

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council and Department Heads met in regular session on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Percy J. Purnell, Jr., Mayor
LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President
Mike Atkins, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, Attorney
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Mike Tabor, Chief of Police
Harold W. Frock, Sr., Supt. of Public Utilities
Noah Bradshaw, Inspector

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Scott Tawes; Jenna Nelson; Irving Saltz; Liz Holland; Richard Crumbacker; Doug Crockett; Arnold Agello; John Dize; Randy Laird; Eddie Heath; George Friedley; Donna Smart; Karen Lawson; Eric Emely; Pat Carson and John Phoebus.

INVOCATION AND WELCOME

Mayor Purnell called the meeting to order, opening with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. He noted that Councilman Anderson was absent due to illness and Councilman Lawson was absent due to recovering from having his foot amputated.

ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT – SCOTT TAWES, CPA, JENNA NELSON, CPA

Scott Tawes presented the annual audit report for the City of Crisfield with the accompanying power point, for the year ending June 30, 2012.

He noted that the City had received an Unqualified Opinion, which is the best that can be received. Mr. Tawes noted that the City is in sound financial condition due to no new purchases or

hires. Mr. Tawes also suggested establishing a line of credit of \$200K to \$300K.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Purnell requested approval of the minutes from the regular meeting of November 14, 2012. Approval so moved by Councilman Atkins, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

MIKE TABOR, CHIEF OF POLICE, presented his monthly report, highlighting its contents. He also presented a DVD of a recent robbery at Somers Cove Market.

Mayor Purnell also made reference to unfinished business for the Breckford Speed Camera agreement. Following a brief discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the contract, contingent upon a 30 day agreement for a trial period. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky. Motion opposed by Council Vice President Johnson. Motion carried, two to one.

JOYCE L. MORGAN, CLERK-TREASURER, presented here monthly financial report through November 30, 2012. She also reviewed storm related items and loss.

HAROLD W. FROCK, SR., SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES, reviewed his monthly report, highlighting its contents.

NOAH BRADSHAW, INSPECTOR, presented his monthly report, highlighting its contents. Mayor Purnell noted that the Carvel Hall roof contract had been awarded to Kautz Construction.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION

Mayor Purnell requested approval of CDBG Resolution #409 to be used for the purchase of two generators and the stoplight on Main & Somerset. At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion

to approve Resolution 409. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

OPENING OF BIDS – CARVEL HALL DOOR AND RAMP

Mrs. Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, opened bids for the installation of a rolling door and ramp at Carvel Hall – John Goldsborough Construction - \$18,500 - \$20,000, Wilson Masonry - \$29,650, and TMG - \$24,900.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the bid from Goldsborough Construction. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

ANNUAL ELECTRICITY BID – RATE RENEWAL

Mrs. Morgan reviewed the recommendation from Jeff Sherman of APPI that the City go with Washington Gas. Mayor Purnell advised that he would like a guarantee in writing if there is a reduction in usage due to the turbine.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that he would like to see a two year guarantee.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to go with APPI's recommendation of Washington Gas for 24 months, contingent upon no exclusions if there is a reduction in usage due to the wind turbine and if a new facility is added. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

CHESAPEAKE BURIAL

Mrs. Morgan noted that Chesapeake Burial had re-interred the burial vaults that had floated up in the cemetery on Chesapeake Avenue, during Hurricane Sandy. She noted that a thank you letter had been sent.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. George Friedley inquired if the Speed Camera would be cost efficient. Councilman Konapelsky commented that it doesn't matter if it saves one life.

Mr. John Phoebus commented about an article in the Baltimore Sun concerning fines for inaccurate speeding tickets issued by speed cameras.

Mr. Randy Laird thanked the City for doing the re-assessment for FEMA. He also made reference to the boat harbor property that had been deeded to the City and noted that the dock had not been included. Mr. Bradshaw commented that he feels that it may be included. Mr. Laird also inquired about the types of business for Carvel Hall. Mayor Purnell advised that it can be any kind of legal business. He advised that the City is making sure the building has a new roof, windows, electricity, heat and a sprinkler system and it will be marketed with incentives.

Mrs. Donna Smart, whose daughter is a dispatcher for CPD, inquired of the status of the condition of the police department building that was damaged during the hurricane and whether or not the building is filled with mildew. Mayor Purnell advised that ServPro came in and found no mildew, only rainwater in the building. He advised that the former PNC Bank building, which is temporarily housing CPD costs over \$300K, and there is no grant funding available for purchasing buildings. He advised that to borrow the money to purchase the building, it would cost \$20K/year for 30 years, as well as take the building off of the tax rolls. Mayor Purnell advised that the City hadn't raised taxes in 6 years and has lost assessment and State aid. He went on to comment that the bank building would be a great place for the police department, but insurance can put the old building

back together for \$30K. Mayor Purnell commented that Chief Tabor is the best Chief that the City has ever had, but the City can't purchase the bank building without raising taxes.

Mr. Bradshaw commented that the former building is a safe building.

Councilman Konapelsky commented that he liked CPD being in the bank building, but the City simply does not have the money.

Mr. John Phoebus advised that there is a meeting tomorrow at the fire hall concerning low interest loans; Friday and Saturday, the Maryland Insurance Administration will be at City Hall; and on 12/20/13, there would be a meeting at CHS at 6:00 p.m. with different agencies, addressing hurricane Sandy issues and concerns. Mayor Purnell commended Mr. Phoebus for all of his hard work.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORT

Councilman Atkins made reference to the proposed rental unit registration ordinance. Mayor Purnell advised that more time is needed to work on this ordinance.

Councilman Atkins made reference to meeting with the Housing Authority. Mayor Purnell advised that he would schedule this.

Councilman Atkins also made reference to setting up the lines of credit in January.

Councilman Konapelsky noted that the December 20th meeting is an important one and urged everyone to attend.

Mayor Purnell commented regarding the number of families displaced due to the hurricane.

Mayor Purnell briefed on the status of depot construction, the grant for the storm gate and sidewalk work.

There being no further business for discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adjourn,

seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary

