

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, September 9, 2015 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
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Richard Crumbacker; John Tawes, Paul Register; Sarah Rayne; Gail Sheldon; and Dean Goldsborough.

INVOCATION, PRAYER AND PLEDGE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the Agenda for the meeting of September 9th, 2015.

Mr. Pollitt requested an amendment to add two agenda items; 1) to present and review the airport layout plans for a vote and signature by the Mayor, and 2) to present information from Jason Loar.

Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky, with amendments, and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Atkins presented two sets of minutes for approval; the regular and closed from the August 26, 2015 meetings.

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of August 26,

2015. Councilwoman Johnson noted a correction on page 6. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the closed meeting of August 26,

2015. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mayor Lawson requested that a copy of Mr. Pollitt's report be included in the meeting minutes.

At this time, Mr. Pollitt presented his report, highlighting its contents.

Councilman Atkins requested an update on the Agello property.

Mr. Pollitt advised that they were sent a certified letter, which they have signed for, concerning demolition proceedings.

Councilman Konapelsky inquired of Mr. Pollitt what would be accomplished by attending the Maryland Rural Council meeting. Mr. Pollitt advised that this would be his first time attending, and advised that it may provide beneficial information for the Crisfield. Councilman Konapelsky noted that this was one of the reasons the City needed a City Manager, as it gives us another voice.

In reference to information from Mr. Loar, Mr. Pollitt advised that there was no update on the wind turbine. He advised that Mr. Loar would be getting information ready for street reconstruction bids. He also advised that Mr. Loar noted that the large water meter installation was going slowly.

Mayor Lawson advised that he wants to move forward with what is needed to install the large meters.

Mrs. Morgan advised that she has two installation quotes.

Council Vice President Scott made reference to the status of Mr. Loar's grant application to USDA.

Mayor Lawson advised that he believes this was approved.

LIBRARY UPDATE/REPORT – GAIL SHELDON, DIRECTOR

Ms. Sheldon noted that a great deal of progress has been made on the new library in the last two weeks.

Council Vice President Scott inquired about the completion date of the building. Ms. Sheldon advised that it should be the end of October. Council Vice President Scott commented that the crew working there seems small for such a large building. Ms. Sheldon advised that some are working inside.

Councilman Konapelsky noted that the crew is small because the building is at a critical phase and a large crew would be detrimental.

Ms. Sheldon invited the Mayor and Council to stop by the trailer or site and get a hard hat and tour the building.

Council Vice President Scott inquired if any locals were hired. Ms. Sheldon advised that bids were solicited, but no locals bid. Councilman Konapelsky noted that this was a Section 3 project, but many crews don't have to go outside of their own staff. He noted that Section 3 and Davis Bacon compliance was met.

Council Vice President Scott inquired if there was enough funding for furnishings. Ms. Sheldon advised that this is in the works and that funding is coming in. Mayor Lawson added that dedicated donations are needed.

Ms. Sheldon advised that large donations are coming in from foundations and advised that the American Legion has stepped up wonderfully.

Ms. Sheldon also made reference to the Corbin Library and noted that it does great work.

Councilman Atkins made reference to plans for the Corbin building. Ms. Sheldon advised that if

it ceases to be used as a library, it goes back to the family; if none are located, it will sit in limbo. She advised that she would like to see it be used as an archive for local history.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – FIRST READER CUBE ORDINANCE

Mr. Pollitt reviewed the recommendation of the Planning Commission; Page 2 -D(1) remove the 30 day permit and allow 180 day permit issued by City Inspector and D(2) any extension would have to be reviewed by the Planning Commission. Also on page 5 G(5), no electrical fixtures shall be installed or used in the container.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to authority to remove the cubes of violators.

Mr. Pollitt advised that this is addressed on page 3 6(C).

Mr. Pollitt advised that once the Ordinance goes into effect, the City will inventory the Cubes that are already in place. He also advised that page 3 F (4) needs to be amended when requesting an extension.

Councilman Atkins noted that those wanting an extension should see the Inspector, paying the \$150 fee and a public hearing must be held by the Planning Commission.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to adopt the Cube Ordinance for First Reader. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson noted that each cube will contain a placard of issuance.

NEW BUSINESS – AIRPORT LAYOUT RECOMMENDATION

Mr. Pollitt presented for the Mayor and Council's review maps and plats of the airport layout proposals. He advised that the Mayor would be signing off on the properties that are involved.

Councilman Konapelsky inquired as to what is affected. Mr. Pollitt advised that County Administrator, Doug Taylor says the layout will not affect the turf runway.

Councilman Atkins inquired as to what the Council is approving. Mayor Lawson advised these are AECOM's recommendations.

After further discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion to table the recommendations for review and information that the plan was based on. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Councilman Atkins commented that without review, he is not sure what they are approving.

Council Vice President Scott commented that they need to understand. Mayor Lawson commented "Welcome to being part of the airport."

Mayor Lawson commented that Mr. Sullivan should be able to give clarification on the Commissioners' request for approval.

Council Vice President Scott stated that the County Commissioners should be able to make the request for approval. Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would like to meet with the County Commissioners.

Mayor Lawson advised that a meeting is in the works.

Councilman Emely made a motion to set up a meeting with the County Commissioners. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

Mr. Pollitt advised that the City needs to get our side of the partnership up to speed with AECOM before going to the County Commissioners.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that he does not feel we need to wait. Mr. Pollitt advised that the City has asked for six months to prepare an economic development plan.

Mr. Pollitt advised that a meeting has been scheduled with AECOM's consultant on Friday at 12:30 to

understand the City's role.

NEW BUSINESS – SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENTS – STREET REPAIRS AND BULKHEADING PER HURRICANE SANDY FUNDS DISBURSED THROUGH THE COUNTY

Mr. Pollitt advised that this is a standard agreement per CDBG Grants for \$1.3M for street repairs and \$400K for bulkheading.

Mr. Pollitt advised that Mr. Sullivan had followed up with indemnification and Mrs. Cindy Stone, CDBG Director, has no issue with the agreements.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the execution by the City of the Subrecipient Agreement for the \$400K bulkheading project. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the execution by the City of the Subrecipient Agreement for the \$1.3M street repair project. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

EVENT APPLICATION

Mayor Lawson reviewed the Event Application from St. Paul A.M.E. Church for a memorial walk – 5k to be held on Saturday, October 10th.

Approval so moved by Councilman Emely, subject to receipt of liability insurance certificate. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

M&C Q&A

Councilman Emely made reference to the need for a new furnace at the fire hall.

He made reference to the recent fire on Chesapeake Avenue, in which 9 children lost their home and

belongings.

Councilman Emely made reference to a hideous property on Cove Street and the one on Main Street with boarded up windows.

Councilman Emely inquired who addresses abandoned vehicles; the City Inspector or the Police Department.

Councilman Emely made reference to trash cans for the City parking lot. Mayor Lawson advised that they will be attached once the sidewalk is completed.

Councilman Emely made reference to the Ajello property. Mr. Pollitt advised that the Ajello's have been sent the final demo order.

Councilman Emely made reference to the status of the Salvation Army youth club. He advised that Mr. Dean Goldsborough was present for a follow-up as the building had been shut down with no information.

Mr. Pollitt noted that the topic was discussed in the last meetings closed session and was to be kept confidential. He advised that he had left a message for Salvation Army Major and talked to Mr. Goldsborough at the Housing Authority concerning the Community Center as a backup facility and Mr. Goldsborough had talked to Phil Parks, Director. Mr. Pollitt advised that an air quality test had also been taken.

Mr. Goldsborough advised that the Major was out of the State.

Councilman Emely stated that the Salvation Army has the largest youth program in Crisfield.

Mr. Pollitt noted that he had spoken with Mr. Goldsborough and Mr. Bozman had spoken to both Mr. Parks and Mr. Goldsborough.

Mayor Lawson noted that there appeared to be a lot of miscommunication.

During further discussion, Councilman Konapelsky commented that the City is trying to help, but it is not totally our responsibility to come up with a solution.

Councilman Emely commented that the City needs to maintain the property.

Councilman Emely made reference to the blue dodge City vehicle that gets 9 mpg going to Eden every day. Mayor Lawson advised him to meet with Mr. Pollitt.

Councilman Atkins made reference to the chlorine fans for the public utilities department. Mayor Lawson advised that Mr. Dilegge would report on this at the next department head meeting.

Councilman Atkins also reviewed a spread sheet of different locations for a kayak launch site rated with site qualities. Councilman Konapelsky made reference to Easy Dock information. Councilman Atkins advised that he had not reviewed Councilman Konapelsky's information, but he has personally launched kayaks from floating docks and has some experience with this.

Councilman Atkins also thanked all of the volunteers that helped make this year's Crab Derby a success.

Councilwoman Johnson advised that she had looked at the Easy Dock link. She also made reference to the need to schedule a Park Committee meeting.

Councilwoman Johnson advised that the Somerset County Developmental Center is hosting the EDC meeting tomorrow morning.

Councilwoman Johnson made reference to the Schultz family who had lost everything in the recent fire and need donations. Councilman Atkins also made reference to using a source called "Go Fund Me".

Councilwoman Johnson commented that there needs to be a better way to communicate with the

City Manager.

Council Vice President Scott noted that we are continuing to work hard to clean up the City.

She noted that Mr. Pollitt is working on the idea of a room tax.

Council Vice President Scott also noted that Bruce Larson, NHRA legend, will be at Tawes Brothers for an open house this Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

Councilman Konapelsky stated that we are not used to having a City Manager and need to use him properly by referring people to him.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to an email from Angenette Stewart, Resident Representative at the Housing Authority advising that residents were pleased with the police presence at the Housing Authority during Crab Derby Weekend.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that in today's world, police officers are persecuted. He thanked them for what they do and offered his full support as a council member.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that the Mayor and Council got through a meeting without a lawyer present.

Mayor Lawson advised that himself, along with Mr. Pollitt, Ms. Sheldon, went to lunch yesterday to discuss the new library, the library meeting room, and early ideas for using it for City meetings.

Mayor Lawson advised that Mr. Pollitt needs privacy for the constant phone calls that come in to him. He advised that a better buffer system is needed as well as appointments to meet with him.

Mayor Lawson advised to call, stating a brief purpose, and schedule a meeting.

Mayor Lawson made reference to a boat trailer parking issue at Harbor Lights. He advised that a resident had asked for help in allowing on street parking of trailers.

Minutes M&C 9/9/15

Mayor Lawson advised that the City must be fair for everyone.

Mayor Lawson advised that Mr. Pollitt's 100 day grace period is coming to a close.

Mayor Lawson made reference to graves that were discovered at the former Somers Cove Yacht Club, wherein lies the granddaughter, born in 1776, of Ben Somers, the original settler of Somerset County.

Mayor Lawson commented that communication is key in the functioning of City government.

Mayor Lawson noted that sidewalk installation is moving along downtown. He also commented that Crab Derby was a success and the Marina grounds clean.

Councilwoman Johnson noted that she had also heard positive comments about police presence in the Housing Authority during Labor Day weekend.

PUBLIC INPUT

No Public Input was offered at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary