

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, March 14, 2018 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
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; Mike Tabor, Chief of Police. (see attendance sheet for others present)

CALL TO ORDER, LORD'S PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed the Crisfield High School Field Hockey Team to the meeting, noting that the upcoming presentation would begin shortly.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda for the meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the Closed Meeting of February 13, 2018 and the Regular Meeting of February 28, 2018. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF CHALLENGE COINS AND CERTIFICATES OF SPORTSMANSHIP TO THE CHS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE REGIONAL 1A FIELD HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION

At this time Councilman Emely presented Challenge Coins and Certificates of Sportsmanship to Kate Stevens #8, Anabelle Mrohs #23, Mikayla Conner #14, Lainie Pruitt #20, Emily Atkins #7, Miranda Atkins #6, Chelsey Duncan #17, Madi McDorman #10, Clair McCullough #2, Olivia Spencer #4, Madison Dryden #9, Delaney French #13, Kailyn Earhart #15, Taylor Swann #99, Beka Daum- Manager, Madison Jones- Manager, Jenni McDorman, Coach, and Charles McDorman, Assistant Coach.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that he is proud of the team. Councilwoman Scott, Council Vice President Johnson, Councilwoman Ward also offered congratulations to the team.

Mayor Lawson thanked the team and advised that we are blessed to have them.

MOU A & E DISTRICT

Mrs. Jennifer Merritt, Circuit Rider for the City of Crisfield, presented and briefly reviewed a power point concerning the Memorandum of Understanding for the Arts and Entertainment District.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the next day's presentation at the Tawes Museum, which is an informational session with a group of key players from the Maryland Arts Council.

Carol Heck, A & E District President, thanked Mrs. Merritt for her hard work on the A & E District application.

At this time, Mr. Sullivan advised that a motion would be needed to approve the M.O.U.

Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to approve the M.O.U. with the A & E District and authorized Mayor Lawson to sign the M.O.U. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT – FIRST SESSION

PHIL PARKS, DIRECTOR, SALVATION ARMY YOUTH CLUB, addressed the Mayor and Council on behalf of the Salvation Army. He thanked the Mayor and Council for their recent donation. He advised that he wanted to clarify some of the information that was in the County Times, in order to clear the Salvation Army's name. Mr. Parks advised that they had never put uniforms in the basement of the building, but they were moved there by inmates during some work that was being done by the City, and were never brought back up. He advised that during that time, they were not allowed back in the building, according to a sign on the door.

Mr. Parks commented that the article could reflect on them receiving donations.

He also noted that the American Legion had purchased new uniforms for their youth program.

Councilman Emely commented that the Salvation Army is a powerful organization that keeps

kids off of the streets. He advised that he appreciates Mr. Parks' 39 years of service to kids.

Council Vice President Johnson advised that she appreciates the Salvation Army.

(Council Vice President Johnson left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.)

Councilman Konapelsky commented that he appreciates the Salvation Army, but at the same time, doesn't want the article to say it was the City's fault. He commented that it was a mishap that will be straightened up with no finger pointing.

Mr. Parks advised that he had wanted to clear the matter up in a closed meeting, but was not granted one.

Councilwoman Scott advised that their decision was based on information they were given and apologized if mistakes were made, adding that it is hard to retract once it is in the paper.

Mr. Dean Goldsborough commented that they rely on contributions and the article was not good for the Salvation Army.

Mayor Lawson commented that things go away, when not in cooperative nature. He noted that there were not enough people to man the kettles at Christmas. He apologized for the factors that created the dispute.

George Taylor commented that mold became an issue there when the fans were disconnected.

Mayor Lawson advised him to check with Mr. Bozman concerning the matter.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Pollitt reviewed his report, noting that it looks positive that the golf cart legislation will

pass.

Chief Mike Tabor reported that the Department had received a SCOUT grant in the amount of \$5,000 for overtime to be used in the fight against opioids.

He also made reference to the national 17 minute student walk-out for gun control and advised that it was not done at Crisfield High School or in Somerset County.

Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement Officer, noted that the RFP would be going out next week for the Kayak launch.

Dennis Parkinson, Superintendent of Public Utilities, advised that they have started on meter repair/replacement, which is being done by Rick Lord.

Mr. Parkinson noted that all are full of water.

Councilman Konapelsky asked if it would take a week to get them all done. Mr. Parkinson advised that he could not commit to that.

Councilman Konapelsky stated that the Council asked that they assess the 60 meters that are not reading to know what needs to happen to make them readable. Mr. Parkinson advised that they have addressed some of the meters and feel that they should be repaired at the time they are testing them, not make an evaluation and come back later to repair/replace.

Councilman Konapelsky stated that this is vital for the City and wants a schedule for a 7 day period, who is working on them and how many are done. He asked that a weekly report be given to get the scope of progress.

Mayor Lawson inquired if there is rain water or ground water in the meter boxes. Mr.

Parkinson advised that there is both. Councilman Konapelsky commented that Mr. Loar had said they were submersible.

Councilman Emely noted that the meters need to be repaired so we can begin to work on water rates.

Mr. Parkinson reiterated that he would prefer that the repairs be done while we are in the meter pit.

Mrs. Morgan also advised having Mr. Lord put the serial number of the meter on the work-order, when it is installed.

Councilman Emely noted that if the serial number is not logged in, the meter won't read.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that the meters need to be readable to help Mrs. Soukup in the Water Department.

Councilwoman Scott commented that most of the meters are not hard to fix, Mr. Lord is mechanically talented, so the project should move right along, optimistically.

Mayor Lawson also asked Mr. Parkinson for an inventory on sidewalks and roads that have been cut for underground repairs. Councilman Emely asked that they also get a jump on the sewer issue at Tangier Island Cruises.

Mr. Parkinson also noted repairs being done to the RSP building at the wastewater treatment plant.

Mayor Lawson explained the bar-screen process.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to the Jacksonville Well. Mr. Parkinson noted that there is a voltage issue and adjustments have to be made by the installer, which should be done next week.

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, noted that she is working on the year end budget projected in April.

She made reference to the wind turbine and advised that it needs to turn fast to generate money. She noted that it automatically shuts off at gusts of 40 mph.

Mayor Lawson commented that Public Utilities needs a checklist for re-setting the turbine after it shuts off.

Mrs. Morgan advised that it is hard to budget with projections of what the turbine will generate, noting that we will always have a \$2,500 to \$3,000 a month Line Charge.

Councilman Konapelsky asked for hardware to monitor the turbine. Mr. Pollitt advised that he has been asking for that and would contact Mr. Loar again.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Lawson presented for review the Memorandum of Understanding for the Old State Road waterline. Following a brief review, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the MOU. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried 4-0 with Council Vice President Johnson absent.

Mayor Lawson noted that County Commission President Laird had intended on being there to support the MOU but was unable to make it.

NEW BUSINESS

PANHANDLING ORDINANCE – 1ST READER

Mayor Lawson reviewed the Ordinance. Mr. Sullivan clarified that in 83-10, musical contribution is exempt. He noted that a Public Hearing is needed before 2nd Reader.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve the Panhandling Ordinance for First Reader. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously 4-0 with Council Vice-president Johnson still absent.

Mr. Sullivan made reference to the Cable Franchise Agreement, and advised that this is being negotiated by the Cohen Law Group.

EVENT APPLICATIONS

ST. PATRICK'S DAY EVENT, MARCH 17TH – JAVA JAY'S & FRIEND'S OF CRISFIELD EASTER EGG HUNT, MARCH 31, 2018

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve both Event Applications. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously.

During discussion, Mayor Lawson asked that the area of the street being closed for Java Jay's be determined. The Council concurred that they were ok with the street closing.

NEW BUSINESS

MC 31418

(Council Vice President Johnson back at 7:30 p.m.)

Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to hold a Closed Personnel meeting with the Mayor and Council and Department Heads concerning employee evaluations.

Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

The meeting was scheduled for March 21st at 4:00 p.m.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL Q & A, COMMENTS

Councilman Konapelsky introduced Lee Ann Schoffstall, candidate for Council.

Ms. Schoffstall introduced herself. She advised that she is a sign-language interpreter who works for the Wicomico County Board of Education and she attends Liberty Rock Church.

Ms. Schoffstall advised that she went to college in Baltimore, but moved back to Crisfield because she loves it here, and thus, decided to run for Council.

Councilwoman Scott had no questions or comments.

Council Vice President Johnson had no questions or comments.

Councilwoman Ward commented that all is ok and each day is a learning session.

Councilman Emely noted that the Mayor and Council each have 5 Challenge Coins to be given out as they see fit.

Councilman Emely made reference to the need for a handicapped restroom in City Hall and asked to work with Mr. Pollitt and Mr. Bozman concerning specs for an addition.

Mr. Pollitt noted that he had spoken with the Board of Education about getting a portable class-

Room on a temporary basis until the budget could support an addition to the City Hall.

Councilman Emely advised that he would like to do it right and get an idea from a contractor.

Tillie Doyle commented that a wheel chair ramp and automatic doors are needed for the entrance to City Hall.

Mayor Lawson suggested setting up a committee to get ideas. Mr. Sullivan reminded that the committee would be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

Councilman Emely commented that we need a day to look at equipment and see what we have. He suggested looking at leasing, but would need a maintenance plan for the user.

Councilman Konapelsky suggested getting a list from each department of what they need.

Mr. Parkinson reminded them that the dump truck he had requested last year was taken out of the budget.

Councilman Emely inquired about the date for paving Hammock Point. Mr. Bozman advised he would be getting the date from Jeff Brown.

Council Vice President Johnson made reference to the parking issue on Chesapeake Avenue, from 3rd Street to Davis Lane. She advised that there is no parking from the fire hydrant to the yellow line because it obstructs view.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the recent food box distribution, spearheaded by Ms. Shawna Kearsley. He advised that there were 25 sub-recipients who received boxes.

He thanked everyone who helped.

MC 31418

2nd SESSION OF PUBLIC INPUT

None was offered at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary