

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Corbin Studio and Gallery.

PRESENT

Barry Dize, Mayor
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; Richard Crumbacker; and Craig Dobson.

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

Mayor Dize requested approval of the minutes from last month's meeting. Approval so moved by Councilman Sheppard, seconded by Council Vice President Johnson, and carried unanimously 3-0.

Public Hearing - An Ordinance of the City of Crisfield Amending Section 112-20 of the Crisfield City Code, Entitled "Definition of Terms", to Add Certain Defined Terms in Connection with the Amendment to Chapter 112 Adding Section 112-71.1; Amending Section 112-56 of the Crisfield City Code, Entitled "Table of Permitted Uses:, for the Purpose of Establishing A Campground May be Permitted by the City of Crisfield Board of Zoning Appeals As a Special Exception for the Use of Property Zoned "TM Tourist-Maritime District"

Mayor Dize read the Public Hearing notice and called for any proponents of the proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Craig Dobson asked for clarification on the Ordinance.

Mr. Pollitt explained that the Ordinance addresses Campgrounds as opposed to recreational vehicle parks. He advised that Campground applications will require a Public Hearing with the Board of Zoning Appeals as it is a Special Exception use. Mr. Pollitt advised that appeals from the Board of Appeals go directly to Circuit Court and not to the City Council. He also noted that the only qualifying properties in the TM district are Handys, the American Legion, and Jersey Island.

With no proponents or opponents, Mayor Dize closed the public hearing at 6:07 p.m.

2nd Reader - An Ordinance of the City of Crisfield Amending Section 112-20 of the Crisfield City Code, Entitled "Definition of Terms", to Add Certain Defined Terms in Connection with the Amendment to Chapter 112 Adding Section 112-71.1; Amending Section 112-56 of the Crisfield City Code, Entitled "Table of Permitted Uses:, for the Purpose of Establishing A Campground May be Permitted by the City of Crisfield Board of Zoning Appeals As a Special Exception for the Use of Property Zoned "TM Tourist-Maritime District"

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Ordinance for 2nd Reader, reading the edits. He advised that a motion will be needed to make the draft (non-material) edits. Mr. Sullivan reviewed the edits.

At this time, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to accept the edits. Motion seconded by Councilman Sheppard and carried unanimously, 4-0.

Council Vice President made a motion to approve Ordinance 691 as amended. Motion seconded by Councilman Sheppard and carried unanimously.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Pollitt reviewed and highlighted his report, noting that the blue window candles in honor of fallen police officers, would be presented to Chief Tabor later on this evening.

Somers Family Gravesite Information

Mr. Pollitt presented an assessment report and pictures and boundaries of the Somers Family Gravesite. Mr. Pollitt advised that the owner of the property wishes to donate it to the City with the stipulation that the City have it appraised, providing him with a letter of the established property value.

Following discussion of the assessed value versus the appraised value, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to suggest to the property owner that, in light of today's economy, the official assessed value may exceed a new appraisal and that he may wish to accept the State assessment. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously, 4-0. Mr. Pollitt will contact the owner with the suggestion but be prepared to proceed with the appraisal if that is the owner's choice.

First Reader – Rental Registration Ordinance Modification/Housing Authority Inspections

Mayor Dize noted that this Ordinance would clarify that the Rental Registration Ordinance covers the residential units owned and maintained by the Crisfield Housing Authority.

Mr. Sullivan made reference to previous discussions with former director Charles Goldsborough, advising that inspections performed by the City were not authorized there. The new director, Mr. Don Bibb, has asked that the City provide inspections services, saying he had similar agreements with other housing authorities he manages in Wicomico and Talbot Counties. He advised that the Housing

Authority would pay for rental registration for all units and an annual inspection of sixty (60) units and units that changed occupants during the year.

At this time, Mr. Sullivan read into record the recitals and changes.

Councilman Sheppard then made a motion to adopt the Rental Registration Ordinance for First Reader. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously, 4-0.

Mr. Pollitt noted that a Public Hearing would be held prior to Second Reader at the January 8, 2020 meeting.

Public Input

Craig Dobson advised that he appreciates all that the Mayor and Council do.

Mayor and City Council

No reports.

Mayor Dize then called for a brief recess at 6:48 pm.

Mayor Dize then called the meeting back to order at 6:52 pm.

Councilman Ford inquired if the Housing Authority will continue to give money to Crisfield Police Department if the City is getting paid for the inspections that we do. Mayor Dize advised that these are two separate issues and the rental registration and inspection program has no impact on payment for additional police services.

At this time, Mayor Dize requested a motion to close the open meeting, for the purpose of convening in Closed Session to discuss personnel matters and consult with the city solicitor. So moved by Council Vice President Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Ward, and carried unanimously.

Upon the conclusion of the closed meeting, the Mayor & Council reconvened in open session and properly adjourned for the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift