

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council met in regular session on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Kimberly B. Lawson, Mayor
Charlotte Scott, Council Vice President
Mike Atkins, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Richard M. Pollitt Jr. City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Absent; Councilwoman Johnson – Bereavement ; Councilman Emely – Illness

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement Officer; Mike Tabor;

Chief of Police; Jimmy Charles, Public Works Foreman. See list of others in attendance.

INVOCATION , LORD’S PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mayor Lawson noted that a quorum of three was present with two absent. He also noted that two items for discussion had been deferred for the next meeting, due to the absence of a full body of Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the Agenda for this evening’s meeting. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson also noted that political signs are not allowed on any city owned property.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 23, 2016

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and workshop meeting of Monday, March 28, 2016, as written. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL AND SWEARING IN OF ELECTION BOARD MEMBERS – LAWANN TILGHMAN; REGINA HILL AND ARTIE TAWES

At this time, Council Vice President Scott made a motion to approve the Election Board members as presented by Mayor Lawson. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Tilghman and Mrs. Hill.

(Mr. Tawes was not present)

APPOINTMENTS – DR. JOHN GADDIS AND CHRIS KLEBE RE: CRISFIELD CRABMAN EVENT APPLICATION FOR 9/17/16

Dr. Gaddis reviewed the activities of the Crisfield Crabman event which include swimming, cycling and running. Mr. Klebe advised that this sporting event can draw from 300 to 1200 athletes.

Mayor Lawson commented that it is the perfect time of the year for this event.

Dr. Gaddis advised that they may need help with lodging. He also noted that it also coincides with Bike Week in Ocean City.

Mayor Lawson inquired how long the event takes, start to finish. Mr. Klebe advised that it usually takes 5 hours.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief Mike Tabor presented and reviewed his monthly report and highlights.

At this time, Chief Tabor presented Firefighter Woody Lee and Patrolman Gary Bratten with Lifesaving Awards for heroic deeds of saving the life of an elderly resident; and Patrolman Bratten the Lifesaving Award for his heroic deed resuscitating an infant that had stopped breathing.

At this time, Chief Tabor presented his Department and Staff with Crime Reduction medals.

Mayor Lawson commented that of his many worries as Mayor, he is secure in the knowledge that the Chief and his staff take command and ownership of their department.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the pending Golf Cart Bill and advised that the Chief, Mr. Pollitt, City Council, and City Solicitor had a lot to do with its passage. He advised that Chief Tabor will work on golf cart legislation for the City.

Council Vice President Scott inquired how many officers were in the Department, fulltime. Chief Tabor advised that there were nine. She also inquired about the use of Body Cameras. Chief Tabor advised that they are not used because there is no money to purchase them.

Code Enforcement Officer/Public Works Supt. Dean Bozman reviewed his monthly report. He noted that there had been no new home construction.

Councilman Konapelsky inquired who would be tending the beach. He advised that there are people using the beach now and need the restroom open.

Mr. Bozman advised that it can be opened in the morning and closed in the evening.

Councilman Atkins suggested opening the first day of spring. Mayor Lawson suggested May 1st.

Councilman Atkins then suggested 5/1 to 11/1, from dawn to dusk.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he wants the City to control the opening.

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, presented her monthly report for the first nine months of the fiscal year. She reviewed and highlighted sections of the report.

Council Vice President Scott commented that the City is breaking even at 9 months into the budget.

Rick Pollitt, City Manager reviewed his bi-weekly report, highlighting its contents. He noted that Gover-

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nor Hogan will be in Crisfield briefly on the 21st from 4:30 to 5:15 at the Marina.

Mayor Lawson advised that the Chief of Staff had requested the visit as the Governor hadn't been able to visit following his election, because of cancer treatments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Lawson advised that two items of Unfinished Business were deferred; Garbage Collection and the Borrowing Resolution, due to the absence of Councilwoman Johnson and Councilman Emely.

NEW BUSINESS

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION RE: ABANDONED VEHICLE ORDINANCE & FIRST READER

Mr. Pollitt advised that this Ordinance pertains to abandoned vehicles on private property only.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 112 of the City Code entitled "Zoning" by adding a new section codified at §112-82.3 entitled "Abandoned Vehicles on Private Property" for First Reader. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott. During discussion, Councilman Konapelsky advised that he feels the Ordinances needs to be reviewed before the next meeting by Councilwoman Johnson and Councilman Emely. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson made reference to holding a public hearing concerning the ordinance. Mr. Pollitt advised that it would proceed the next regular meeting.

EVENT APPLICATION – DISTANCE CASTING EVENT AT CRISFIELD SOMERSET COUNTY AIRPORT

Mayor Lawson reviewed the event application for the sportscasting event to be held at the airport on 4/29/16-5/1/16 and 8/26/16 -8/28/16. Approval so moved by Councilman Konapelsky, contingent upon proper insurance documentation, seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson reviewed the event application for the 3rd Thursday Event on April 21, 2016

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he is concerned about the safety issue of closing off the street right before the laundromat. Mayor Lawson advised that he would have Mr. Bozman check with the owner of the pharmacy about closing the street closer to his building.

After further discussion, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve the event application with Mr. Bozman checking with the owner of Crisfield Pharmacy concerning closing the street. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL Q & A

Mayor Lawson made reference to the upcoming budget process items as follow;

- 1) Potential room tax and what it is spent for.
- 2) The lack of new homes being built by private owners. He urged that a committee be formed to put together builders and contractors, etc., to compile a list of costs incurred when building a new home. Mayor Lawson asked that Council Vice President Scott chair the committee.
- 3) Mayor Lawson made reference to Comptroller Franchot's meeting last Friday and thanked Mr. Pollitt for coordinating this event.
- 4) Mayor Lawson extended his sympathy to Councilwoman Johnson on the recent loss of her son. He made reference to several recent losses in the African-American community.
- 5) Mayor Lawson noted issuance of Permits to Work for the Depot and Street Paving project.
- 6) Mayor Lawson made reference to the SOMOS Community Garden project and offered use of the lot next to City Hall. At this time, Council Vice President Scott made a motion that for a term of one year, SOMOS use the lot next to City Hall for the Community Garden project. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

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Councilman Atkins made reference to budget discussion/work session timeframe. He noted that Mr. Pollitt is getting a Capital Improvement Plan together for the Planning Commission to review as well as room tax information.

Councilman Atkins inquired about the kayak launch. Mayor Lawson advised that Joey Paden has been working on this issue and will be here for the next meeting.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to the grant money received for the kayak launch. Mayor Lawson advised that it was \$27,400 for the location on William Street.

Councilman Atkins also noted that the Marina Commission has offered to help with establishing regulations for the proposed golf carts. He also offered our thoughts and prayers to Councilwoman Johnson and get well wishes to Councilman Emely.

Council Vice President Scott noted that she had heard that the crab harvest was going to be up 35% this season. She also noted that the SOMOS project is a positive concept.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that there are some more great free classes being offered through Hurricane Sandy funding.

He also made reference to an article entitled "Debt to Pave City Streets." He requested that the public attend the next meeting concerning the borrowing of \$.5M over a 20 year period to pave City streets.

Council Vice President Scott commented that these classes are connecting people to jobs.

PUBLIC INPUT

Dr. Palakanis thanked the City for the use of the lot. She also noted that the video they had prepared for Ilumen had won. She also advised that SOMOS technical assistance training is being offered.

Councilman Konapelsky noted that the new radio station 107.3 is a neat, diverse station.

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Ms. Shawna Kearsly noted that the Bayside Harvest opens on May 7th. She also noted the placement of several Little Free Libraries in town, for people to borrow a book, and then return or replace it.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary