

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

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

Absent: Mayor Dize – due to work commitment, Councilwoman Lankford – out of town.

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Anthony Jackson; Sue & Eddie Heath; Bill Buttrill; Terri Baker; Sam & Mary Frances Davis; Charlotte Scott; Eric Banks; Erik Emely; Jay Tawes; John Selby; Greg Cain; and Jason Loar.

CALL TO ORDER – LAVERNE JOHNSON, COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Vice President Johnson requested approval of the minutes from the June 12, 2019 meetings. Councilman Ford made a motion to approve the Minutes from the Workshop and Regular meetings of June 12, 2019 as written. Motion seconded by Councilman Sheppard and carried unanimously, 4-0.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Pollitt noted that Mayor Dize was absent due to a work commitment and then reviewed his bi-weekly report. (see attached)

NEW BUSINESS –

Ordinance for First Reader - Recommendation from Planning Commission to Adopt an Ordinance of the City of Crisfield, City Code, Entitled “Signs, Permitted Any Residential District or the TM Tourist Maritime District” for the Purpose of Permitting Electronic Signs in the TM District Subject to Certain Standards, and also for the Purpose of Correcting a Drafting Error in the Section Heading of Section 112-15

Mr. Sullivan noted that the Planning Commission met twice – on Jun 4th and 18th concerning the proposed amendment and recommendation to the Mayor and Council. At this time, Mr. Sullivan read the Ordinance into record. He noted that a Public Hearing is required to be held before the 2nd Reader. He noted that a motion is needed for First Reader. Mr. Sullivan also advised that Council Vice President Johnson can vote.

At this time, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to adopt the Ordinance for First Reader. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously 4-0.

Mr. Sullivan noted that due to advertising constraints, there would not be enough time to hold the Public Hearing at the July 10th meeting, so it would be held at 5:30 p.m. prior to the July 24th meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

Council Vice President Johnson noted that she and Councilman Ford had attended the recent Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference and there was a seminar that addressed rules for Public Input. She noted that we need to adhere to the 2 minute time frame and also refrain from giving any response, advising speakers that someone will get back with them.

Bill Buttrill addressed the Mayor and Council concerning 2 Potomac Street (Rev. Olivia Costango’s residence) He presented handouts to the Mayor and Council and noted that the main problem was caused by rain water and stated that Mr. Sullivan should issue a letter of apology to Rev. Costango, as there is no Public Nuisance at her property.

When Mr. Buttrill’s two minutes had expired, Charlotte Scott continued his presentation.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Sheppard further explained Mr. Buttrill's information, and noted that there is a drainage problem at the Verizon Building. He advised that the ditch has been dug out at the rear of the properties along Potomac Street and no water is standing there now, indicating the problem may have been eliminated.

Councilman Sheppard advised that he is moving forward with the Steering Committee and will be meeting the first week in July and then present suggestions to the City.

Councilwoman Ward commented that the ditch cleaning was much needed.

Councilman Sheppard commented that Verizon did some ditch digging in the winter, which may be a part of the problem.

Councilman Ford had no comments.

Council Vice President Johnson noted that she is glad that Councilman Sheppard addressed Mr. Buttrill's information.

Council Vice President Johnson also advised that the Feasibility Study being done by the County will include the Hotel Conference Center.

Council Vice President Johnson made reference to the condition of the road on Tyler Street.

Mr. Pollitt advised that the Council had been asked for a street ranking list. He advised that Highway User Revenue money has gradually been restored and noted that the Engineer has advised that Tyler Street will be a comprehensive project which may require a re-build. He advised that we have the funding to pave Mercury Drive and the entrance to Heron Way and have received requests to pave the other cul-de-sac on Anchor Drive. He noted that Pine Street needs to be paved but the City may want to upgrade the old 1936 sewer lines beneath it before a new paving project.

Council Vice President Johnson made reference to water standing on Cove Street, which had been paved several years ago. Mr. Jason Loar, the City's engineer, advised that he would look into it.

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Councilman Sheppard made reference to the water meter by the telephone pole at the Valero Station. Mr. Pollitt advised that he would follow up.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for discussion, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary