



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 2, 2011

A public hearing concerning Resolution 2011-03 was called to order at 7:00 pm with Mayor Dougherty presiding and all members of Council present. Public Comments consisted of Mr. Phil Hutson, Mr. Jim Berry, Colonel Jim Costigan and Mr. Rodney Gaston who all reside in the Paddocks Community and support Resolution 2011-03.

Ms. Kitty White commented on Resolution 2011-03. She had concerns regarding the Storm Water ponds surrounding the neighborhood in which she resides in Grace Harbor.

The public hearing concerning Resolution 2011-03 was closed at 7:15 pm

A public hearing concerning Proposed Ordinance 928 was called to order at 7:15 pm and closed; no citizen comments.

A public hearing concerning Proposed Ordinance 929 was called to order at 7:16 pm. Mr. Curtis Coon spoke concerning short and long term impact of the bonds and supports Ordinance 929. The public hearing was closed at 7:19 pm.

A public hearing concerning Proposed Ordinance 930 was called to order at 7:16 pm. No public comments.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on May 2, 2011 at 7:17 pm with Mayor Dougherty presiding and the following council members present: Councilmember's Martin, Cullum, Craig, Shank, Miller and Correrri. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Dougherty and the opening prayer was performed by Reverend Bill Berg of the St. John's Episcopal Church.

A motion was made by Council President Martin and seconded by Councilmember Cullum to approve the minutes of April 18, 2011. Motion carries 6-0

Recognitions:

Student of the Month recognitions were presented to Meadowvale Elementary School student Jarod French and Havre de Middle School student Natalie Gorham.

Emergency Medical Technicians Marc Butt and Christopher Parker were recognized as EMS persons of the Month.

Presentations:

Mr. Patrick Sypolt gave a presentation on the importance of the Tree Commission and how the commission is moving forward in the City.

Mr. Ron Browning and Council President Martin presented the Historic Presentation Awards to the following recipient's: 300 N. Union Ave, 321 St. John Street and 469 Commerce St.

Proclamations:

A Proclamation was presented by Mayor Dougherty, Councilmember Miller and Correrri to Jeremy Mothershed for EMS Week

A Proclamation was presented by Mayor Dougherty to Karen Atkinson and Gloria Smeltzer from the Havre de Grace Elks Lodge for Youth Week.

Appointments: A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to reappoint Ms. Carole Andrews to the Tree Commission. Ms. Andrews's term will be May 2, 2011 to May 2, 2014; Motion carries 6-0.

Oath of Office:

Comments from Citizens on Agenda Items:

Resolutions: Resolution 2011-03

A Resolution concerning the conversion of private streets to public streets: Paddocks
A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTIONS AND COMPLETE THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS TO PROCEED WITH THE CONVERSION OF THE PRIVATE STREETS IN THE PADDOCKS COMMUNITY TO PUBLIC STREETS AND ACCEPT THEIR TRANSFER TO THE CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE.

A motion was made by Councilmember Martin and seconded by Councilmember Shank to introduce Resolution 2011-03 on second reading. Councilmember Craig and Cullum thank the residents of the Paddocks for speaking concerning this resolution. Mayor Dougherty called for a voice vote for the header to be read; motion carries 6-0. A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Miller to adopt Resolution 2011-03; Motion carries 6-0.

Ordinances:

Ordinance 927 as amended

Introduction and first reading; An Ordinance concerning Capitol Cost Recovery Fees

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND PURSUANT TO CITY CHARTER SECTION 34, CITY CODE CHAPTER 196, AND ARTICLE 23A OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND MODIFYING THE SCHEDULE FOR THE PAYMENT OF CAPITAL COST RECOVERY CHARGES.

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Councilmember Cullum to introduce Ordinance 927 as amended on second reading. Motion carries 6-0; after the header was read, a motion was made by Council President Martin and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to adopt Ordinance 927. Under the question; Councilmember Cullum explains the concern and comments from the public hearing relating to bankruptcy: *If the builder goes bankrupt, the question is determined by what kind of bankruptcy, a chapter 7 or 11. If it is a 7 then the lot/partially built home and the contract will be left for another person to complete. The person taking over would be responsible for the balance. If a chapter 11, the bankruptcy trustee would be responsible to see that the house is completed and the payment made. The building will not be connected to the system and no U&O would be granted unless the fee is paid.* Councilmember Craig stated he feels this is a risky way to handle tax payers money however applauds his colleagues for working diligently and eagerness to move forward with capitol cost recovery fees. Councilmember Miller states this Ordinance is a good start for builders and questions why the fees have been different. Councilmember Shank applauds the Mayor and Administration for working on this Ordinance. Motion carries 5-1 with Councilmember Craig opposing; A motion was made by council President Martin and seconded by Councilmember Shank to suspend the rules and so that Ordinance 927 as amended is effective immediately. Motion carries 6-0.

Unfinished Old Business:

A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Council President Martin to reconsider Ordinance 928; motion carries 6-0. A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to introduce Ordinance 928 concerning property tax rates on first reading. Motion carries 6-0; after the header was read into the record, a motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to adopt Ordinance 928 on first reading. Under the question, a motion was made by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Shank to amend Ordinance 928 and reduce the tax rate to 56 cents. Under the question, Councilmember Miller provided documentation and a plan of where to cut costs to reach his motion to reduce the tax rate to 56 cents. On roll call vote, motion

fails due to lack of support; 4-2; 4 opposing the motion (Council President Martin, Councilmembers Cullum, Correrri and Craig) and 2 in favor of the motion (Councilmembers Miller and Shank)
The original motion to adopt Ordinance 928 on first reading carries 4-2 with Councilmembers Martin, Craig, Correrri and Cullum in favor and Councilmember Miller and Shank opposing the motion.
A public hearing is scheduled for May 9th at 6pm located in the Council Chambers.

New Business: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Carol Mathis; Director of Administration:
Ms. Mathis appreciates Citizens input and involvement

Mr. Jay Bautz; Deputy Director of Planning: No comments

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:
Mr. DeHority has been involved with answering questions from Council and Citizens regarding the budget.

Mr. Larry Parks; Director of Public Works: No comment

Chief Walter; Havre de Grace Police Department:
Chief Walter states over 303 pounds of meds were turned during the prescription drug take back program
Chief Walter states on May 21st the Police Department is having an open house.

Business from Mayor Dougherty:

Mayor Dougherty states that Highway User funds and Police Aid are at a minimum and are being used in other counties.

Attended the HDG Arts Commission Grand Opera event

Attended Meadowvale Patriot program; 255 students participated

Attended the Havre de Grace Dancer Recital that is sponsored by HDG Recreational Council; Terry Easter is retiring after ten years of directing the recital

Young at heart meets every Wednesday at 10 am.

Mayor Dougherty read a comment from a Mr. Clements

Business from Council:

Councilmember Shank:

Mr. Shank attended the Patriot Program. He states his niece and nephew attend Meadowvale.

Mr. Shank also attended the Grand Opera sponsored by the Arts Commission

Mr. Shank thanked George DeHority for his continuous emails and communication

The 30th Annual Decoy Festival will be held May 6th, 7th and 8th located at the HDG middle school and activity Center

Arts by the Bay Gallery is having an opening on May 6th

The Lockhouse will host the reenactment of the burning of Havre de Grace this Saturday

Councilmember Correrri: no comments

Councilmember Miller:

Mr. Miller wished all the candidates good luck in the upcoming election

Mr. Miller announced the next public safety meeting will be Thursday May 5th at City Hall

Councilmember Cullum:

Mr. Cullum wished everyone good luck on Election Day

Councilmember Craig:

Mr. Craig thanked OPAC for hosting the candidate's forum.

Mr. Craig appreciates the success of the Police Department and the public safety they offer on many levels.

Mr. Craig attended the dance recital that was held at Havre de Grace High School.

A serious leak was noted at HHS during the recital and reminds citizens that upgrades to the school are very important, temporary fixes are not acceptable.
Mr. Craig commended his daughter and son for being successful patriots.

Council President Martin:

Mr. Martin read comments from Hollee Sifford. She thanked Mayor Dougherty and Councilmember Craig for expediting the signs that were placed in the school zone.

Mr. Martin salutes soldiers that were able to find Osama Bin Laden

Comments from Citizens:

Kevin Racine; Erie Street: Serves on many committees and is working on various projects related to the transit system.

Holley Sifford: 607 Chapel Heights: Thanked Mayor Dougherty and Councilmember Craig for expediting the placement of the sign at the High School.

Rodney Gaston: Would like clarification of the tax rate.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to adjourn at 9:25 pm; motion carries 6-0.