

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council met in regular session on Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 6:25 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
Barbara Ward, Councilwoman
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr. City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Mike Tabor, Chief of Police; Richard Crumbacker; Sue Ransom; Tom Auchain; James Riley; Gary Kitching; John P. Tawes; Ashley Nelson; Cynthia Freeman; Claudia Nelson.

Mayor Lawson called the meeting to order.

Mr. Sullivan made reference to the upcoming Public Hearing for the Bond Ordinance and requested that the Agenda be amended to add the 2nd Reader of the Bond Ordinance to unfinished business, prior to the 2nd Reader of the Budget Ordinance.

Mr. Pollitt requested that the Elder Abuse Proclamation be presented after the Bond Ordinance prior to the 1st Session of Public Input.

At this time Councilman Emely made a motion to open the regular meeting. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to accept the Agenda with the aforementioned modifications of adding the 2nd Reader of the Bond Ordinance and moving the presentation of the Elder Abuse Proclamation. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Emely requested that the wording on page 7 of the Regular Minutes from June 14, 2017, that says Charlotte Avenue be changed to Norris Harbor Drive. He then made a motion for their approval, seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the minutes from the Budget Workshop Meeting of May 22, 2017. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson noted that Councilman Konapelsky was at the earlier meeting but was not in attendance at this meeting due to other obligations.

PROCLAMATION – WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY, JUNE 15TH

Mr. Rick Pollitt, Jr. City Manager, read aloud the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Ashley Nelson of the Department on Aging.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$435,000 OF PUBLIC DEBT (BONDS) TO BE ISSUED UNDER THE STATE OF MARYLAND'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING PROGRAM

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the history of the Bond Debt refinancing and advised that refinancing this year it could potentially save the City \$2,000 to \$3,000 per year over the course of the next 10 years. Mr. Sullivan advised that the Ordinance must be adopted by July 1, 2017.

No comments were received from the public.

At this time, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to close the public hearing.

Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT 1ST SESSION

No public input was given at this time.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Rick Pollitt, Jr. City Manager presented his monthly report, highlighting its contents.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Lawson noted that the 2nd Reader of the 2017-2018 Budget would not be done tonight.

Mr. Sullivan noted that it needs to be adopted before July 1 and should be done before the June 28th meeting.

Mayor Lawson requested a motion on what had been discussed at the earlier meeting.

At this time, Councilwoman Scott made a motion that 2.5% raises be given across the board, if the Constant Yield Tax Rate is cancelled. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and

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carried unanimously, noting an “OK” from Councilman Konapelsky, who was absent from this meeting.

Mayor Lawson advised that a budget workshop meeting would be necessary to re-draw the budget.

Councilman Emely commented that giving a 2.5% raise was necessary as raises had been sparse over the past several years, adding that the Mayor and Council will have to find the money.

Council Vice President Johnson noted that businesses were concerned about the adoption of the Constant Yield Tax Rate, adding that this was a tough decision.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief Tabor inquired if there were any questions. He noted that he would be giving his quarterly report in July.

Chief Tabor noted that CPD had applied for an \$83K Body Armor Camera Grant through GOCCP. He noted that the 2 hour parking signs downtown will be enforced. Chief Tabor also noted that there had been trespassers at the Corbin Library.

2ND READER BOND ORDINANCE #670

At this time, Mr. Sullivan reviewed the recitals of the Ordinance.

With no further discussion, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to adopt for Second Reader Bond Ordinance #670. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried

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unanimously, 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

ADOPTION OF CITY OF CRISFIELD MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Pollitt presented the City's Mission Statement and noted that it had been submitted with the Rural Development grant.

At this time, Councilman Emely read the Statement aloud and made a motion that it be accepted for the single use of including it with the grant package. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson.

Councilwoman Scott stated that the Mission Statement needs to be an in-depth document.

Mr. Pollitt advised that a more in-depth statement could be considered at the August meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

First Reader – Ordinance Amending Sec. 112-28(A)(Chapter 112, Article V, per Planning Commission Recommendation.

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Ordinance for First Reader, which the Planning Commission had reviewed on Monday.

Councilman Emely made a motion to accept the Ordinance for First Reader. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Mr. Sullivan noted that a Public Hearing must be held concerning this Ordinance at the first

meeting in July, as well as 2nd Reader during the regular meeting.

EVENT APPLICATIONS

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the Event Application for the annual Wheels on the Waterfront. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

Councilman Emely made a motion to approve the Event Application for the Annual Boat

Docking Contest to be held at the Depot. He also noted that the rules and regulations for use of the Depot need to be established. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson.

Mayor Lawson also noted that rules need to be in place, but the Boat Docking Committee are already aware of possible fees and have also contacted the condo association.

Mr. Pollitt suggested sitting down with the Boat Docking Committee to discuss the use of the Depot and regulations. Councilman Emely noted that the sale of alcohol is the big issue.

Mayor Lawson advised that they could be granted permission in principle.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gary Kitching thanked the Mayor and Council and noted that Mr. Buddy Ward had to leave the meeting due to illness.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORT & DISCUSSION

Mayor Lawson made reference to negative comments during the recent water outage. He noted that many issues were involved in the repairs. Mayor Lawson advised that repairs such as this are never taken lightly by the City.

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Mayor Lawson noted that the Green space construction is coming along. He also commented about people parking all day long in 2 hour parking spaces and asked that the police department issue written warnings.

Mayor Lawson noted that the Visitor's Center has available "Maryland Loves Crabs" magazines and there is a lot of coverage on Crisfield.

Councilwoman Scott noted that a good meeting was held earlier.

Council Vice President Johnson noted that the Mayor and Council are working very hard and also noted that things are moving forward with GCAC.

Councilwoman Ward also noted that the meeting earlier was positive.

Councilman Emely advised Mr. Pollitt that he would be happy to hold a meeting concerning rules for use of the Depot with the Boat Docking Committee.

He made reference to the upcoming meeting concerning Harbor Lights water readings on Thursday.

Councilman Emely thanked everyone involved in the recent water line and hydrant repair and advised that the City did the best that we could.

He also commented that he feels the budget move in the earlier meeting was tough but positive.

Councilwoman Ward advised Mayor Lawson not to be so hard on himself.

PUBLIC INPUT 2ND SESSION

George Friedley commented that the Citizens on Patrol group needs to be reinstated.

He also commented that there needs to be a restroom at the Depot.

Mayor Lawson noted that the grant application for restrooms had been denied.

He also made reference to 15 minute parking areas with construction vehicles parking all day.

Rev. James Riley noted that USDA has moved the Old State Road water line repairs to top priority, but the job is on hold because of the City's reluctance to maintain the lines.

Mayor Lawson asked Mr. Jason Loar, City Engineer, for a report.

Mr. Loar advised that the turbine had been off due to performance of 3 month maintenance.

He advised that the project would be closed out next month.

Mayor Lawson also noted that he had a group of students that visited the turbine in May and they really enjoyed the trip and learned a lot.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary