



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 3 2015
7:00 p.m.

A public hearing was called to order at 7:00 pm. concerning Ordinance 971:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND THE CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 AMENDING THE CITY CODE 25 BY ADDING ARTICLE XIII EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION COMMISSION AND SECTIONS 25-77, 25-78, 25-79, 25-80, 25-81 AND 25-82 TO THE CITY CODE.

No citizen comments.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on August 3, 2015 at 7:02p.m. with Mayor Martin presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Councilmember's Gamatoria, Craig, Worrell, Glenn, Martin and Hitchings were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor William Martin and the opening prayer was given by Pastor Norman Obenshain.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Martin to approve the Council meeting minutes of July 20, 2015; motion carries 6-0.

PRESENTATIONS: None

RECOGNITIONS: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

OATH OF OFFICE: None

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Barbara Connelly; 311 St. John Street; gave a brief description of Salute to Safety and asked for Council support.

RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCES:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND THE CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 AMENDING THE CITY CODE 25 BY ADDING ARTICLE XIII EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION COMMISSION AND SECTIONS 25-77, 25-78, 25-79, 25-80, 25-81 AND 25-82 TO THE CITY CODE.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to introduce Ordinance 971 on second reading. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to adopt Ordinance 971, under the question, a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Martin to make item B a footprint of item A with editorial changes. Legal counsel stated this flows with the rest of the Ordinance. Motion carries 6-0
Ordinance 971 as amended was adopted on roll call vote. 6-0

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to approve the Restore Church Movie Night on 8/28/15 at Tydings Park. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve the HDG Salute to Safety event on 9/12/15. Under discussion-a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Worrell to keep St. John Street open which will minimize the impact on downtown businesses. Motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Craig opposing the motion.
Motion to approve Salute to Safety as amended passes 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Cruise for a Cause event on 9/26/15. Council Member Worrell sits on the committee and will recuse herself from the vote. Motion carries 5-0

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Patrick Sypolt; Director of Administration:

Mr. Sypolt stated the Farmers Market continues to be successful.

Busy weekend coming up with First Fridays, Seafood Festival and Art Festival along with Fireworks Display.

Mr. Sypolt announced that the Baltimore Sun featured Havre de Grace as an affordable place to visit.

Also announced that the MASN Network features HDG commercials.

Mr. Neal Mills; Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills gave an update on building permits.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

The Department of Finance is working on the financial statements.

Mr. Bill Reeder; Deputy Director of Public Works:

Mr. Reeder stated we are on target with the Juanita street paving project.

Citizens Park is moving along and the park is starting to take shape.

Chief Teresa Walter:

Chief Walter reminded citizens that special events are still going on in the City and to be cautious of foot traffic.

National Night will be tomorrow night and encourages citizens to participate.

Chief Walter stated Safety Camp is going well with over thirty participants each week.

Business from Mayor Martin:

Mayor Martin commends the HDGPD for an amazing Safety Camp.

Mayor Martin states Comptroller Franchot will be visiting HDG next week to tour our City.

Mayor Martin stated the HDG Fireworks will be August 14th at 9:30 and they are sponsored by the Independence Day Committee.

Mayor Martin stated that Young at Heart meets every Wednesday at 10am.

Mayor Martin will be announcing his appointments to the Tydings Park Commission.

Business from Council:

Council Member Craig:

Council Member Craig stated he couldn't find a parking spot downtown on Sunday and he was happy that our City is busy. Streets were clean and downtown looked great.

Council Member Craig announced the MD Tax Free shopping week.

Council Member Glenn:

Council Member Glenn stated he attended the SRO Safety Camp Graduations.

Council Member Glenn attended the final concert for the season at Tydings Park and also attended the Waterman's Appreciation Day.

Council Member Glenn commends Council Member Martin for moving forward with an inventory on all our parks.

Council Member Glenn attended the Memorial Service for Leo Heppner.

Council Member D. Martin:

Council Member Martin attended the SRO Safety Camp Graduation.

Council Member Martin is in the process of doing an inventory of each park and encourages citizens to express their ideas and concerns.

Council Member Martin stated that on September 12th Joe K will lead a walk on the Joe K Trail.

Council Member Worrell:

Council Member Worrell stated Council as a whole has had many accomplishments in the first 90 days.

Council Member Worrell stated she attended the HDG Chamber of Commerce meeting and the Green Team meeting.

Council Member Worrell stated she met Rick Haynes of Answered Prayers Ministry and he is working with the homeless in the area.

Council Member Hitchings

Council Member Hitchings thanked the four soccer coaches that visited from Great Britain to work with the kids.

Council Member Hitchings also commended the HDGPD Safety Camp.

Council President Gamatoria:

Council President Gamatoria thanked the Mayor and Council for the first 90 days since the election.

Council President stated the Admin Committee will meet every Wednesday at 4:30 for the remainder of the month.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to move into closed session, at adjournment, to discuss legal matters at the end of the Council meeting. In addition to Council, and the City Attorney, the Director of Finance, Director of Planning and Director of Administration was asked to attend. Motion carries 6-0

Comments from Citizens:

Bob Robinson: 320 S. Stokes Street. Mr. Robinson read tips for clean water and how to prevent environmental health issues.

Lori Maslin 100 S. Washington St. Ms. Maslin reminded everyone about the upcoming Seafood Festival.

A motion was made by Council Member Craig and seconded by Council Member Glenn to adjourn at 8:30pm. Motion carries 6-0