



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 18, 2011
7:00PM

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order January 18, 2011 at 7:00pm with Mayor Dougherty presiding and the following council members present: Councilmember's Martin, Cullum, Craig, Shank, Miller and Corrieri. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Dougherty and the opening prayer was performed by Pastor Ron Smith of First Baptist Church of Havre de Grace.

A motion was made by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Corrieri to approve the minutes of January 3, 2011. Motion carries 6-0

RECOGNITIONS:

A recognition was given to Michael Phillips for his years of dedication as a Boy Scout and his merits earned to achieve Eagle Scout status.

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Dougherty stepped off the Dias and read into the record the Second Quarter Financial Results for fiscal year 2011.

Mr. Garrett Lyttle of the Water and Sewer Commission read into the record a partial report of Annual Report of Fund 9.

Comments related to the Water and Sewer Commission report:

--Mr. Shank stated he cannot support the rate increase, he recommends a tax rebate to the citizens.

--Mr. Craig would like to see the sum total of capitol projects and the implementation of phases and how it can be funded; would like a phased in process to be considered. (Referring to the Scada project)

--Mr. Cullum states this issue brought forth is nothing new

--Mr. Miller: suggested an operational efficiency audit from an independent source.

--Mr. Craig would like to examine methods of distributive expenses

PROCLAMATION: NONE

APPOINTMENTS:

A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Council Corrieri to approve the following appointments to the Marina Commission. Mr. Darryl Leonetti, Mr. Steve Lay, Mr. John Narvell, Mr. Bruce Lyons and Ms. Susan Wettig. Motion carries 6-0.

Mayor Dougherty announced Councilmember Corrieri as Council Liaison to the Marina Commission and Councilmember Cullum as the Chair of the Marina Commission.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mayor Dougherty administered the Oath of Office to the Marina Commission members. Term dates are as follows: Mr. Darryl Leonetti: (1/18/2011-1/18/2014); Mr. Steve Lay (1/18/2011-1/18/2014); Mr. John Narvell (1/18/2011-1/18/2013); Mr. Bruce Lyon (1/18/2011-1/18/2013) and Susan Wettig (1/15/2011-1/18/2012)

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Mr. Bill Watson: 712 Giles Street: Mr. Watson commented on the CO Ordinance. Mr. Watson would like Council to consider a common sense approach to this Ordinance when applied.

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

ORDINANCES:

AN ORDINANCE CREATING CITY CODE CHAPTER 10 ALARM SYSTEMS- REQUIRED BY ADDING CERTAIN LANGUAGE TO THE CODE TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS IN BUILDINGS IN THE CITY

A motion was made by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Cullum to introduce Ordinance 924 on first reading. Motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number, Ordinance 924 was read into the record. After the reading, a motion was made by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Cullum to adopt Ordinance 924 on first reading. Motion carries 6-0. A public hearing is scheduled for February 2, 2011 at 6pm.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to approve the Farmers Market every Saturday, 9-noon, April through October. Motion carries 5-0 (Councilmember Cullum stepped off the Dias)

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Councilmember Craig to approve the Lock House Re-opening to be held on April 9, 2011 from 2-4pm. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the MS Walk to be held on April 16, 2011 from 9-noon. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve River Sweep to be held on April 23, 2011. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to approve the Decoy and Wildlife Art Festival to be held on May 6th, 7th and 8th 2011. Motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to approve the War of 1812 re-enactment to be held on May 7th 2011. Motion carries 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to approve the Independence Day Celebration and festivities to be held June 28th- July 3rd. Motion carries 5-1 with Councilmember Miller opposing.

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Councilmember Miller to approve the Friday concerts in the Park. Motion carries 6-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Carol Mathis; Director of Administration: Deferred Comment

Mr. Neal Mills; Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills stated an employee from DPW and Planning will be attending a workshop related to County and Municipal governments and Phase 2 of the Watershed Implementation Plan in Cockeysville, MD.

The Planning Department continues to work on the maps for the Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Mills is facilitating a meeting with Councilmember Craig, Cullum and Miller to discuss the recommendations the Zoning Review Committee has finalized.

Mr. Mills stated the Department of Planning is staying busy with inspections and code enforcement issues. January 31st, 2011 is the Landlord Tenant Meeting in the Council Chambers at 6pm.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

Mr. DeHority states the closing of the second quarter has been the emphasis in the Finance Department. The process for the 2012 budget which includes the evaluations of pension projections, health insurance premiums are underway.

Mr. Larry Parks; Director of Public Works:

Mr. Parks stated the Fluoride levels are at the appropriate average ranges and will continue to meet the recommended goals.

The City is continuing to test for Chromium 6 by a third party and the City has never reached alarming levels. The City will continue testing each year.

Chief Teresa Walter; Havre de Grace Police Department:

Chief Walter is looking into several different initiatives that include database analysis for criminal activity. The Police Department is reviewing several different bills that concern medical marijuana and Senate bill 24 that concerns racial profiling.

Business from Mayor Dougherty:

Mayor Dougherty stated he has explored water plants in the last eight or nine months that allowed him to review the operations of different Water Plants.

Mayor Dougherty stepped off the Dias and read the Fund 9 Executive Summary into the record.

Young at Heart meets every Wednesday at 10am at the Activity Center on Lewis Lane

The Soroptimist is sponsoring "Juke Box Saturday Night Dinner and Dance" at the HDG Community Center on March 26, 2011 at 7-11pm. For tickets, please contact Mary at 410-939-4397

Mayor Dougherty states opening BIDS will take place soon for trash haulers.

Business from Council:

Councilmember Shank:

Mr. Shank apologizes to Sam's Deli for the removing the fifteen minute parking sign. Mr. Shank will discuss this issue at the Street and Traffic Safety Advisory Board meeting.

Music and coffee is offered to Citizens on the third Saturday of every month at the Good Cause Foundation

Mr. Shank states the next HDG Main Street membership meeting will be held on January 25, 2011 at 6pm and Sean Welsh is the guest speaker.

The Arts by the Bay Gallery Opening will be held on Friday 2/4/11 from 7-9

Tuesday, March 8th- 22nd 2011 are the filing dates for Council and Mayoral Election in Havre de Grace.

Applications can be picked up at City Hall.

Councilmember Correrri:

Mr. Correrri thanked everyone on the Water and Sewer Commission and commended them for their hard work. Mr. Correrri will be scheduling a public works session with Council in the near future.

A public works meeting will be held tomorrow, 11am at City Hall.

Councilmember Miller:

The City purchased two portable CO detectors for the Police Department. Mr. Miller would like each police officer to have one. The Chief will look into additional units for the department.

Mr. Miller states a demo traffic camera was placed near the middle school and was impressed with the unit.

Mr. Miller would like the administration to consider hiring an outside agency to evaluate the efficiency of the Water Plant.

Councilmember Cullum:

Mr. Cullum stated that Harford County Night in Annapolis is January 25, 2011

Mr. Cullum will be attending a MML Board Meeting in Annapolis on January 29, 2011

Councilmember Craig:

Mr. Craig appreciates Councilmember Miller's suggestion for an operational audit. He does not feel this will save a large amount of money. Operational side of the audit is doing quite well.

The Water and Sewer fund primary challenge is the City has a large debt service payment. Council and the Commission need to come up with a way to fund this debt service. That should be the primary goal.

The next Budget and Finance Meeting will be January 31, 2011 at 4:30

The Arts Commission will sponsor the Monet Garden Gala to be held on January 29th at the Community Center.

Councilmember Craig welcomed the Marina Commission members and looks forward to working with them. Mr. Craig provided a letter to all Marina Commission members that detailed considerations such as the following. 1. Recommend a slip lease fee and ramp launch amount for the calendar year 2012. 2. Consider recommending an amendment to the city charter that would require the City Council to annually establish the slip lease and ramp launch fees. 3. Consider a recommendation for modifying the fiscal year calendar for the fund. 4. Consider recommending a capitol improvement plan with funding suggestions.

Council President Martin:

Mr. Martin welcomed everyone to the first Tuesday night Council meeting

Mr. Martin thanked Chief Walter for giving a detailed tour of the police department to the girl scouts.

If a property owner is interested in Commercial Recycling they should contact their potential hauler for further information.

Comments from Citizens:

Mr. Alan Fair: 3 Concord Place:

Mr. Fair suggested ways to save the City money concerning water sewer rates.

Mr. Fair stated he does not have a problem with CO detectors except he does not want to pay for them.

Expressed concern that taxes in the City are the highest in the County

Would like to implement Auxiliary Police as a way to save money and increase public safety

Mr. Curtis Coon: 411 Granville Ct.;

Mr. Coon would like the Mayor and Council to support a Magnet School in HDG and suggests a committee to support a new high school facility and or Magnet school.

Mr. Coon feels that Havre de Grace is the most expensive place in Harford County for a developer for a developer to establish new construction.

Mr. Coon would like Mayor and Council to look into healthcare premiums for a reduction in cost.

Mr. John Narvell: 454 Lewis Lane;

HDG recreation committee does not control the lights on the basketball courts. A request was made for DPW to turn the lights out.

Mr. Narvell will contact Mr. Newby to discuss the valve replacement at the Water Plant

Sharon Duncan: 812 Locust Lane:

Ms. Duncan would like the public to have the opportunity to submit a "wish list" to the Mayor and Council.

Ms. Duncan supports Mr. Fair and Mr. Coons comments.

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Council President Martin to adjourn at 10:00pmpm. Motion carries 6-0.