday meeting schedule and office closing. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously, 4-0.

At this time, Mr. Pollitt introduced the City’s new Circuit Rider, Mrs. Kristie Eberly. Mrs.

Eberly then reviewed and updated what she is working on.

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, reviewed the First Quarter Financial Report for 2019-2020, highlighting revenue and expense. She noted that the First Quarter has gone as planned.

Chief Mike Tabor presented his quarterly report highlighting its contents. Chief Tabor noted that he has been meeting with the new Housing Authority Director, Don Bibb, who has been working hard to remove gang members from the Housing Authority. He advised that you cannot be a felon or validated gang member and reside there. Chief Tabor noted that there is a much better environment at the Housing Authority now.

Dennis Parkinson, Jr., Superintendent of Public Utilities, presented his quarterly report, highlighting its contents.

Jimmy Charles, Superintendent of Public Works, reviewed Mr. Bozman's report (Mr. Bozman was out of town). He went on to review Public Works, noting that a new crew member had been hired on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Charles also noted that Snow Emergency Routes need to be designated. He also made reference to recycling issues due to residents putting non-recyclable items out for pick-up. He suggested either eliminating the service, asking residents to separate, or setting up a recycle station. He presented pictures of items that were not permitted. Mr. Charles also presented a list of surplus city equipment.

Mrs. Morgan presented a request from the Crisfield Fire Department for \$5,000 for SBA (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) and lights for their tanker.

Mrs. Morgan also noted that the surplus property that the City owns has been advertised over six times in the last ten years. She commented that the City has been making an effort but has not been successful.

### Public Input

Council Vice President Johnson reminded anyone offering input to adhere to the 2 minute rule.

Mr. Bill Brown made reference to the last weekend's Yard/yART Sale, noting that it was a huge success. He advised that it has been scheduled for the first Saturday in April, 2020 and the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in the Fall of 2020. Mr. Brown attributed the event's success to social media.

### Mayor and Council Report

Councilman Ford had no comments.

Councilman Sheppard had no comments.

Councilwoman Ward had no comments.

Council Vice President Johnson made reference to the earlier workshops, noting that the Council is working on establishing a committee to revitalize Main Street once Mr. Pollitt contacts a representative from the Main Street Maryland group.

Council Vice President Johnson noted that we will be getting an estimate on paving all of the streets and also commented that the Blighted Building Registration Ordinance was adopted for 2<sup>nd</sup> Reader.

Council Vice President Johnson thanked everyone for attending the work sessions and meeting.

With no further business for discussion, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Ford and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary