

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 12, 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
Barbara Ward, Councilwoman
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr. City Manager
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Mike Tabor, Chief of Police; Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement; Jenny Tawes; Sue Ransom; Tillie Doyle; and Richard Crumbacker.

Absent; Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, on vacation; Dennis Parkinson, previous appointment.

OPENING PRAYER, PLEDGE TO FLAG

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Pollitt requested that the Agenda be amended to add Resolution 444 – relating to the FY 2018 Budget for the City of Crisfield.

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Councilman Emely made a motion to adopt the minutes from the regular meeting of June 28, 2017. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED TEXT AMENDMENT CHAPTER 112-28(A) “ZONING”

Mr. Sullivan read the notice into the record and noted that this applies only to the R-2 district. He advised that the 6/14/17 minutes reflect the First Reader of this Ordinance.

Mr. Pollitt noted that the Planning Commission had reviewed the text of the Ordinance. He noted that the Ordinance was needed to correct a code requirement affecting property on Wellington Drive, which made two lots there unbuildable.

Mayor Lawson inquired if this is recommended by the Maryland Department of State Planning.

Mr. Sullivan advised that he had spoken with Ms. Tracey Gordy who advised that there were no State Issues with this action.

Mayor Lawson inquired if there were any comments in opposition.

No comments in opposition were offered.

Mayor Lawson inquired if there were any comments in favor of the Ordinance.

Ms. Tillie Doyle commented that the change is needed in order to construct two houses.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that this is positive for the City.

Mr. Bozman noted that the R-2 setbacks of the City Code still need to be met.

Mayor Lawson noted for the record, that that Ms. Doyle, Councilman Konapelsky and Mr. Bozman are in favor of the Ordinance.

With no further discussion, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously.

FIRST PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

No public input was offered at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Pollitt presented his report, highlighting its contents.

Councilman Konapelsky also briefed concerning the Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting. He noted that there should be a substantial flood insurance discount in two years.

Mr. Pollitt thanked Chief Tabor and Mr. Bozman for attending the meeting.

CHIEF TABOR – CRISFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Tabor reviewed the annual Crime Report and also noted that a citizen had helped with a recent arrest.

Councilman Emely inquired about overtime for the clambake. Chief Tabor advised that it is down a lot from when he first came to work here, due to the use of neighboring agencies.

Mayor Lawson noted that patrol was stepped up last year. He also inquired about Homeland Security being present. Chief Tabor advised that he hadn't heard anything from them.

DEAN BOZMAN, CODE ENFORCEMENT & PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Bozman reviewed his report for Code Enforcement and Public Works. He advised that a temporary water service has been set up at the Green Space for plantings and presented pictures of the progress of the project.

Mayor Lawson requested that Mr. Bozman add to his report a list of new building permits for homes, the dollar amount of the work and whether it is a new build or remodel.

Councilwoman Scott inquired about the Passive Park planned for property adjacent to Carvel Hall.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that it was the only use possible for the land as it was in wetlands.

Mr. Bozman noted that there is a limited area but it fulfills the obligation to the Community

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Development Block Grant that funded purchase of the property.

Mr. Pollitt noted that the park ties in with the State Bike Trail planned for the old railroad right-of-way.

Councilman Emely made reference to the electricity at the depot pavilion and advised that none of the lights work and the electric box was open.

Councilman Emely also inquired about the completion date of the trail behind Family Dollar.

Mayor Lawson advised that it must be completed before August 16th, before the new grant request goes in.

Councilman Emely inquired if Park money could be used to put a roof on the depot pavilion. Mayor Lawson advised that this would come through Waterway Improvement funding.

Councilman Emely also made reference to a list of City property to be advertised for sale.

Mr. Pollitt advised that he needs to be instructed by the Council to so.

Mayor Lawson asked the Council to take a look at the City properties, noting that there are 100 properties owned by the City, many of which are located under the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Councilman Emely also suggested giving the old bank/charter building away with the stipulation that something must be done with it within a year.

Mr. Sullivan noted that this property had already been declared as surplus, open ended, with stipulations.

Councilwoman Scott suggested that all five Councilmembers go look at the properties after obtaining a list of those that are buildable.

Mr. Bozman advised that he would email them a list.

Mr. Sullivan reminded them that the Charter building had been declared surplus, but most of the

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other properties have not.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REPORT

Mr. Pollitt advised that Mr. Parkinson had a previously scheduled Dr.'s appointment, but had submitted his report, which was in their package.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2ND READER – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 112-28(A) ENTITLED “DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS”

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Ordinance, noting the previously held Public Hearing.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to adopt the Ordinance for 2nd Reader and final passage. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 444 RELATING TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE 2018 BUDGET

At this time, Mr. Sullivan read Resolution 444 into the record, noting that the word “Ordinance” in the second paragraph of page 2, should be amended to say “Resolution”.

Following this review, Councilman Emely made a motion to adopt Resolution 444, with the amendment.

Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

EVENT APPLICATIONS – J. MILLARD TAWES CRAB AND CLAM BAKE, CRAB DERBY PARADE & FAIR

After review of the applications, Councilman Emely made a motion to accept the event applications as presented. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson.

During discussion, Councilman Emely made reference to asking for help from the Chamber for the cost of police protection during these events.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that these are community events.

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Mayor Lawson stated that he does not feel that it is inappropriate to ask for money.

Councilman Emely advised that this would help with future events.

Councilman Konapelsky advised he does not want to address the matter this close to the event and suggested next year, but advised it is the right direction.

Councilwoman Scott advised working with Chief Tabor concerning Event Applications.

Chief Tabor advised that Mrs. Morgan has a breakdown on police costs and men's hours for these events.

Council Vice President Johnson agreed that they need time to work out the cost details.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Ward made reference to an Event Application that she had submitted, for information only, an Event Application for a Community Unity Event to be held at the Marina on August 19th. She advised that it would be an event to bring cultures together and look at family heritage.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he had nothing to report.

Mayor Lawson made reference to two bids received for six 6' benches for the Green Space.

He advised that the new price is \$750 per bench and we will have \$4,300. He advised that bids have been received from Wabash and Game Time, which has previously worked with the City. Mayor Lawson advised that the bench would be selected by the Park Commission and installed by the City.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to delegate authority to the Park Commission to make the decision regarding the benches. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

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Councilwoman Scott, Council Vice President Johnson and Councilwoman Ward advised that they had nothing to report.

Councilman Emely made reference to setting rules for use of the depot. He advised that no "for profit" events applicants can get a liquor license; it has to be a non-profit organization.

Councilman Emely made reference to the playground equipment on the lot of former Whittington Primary.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that it is owned by the Board of Education.

Councilman Emely made advised that the condition of the downtown restrooms is atrocious.

Mr. Bozman advised that they are cleaned daily. Councilman Emely advised that there should be an individual that is responsible for the mess. Mr. Bozman advised that the City has considered security cameras, but they need an attendant present at all times. Councilman Emely advised having them checked twice a day.

Councilman Emely made reference to finishing the curb on the right hand side of Anchor Drive.

Mayor Lawson advised that there are no funds available to do this.

Mayor Lawson noted that he is working on having a possible caretaker for the Greenspace, possibly the Lion's Club.

Mayor Lawson also noted that he is working on getting a price for repainting and plastic coating the playground equipment at the park.

Mayor Lawson inquired of Mr. Sullivan if the City had accepted the Head Start property from the County. Mr. Sullivan advised that we had. Mayor Lawson inquired if the City had conveyed it to I.T.A.V. Mr. Sullivan advised that we had not.

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Mayor Lawson discussed removal of the old playground equipment and moved and the poles cut.

Mayor Lawson made reference to moving the pole frame that holds the canopy to another site at either the Marina or the Legion and put on a new canopy. He advised that Headstart wants the playground equipment, but not the canopy frame. Mayor Lawson advised that he would like to see it at the beach.

Councilman Emely noted that it is a liability for the City with the playground equipment remaining at the vacant lot.

FINAL PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Jenny Tawes made reference to the break-ins downtown. Chief Tabor advised that the individual was arrested by CPD, but released by the Court Commissioner as soon as he was processed. He suggested contacting Judge Price concerning the matter of his release. He also noted that he is running a special detail on the individual.

MOTION TO ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION

At this time, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to adjourn into a Closed Session and read the meeting notification. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary