



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 19, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Public Hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AND SECTIONS 33 AND 34 OF THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING REQUIRED AMENDMENTS TO THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CODE CHAPTER 78, FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT.

No citizen comments. The public hearing was closed at 7:01

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on January 6, 2016 at 7:01 p.m. with Mayor Martin presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Councilmember's, Gamatoria, Worrell, Glenn, Hitchings and Craig were present. Council Member Martin was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor William Martin and the opening prayer was given by Bishop Bo Van Dyke of Christ the King Church.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Council meeting minutes January 4, 2016; motion carries 5-0

RECOGNITIONS: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

PROCLAMATIONS: None

APPOINTMENTS:

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to appoint Pastor Norman Obenshain to the Ethics Commission. Motion carries 5-0

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mayor Martin administered the Oath of Office to Pastor Norman Obenshain. His term will be from 1/19/16-2/3/17 (he will be finishing the term of the late Pastor Ed Heydt)

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCES: None

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Council Member Craig and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Friday Concerts in the Park special event application. Motion carries 5-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Arts Festival sponsored by the Arts Commission on September 10, 2016. Motion carries 5-0

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the 53rd Annual Havre de Grace Art Show sponsored by the Soroptomist on 8/19, 8/20, 8/21 at Tydings Park. Motion carries 5-0

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**Mr. Patrick Sypolt- Director of Administration:**

Mr. Sypolt stated that in collaboration with Director Whittie, the Capital Improvement Plan for the Water Treatment Plant will be presented at the next Water and Sewer Meeting.

Mr. Sypolt met with City Managers of Aberdeen and Bel Air as part of ongoing team building. Discussions centered on the premise of mutual aid and support to each other's municipality.

Mr. Sypolt will be attending Harford Night along with City Council and Directors.

Mr. Sypolt asked the citizens to be prepared for the upcoming storm.

Mrs. Adrean Troy; Director of Economic Development;

Mrs. Troy reported that a Public Meeting will be held on January 27th from 6-8pm for information regarding the recertification of Havre de Grace as an Enterprise Zone. This certification allows us to provide tax credits for businesses meeting the program's criteria.

The Enterprise Zone program provides real property and state income tax credits for businesses located in a Maryland enterprise zone in return for job creation and investments.

After the public information meeting a resolution of support will be coming before council at the next council meeting.

Mrs. Toy attended MEDA Winter Conference in Annapolis last week.

The Masquerade Ball to benefit the Opera House is January 30th from 6-9 pm. Tickets are on sale now and available at the Visitor's Center

The Mardi Gras Parade Tuesday February 9, 2016 at 6:30.

The Warrior Alumni Social at the Ice Skating Rink, Sunday January 31 from 11:30-1:30; \$10 per person for more information call or come by the Visitor Center

Mr. Neal Mills: Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills stated the City's Planning Department will be submitting the 2016-17 milestones for the Watershed Implementation Plan.

Mr. Mills stated he will be attending the Technical Advisory Board Meeting tomorrow.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

Mr. DeHority stated the Finance department is working on the current capital budget and A Budget Amendment will be brought forth at the next meeting to cover the current fiscal year.

Mr. Tim Whittie; Director of Public Works:

Mr. Whittie stated DPW is getting prepared for the upcoming winter storm. Trash collection shifts by one day due to the Holiday.

Chief Walter; Police Department

Chief Walter stated a bank robbery took place at the BB&T bank on Market Street and asked citizens to contact the police department if they have information.

Chief Walter also reminded citizens to stay off the roads during the winter storm unless it's an emergency.

Business from Mayor Martin:

Mayor Martin announced the second annual Masquer-Aid Ball will be held on January 30; all proceeds will go to the Opera House Foundation.

Mayor Martin stated the Administration and Council are gearing up for the Budget Season.

Mayor Martin asked citizens to be prepared for the snow event.

Mayor Martin stated since the Ice Rink has opened, we have had 1500 skaters; \$8,890.00 has been made by local non-profit's and \$4,000 has gone back to the City to off-set the cost of the rink.

Business from Council:

Council Member Hitchings:

Council Member Hitchings wished Mayor Martin a Happy Birthday.

The Tree Commission meeting was held on January 11, 2016. Council Member Hitchings stated Arbor Day will be held on April 29, 2016. The next Tree Commission meeting will be held March 14, 2016.

The next Tydings Park Commission meetings will be held on January 13, 2016 and January 27, 2016.

Council Member Hitchings will be attending Harford Night on January 20, 2016.

Council Member Glenn:

Council Member Glenn congratulated Pastor Obenshain for his appointment to the Ethics Commission.

Council Member Glenn is proud of the Warrior Proud Movement and all they are doing to support a new High School.

Council Member Glenn will be attending Harford Night on January 20, 2016.

Council Member D. Martin: Absent

Council Member Worrell:

Council Member Worrell stated the Budget and Finance Committee will meet on January 22, 2016 @ 3:30 p.m.

Council Member Worrell attended the Route 40 Business Association lunch, MML Legislative Meeting, Chamber Lunch and viewed the new polling equipment with the Board of Election Supervisors.

Council Member Craig:

Council Member Craig stated the Little League sponsored the Ice Rink this past weekend and was very pleased with the outcome of his daughter's birthday party given the weather.

Council President Gamatoria:

Council President Gamatoria also wished Mayor Martin a Happy Birthday.

Council President stated the construction on the Promenade Grille looks good and is looking forward to seeing the final result.

Council President stated the Admin meeting will be cancelled for tomorrow night due to the attendance at Harford Night.

Council President Gamatoria stated the Water and Sewer Final Report will be given at the next meeting.

Council President thanked Paul Ishak for arranging and providing the Board of Appeals and Ethics training.

Comments from Citizens:

Pastor Norman Obenshain; 101 N. Union Ave: Pastor Obenshain stated he is humbled by the trust that Council has in him to be a member of the Ethics Commission. He also stated that the Mardi Gras parade is 2/9 and a pancake dinner will be held at 5pm before the parade. In addition, he thanked the Chief for meeting with the Susquehanna Ministerium.

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to adjourn at 7:48 pm. Motion carries 5-0.