



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 21, 2011
7:00PM

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on March 21, 2011 at 7:00pm 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 Chaplin Nick McDonald.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Shank to approve the minutes of March 7, 2011. Motion carries 6-0

PRESENTATIONS:

Recognitions were presented by Mayor Dougherty and Councilmember Miller to Ms. Sierra Hines and Mr. Dale Clark for EMS Person of the Month.

A carbon monoxide power point presentation was given by Ms. Carol Mathis.

Mr. Loir McDaniel and Mr. Steve Gambrel of New Covenant Community Church presented information regarding their partnership with Extreme Family Outreach.

RECOGNITIONS: Did you know awards were presented by Mayor Dougherty, Ms. Mathis, Mr. Parks and Mr. DeHority to the following City Hall employees for their exemplary performance; Mr. John Allen, Mr. Mark Wilmoth, Mr. Tony Cochran and Mr. Jeff Thompson from Department of Public Works; Ms. Sandy Ayres from the Finance Department and Ms. Leslie Hook form the Department of Public Works. (Not present)

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamations were presented to The Boys and Girls Club of Harford County, The Havre de Grace Warrior Swim Team and The American Diabetes Association.

APPOINTMENTS:

A motion was made by Council President Martin and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to appoint Mr. John Gonzales to the Economic Development Advisory Board; Motion carries 6-0.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Mayor Dougherty administered the Oath of Office to Mr. John Gonzales.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Ms. Becky Fitzgerald of the Lantern Queen stated her concerns regarding the expected numbers the Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival is anticipating Mother's Day Weekend, May 7th and 8th 2011. Parking for her business is a concern and the fact other activities are taking place that designated weekend such as the Decoy Festival. Ms. Glassman read Ms. Fitzgerald's letter into the record.

RESOLUTIONS: NONE

ORDINANCES:

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL PURSUNANT TO CITY CHARTER SECTION 34, AMENDING HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CODE CHAPTER 147 RENTAL PROPERTY BY DELETING THE ENTIRE CHAPTER 147 FROM THE CITY CODE.

A motion was made by Councilmember Miller and seconded by Councilmember Shank to introduce Ordinance 925 on first reading; Motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number a motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Miller to adopt Ordinance 925 on first reading; under the question a motion was made by Councilmember Cullum and seconded by Councilmember Miller to amend Ordinance 925 to say “that the enforcement and application of the current Chapter 147 of the City Code be suspended and a moratorium imposed, for a period of eight (8) months beginning the date of adoption of this Ordinance, to allow for a redraft of Chapter 147 to be presented and acted upon” Councilmember Cullum explained the rationale of the amendment. Councilmember Shank verified with Councilmember Cullum that the Council planning committee will be working with the Planning Department on the redraft. Motion carries 6-0; on roll call vote Ordinance 925 as amended was passed 6-0 on first reading. A public hearing is scheduled for April 4th at 7pm.

AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO CITY CHARTER SECTION 34, AMENDING HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CODE CHAPTER 25 ARTICLE VIII SECTIONS 25-50 TROUGH 25-56 BY DELETING SECTIONS 25-50 THROUGH 25-56 FROM CHAPTER 25 OF THE CITY CODE.

A motion was made by Council President Martin and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to introduce Ordinance 926 on first reading; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read, assigned a number and a rationale of the Ordinance was explained by Council President Martin a motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Council President Martin to adopt Ordinance 926 on first reading; motion carries 6-0. A public hearing is scheduled for April 4th 2011 at 7pm.

Councilmember Cullum stated the Landlord Tenant Commission was a great idea however given that commission was not active; repealing the Ordinance is the best decision.

Councilmember Miller concurs with the comments made by Councilmember Cullum.

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Councilmember Cullum to approve the RAD Loan Application Recommendation for Coakley’s Pub; on roll call vote; motion carries 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Councilmember Cullum to approve the Spring Celebration on May 21st from 4-10pm located on the lighthouse grounds. Motion carries 6-0..

A motion was made by Councilmember Shank and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to approve the Chesapeake Cycle and Sport Triathlon on June 26th from 8-11am. Under the question, Councilmember Shank thanked the event sponsor for their promptness and is looking forward to moving in a positive direction with this particular event. Councilmember Craig asked his fellow colleagues to remember Former Councilmember Guldenzopf as she was a big part of this activity and event. Motion carries 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilmember Martin and seconded by Councilmember Correrri to approve the Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival on May 7th 10-6pm and May 8th from 10-4pm. Under the question, Councilmember Shank addressed the concerns brought to Council's attention by Ms. Becky Fitzgerald. His concerns are the Lantern Queen is the only business in the Arts and Entertainment district to pay taxes and their customers should have full access to the Lantern Queen. Mr. Shank will not support the special event due to many factors such as the business of Mother's Day weekend, the Decoy Festival, the number of participants and vendors at Hutchins Park and the access to the Lantern Queen. Mr. Cullum feels the event should not be held at Hutchins Park, number of participants and vehicles is a concern in our downtown area. He would like the sponsor to consider a new location for this event. Councilmember Miller states that Hutchins Park is a Festival Park and Hutchins Park is designed for this type of festival.

Mr. Craig would like follow up on two concerns: *1. Is the sponsor intending to use the pier and the ground or the paved area only? 2. What accommodations are the sponsor intending for pedestrians who wish to use the pier and who are customers of the Lantern Queen?*

A motion was made by Council President Martin and seconded by Councilmember Craig that the sponsor of the event will ensure free unobstructed pedestrian access to the fishing pier and to the Lantern Queen during the Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival on May 7th and 8th 2011; On roll call vote, the amendment passes 5-1, with Councilmember Shank opposing the motion to amend.

The Susquehanna Music and Arts Festival on May 7th and 8th was approved 4-2 with Councilmember Shank and Cullum not in favor if the event.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Ms. Carol Mathis; Director of Administration:

Ms. Mathis did not have any items to report due to the great deal spent on the budget.

Mr. Neal Mills; Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills updated Mayor and Council on projects on the Comprehensive Plan and Council Planning Committee.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

Mr. DeHority has been preparing and finalizing the budget.

Mr. DeHority states the Real Property Tax payment is due April 1st or there will be an \$80 penalty.

Mr. Larry Parks; Director of Public Works:

The Department will be prepping the parking lot at the Marina for a six inch water line to be installed.

Chief Walter; Havre de Grace Police Department:

Reported Mardi Gras and St Patrick's Day events went smooth

Chief Walter thanked the council for holding the public work session and thanked the individuals that spoke about concerns

Chief Walter reminded everyone with spring approaching us to be mindful of pedestrians.

Business from Mayor Dougherty:

Mayor Dougherty attended the Alice in Wonderland play performed by the Drama Guild.

Mayor Dougherty announced the American Cruise Line will be returning in 2011

Mayor announces the Arts Commission will be sponsoring a number of events

CRS Classification of eight was announced; this is a classification for citizens that live in flood areas

Young at Heart meets every Wednesday

Mayor Dougherty distributes the FY 2012 Budget; public work sessions will be held on April 11, 2011 at 6:30 and April 25th at 6pm.

Business from Council:

Councilmember Shank:

Mr. Shank reminded citizens to vote on May 3rd, 2011 at St. Patrick's Church

Mr. Shank advised everyone that Mr. Travis Hawkins, General Manager for Grey Hound and Kevin Racine will be attending the Main Street meeting tomorrow. Working on initiatives that will allow Grey Hound to stop in Havre de Grace.

Mr. Shank would like to thank and commend the Police Department for responding to an alarm at a citizen's home on Lewis Lane.

Mr. Hank Schreiber, Former Councilmember contacted the City to say hello.

Councilmember Correrri:

Mr. Correrri attended the parking study public work sessions and thanked everyone that attended.

Mr. Correrri reported he attended Annapolis Night

The next Water and Sewer Commission meeting will be held on April 1st at 9am

The next Department of Public Works meeting will be April 6th at 3pm

Mr. Correrri thanked the Police Department for the extra enforcement on St. Patrick's Day.

Attended the Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps 25th Anniversary banquet and stated it is an honor to work with an organization. The Ambulance Corps handled over 2800 calls and three members responded over 500 times; recognized Sierra Hines, Ron Caine and Joe Gamatoria, Jean Mears, Jimmy Vacherie and Vince Way.

Councilmember Miller:

Mr. Miller states a basket bingo will take place at the HDG Elementary School on 3/25/11

Reminded citizens to replace batteries in smoke and carbon detectors

Mr. Miller and Mr. Shank attended the Parks and Rec Council Meeting and they are asking citizens to obtain permission for organized events at Harris Field. The new fields on Chapel Road will be opening late August.

Mr. Miller reminded citizens that March is Nutrition Month and reminded citizens about annual health screenings

Councilmember Cullum:

Mr. Cullum thanks Mr. Shank for giving an update on Former Councilmember Hank Schreiber.

Mr. Cullum will be attending the basket bingo this weekend.

Mr. Cullum attended the Ambulance Corp banquet and extends his congratulations to the EMS providers that were recognized.

Mr. Cullum congratulated the recipients of the "Did You Know Awards"

Thanked everyone that attended the Parking Study Work Sessions

Mr. Cullum announced the Council Planning Committee meeting will be held tomorrow; working on definitions of "dwellings"

The next Marina Meeting will be held on Thursday at 6pm

The Water and Sewer Commission presented Council recommendations and they are waiting for a response.

Councilmember Craig:

Mr. Craig appreciates receiving a copy of the budget.

Mr. Craig thanked Council President Martin for facilitating the second parking study work session

Council President Martin:

Council President Martin thanked the Mayor for the proposed budget.

Action items brought from Parking Study are the following: 1. Replace all two hour downtown parking to three hour parking, 2. Increase parking fines from \$10 to \$25 3. Designate seasonal motorcycle parking 4. Signage improvement

Council President Martin is excited about the American Cruise Line visiting our City

Council President Martin visited local restaurants on St. Patrick's Day

Congratulated Chief Jeremy Mothershed for being nominated for EMS Person of the Year

Council President Martin Recognized Mayor Dougherty and Councilmember Shank for running for Mayor, recognized Lori Maslin, Diane Lawder, Jim Lauer, Barbara Wagner, Councilmember Craig and Correrri who are running for Council.

Comments from Citizens:

Mr. Kevin Racine- Erie Street; Mr. Racine attended a meeting that discussed and projected the future of transit in the Northeastern Corridor

A motion was made by Councilmember Correrri and seconded by Councilmember Miller to adjourn at 9:12pm; Motion carries 6-0.