



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

October 5, 2015

7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on October 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.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 Dr. Baron Young at St. James A.M.E

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Council meeting minutes September 21, 2015; motion carries 5-1 with CP Gamatoria abstaining.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Closed Council Meeting minutes for September 21, 2015. Motion carries 5-1 with CP Gamatoria abstaining.

RECOGNITIONS:

Student of the Month (Presented by Mayor Martin)

Havre de Grace Elementary School: Cecelia Tramontana

Meadowvale Elementary School: Ellianna Andreen

Havre de Grace Middle School: Morgan Teefy

Havre de Grace High School: Logan Pentz

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick-Harford County Board of Education, District F; Havre de Grace High School Update

APPOINTMENTS:

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the re-appointment of William Watson Tourism Advisory Board. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Re-appointment of Carole Andrews to the Tree Commission. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the appointment of Jim McFarland to the Tree Commission. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the appointment of Kathleen O'Brien to the Tree Commission. Motion carries 6-0

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mayor Martin administered the Oath of Office to Jim McFarland and Kathleen O'Brien-New Appointments to the Tree Commission.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Jim Szachta; 220 War Admiral Way- Representing residents on War Admiral:

Commented that the extension of the road is a safety issue and the residents of War Admiral do not benefit the widening of the road, it benefits scenic manor. Feels that widening of the road is unfair to the residents. Reiterates safety concerns.

Joe K- Tydings Road; questions the process of hiring and how the position of Director of Economic Development was advertised.

Ben Martarona; 306 Bounding Home Ct: Stated there are ongoing concerns with egress and ingress as the Scenic Manor project unfolds. Asks the council to make sure the best engineers are working on this project to get the best solutions. Is asking for consideration for landscaping and buffering for those homes that are affected the most.

Ms. Grace Zaczek; 214 War Admiral Way: concerned with the berm, is also concerned with the area during inclement weather on the road. Also would like to consider burying the powerlines for an attractive look. She is concerned with the EMS, FIRE etc as it pertains to power outages in that area.

Heather Young; 209 Alliance St; opposed to the Seafood Festival and would like the Mayor and Council to consider the rights of the Citizens of Havre de Grace. As a parent, she is concerned with Mr. Maslin's record. Is concerned that the Seafood Festival uses tax payer dollars to put on the event.

Tom Phelan; 217 Mallard Ct; opposed to the Seafood Festival. Mr. Phelan questioned the signage at the Seafood Festival. The perception is that the Seafood Festival is sponsored by the City of Havre de Grace. Also concerned with the appearance of Tydings Park.

Kayli Veres; 1309 Pulaski Hwy; opposed to the Seafood Festival. As a tax payer, does not agree with the Seafood Festival using tax payer dollars. As a protestor, states she has had backlash from the Maslin's. Would like Council to vote no on the Seafood Festival

Lori Maslin; 100 S. Washington St: The Seafood Festival has been run by the Maslin's since 1986 with large turnouts, over 200-250 vendors and well known performers. The Festival operates within all legal limits. Ms. Maslin stated that statements made tonight are false. Nor council or citizens have not reached out to her with concerns prior to this meeting. Has run the Seafood Festival for 27 years. Feels this event is being picked on. States DPW and PD determine how much support is needed for this event. The event benefits the community. States Mr. Maslin has served his time and served his probation and will not apologize for their successful business.

Heather Young; Ms. Young stated she could get a committee to run a Festival for the community.

Alicia Martinac; 358 Alliance St; states she was denied access to the Seafood Festival because she was protesting the event. Feels the City is attaching their name to a known sex offender.

Lori Maslin 100 S. Washington St; after the decision was made by City Attorney the signs that are in question were removed without any issues.

Ms. Maslin stated 12 vendors have communicated to her about filing a class action suit with the City of Havre de Grace. Also states she has first amendment rights just like her husband. This is about a "witch hunt"

Kathleen O'Brien; is a concerned citizen and feels the face of the community should not be associated with a sex offender. She would like a committee to start a festival.

Jan Vanderoff Commerce St; Would like Council to consider delaying making decisions for any events for the park until the Tydings Park Commission is able to make recommendations.

Jami Gomez; Union Ave: Is opposed to the Maslins running the Seafood Festival and snow ball truck.

Karen Gagarno: If the Seafood Festival is approved would like to work with the City for fencing for her property line. Her property was abused during the seafood festival weekend. Also stated that Ms. Maslin was very understanding and cleaned up her yard.

Bryan; 466 Franklin St; Is here tonight to support the Seafood Festival

Fred Wills: Red Head Way; would like to get clarification on the proposed property acquisition and understand the maintenance and upkeep.

Rebecca Steinhilber; Weber St; states that at least two vendors were not aware of Mr. Maslin's record and were not aware of Mr. Maslins past. Those two vendors were upset once they found out the truth.

Lori Maslin 100 S. Washington St. Ms. Maslin stated Council is getting false information.

Rebecca Steinhilber; 100 S. Washington St; Stated Ms. Maslin is not stating the facts.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Worrell to recess at 9:10 p.m. Motion carries 6-0

Reconvened with all members present on roll call at 9:25pm

RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCES:

An Ordinance concerning property acquisition (Council President Gamatoria)

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 CITY CHARTER SECTIONS 34 AND 73 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A DEED FOR THE CITY TO ACQUIRE TWO PARCELS OF LAND WHICH WILL BE USED FOR A PUBLIC OR MUNICIPAL PURPOSE AS A MUSEUM OR PARK.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Craig to introduce Ordinance 973 on first reading. Motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to adopt Ordinance 973 on first reading. Motion carries 6-0.

A public hearing is scheduled for 10/19 at 7:00pm.

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 964 as amended

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 Councilmember Craig and seconded by Council Member Glenn to untable Ordinance 964 as amended. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Craig to adopt Ordinance 964 as amended; motion carries 4-2 with Council Member Craig and Council Member Martin opposing the motion.

Ordinance 964 as amended passes 4-2 on roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Special Events: (Presented by Mrs. Scott)

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the Meadowvale Color A- Thon- 11/8/15; sponsored by Meadowvale PTA. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the Christmas Parade- 12/4/15; sponsored by Winter Wonderland. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve Running with the Reindeer; 12/5/15 sponsored by Jane M. Johnston Foundation. Motion carries 6-0

Mayor asked for a motion for the 36th Seafood Festival; August 12, 13, 14 2016. A motion was not made by Council Member. The event was not approved due to lack of a motion.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Patrick Sypolt; Director of Administration:

Mr. Sypolt stated the City faired the weather this past weekend without any damages.

Mr. Sypolt stated that Ms. Peters attended the MEDA conference.

Mr. Sypolt announced the Oktoberfest weekend on October 17th, 2015.

Mr. Neal Mills: Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills announced that during the first quarter, 8 building permits were issued.

Mr. George DeHORITY; Director of Finance:

Mr. DeHORITY stated September 30, 2015 was the deadline for property taxes and citizens are encouraged to view their accounts on the website.

Mr. Larry Parks; Director of Public Works:

Mr. Park announced that the emblem for the Lafayette Trail is complete and placement will begin soon.

The last fall clean up days will be held on October 17th from 8-3.

Chief Walter; Police Department

Chief Walter stated during the National Drug Take Back was held on 9/26 174 pounds of prescription meds were collected.

Adrean Troy- Director of Economic Development:

Ms. Troy is excited to be a part of the City of Havre de Grace and looks forward to working towards the Mayors vision.

Business from Mayor Martin:

A motion was made by Council Member Martin and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve of contract of Adrean Troy as the Director of Economic Development. Motion carries 6-0

The Oath of Office was administered to Mrs. Troy by Mayor Martin.

Mayor Martin stated the City was prepared for the Hurricane and is thankful that the City was not affected. Thoughts and prayers go out to the residents of South Carolina

Business from Council:

Council Member Hitchings

Council Member Hitchings stated the Tydings Park Commission will host two public input sessions; 10/21 and 11/3 from 6-8 at City Hall.

CM Hitching's thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for attending tonight and giving an update on the school.

Council Member Glenn:

Council Member Glenn congratulated the Student of the Month recipients tonight

Council Member Glenn thanked the public safety for being prepared for the potential weather

Council Member Glenn congratulated the Havre de Grace High School Hall of Fame recipients

Council Member Glenn thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for attending tonight and pledges that he will continue the support for the new school.

Council Member D. Martin:

Council Member Martin thanked the volunteers and the students who attended tonight.

Will be attending MML and trying to obtain money for Project open space.

Council Member Worrell:

Council Member Worrell reminded everyone that October is breast cancer awareness month.

Stated Harford County will be hosting a "paint out" on October 10th

Council Member Worrell announced that Center of the Arts is sponsoring Dancing with the Arts

Council Member Worrell stated that on October 10th from 10-1pm there will be an event "Modern Architecture of Poldi Hirsch"

Council Member Worrell attended the Chamber Luncheon as Rick Ayres was the guest speaker. Thanked the public safety and citizens and staff for being prepared.

CM Worrell met with Street and Traffic Safety Advisory Board on Route 40 and Ohio Street with the traffic pattern at Pizza Hut and Royal Farms.

Business Appreciation Month was a few weeks ago and many local businesses were recognized.

Council Member Worrell wished her son Chris a Happy Birthday!

Council Member Craig:

An evening at Vineyard Wine Bar; October 22nd to support the Dancing with the Arts.

Council President Gamatoria:

Council President Gamatoria welcomed Adrean Troy.

Recognized the volunteers and student of the months from tonight

Thanked the Fire, Ems and all public safety for serving the City of Havre de Grace.

Thanked CM Craig for stepping in for him at the last meeting.

Thanked the HDG Ambulance Corp and HDG PD for responding to his Aunt's home.

Happy to see all the recyclable containers around town.

Comments from Citizens:

Tammy Coakley- Camilla Street; Ms. Coakley promoted the American Legion Oktoberfest on 10/17 from 9-3.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn at 10:40pm. Motion carries 6-0