



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 8, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on September 8, 2015 at 7:00p.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 Mary Whitehead of the Healing House Church of God.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Martin to approve the Council meeting minutes August 17, 2015; motion carries 6-0.

Council President Gamatoria made a friendly amendment to add a closed session to the agenda at adjournment to discuss personnel items. No objections from Council.

**RECOGNITIONS:** None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Ms. Cindy Height presented the 2015 Soroptomist Poster to Mayor Martin.

Mr. Tommy Meehan presented a Warrior Jersey to Mayor Martin and thanked him and the Council for their support with the HDG Recreation Football. Mr. Meehan stated the recreational football and cheer are 100% "Heads Up Certified" and safety is number one.

**APPOINTMENTS:** None

**OATH OF OFFICE:** None

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Alan Fair- 3 Concord Place: Mr. Fair stated Main Street is important to our downtown area.

Pat Fair-3 Concord Place: Mrs. Fair stated Main Street is vital for our downtown area.

Joe K- Tydings Road: Mr. K is concerned with Ordinance 964 being almost one year old and its being brought back up before Council.

Chip Paradis- Cigar Loop: Mr. Paradis would like to see a comment period for Ordinance 964 before it is adopted.

Joe Smith- Ebony Circle: Mr. Smith stated the Mr. Sheppard, President of Main Street has resigned and recognizes his time and efforts with Main Street.

Charlie Hiner- Fountain St. - Mr. Hiner is concerned with Ordinance 964 and would like to see a summary of what is being changed from over a year ago. He would also like to see public comment before adoption.

Questioned where exhibits can be found that are referenced within the Ordinance.

**RESOLUTIONS:** None

**ORDINANCES:** None

**UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:**

Main Street- MOU was tabled at the last Council meeting and a motion was not made to bring off the table.

Ordinance 964- (Scenic Manor)

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 SECTION 34 OF THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO AN AMENDED PUBLIC WORKS AGREEMENT FOR THE SCENIC MANOR DEVELOPMENT.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by council Member Worrell to re-introduce Ordinance 964 with consideration of waiving to 180 rule; motion carries 6-0

After the header was read into the record, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to adopt Ordinance 964;

Under the question, Council Member Gamatoria deferred to Legal Counsel Paul Ishak. Mr. Ishak explained the rationale of the Ordinance, why this was in litigation, why a re-draft had to be done, the lay out of the roads and road codes.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to post pone the adoption this evening and schedule a public hearing on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm. Motion carries 6-0

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Craig to approve the HHS Homecoming Parade: October 1, 2015- motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve Susquehanna Flat Classic; MD State Goose and Duck Calling Contest; October 24, 2015; Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve the Annual Halloween Parade; October 30, 2015; motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve the Rudolf Run; December 19, 2015- Motion carries 6-0

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Patrick Sypolt; Director of Administration:

Mr. Sypolt stated First Fridays and the Farmers Market have been successful and reminded citizens of the upcoming event this weekend.

Mr. Neal Mills: Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills gave a permit update.

Planning Commission Meeting will be held on Monday to discuss Parcel P in Bulle Rock.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

Semiannual real property taxes are due.

Mr. DeHority stated the auditors are finishing their field work and things are going smoothly.

Mr. Larry Parks; Director of Public Works:

Citizens Park is close to completion, hoping in the next 2 weeks.

Chief Walter; Police Department

Chief Walter stated that 9/26 is the Annual Drug Take Back

Chief thanked the citizens who called in and sent in letters to our department as Law Enforcement, nationally has been experiencing a tough time.

**Business from Mayor Martin:**

Mayor Martin announced the "Come Have A Ball" commercial is being aired on the MASN network and the commercial puts Havre de Grace in the spotlight.

Recycle trash cans throughout our town.

Several events are coming up in our City this weekend and encouraged citizens to attend the Childrens Art Show and Salute to Safety.

**Business from Council:**

**Council Member Hitchings**

Council Member Hitchings stated there are many events in the City going on.

Council Member Hitchings stated August 25<sup>th</sup> was the first Tydings Park Commission meeting.

Council Member Hitchings encouraged parents to work with their children since school is back in session.

Attended an information session at the MD National Guard, First Fridays, stopped by Vintage Café, a new downtown business.

The River City Oyster event will be held on 9/20 at Hutchins Park.

Attended the 20 year HHS Reunion Class of 95.

**Council Member Glenn**

Council Member Glenn gave Kudos to Mayor and Staff for the commercial highlighting Havre de Grace with the commercial.

Council Member Glenn congratulated the Varsity Football Team for their victory.

Council Member Glenn is pleased with the "Warrior Pride" painted across the cross walk.

Council Member Glenn encourages citizens to attend the events the weekend; the Children's Arts Show and Salute to Safety.

Council Member Glenn stated Citizens Care Park is coming along and pleased with how it looks.

Council Member Glenn extended thoughts and prayers to Karen Green.

Council Member Glenn stated that 9/21 is the BOE meeting and they are voting on capital improvement plan FY 2017.

Council Member Glenn wished a happy birthday to his father Pee Wee Glenn.

**Council Member D. Martin:**

Council Member Martin stated 9/12 will be busy but not forget to walk the Joe K trail and on 9/19 the City Wide Yard Sale

Council Member Martin stated that Memorial Bench plaques for Citizens Park have been spoken for.

Council Member Martin thanked the Volunteers in our City.

Council Member Martin asked residents to reach out to Council if they have an idea on how we can improve the quality of life in Havre de Grace for citizens.

**Council Member Worrell:**

Council Member Worrell stated 9/12 is the Grace Harbor Yard Sale from 8am-noon and music at Mt. Felix in the evening.

Council Member Worrell stated that 10/10 is the Chamber Bull Roast and she has tickets for citizens that are interested.

Council Member Worrell participated in the Historic Walking Tour and thanked Jackie Hoover

Council Member Worrell reminded everyone that it takes a team of people to work together to meet our goals.

**Council Member Craig:**

Council Member Craig commented on the proposed High School and thanked the volunteers who continually support this effort.

**Council President Gamatoria:**

Council President Gamatoria thanked the staff and volunteers for making another First Fridays successful.

Council President Gamatoria asked that we Remember 9/11 and the lives that were changed forever.

The Water and Sewer Commission will meet this Friday at 3pm.

The Admin meeting will meet on Wednesday at 4:30

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to dissolve the relationship between the City of Havre de Grace and Main Street and to rescind Resolutions 2004-12 and 2005-02

Motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Martin opposing the motion

**Comments from Citizens:**

Joe Smith: Commented on the decision to dissolve the relationship with the City and Mainstreet and hopes this is a temporary decision.

Don Mathis; 305 Tidewater Drive; Mr. Mathis announced a Town Hall Meeting will be held at Harford Community College on 9/9 to discuss the Heroin issue in Harford County.

Bob Robinson; Mr. Robinson suggested safety improvements to Union Ave and Pennington Ave intersection.

Mike Hatem; 108 Market St. Mr. Hatem does not support the Council's decision to dissolve the relationship with Main Street and the City of Havre de Grace.

Barbara Connelly; Ms. Connelly highlighted the Salute to Safety event.

Charlie Hiner; Fountain Street; Mr. Hiner does not agree with the Council's decision to dissolve the relationship with Main Street.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to adjourn at 9:19pm. Motion carries 6-0