

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 8, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

in the meeting room in City Hall.

PRESENT

Kimberly B. Lawson, Mayor
Charlotte Scott, Council Vice President
LaVerne Johnson, Councilwoman
Mike Atkins, Councilwoman
Erik Emely, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Richard M. Pollitt, Jr., City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

INVOCATION – LORD’S PRAYER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Councilman Atkins made a motion to accept the Agenda, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of June 24, 2015. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried with abstention of Councilwoman Johnson, who was absent from this meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Pollitt, City Manager reviewed his monthly report, highlighting its contents. He also read into record a letter from Gail Massey to the Mayor and Council and County Commissioners concerning the transfer of hangar #4 at the City/County airport from her late father, Lloyd Stevens, to his son, Craig Stevens.

Mayor Lawson requested a motion to adopt the letter as a resolution. Approval so moved by Councilwoman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Konapelsky and carried unanimously.

Council Vice President Scott made reference to the item in Mr. Pollitt's report concerning continued use by the police department, of the housing authority unit. She advised that she thought the unit was not used. Mr. Pollitt advised that it has been used and HUD requires that it be available.

Councilwoman Johnson advised that this had been discussed and it was determined to keep the unit.

Councilman Atkins inquired about the process for the Ajello property. Mr. Sullivan reviewed the process and advised of the 30 day notification to respond. He advised that the Ajello's would have to apply for a building permit with their plans for repairing the building's inadequacies. Otherwise they will receive a demo order and the City will incur the cost of the demo and take action to recoup the cost.

Mr. Pollitt noted that the building is more of a hazard than before, since the accident where the

vehicle ran into the front of it.

Mr. Sullivan noted that the situation needs to be resolved in the most cost efficient way to the City.

Mayor Lawson noted that the City must make sure the common wall is sound before demo is done.

QUARTERLY REPORT – DOMINIC DILEGGE – DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mr. Dominic Dilegge, Director of Public Utilities, reviewed his quarterly report highlighting activities at the Plant since he had come on board, as well as other items for discussions.

Councilwoman Johnson made reference to the item on Mr. Dillegge's report concerning leaking seals and inquired if this is a big deal. Mr. Dilegge advised that it is a big deal.

Council Vice President Scott made reference to the grant application for the treatment plant to USDA. Mr. Jason Loar advised that this had been submitted. He noted that the funding would be for some maintenance-related issues and replacement would be covered.

Council Vice President Scott inquired if any of the public utilities personnel had taken any classes. Mr. Dilegge advised that none have yet; he is weeding out men who can obtain licenses.

Councilman Emely advised reaching out to other electricians in the area, when having work done.

Councilman Atkins made reference to the problem with chlorine erosion. Mr. Dilegge noted

that this is from the tank that pumps chlorine into the system. Mayor Lawson advised that Mr. Pollitt and Mr. Loar are working on obtaining money for a retaining wall.

QUARTERLY REPORT – CHIEF MICHAEL TABOR

Chief Tabor presented his quarterly report, highlighting its contents.

Councilwoman Johnson thanked Chief Tabor for speaking at St. Paul AME in light of the recent South Carolina AME Church shootings.

QUARTERLY REPORT - DEAN BOZMAN – CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Mr. Bozman reviewed his quarterly report, highlighting its contents. Councilman Konapelsky commended Mr. Bozman for working with County Planning and Zoning GIS to update City maps.

Mr. Bozman thanked Mr. Jimmy Charles for cleaning up properties in the City in preparation for Clam Bake.

Mayor Lawson made reference to the status of the property on the corner of Main and Somerset. Mr. Bozman advised that the footer has been poured.

Councilwoman Johnson made reference to the number of building permits issued. Mr. Bozman advised that half of the permits were for Long Term Recovery homes.

Councilman Atkins made reference to the funding for the demo at 216 Maryland Avenue.

Mayor Lawson advised that this was mitigation money through FEMA; the demo is 100%

FEMA money. He advised that Mr. A.J. King bid \$1,500 to demo the property and the tipping

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fee would be paid for with mitigation and park money.

JOYCE L. MORGAN, CLERK TREASURER REPORT

Mrs. Morgan presented the June 30th Profit and Loss report highlighting various points.

Mayor Lawson made reference to taxes versus general expense. He also noted that

Governor Hogan has promised to reinstate Highway User Revenues.

Council Vice President Scott inquired of Mr. Pollitt about the use of HUR in Salisbury.

Mr. Pollitt advised that funding went from \$7M to \$200K.

Councilman Atkins advised that he would have liked to meet with Governor Hogan at the

Clam Bake concerning HUR.

Mr. Pollitt noted that Secretary David Craig would be in Crisfield on Tuesday.

ANNEMESSEX SQUARE PARKING LOT (DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT)

Mayor Lawson noted that the downtown parking lot has a two hour time limit, or a parking

pass can be obtained to park longer. He advised that all downtown parking has a 2 hour limit

with 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. permit parking. He advised that the City is working out parking

rules. Mayor Lawson advised that the Green Space is being developed and acknowledged that

there are multiple people who need parking downtown.

Councilman Emely stated that the dock parking and other area parking issues are making the

City appear to not be business friendly.

He also questioned the need for making Goodsell Alley One Way. Councilman Konapelsky

advised that the alley is not wide enough to be a street.

Councilman Emely also stated that daily parking in the City parking lot should be free.

Council Vice President Scott asked Councilman Emely if he previously supported collecting the parking fees, and he said yes, but now he sees the need for free parking.

Councilman Konapelsky advised that there is not a spot for every business, but having to park and walk encourages them to stop into other businesses in the area. He suggested taking two of the four 15 minute spaces at the depot and making them 2 hour parking. Councilman Konapelsky advised that he does not agree with re-opening Goodsell Alley as it is too dangerous.

Council Vice President Scott stated that Goodsell Alley has been used for 20 years and no one had been killed using it.

Councilwoman Johnson agreed that more parking spaces are needed, but not in the Green Space.

Councilman Atkins commented that in other towns or locations, people have to walk great distances to get where they are going, but in Crisfield people want easy access.

EVENT APPLICATION

Mayor Lawson reviewed the Event Application for the traffic pattern for the Clam Bake.

Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to approve the Event Application for the traffic pattern for the Clam Bake. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

Councilman Emely noted that the boat docking event for July 11th has been moved to 7th

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Street, due to liability insurance requirements and no alcohol on City property.

Mr. Sullivan noted that the City can regulate the use of its property.

Councilman Emely inquired if nonprofits are allowed to sell alcohol on City property.

Mayor Lawson advised that a broad spectrum meeting is needed with for profit, nonprofit, police agencies, and others, to set fair requirements and rules for use of City property for events.

Mayor Lawson suggested deferring the other two event applications that are on the Agenda and come up with baseline rules before approving these events.

Mr. David Marquis, noted, in reference to their Event Application, that non-profit breweries have to obtain a special license.

Mr. Pollitt advised that a consistent policy for events is needed.

Councilman Konapelsky suggested having Mr. Pollitt set a date for workshop. Mayor Lawson advised that Mr. Pollitt would be setting up a round-table discussion.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to table the Event Application requests from Jay Tawes and Carolyn and David Marquis at this time. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY LEGACY RESOLUTION

Mr. Pollitt presented and reviewed the Community Legacy Resolution for this year's grant application. He advised that the application would consist of one project which is a public

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infrastructure project providing drainage improvements and safe passage for pedestrians and motorists in the target area and promoting walkability to the new county library under construction.

Approval of the Resolution so moved by Councilman Emely, seconded by Councilman Kona-pelsky and carried unanimously.

Council Vice President Scott inquired if input from residents was received. Mr. Pollitt advised that he, along with Mrs. Morgan and the Mayor had been brainstorming a project to serve the targeted clientele and that Mayor Lawson had also spoken to some residents of Chesapeake Avenue. Mayor Lawson noted that last year's grant was \$75K for sidewalk in the downtown business area and Mrs. Morgan had suggested sidewalks in LMI areas, as well as paving Chesapeake Avenue, for walkability to the new library.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL Q & A AND DISCUSSION

Councilman Emely noted that the ambulance squad information would be tabled for now.

He commented that previously, alcohol sold at events at the depot were sold on private property.

Councilman Emely also requested that two trash cans be placed at the City Parking lot on the sidewalk.

Councilman Emely inquired if the drug policy is in effect. Mr. Sullivan advised that it was in effect when the Resolution was adopted. Mr. Pollitt noted that Department Heads met

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today and now must bring in employees.

Councilman Emely made reference to the canoe on the fence at 10th Street and suggested putting two parking blocks there. He also inquired about the proposed curb, gutter, and sidewalk work for Hammock Point and Anchor Drive. Mayor Lawson advised that Mr. Goldsborough is now working on the bridge. He advised that the City would have to bid to put the piping under Anchor Drive.

Councilman Emely noted that 600 people will be in town this weekend for the Crab and Cruise.

Councilman Atkins stated that 10th Street is a perfect Kayak area, but the City needs to make it a safe area. He also noted that a fan for the chlorine well is needed asap.

Councilwoman Johnson noted that she met the Secretary of Planning and Lt. Governor at the Maryland Municipal League Convention and the Lt. Governor assured her that Highway User Revenues will be restored. She also made reference to information concerning the City of Cumberland's success with blighted properties.

Councilwoman Johnson noted that a Park Commission meeting needs to be scheduled.

Council Vice President Scott made reference to beer sales at the Softshell Fair. She stated that the City Dock is Crisfield's focal point and there needs to be rules to encourage its use.

She suggested taking a percentage of the gate fee proceeds. Council Vice President commented that at MML, she learned that 42% of people who move want to come to small towns, and 75% want walkability. She also noted that tourism is the world's largest industry.

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Councilman Konapelsky commented about Crisfield being excluded in the talks concerning Smith Island.

Mayor Lawson thanked Mr. Sullivan for his negotiation with Bearing Construction, which will bring the wind turbine in the future. He also noted that staff had met with the billing software representative concerning water and sewer billing upgrades.

Mayor Lawson noted Secretary David Craig, MDOP, would be here on the 14th, advising the Council they would be meeting for dinner.

Mayor Lawson noted that parking signs 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. are not enforceable. In reference to walkability, he advised that pedestrians have the same rights as vehicles.

He also commented that others have addressed the Smith Island concerns.

Mayor Lawson advised that he would like an estimate from the Spruce Street area for underground utilities from Seamark to Water's Edge and specs for underground piping. He also advised that he would like to have a diagnostic view of the City Park after 216 Maryland Ave. is demolished and the new library is finished.

Mayor Lawson also noted that funding has been received from Waterway Improvement for a resurfacing the pier at Brick Kiln.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor Lawson advised that speakers are limited to two minutes.

Dean Goldsborough noted that due to problems at the Armory, the Salvation Army needs

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a new building.

Billie Jo Chandler commented that 10th Street is a safe place for kayaks.

Kerry Palakanis commented that there is more to Crisfield than the City Dock. She also commented that alcohol consumption near the water is not a good idea. She advised that the Smith Island meeting was an open meeting. Dr. Palakanis also commented that her request for support letters from the City required two weeks' notice, but the City passed a Community Legacy Resolution this evening, on a short notice.

George Friedley commented that Goodsell Alley is too small to be driven through. He also commented that the drain pipe on Chesapeake Avenue needs to be repaired.

Councilwoman Johnson asked everyone to remember former Clerk of the Court, Ted Phoebus, who had recently passed away.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary