

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 22, 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, Councilman
Erik Emely, Councilman
Mark Konapelsky, Councilman
Rick Pollitt, City Manager
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary (see sign-in sheet for others in attendance)

INVOCATION – LORD’S PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MOTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Councilman Atkins made a motion to accept the agenda for this evening’s meeting. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of July 8, 2015. Motion seconded by Councilman Konapelsky. During discussion, Council Vice President Scott clarified information on page 6 pertaining to the sub-station unit at the Housing Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilman Emely noted that the canoe is still on the fence at 10th Street. Mayor Lawson advised that it is on the fence belonging to the condo. He advised Councilman Emely to check with the condo association and ask for a letter from them. He advised that there are no established rules about kayaks in that area. Councilman Konapelsky stated that if the condo association complains, it can be brought up at the next meeting.

Councilman Atkins requested an update on the status of the Ajello building.

Mr. Pollitt advised that they had 10 days to file an appeal and present a rehab proposal. Mrs. Ajello emailed Mr. Bozman on the final day and has requested to use the 2007 plans for the building, which Mr. Bozman sent to Davis, Bowen and Friedel.

Mr. Sullivan advised that if D.B. & F. finds the proposal to be unsafe, the demo order will be issued and after 30 days, the City can have the building demolished.

Councilman Atkins also made reference to the well causing chlorine corrosion. Mr. Pollitt advised that Mr. Dilegge is working with a contractor to correct the problem.

NEW BUSINESS – LEE ROY CARSON III, RE: HAMMOCK POINT STREET WORK

Mr. Lee Roy Carson III, appeared before the Mayor and Council concerning the status of street work for Hammock Point. Mr. Carson reviewed his notes concerning the matter and also reviewed the history of the development of Hammock Point.

Mr. Carson noted that taxes to be collected from Hammock Point this year are \$57,760.

Mr. Carson suggested encouraging development in the City by dropping fees for water and sewer connections. Councilman Konapelsky made reference to the use of these fees for costs incurred.

He advised that we must be fair to the entire City.

M&C72215

Mr. Carson suggested charging a monthly fee on water bills of \$5.00 to be used for Roads and Beautification. He also suggested that the City borrow \$2M for road repair.

Mr. Carson inquired of Mayor Lawson about how many streets had been resurfaced with tar and chip.

Mayor Lawson advised Hammock Point, Wellington Road and Anchor Drive.

Mr. Carson inquired if an estimate for road resurfacing had been obtained yet. Mayor Lawson advised that it had not.

Mr. Carson advised that he had obtained an estimate from Jeff Brown of Chesapeake Paving, for 35' in the amount of \$110K.

Councilman Emely stated that the voters elected the City to do something and this is a prime piece of property.

At this time, Councilman Emely made a motion to make getting an estimate for paving or tar and chip of Hammock Point, a priority.

The motion died due to lack of a second.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to the American Legion road paving issue. He commented that the City is working toward all road repairs.

Councilman Konapelsky advised Mr. Carson that he appreciates his ideas. He suggested letting Mr. Pollitt explore the ideas.

Councilwoman Johnson advised that she understands Mr. Carson's feelings. She also made reference to losing Highway User Revenue. She also questioned if charging a road tax is legal. Councilwoman Johnson also made reference to speaking with the Mayor concerning his views on Hammock Point.

Council Vice President Scott commented that as a resident, she can't vote, but can express her opinion.

She advised that she understands the frustration for the paving delay which gets tiresome. She stated that it is better to waive the water and sewer hookup fees in order to get new homes built. In reference to obtaining a loan, this would be the City investing in itself.

Councilman Atkins advised that previous administrations used the HUR fees for salaries and newer administrations used it for roads. Then the State began using the HUR money for State salaries. He advised that there has never been enough tax base in Crisfield to pay for road paving and a \$5 fee won't be enough.

Councilwoman Johnson and Councilman Atkins commented that Governor Hogan has promised to reinstate HUR. Mayor Lawson noted that state fuel tax went up, but the City has received none. He advised that last year the City received a one-time amount of \$70K. Mayor Lawson advised that the City has lost over a million dollars in HUR in the past five years. He also reminded that Hurricane Sandy money is geared toward LMI areas. Mayor Lawson made reference to the letter issued to Hammock Point residents concerning plans to do Hammock Point. He advised that only HUR money can be used there. Mayor Lawson advised that the cost to do the cul de sac is \$5,000 per Johnny Goldsborough, who has had a delay in moving his equipment in, but will be in this Friday and will be at Anchor Drive also. Mayor Lawson cautioned borrowing money, as this is how two towns went bankrupt.

Mayor Lawson also presented a picture of severe flooding on South Somerset Avenue, but agreed that Hammock Point is priority.

Mayor Lawson also noted that he has advised the City Manager to instruct the County Commissioners and HUD to request additional Hurricane Sandy money if it comes in.

During further discussion, Mayor Lawson explained to Councilman Emely that Goldsborough was

awarded concrete contracts for the City as he was the low bidder for City concrete work. He advised that Mr. Goldsborough would be at Hammock Point this Friday to measure.

Mr. Pollitt noted that he feels the City will receive the same HUR funds as last year and that grant forms will have to be completed in the future, specifying that HUR will be used for streets.

Mr. Carson then requested that the Council make a motion that the first HUR money received be used for Hammock Point. No motion was made.

DISCUSSION – DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT

Mayor Lawson reviewed the Council's proposal; 1. Parking at the depot will be 2 hour parking for all spaces except for the following:

A. Space for Mail Boat

B. 4 spaces at end of depot will stay 15 minute parking until 12:30 am. After 12:30 a.m.

the 4 spots will go to 2 hour parking. (This will allow ample time for delivery to the boats)

2. Parking at the City parking lot will be free from 6:00a.m. to 12:00 p.m. daily. Permit parking can still be purchased for longer stays (or overnight stays) at the current costs. The permit **must** be visible on the dash of the vehicle to insure compliance.

During review it was determined to change A. Mail "Boat" to "carrier" and B. 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2) 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

At this time, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to accept the parking changes in principle, for an Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilman Emely and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lawson made reference to parking downtown and expanding businesses in the C-2

District. He made reference to the history of Captain's Galley and Side Street Seafood's many patrons,

M&C72215

with only 4 parking spaces. Mayor Lawson advised that there needs to be a way to make parking better for everyone. He advised that this needs to be addressed by the Planning Commission.

Councilman Atkins made reference to purchasing spaces from the City.

Mayor Lawson recommended that the Council and City Manager make recommendations to the Planning Commission to look at parking for businesses. Approval so moved by Councilman Emely, with discussion by Councilman Konapelsky that the City must be fair to those in compliance. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Scott and carried unanimously.

Mr. Pollitt noted that based on the two members of the Planning Commission in attendance at the last meeting, the first Tuesday in the month has been selected to hold Planning Commission meetings.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL Q & A

Councilman Emely inquired about the City repairing our own water leaks rather than outsourcing.

Mayor Lawson advised that this is done for water lines 6" or greater.

Councilman Emely made reference to the need for a meeting with Boat Harbor property owners concerning cleanliness.

Councilman Emely agreed that answers should not be given during Public Input, but asked that participants have a few more minutes to speak.

Council Vice President Scott advised she had nothing.

Councilwoman Johnson advised that she had nothing.

Councilman Konapelsky made reference to the boat captain using the depot and tire tracks on the dock. He suggested use of the County dock.

M&C72215

Mayor Lawson advised that he agrees with Councilman Emely concerning the Small Boat Harbor.

He also noted that Mr. Bozman has quotes for pilings at the Small Boat Harbor Pier.

Mayor Lawson advised that the City had received \$27K in grant funding for the Kayak Launch, \$73K for improvement of the Green Space and \$12K for pavement to go around the Green Space. He advised that the City is waiting for the signed agreement.

Mayor Lawson also commended Mr. Dilege for his department's cleaning up of the Treatment Plant.

He also noted that the house on Maryland Avenue has been razed, paid for with FEMA money.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor Lawson noted that 5 minutes would be given for Public Input. He also noted that Crisfield resident Mark Mentzer, had received a patent for a product he had developed.

Mayor Lawson commented about Mr. Dean Goldsborough's concerns about the Armory and caretakers of the building.

Mr. John Dize made reference to the sale of the Brantley Tilghman property and expressed concern about parking issues. He made reference to the suggestion about a 5 year plan for roads.

Lori Miller, Hammock Point resident, made reference to Councilman Konapelsky's comments about high tax dollars being paid there and noted that not everyone living there is wealthy.

Councilman Atkins advised that he would get the ball rolling for the development of a kayak launch site on Williams Street.

There being no further business in the regular session, Councilman Konapelsky made a motion to adjourn into closed session. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

M&C72215

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary