

MINUTES

The Mayor and Council met in regular session on Wednesday, May 28, 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

Absent; Raymond D. Anderson, Councilman

Also in attendance; Richard Crumbacker; Anthony Jackson; David Marquis; Terry Pehan; Tyrane Lane; Calvin Rayfield; Reuben Evans; Bonnie Strohmer; Keith & Fran Campbell; Lynne Brumley; Lee Brumley; Jesse Drewer; Anna Breland; Liz Holland; Karen Whitebread; Irving Lee Saltz; Jenny Tawes, and John Phoebus.

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

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION AND PROCLAMATION

Councilman Kim Lawson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to CHS Math Teacher, Karen Whitebread, for 27 years of teaching, to Lynn Brumley, R.N., CHS, for her work with the 2014 SADD Chapter, to Chief Mike Tabor and the Crisfield Police Department, for their participation with SADD, and a Proclamation to Mrs. Anna Breland, in recognition of her

nomination as Somerset County Teacher of the Year.

Councilman Lawson commented that “this makes community” expressing his love and affection for Crisfield High School.

KEITH CAMPBELL RE: TAX STRUCTURE

Keith Campbell addressed the Mayor and Council concerning the tax structure dual rate and reviewed his ideas concerning the matter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After review of the minutes from the Regular meeting of May 21, 2014, Councilman Atkins made a motion for their approval, with corrections on page 2, paragraph and page 1, to strike the last sentence. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky, and carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2014-2015 BUDGET

Another meeting for a budget workshop was scheduled for Wed., 6/4/2014 at 6:00 p.m.

BRECKFORD SPEED CAMERA

Mr. Sullivan advised that Breckford has advised that they want to break the speed camera contract with the City, due to the last number of speeding violations being too low.

He advised that other alternative would be to enlarge the area of the school zone.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Atkins made a motion that the 15 mph speed zone at Crisfield High School be maintained. Motion seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried unanimously.

It was also discussed having the police department consider making four or five 15 to 30 minute appearances at the school zone.

CHARLES LEHRER, III – FOLLOW UP OF DRIVEWAY ISSUE

Mr. Lehrer was not present at the meeting for the follow-up. Mayor Purnell advised that Mr. Bradshaw is researching this matter.

BILLIE JO CHANDLER – BEACH WEDDING PROPOSAL

Mrs. Chandler appeared before the Mayor and Council as a follow up concerning weddings a Brick Kiln. She presented a package of proposed ideas to be used for the application as suggestions to Mr. Sullivan.

Mayor Purnell noted that the City has no desire to prevent beach weddings.

Mr. Sullivan also advised that written confirmation of approval would be needed from the American Legion. It was also discussed that there would be no tents allowed and no fees charged.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to adopt as a draft, the proposed ideas for Beach Weddings, including the waiver of liabilities, contingent upon approval by the American Legion. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously.

EVENT APPLICATION – JUNE 22, 2014 CONCERT AT WELLINGTON BEACH

Mrs. Billie Jo Chandler made reference to the request and advised that the event would be covered by either the American Legion or Tawes Insurance. She also advised that the American Legion would cover the alcohol license.

Further discussion followed concerning posting “No Alcohol” signs and “Tobacco Free” at the three beach entrances. It was also discussed that the alcohol license application would pertain to the grounds, not the beach.

Mr. John Phoebus commented that in the State of Maryland, the Open Container law is in effect now.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion for the posting of three signs at the Wellington Tawes Beach prohibiting the use of alcohol and tobacco. Motion seconded by Councilman Lawson and carried unanimously.

Councilman Atkins also made a motion to approve the Event Application for the Beach Concert on June 22, 2014, contingent upon receipt of liability insurance either through the American Legion or Tawes Insurance. Motion seconded by Councilman Kona-pelsky and carried unanimously.

Councilman Lawson made reference to cigarette butts being dropped at the depot and made reference to using either “No Smoking” signs or containers being placed there, out of Park money.

15 MINUTE PARKING REQUESTS

At this time, the Council reviewed the request from Captain's Carry Out for 15 minute parking. Approval so moved by Councilman Konapelsky, seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously.

AIRPORT LEASE

Mayor Purnell briefed the Council concerning an inquiry from UMES who is interested in leasing the airport for their Aviation Program.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. John Phoebus noted that there would be two candidate forums; one on June 10th for City candidates and one on June 12th for County Candidates. The meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Crisfield High School and will be moderated by Dr. Nugent.

Mr. Phoebus also commented that a 2 tier budget is uniform, but does not feel that it is a good idea.

Mr. David Marquis advised that he agrees with Mr. Phoebus. He made reference to the water and sewer rates and commented that they should be financially self-supporting. He also made reference to payment in lieu of taxes at the Housing Authority versus the cost of policing there.

Mr. Reuben Evans noted that use of the Wellington Beach is up, but made reference to animal waste and trash there.

Mrs. Chandler noted that Beach Patrol will be starting and asked the City to check on life guard signs.

Councilman Lawson made reference to the split tax rate and also the County's tax contributions.

Mr. John Dize made reference to taxes as far as being a renter.

Mrs. Carolyn Marquis made reference to the need for posting the date and time of the Housing Authority meeting. She advised that is the first Tuesday at 10:00 A.M. She also suggested the need for a task force to work on a proposal concerning the tax disparity with the county.

A discussion followed concerning tax tier alternatives.

Mr. Erik Emely inquired concerning the status of the speed camera.

There being no further business in the regular meeting, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky, and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary