

**PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 19, 2007  
CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on March 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor John P. Correr, Jr. presiding and the following members present: Council President Fred Cullum, Councilmen Wayne Dougherty, Gary Wasielewski, Stephen Gamatoria, and Garrett Lyttle. Councilman James Miller was absent due to business travel.

Mayor Correr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Prayer was led by Pastor Blake Ward of Great Commission Church of the Nazarene

On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Wasielewski and, on five affirmative votes, the Minutes of March 5, 2007 were approved.

**APPOINTMENTS**

CPL Jim Smithers and PFC Brian Daniels, Police Officers of the Havre de Grace Police Department, were sworn-in by Mayor Correr.

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Correr and Councilman Wasielewski presented a Recognition Award as student of the Month to Essence Johnson at Meadowvale Elementary School.

Mayor Correr and Councilman Wasielewski presented a Recognition Award as student of the Month to Merve Akbay at Havre de Grace Elementary School.

Mayor Correr and Councilman Wasielewski presented a Recognition Award as Student of the Month to Cassie Holloway at Havre de Grace High School

Recognition Award presented by Council President Cullum to Wardell Stansbury to honor his late brother, Dr. George T. Stansbury, M.D., and on behalf of Mayor Correr and City Council, the 600 block of Girard Street was dedicated to the memory of the late Dr. George T. Stansbury, M.D. Council President Cullum displayed the road sign and announced that DPW would have the sign erected in a couple of days.

Chief Scott Hurst of the Susquehanna Hose Company (SHC) presented information about fire safety and prevention. He was proud to announce that SHC had responded to 770 calls in 2006. SHC has 100 free smoke detectors available to citizens

and will have the opportunity to access another 100 free smoke detectors if the original supply is exhausted. Please take advantage of these life-saving devices by contacting any fire house. Smoke detectors have a shelf life of 7 to 10 years. Always check the batteries at daylight saving time to assure proper function. The new siren system is being tested and is more pleasing to the ear. The system seems to be very effective and more citizen friendly. The dedication of Engine #513 at House #3 on Market Street is scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and dedication of the new ladder truck at House #1 on Juniata Street is scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Joanne Blewett, Executive Director of Harford Habitat for Humanity, expressed appreciation of the Mayor and City Council for the efforts to initiate new affordable housing in The City of Havre de Grace. Thirty homes have been built in Harford County and they are proud to announce that none have gone into foreclosure. Applicants must qualify, attend classes, provide “sweat equity” into the homes, and assist during the whole process of building. Harford Technology High School students have built two homes which provided a special educational experience to the students. Bob Ward Homes and Pulte Homes agreed to a friendly competition to build two homes within one week. Both were completed in just four days. There are many projects scheduled for this year and the program continues to be successful thanks to the partnerships with businesses and community leaders throughout Harford County.

Sharon Worthington of Harford Sanitation System (HSS) presented information about refuse hauling and expanded on procedures for recycling. The company has initiated a sticker program to indicate to citizens the particular reason their recycling was not picked up. Recycling should not be mixed with garbage and should be properly packaged to differentiate from regular refuse.

David T. Mariconi of URS Corporation presented information on the Lilly Run project and the research conducted by their company. More information is to follow. This study is for the first phase of flood control and the monitoring of the Tranquility Diversion Project but the research will encompass all problem areas. URS is familiar with funding possibilities with FEMA and The State of Maryland. URS is an approval agency for project applications with FEMA making them a valuable resource for funding application. More information will be presented regarding research analysis, cost probability, project planning and grant applications when the study is completed.

## **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Joe Kochenderfer of Tydings Road requested better records of weight tickets for refuse, yard waste, and recycling so that City officials can follow the costs more accurately. He expressed concern that the Lilly Run project only benefits one small area and should benefit a broader range of more neighborhoods. He would like more

information on the River Walk Project and stated he was not sure this is a good idea for the City.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Gamatoria and, on five affirmative votes, **introduction of Resolution No. 2007-09 Concerning Agreement of Sale between The City and Harford Habitat for Humanity, Inc** was approved. On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Lyttle and, on a roll call of five affirmative votes, **Resolution No. 2007-03** was approved and the sale will be contingent upon voter approval. On page 6 of the document the Roman numerals will be corrected.

On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Gamatoria and, on five affirmative votes, **introduction of Resolution No. 2007-10 Concerning the Review and Establishment of Rates of Rent and Fees for Leases and License Agreements** was approved. On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Wasielewski and, on a roll call of five affirmative votes, **Resolution No. 2007-10**, was approved.

**Resolution No. 2007-11** will be presented at the next Council Meeting. The postponement is due to the death of a family member of an interested party.

## **ORDINANCES**

On motion by Councilmen Wasielewski and Dougherty and, on five affirmative votes, **introduction for first reading of Ordinance No. 884 Concerning the General Fee Schedule, First Reading** was approved. On motion by Councilmen Gamatoria and Lyttle and, on a roll call of five affirmative votes, **the first reading of Ordinance No. 884** was approved. Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. during the regularly scheduled Council Meeting. A copy of the information will be in the Citizen Read File.

On motion by Councilman Dougherty and Council President Cullum and, on five affirmative votes, **introduction for first reading of Ordinance No. 887 Concerning Water & Sewer Rates** was approved. On motion by Councilman Lyttle and Council President Cullum and, on a roll call of five affirmative votes, **the first reading of Ordinance No. 887** was approved. Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, April 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. during the regularly scheduled Council Meeting. A copy of the information will be in the Citizen Read File.

On request from Council President Cullum the Council Meeting recessed for five minutes.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

On motion by Councilman Dougherty and Council President Cullum and, on five affirmative votes, **the Contract for WWTP ENR Upgrade and Expansion Project** was approved.

Councilman Dougherty read into record the following to clarify the information regarding this project. "I move to accept the bid evaluation recommendation for award which was recommended by Sterns & Wheeler, all of this approval is contingent upon MDE funding for Construction Contract No. 1-45-901006 to C.O. Falter contingent upon successful ENR Loan and Grant negotiations with MDE in the amount of \$38,635,236.

## NEW BUSINESS

On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Gamatoria and, on five affirmative votes, **Easter Sunrise Service for First Baptist Church of Havre de Grace at Promenade directly in front of Decoy Museum sponsored by First Baptist Church of Havre de Grace on Sunday, April 08, 2007 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.**, was approved.

On motion by Councilman Dougherty and council President Cullum and, on five affirmative votes, **River Sweep at Tydings Park and Shoreline of Havre de Grace sponsored by Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway on Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**, was approved.

On motion by Council President Cullum and Councilman Lyttle and, on five affirmative votes, **First Annual Havre de Grace Elementary PTA Car Show at Havre de Grace Elementary School sponsored by the PTA on May 12, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**, was approved.

On motion by Councilmen Lyttle and Dougherty and, on five affirmative votes, **War of 1812 Re-enactment at the Lock House sponsored by Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace on Saturday, May 5, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 6, 2007 from 10:00 am. to 3:00 p.m.**, was approved.

## COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Carolyn Narvell from the Independence Day Committee was very annoyed with the correspondence received announcing the possibility of another change to the schedule that had been previously approved by Council. Contracts have been signed and all arrangements made. She said it was too late and costly to continue making changes and simply not fair to the committee. The issue presented was the availability of extra police officers to provide a safe environment and crowd control during all the scheduled events. Chief Teresa Walter is continuing efforts to get a commitment from other police agencies. The Independence Day Committee will meet again to finalize any issues.

Kevin Racine of Erie Street discussed the transportation issues he has been working on. The Transit Authority has added new destinations but also eliminated some other stops which are causing riders more inconvenience. Mr. Racine will continue to gather more information about these inconsistencies.

### **BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor Correrri congratulated the R. Madison Mitchell Endowment Group for the fine celebration at the Bayou Restaurant. He announced that he and several staff members participated in a tour of the Town of Port Deposit provided by Port Deposit Councilman John Klisavage. He mentioned the grand opening ceremony of the new Havre de Grace Activity Center on Monday, March 26, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. This is a great asset to the community and a much needed addition for our citizens. He mentioned the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration at the Bayou Restaurant for the Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps and the dedication to the memory of former Councilman Vince Way.

### **BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL**

Council President Cullum attended the Harford County Night in Annapolis, the R. Madison Mitchell Dinner Celebration, and the Ambulance Corps Dinner Celebration. He mentioned that the Ambulance Corps was previously known as the American Legion Ambulance Corps but have been the Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps for the past 20 years. He congratulated the Corps on their many years of dedicated service to the citizens of Havre de Grace. He reminded citizens that the fire hydrants will be flushed between April 15 and May 27, 2007. He challenged the local business community and other organizations to aid the Habitat for Humanity with financial assistance in the cost of water and sewer connection fees.

Councilman Dougherty announced that there were two major water main breaks on Sunday, March 18, 2007 and thanked the crews for their hard work and prompt attention to the problems. He also attended the R. Madison Mitchell Dinner Celebration, the Girl Scout Troop 4111 Awards Celebration, Maryland State Boys Choir Concert sponsored by the Arts Commission, and the Ambulance Corps Dinner Celebration. He complemented the emergency volunteers and recognized the top responders as Amy Quackenbush for 350 calls, Pete Quackenbush for 316 calls, and Gail Reeder for 305 calls. He also acknowledged that Girl Scout Anna Wasielewski, daughter of Councilman Wasielewski, won the Bronze Award for her development of a foster child room as a scout project.

Councilman Wasielewski thanked Mayor Correrri for his attendance at Meadowvale Elementary School to promote the Maryland Municipal League program "If I were Mayor" to the fourth grade class. The students had many questions and enjoyed the visit. He encouraged citizens to visit City Hall to review the Citizen Read File to review documents presented at Council Meetings. He thanked the Council for support of the Fee Schedule Ordinance No. 884. April is Municipal Government Works Month and will be recognized at the next Council Meeting.

Councilman Gamatoria announced the need for more outreach to citizens with information about recycling and also the property tax relief project. He thanked Councilman Lyttle; George DeHority, Director of Finance; and Mr. Joe Kochenderfer for their help regarding property tax relief for low income citizens. This ordinance will be forthcoming. He cautioned citizens to be aware that fire sirens are going to change and not to be alarmed by the different sound. He presented to Mayor Correrri a copy of the Emergency Preparedness Action Plan for the Development of an Emergency Operations Plan for City of Havre de Grace. This information was prepared by a Sub Committee of the Public Safety Committee and was distributed to Council for review and input. He briefly outlined some information from the report for further discussion. Citizen input is crucial to the development of this plan and the information sharing process. A copy will be in the Citizen Read File.

Councilman Lyttle attended the Ambulance Corps Dinner Celebration and complimented the great tribute to Vince Way. The Spring Clean-up Program offered at the Community Center on Lagaret Drive will be Saturday, April 21 and Saturday, April 28, 2007. He announced some upcoming activities that will be posted throughout the spring and summer season.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.