

**PROCEEDINGS OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 16, 2007  
CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on July 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Wayne H. Dougherty presiding and the following members present: Council President Stephen Gamatoria, Council Members Garrett Lyttle, James Miller, Randolph Craig, Barbara Jenifer-Ferguson, and Joe Kochenderfer.

Mayor Dougherty led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening prayer was led by Reverend Chaplain Nick McDonald of Upper Chesapeake.

**On motion by Councilman Miller and seconded by Councilwoman Ferguson and, on six affirmative votes, the Minutes of July 2, 2007 were approved.** At this time, Councilman Kochenderfer suggested that in the past minutes have been much too voluminous and need to be condensed. Mayor Dougherty assured him this issue has already been discussed and minutes in the future will be drastically condensed. It is felt for record purposes, detailed information can be obtained from the video tapes provided by Harford Cable.

**Councilman Kochenderfer made a motion at this time to amend the agenda to include Introduction of the Tree Commission Ordinance; this motion was seconded by Councilman Miller and, on six affirmative votes, the agenda was amended.**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**On motion by Councilmember Ferguson and Council President Gamatoria and, on six affirmative votes, the application of James Allen Boyle for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmember Ferguson and Council President Gamatoria and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Amy Carlson for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Kochenderfer and, on six affirmative votes, the application of William A. Nori for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Miller and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Pamela J. Ruff for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Miller and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Mara L. Sierocinski for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Kochenderfer and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Charles A. Vasilakis for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Lyttle and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Lisa L. Webb for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Lyttle and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Monica A. Worrell for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Kochenderfer and, on six affirmative votes, the application of Cathy Vincenti for appointment to the Economic Development Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Miller and, on six affirmative votes, the application of John Bryant for appointment to the Street & Traffic Safety Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

**On motion by Councilmembers Ferguson and Kochenderfer and, on six affirmative votes, the application of James W. Walker for appointment to the Street & Traffic Safety Advisory Board as a full member for three years was approved.**

Mayor Dougherty administered the oath of office to William A. Nori, Pamela J. Ruff, Lisa L. Webb, Monica A. Worrell, and Cathy Vincenti all members to the Economic Development Advisory Board with Economic Development Manager Bridgette Johnson assisting. Mayor Dougherty then administered the oath of office to John Bryant and James W. Walker, both members to the Street & Traffic Safety Advisory Board with Chairperson of that Committee, William Johnson, assisting.

## **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

None

## COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None.

## RESOLUTIONS

None

## ORDINANCES

Based on the motion earlier in the meeting to amend the Agenda in order to include the Introduction of the Tree Commission Ordinance. It was motioned by Councilmembers Kochenderfer and Lyttle to introduce the Tree Commission Ordinance. Motion to introduce passed 6–0. Joe Kochenderfer then made a motion to Adopt on First Reading, seconded by Councilman Lyttle. Discussion followed resulting in Councilman Miller making a motion to “table” the adoption of the First Reading until the August 6<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. The motion to table the adoption was seconded by Councilmember Ferguson. There was a call for the vote with Councilmembers Miller and Ferguson voting in favor of tabling the issues and four voting against. Roll call was then taken to follow through on the previous motion to adopt on first reading; this motion passed 6-0. Number 892 was assigned to this Ordinance It was duly noted that the Municipal Tree Commission Ordinance #892 had its first reading and a Public Hearing was set for 7:00 p.m. on August 6, 2007.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Report on Independence Day Event: (Councilman Garrett Lyttle)** Noted that he and the Mayor had made a commitment to the Independence Day Committee to provide them with stats/costs/information from this past event as soon as possible in order that they can make plans for next year. He read the minutes from the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Independence Day Committee which included the cost breakdowns. Based on recommendation from the Independence Day Committee, **Councilman Lyttle made a motion that all three (3) events (parade/fireworks/carnival) take place on Saturday, July 5, 2008, with the carnival running from July 1<sup>st</sup> through July 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Considerable discussion followed including opinions on “pros and cons” on taking this route. **Realizing there was still an unseconded motion on the floor, Councilman Miller made a motion, seconded by Council President Steve Gamatoria that the Council vote “yes” or “no” as to whether they support the carnival. (“yes”, would indicate support; “no”, not to support) He further noted that once this was voted on, the Council could then go to the next phase and decide whether or not they wanted to adopt the Committee’s report.**

There was further discussion during which Councilmember Ferguson made a motion to “table” this issue until the next Council meeting. Councilman Craig seconded this motion. A roll call vote was taken resulting in a “tie” vote with Councilmembers Craig, Ferguson and Kochenerfer supporting the tabling while the other three Councilmembers were opposed. The Mayor broke the tie with a “yes” vote, noting he felt that was his only choice after listening to all the discussion. The

Mayor further recommended that this issue go back to the Special Events Committee and Independence Day Committee once again before coming back to the Council.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Filming in Havre de Grace (Director of Administration Carol Mathis):** She provided an update on the current filming that is taking place in Havre de Grace. She reported that everything is going well; there will be two more days of filming on Washington Street between noon and 2:00 a.m. and they are scheduled to be finished at 2:00 a.m. on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

**Mr. Allen Fair – 3 Concord Place:** Suggested the carnival could be finished by Friday night – gone by Saturday and then go from there. Also recommended that we may want to consider changing the carnival back to a “kids” carnival only. He also stated that he believes he could come up with enough funding from businesses to help out with any short fall.

**Mr. Randy Knoblauch – 415 Stokes Street:** Expressed his concern and disappointment with the ongoing drug problem at Girard Street close to his home. He questioned why the City is not doing anything to correct this problem? The Mayor thanked him for his comments.

**Mr. Kal Riegelhaupt – 251 Lewis Street:** Added a little information to the discussion on the Independence Day Event; mentioned the way this event had happened in the past. Agrees with Mr. Fair that a compromise should be made and a carnival should once again be for the “kids”.

## **BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR**

Mayor Dougherty noted it has been a very busy couple of weeks; once again he thanked the staff for the work they are putting out – the problem solving and their diligence. He also thanked the Council President and Council for their cooperation as far as keeping things on task.

He noted the many meetings he has been involved in noting that many issues are being worked on and progressing (to include issue with Bayland Condos, updating of City website, the water tour he had taken earlier in the day for purpose of finding location for transient piers, working with Parks and Recreation Committee regarding an overlook, etc.) He reported this coming Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> is the arrival of the “Shallop”, a part of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Discovery Cruise of Captain John Smith between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. – this is a great addition to the Maritime Festivities.

## **BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL**

Council President Gamatoria thanked everyone for their support and acts of kindness during the recent passing of his niece’s husband, a U.S. Marine serving in Iraq. He reported on the progress of the Havre de Grace HOA; assignments have been established and the Neighborhood Watch is progressing.

Councilman Craig thanked the Council President for his leadership on the Task Force; D.P.W. for making their shop available and their cooperation; he also thanked Chief Walter for the busy schedule they have had with recent events (LPGA/4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities, etc.) – noting being busy is a good thing for the City.

Councilmember Ferguson reported on the several meetings/items she has been involved in. She attended an Human Resources meeting and she felt there were a lot of great recommendations from that. She addressed Mr. Knoblauch and his concern with the ongoing drug problem – asked Chief Walter if there could be more patrol in that area. She also expressed her hope that we can come up with a working solution on the Independence Day Festivities.

Councilman Kochenderfer gave a report on meetings that he has attended and will be in the near future. He reported on several upcoming special events and noted for citizens that parks are available for picnics, parties on a first come first serve basis. He also congratulated the departments on their participation in the Independence Day Events and especially the citizens for making this a “first class” event.

Councilmember Lyttle also commended the hard work the departments put into this event and especially the committee. Noted the H.R. Review is moving right along; on July 30<sup>th</sup> he and Joan Scarlato will meet to develop a draft. This will be given to the committee for review and hopefully be ready to submit to the Mayor for his review by the 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> of August. Noted there seems to be a problem with dogs on the promenade all of a sudden as well as scooters; wondered if we need more signs or patrol or perhaps citations issued.

Councilman Miller noted he has been involved with the D.P.W. Committee and Task Force; reported that paving is supposed to start again this week on Rt. 7. Also noted bids are being sought on several paving projects (Market Street, St. John’s, and a portion of Chapel Road). The Planning Commission will be meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup> where two important issues will be brought up.

On motion by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Ferguson, the Council Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.