

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 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
Rick Pollitt, City Manager

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary. See list of others in attendance

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

Councilman Atkins made a motion to accept the Agenda for this evening's meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF CITY KEYS TO KAREN LAWSON

Mayor Lawson advised that, per the suggestion of Councilman Emely to recognize a person who makes a difference in the community, he was presenting Keys to the City to Karen Lawson, upon her retirement from the Crisfield Post Office. Mayor Lawson made several comments concerning the various activities Ms. Lawson had been involved in.

Ms. Lawson thanked the Mayor and Council for the City Keys and advised that her job was easier because she had a good staff at the post office.

10 MINUTE RECESS & RECONVENING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular and closed meeting of Wednesday, January 13, 2016. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

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

Mayor Lawson briefed on the grant application submitted to MDE concerning I & I (Inflow and Infiltration)

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to comments he had heard about the City dying and the Mayor and Council needing to listen to businesses. Councilman Konapelsky requested that Mr. Pollitt set up a meeting of the Mayor and Council with the Heritage Foundation, Marina Board, Chamber of Commerce, and Tourism Commission to sit down and get some direction for the City.

Mayor Lawson advised that he is ok with Councilman Konapelsky's request and noted that some of the preliminary work has been done.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would like the entire Council to be involved and

wants the City to host the meeting.

Mr. Jimmy Charles, Public Works Foreman, reviewed his report on the recent snow storm.

Mayor Lawson noted that Mr. Bozman, Mr. Charles, and Mr. Pollitt worked together to put a well-coordinated plan in place.

Mr. Pollitt noted that per Mr. Charles report, it was good to know when to apply salt and plow.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he was proud of the Public Works Department and thanked them for the clean roads.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/DECISION CONCERNING GARBAGE COLLECTION SERVICES

Mayor Lawson made reference to last week's work session.

Mr. Bozman presented the new options from Chesapeake Waste, both one year options.

Councilman Emely made reference to trash being put out late. Mr. Bozman advised that they do return calls.

Council Vice President Scott made reference to the tipping fee cost. Mr. Bozman advised that our cost is \$62 per ton, but for him it would be \$65 per ton.

Mr. Bozman also noted that option #2 is the best, cost-wise.

Council Vice President Scott advised that she would like an average of the monthly tipping fees that the City has paid based on last year.

Councilman Emely commented that the City is very accommodating, allowing residents to

have two or three cans, but Chesapeake Waste will only take one can, which may reduce the tonnage.

Councilman Atkins commented that there is not much difference between either option.

Mr. Bozman advised that he still recommends #2, which is a little less.

Councilman Emely inquired about locking in tipping fees.

After further discussion, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to go with option #2 from Chesapeake Waste. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely, for discussion.

Councilman Emely advised that the City needs to start the process.

Mayor Lawson advised that it will probably be the end of February, once the contract is worked out.

Mayor Lawson also noted that there is no uniformity with cans. He made reference to doing a work session before the meeting on February 10th.

Council Vice President Scott advised that she would like to have last year's average tipping fees. Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would also like current fees.

Councilman Atkins inquired about putting the contract out for bids. Mr. Pollitt advised that he will get Mr. Sullivan's input. Councilman Atkins inquired if the cost was locked in for one year. Mr. Bozman advised that it was. Councilman Atkins also made reference to how the City would be paying the three employees that manned the garbage truck for a year, with a major concern about insurance.

M&C12716

Councilman Emely advised that he is not for going with a company if we will be losing any employees.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he is not planning on losing any employees. He advised to go with option #2 – lock in the price and nail it down.

Mayor Lawson advised that there will be four months to the end of the fiscal and there will be some savings.

Councilwoman Johnson advised that she is also concerned about employee loss.

Councilman Emely advised letting Mr. Bozman and Mr. Charles work their budget.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion that Mr. Bozman pursue #2, review the need for a bid process, lock in the cost and obtain the average landfill cost of the City. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Lawson reviewed a request for an Event Application for an event to be held on June 4th.

Councilman Emely made reference to having a set of rules established for the use of the depot.

Mayor Lawson made reference to upcoming bulkhead construction at the depot, possibly March to May.

Mr. Pollitt noted that a few months ago, a meeting was held with LGIT concerning depot

usage policy, but a follow up is needed concerning insurance requirement, alcohol and clean-up issues.

After further discussion, it was suggested to table the request until the next meeting.

So moved by Councilman Atkins , seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Councilman Konapelsky also noted that there may be other locations such as the park and the American Legion that could be used.

Council Vice President Scott commented that she doesn't want events held up that are at the depot this summer.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORT

Mayor Lawson noted that he will be attending the Maryland Mayor's Association convention in Annapolis on February 4th and 5th. Mayor Lawson noted that he and Mr. Pollitt had met with Senator Mathias and Delegate Otto concerning re-introducing golf cart legislation, the bond bill for the armory, and Highway User Revenue.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the \$1.3M Hurricane Sandy money and the 8 streets to be paved with it. He advised that blueprints are available that show the streets.

Mayor Lawson made reference to separate HUR money and one time HUR money of \$80K. which will be used to pave the Legion area.

Mayor Lawson advised that the grading of streets has been completed and score sheets will be

reviewed. He reviewed the plans for using HUR as it is hopefully restored yearly and advised he would like to get the bids on some other streets while the 8 earmarked streets are being paved.

Mayor Lawson advised that with future restored HUR he plans on looking at 63 streets and 5 special projects. He also made reference to asking the County to re-appropriate funds from Hurricane Sandy to do additional streets.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to the question of why he is on the City Council. He advised that he wants to make a change, but there is more to the job than what he is doing. He advised that he would like to talk to our Senator and Delegate about help for our schools to help empower teachers to take control of their class and to bring more art and music to schools.

Council Vice President Scott thanked those in the audience who had stayed for the entire meeting.

Councilwoman Johnson made reference to the status of the wind turbine. Mr. Pollitt advised that delivery of parts is expected in early February, with six weeks to assemble.

Councilwoman Johnson also made reference to the letter from the Mayor requesting a waiver from the MDE fine. Mayor Lawson advised that this information will be used as support in Davis, Bowen and Friedels I & I grant application.

Councilwoman Johnson also thanked Councilman Konapelsky's desire to obtain support

for teachers. She also noted that previous meetings had been held with local organizations.

Councilman Atkins noted that out of those meetings, a marketing video, The Heart of the Chesapeake, had been done.

He also made reference to a pending meeting with UMES concerning the airport and advised that he would report back.

Councilman Atkins requested an update on the status of the Old State Road water line.

Mr. Pollitt advised that a letter was sent to Mrs. Barbara Outten advising her to notify the users that they will be charged a pro-rated fee based on repair of the leak.

Mayor Lawson added that the leaks continue.

Councilman Emely briefed Councilman Atkins concerning the challenge coins. He advised that he had gotten a price of \$9.00 each with a city seal on the front and keys to the city on the back. He advised that they are 2.5" in size.

Councilman Emely also advised that the radio station is now on the air Tuesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Councilman Emely made reference to the status of the downtown parking lot. Mayor Lawson advised that it had been closed till the end of January.

Councilman Emely suggested keeping it closed February, March, and April as well and revisit the issue in two months.

Councilwoman Johnson noted that there would be a free phone give-away at the Community

Center Thursday and Friday for those who qualify.

Mayor Lawson read a letter provided to him by Chief Tabor concerning the loss of funding from SHA of \$2,500 for DWI patrol, etc., because the City had not experienced any injuries or fatalities. He commented that because we “did good” we were punished.

PUBLIC INPUT

Terry Pehan commented that parking by the canvas shop downtown says permit parking, which is confusing.

Phil Riggan made reference to meeting with groups and advised that the tourism commission is planning a summit with these groups, one group at a time, meeting each month.

In reference to HUR money, he inquired if a bill had been passed so it will flow at a more appropriate rate. He requested that Mayor Lawson look into this.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the need for a courtesy vehicle to be shared by the Marina and the golf course, covered in an advertising wrap that could be used by the airport and parks and rec. He also made reference to the need for a charter pontoon boat to take people to flat cap, the marina and the park.

Adam Thompson noted that the radio station will officially launch in April.

Councilman Emely noted that former mayor Richard Scott was in the nursing home and suggested sending flowers.

ADJOURNMENT

M&C12716

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary