



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 1, 2016
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on February 1, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Martin presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Councilmember's, Gamatoria, Worrell, Glenn, Hitchings, Martin and Craig were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor William Martin and the opening prayer was given by Mayor Martin.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Council meeting minutes January 19, 2016; motion carries 5-0; with Council Member Martin abstaining from the vote due to his absence during the January 19, 2016 meeting.

RECOGNITIONS: None

PRESENTATIONS:

Mr. Garrett Lyttle presented the Water and Sewer Report.

PROCLAMATIONS: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

OATH OF OFFICE: None

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS: None

RESOLUTIONS:

A Resolution concerning "Little Free Libraries"

A RESOLUTION OF 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 SECTION 34 SUPPORTING THE CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE PARTICIPATING IN THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES PROGRAMS, A GRASS ROOTS MOVEMENT COMMITTED TO EXPANDING THE REACH OF THE LIBRARY SYSTEM.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to introduce Resolution 2016-01; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number, a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to adopt Resolution 2016-01; motion carries 6-0

A Resolution concerning the Enterprise Zone Designation (Re-application)

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE AND CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 SUPPORTING THE ENTERPRISE ZONE DESIGNATION AND THE RE-APPLICATION FOR THE GREATER ABERDEEN-HAVRE DE GRACE AREA AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE RE-APPLICATION FOR THE ENTERPRISE ZONE.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Martin to introduce Resolution 2016-02; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number, a motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Glenn to adopt Resolution 2016-03. Motion carries 6-0

ORDINANCES:

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.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Craig to introduce Ordinance 976 on second reading; motion carries 6-0; after the header was read, a motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to adopt Ordinance 976. Motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Hitchings opposing.

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the Women's 5K by the Bay event application for April 24, 2016; motion carries 6-0

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Patrick Sypolt- Director of Administration:

Mr. Sypolt announced that University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health will be hosting two community meetings to discuss plans for the development of a new medical campus in Havre de Grace, near the intersection of I-95 and Rt. 155. The first meeting will be this upcoming Monday, February 8th, at the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum, 215 Giles St., beginning at 6:00 p.m. The second community meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24th at the Bulle Rock Golf Course Clubhouse, 320 Blenheim Ln., and beginning at 6:00 p.m.

In preparation for the upcoming rain event this Wednesday Mr. Sypolt recommend to everyone to insure their downspouts and drains are open and clean to avoid localized flooding in and around your residence. There will be a Wage and Benefits Commission Meeting on Tuesday, February 2nd beginning at 6:30 at City Hall. Plans are underway for repairs and improvements to our Promenade. They include improved lighting, deck replacement and camera monitoring. We anticipate work to begin before March and be concluded before Mother's Day.

Mrs. Adrean Troy; Director of Economic Development;

Mrs. Troy wanted to publicly thank the corporate sponsors of our ice rink. Their sponsorship functions as a partial off set of the cost of the rink. This year we had 4 corporate sponsors:

Silver Sponsor Level – Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union Visit Harford!

Skate Shed Sponsor – Healthy Harford

Lighting Sponsor – Ameriprise Financial

Social Media Statistics for ExploreHavredeGrace.com our Tourism and Events website. The monthly average for sessions increased in 2015 to 9,565 from 2014's 6,453 (a percentage increase of 32.6%. In years 2012, 2013, and 2014 the monthly average was all between 6200 and 6900. 2015's increase was a significant jump over the previous past 3 years.

For the month of January 2015 sessions increased 44% over January 2014

Havre de Grace Restaurant Week Feb 22-28th. The City in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Business Alliance are seeking all interested restaurants to participate in a City Wide Restaurant Week, celebrating all of the great eats Havre de Grace has to offer. Restaurants can sign up now, and we will be reaching out in the coming days with sign up forms and links for electronic sign up. Restaurants will offer their choice 10, 20 and or 30 dollar specials at any or all of their dining services. We will promote the event through our media outlets.

Mr. Neal Mills; Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills stated he attended the Technical Advisory Meeting on January 20, 2016.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

Mr. DeHority stated the focus is closing out the month of January.

The preliminary budget is almost ready for review.

Mr. DeHority stated he is obtaining reports on the healthcare market.

Mr. Tim Whittie; Director of Public Works:

Mr. Whittie stated due to the Holiday on 2/15 trash pickup will be delayed by one day.

Mr. Whittie also stated that DPW is still clearing the snow however the main concern at this point is to open all the storm drains for the anticipated rain.

Chief Walter; Police Department

Chief thanked DPW for their support during the snow storms.

An arrest was made in connection with the bank robbery on Market St.

The G.R.E.A.T Graduation will be held on 2/5/16.

Business from Mayor Martin:

Mayor Martin presented his Second Quarter Report.

Mayor Martin stated the Mardi Gras parade will be held on 2/9/16.

Business from Council:

Council Member Hitchings:

Council Member Hitchings thanked the Water and Sewer Commission for their report.

Council Member Hitchings attended Harford Night, the HHS Alumni Event at the Ice Rink and the Masquerade Ball.

Council Member Hitchings applauded the City Staff, DPW, Fire and EMS for working hard during the storms.

Council Member Hitchings stated the Marina Commission will be presenting their report on March 21, 2016.

The next Tydings Park Commission will be held on February 10, 2016.

Council Member Glenn:

Council Member Glenn thanked DPW and City Staff along with all the volunteers for their dedicated service during the snow storm.

Council Member Glenn also attended Harford Night and Havre de Grace was again showcased.

Council Member Glenn encouraged citizens to attend the public meetings that Upper Chesapeake is hosting.

Council Member D. Martin:

Council Member Martin stated that Parks and Harbor met on January 26, 2016 and the roof and lighting on the gazebo will be addressed.

Council Member Martin stated he will be attending the Chamber Lunch.

The Ethics commission will be meeting on February 22, 2016 at City Hall.

Council Member Worrell:

Council Member Worrell thanked the Water and Sewer Commission for a well thought out presentation.

Council Member Worrell attended the EDAB meeting, Harford Night in Annapolis, Masquerade Ball,

Council Member Worrell participated in the first project homeless connect and performed vision screenings on over 100 individuals. This was sponsored by the United Way of central Maryland.

There will be a meeting held to discuss concepts and ideas for an activity for the second weekend in August. The meeting will be held on 2/8/16 at 5:30 at City Hall.

Council Member Worrell thanked DPW and Mr. Whittie for their hard work during the snow storm.

Council Member Craig:

Council Member Craig stated he is proud of our DPW and Police for their dedicated service.

Council Member Craig thanked the citizens of Havre de Grace for helping one another during the snow event.

Council Member Craig attended the Masquerade Ball.

Council President Gamatoria:

Council President Gamatoria thanked DPW

Council President Gamatoria thanked George from finance for the prompt attention with requests from Council.

The Admin Committee will meet this Wednesday with Curtis Beulah.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded Council Member Worrell to amend the Independence Celebration application. July 2, 2016, hours will begin at 1pm. (opposed to 4pm as the original application stated) Ten dollar wrist bands will be available for purchase from 1-4pm. Motion carries 6-0.

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

Comments from Citizens: None

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to adjourn at 8:45 pm. Motion carries 6-0.