

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Crisfield met in regular session on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Percy J. Purnell, Jr., Mayor
LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President
Kimberly B. Lawson, Councilman
Mike Atkins, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Raymond D. Anderson, Councilman, Absent

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary. See copy of attendance sheet.

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

At this time, Mayor Purnell requested approval of the Minutes from the Regular meeting of 5/28, the Work Session of 5/28, the Closed Meeting of 5/28 and the Special Meeting of 6/4/14.

Approval so moved by Councilman Atkins, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION BY DARLENE TAYLOR – IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Ms. Taylor reviewed a power point presentation of It Takes a Village, their mission

statement, and program.

She advised that due to the construction of a new Head Start building in September, they will need a place to operate. She thanked the Mayor for his assistance with the \$3M grant through the State to the County, but advised that this will not be enough for construction of a new location.

Ms. Taylor advised that she needs a City liaison with the County as well as a conceptual drawing done by an architect. She also asked the City for a line item in the budget to be considered as a youth investment. She noted that the cost of the design was \$6,000.00.

Councilman Lawson inquired as to who requested the \$3M. Ms. Taylor advised that it was a collaboration with Shore Up.

Finalization of Budget Ordinance 637

A power point of the finalized Budget Ordinance for 2014-2015 was reviewed. The Ordinance was presented and adopted for 2nd Reader on Wed. June 4th.

First Reader – Ordinance Water Rate Increase

Mrs. Morgan noted that the \$1.00 increase turns into a percentage.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt the Water Increase Ordinance for first reader. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky, and carried unanimously.

First Reader – Ordinance Sewer Rate Increase

Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt the Sewer Increase Ordinance for first

reader. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan requested that the Property Acquisition Ordinance be deferred to the end of the meeting

Mr. Sullivan reviewed an easement to the Maryland Historical Trust concerning the Armory, to preserve the historical integrity of the Armory. He noted that the easement runs with the land.

Mayor Purnell advised that there can be no change to the doors, windows or structure; it has to look like an armory.

Mr. Sullivan advised that the easement allows the City to receive grants from Maryland Historical Trust. He also advised that there are no penalties if you don't sign the agreement.

Council Vice President Johnson commented that she would like the City to have the Armory, making reference to the various events that were held there in the past.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the Deed of Easement. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins.

Councilman Lawson called for discussion, and made reference to repairs needed and budget concerns, as well as giving control to Maryland Historical Trust, whose grants have a long waiting period. The motion carried with abstention by Councilman Lawson.

REPORT AND UPDATE FROM GAIL SHELDON, LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Ms. Sheldon presented a library report and update on proposed construction. She noted that the amended permit is now going to the City, County and State for signatures.

Ms. Sheldon advised the Mayor and Council that the Library Foundation would be applying for a Community Investment Tax Credits grant from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development to assist with fundraising for the new Crisfield Library. This would require a local Resolution of support.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt Resolution 422. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

BIDS FOR LANDSCAPING AND TRAIL MAKING

Councilman Lawson made reference to the areas of the park this bid pertained to. He advised that the funds were previously approved by the Park Commission.

Mrs. Morgan presented the first bid; from Swift Seasonal Services for a total amount of \$21,267 and from Smith Brothers for a total of \$18,900.

Councilman Lawson requested that Mr. Bradshaw review the bids. Councilman Konapelsky requested that the Library Board also review them.

REQUEST FROM DP & L

Mrs. Morgan noted that she had received a request from a contractor working for DP & L, replacing poles, that would like to park three trucks and two trailers at Carvel Hall.

Councilman Konapelsky suggested asking them about removing the old pole at the Depot, in exchange for parking at Carvel Hall.

FIRST READER OF AN ORDINANCE – ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

Mr. Sullivan presented this ordinance and advised that it authorizes the Mayor and Council to acquire property on 7th Street by Eminent Domain, for the wind turbine.

At this time, Councilman Lawson made a motion to approve the Ordinance for First Reader. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

At this time, a meeting was scheduled for Monday, June 23, at 6:00 p.m., for 2nd Reader of this Ordinance, as well as the Water and Sewer increase Ordinances.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. David Marquis, noted for Mr. Eric Emely, who had to leave, that there would be a flag pole dedication at the fire department this Saturday at 10:00 A.M.

Ms. Darlene Taylor requested an answer to her previous request. Mayor Purnell advised that this would have to be done under the new administration.

Mr. Elmer Barkley suggested asking for other local businesses to contribute.

Ms. Taylor advised that she needs a support liaison.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that the sitting board may not be here after the upcoming election and suggested that she appear before the new group.

Council Vice President Johnson advised that she would look into getting some help

through the State.

Mayor Purnell advised that he would go to the County with her, as did Council Vice President Johnson.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT, Q & A

Councilman Atkins advised that he had nothing to report.

Councilman Konapelsky commented on the good candidate forum on Tuesday and wished good luck to all of the candidates.

Council Vice President Johnson advised that as a member of the Park Commission, she is aware of the money to be spent. She advised that she would love to use it elsewhere, but it was appropriated for the park, only.

She also commented that the sitting government is a great bunch of officials, who she has enjoyed working with. She advised that they have all made the best decisions possible.

PROPERTY MATTERS

Councilman Lawson requested a Closed Session to discuss property matter. Mr. Sullivan stated that he wouldn't advise holding one, due to posting issues.

Councilman Lawson made reference to the four properties that are going to tax sale tomorrow, which would benefit the City, if purchased.

Mayor Purnell commented that five years from now, someone may say the City was dumb for not purchasing them, but right now we are up against a wall, financially.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that even if this is the best deal, the City has no money and should not burden a new Mayor and Council.

Mayor Purnell and Council Vice President Johnson concurred with Councilman Konapelsky.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary