

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, December 13, 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 (arrived later)
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr. City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement; Dennis Parkinson; Superintendent of Public Utilities; Shawna Kearsley; Richard Crumbacker; Jay Tawes; Sara/Coastal Realtors; Jimmy Charles; Fred Friedley; George Friedley; Carol Heck; Bruce Stasi; Sue Ransom; Bill Brown; and Chris _____, Somerset County ARC.

OPENING PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Lawson requested that A & E District Tax Incentives under Unfinished Business be moved up, so that Councilman Emely, who has to leave early, would be here during the presentation.

Mayor Lawson also advised that the First Public Input Session, only, would be 15 minutes

with two minute comment periods.

At this time, Mrs. Jennifer Merritt, Circuit Rider, reviewed information concerning the potential Arts and Entertainment District, noting that it is a draw for tourism and new business.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to adopt Resolution 455 Designating the Geographic Boundaries of the City of Crisfield's Art and Entertainment District. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried 4-0.

PRESENTATION – SOMERSET COUNTY ARK ADDICTION RECOVERY PROGRAM

Chris _____ a counselor for the Somerset County ARL Addiction Recovery Program. He advised that he has been sober for 8 years and is working with a teen peer/ alternative peer group to hold pro-social activities at the St. Andrews Church.

Councilman Emely noted that this is a different program reaching out to Crisfield.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would like to be able to help this organization.

Mayor Lawson advised that sometimes it is hard to extend help, but he will be in contact.

FIRST PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Mayor Lawson noted that in consideration of the beginning of the meeting concerning the A & E District, the first Public Input Session would last 15 minutes, 2 minutes per input.

CAROL HECK commented that she is 100% for it, and noted that she had also accepted the Chair position. She added that it will benefit the City.

BILL BROWN commented that the A & E District will encourage new residents to come here.

MC 121317

He noted that he would be the treasurer for the organization.

JAY TAWES advised that he is in full support of the A & E District. He noted that the Customs House and the Museum will be the anchor, adding that this is a great economic step.

TED FRIEDLEY advised that he is 100% in support of the district.

GEORGE FRIEDLEY commented that this is a great plus for the City of Crisfield.

CITY MANAGERS REPORT

Mr. Rick Pollitt presented his bi-weekly report, highlighting its contents.

Councilman Emely, who had to leave the meeting at this time, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and invited everyone to the Christmas Concert at Crisfield High School on the 23rd at 7:00 p.m., to benefit the Ambulance Squad.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Mayor Lawson noted that Chief Tabor was next door distributing toys for Santa.

Mr. Bozman advised that he had something to address under New Business.

Mr. Parkinson advised that two new employees had been hired.

Mr. Parkinson advised that the Jacksonville Well is down and he has two estimates.

Mayor Lawson advised that this is the number one well in the City. He asked that the Council give Mr. Pollitt, Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. Parkinson the authority to obtain a new well through bid process.

Mrs. Morgan made reference to the 50% rule concerning repairing or replacing.

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Mayor Lawson advised that it is time to buy a new well.

Mr. Sullivan advised that a motion would be needed to approve the preparation of an RFP for bids to install a new well.

Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to authorizing the preparation of an RFP to move forward in an emergency situation. Mr. Sullivan advised that if the situation causes a threat to public health, the Mayor has the responsible power to authorize the repair or replacement without issuance of an RFP. Mrs. Morgan noted that the well is down.

Mr. Sullivan advised that the Mayor has informed us his intention of using his emergency power to make the purchase of a new well. Mayor Lawson added that this would be done with an emergency line of credit.

Mrs. Morgan reviewed figures concerning electrical use of the wind turbine, noting that the cost had gone down this month.

Councilman Konapelsky inquired if there had been any feedback on the new water bills.

Mrs. Morgan advised that this was the first month they had gone out.

NEW BUSINESS

BID OPENING – WALKING TRAIL

Mr. Dean Bozman advised that an RFP was sent out for 271 linear feet of walking trail at the Collins Street Park – Phase I, to install 6 x 6 salt treated lumber, due to be done by February 2, 2018.

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He advised that 7 RFP's were sent out, and one bid received, from Ken Build.

Mrs. Rafter advised that this bid was within grant funding.

Councilman Konapelsky inquired about the grant. Mayor Lawson advised that this was through Community Parks and Playgrounds.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the bid from Ken Build in the amount of \$12,750. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Morgan noted that the bills go to the funding source.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN APPROVAL

Mr. Pollitt presented a Resolution for the Somerset County Hazard Mitigation Plan 5 year upgrade. He advised that the County Commissioners have adopted the Plan, which goes to MEMA and then FEMA.

At this time, Councilwoman Scott made a motion to adopt the resolution for the Somerset County 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

At this time, Councilwoman Scott made a motion to adopt the Resolution. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson noted that the current ceiling height is 35feet and he feels that it should be 30' above flood elevation.

Councilman Konapelsky noted that the City did a fabulous job and will hopefully be getting lower flood insurance. Mr. Bozman added that this will be an incentive for builders.

EVENT APPLICATIONS – NEW YEARS EVE OYSTER DROP

Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve the Event Application for the New Year's Eve Oyster Drop. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson noted that we need to get a scale drawing of the Crab Pot Christmas Tree.

Councilman Konapelksy advised he would get it.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilwoman Ward commented that she thinks the A & E District is great and noted that there is a lot of talent in the City. She also made reference to the need for beautifying vacant lots. Mayor Lawson suggested sending letters to property owners for input to make them better.

Council Vice President Johnson stated that she welcomes the A & E District and she wished everyone a Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas.

Councilwoman Scott noted that she would be resuming the Open Door at City Hall beginning in January.

Councilwoman Scott made reference to the Carvel Hall project and the meeting with Mr. Spangler yesterday, commenting that we need to look hard at opportunities to generate tax dollars. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilman Konapelsky also made reference to the meeting with Spangler. He advised that it was informative and feels that people left with different points of view.

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He commented that if Spangler is willing to clean up the Brownfield Site, he doesn't think he will do anything to mess it back up.

Councilman Konapelsky wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Lawson commented about the article in the paper concerning the County's reserve funds.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the letter from the Arts Council concerning use of the old library and an RFP to go out to the public.

He commented that good things are controversial.

Mayor Lawson made reference to letters that went out to Family Dollar and Dollar General concerning needed improvements for their property, and the possibility of the Dollar General Parking lot being paved. He noted that he had not received any response from Family Dollar.

Mayor Lawson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

2nd SESSION OF PUBLIC INPUT

GEORGE FRIEDLEY commented about water meters and noted he had not seen any savings in his water bill as of yet. Councilman Konapelsky commented that we are still in progress.

Mayor Lawson advised that rates have to be set and large meters installed.

Mr. Friedley also commented about flooding at the municipal park. Mayor Lawson advised that this will occur from time to time.

Mr. Friedley also noted that his goal is to get young people involved with the A & E District.

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He also commented he is glad that Spangler will be cleaning up the Brownfield site.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary