



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Bulle Rock Residence Club

1200 Bulle Rock Parkway

April 18, 2016

7:00 p.m.

Public Hearings:

Ordinance 978

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE ("CITY") PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND CITY CHARTER SECTIONS 34, 38, AND 39 APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CITY BONDS TO FUND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY WATER PLANT TO INCREASE WATER CAPACITY ("WATER PLANT BONDS") UPON THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT AND A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE CITY SUBJECT TO BEING APPROVED BY THE CITY VOTERS AT THE GENERAL CITY ELECTION HELD ON MAY 3, 2016

A public hearing was called to order at 7:00 p.m

Public Comments:

Mr. Bob Robinson: 320 S. Stokes St; wanted confirmation that this question will be on the Ballot.

Kurt Smith: 102 S. Washington: Asked what price the City would be selling water? The same amount as the adopted rate.

Council President Gamatoria explained the rationale of the Ordinance.

The public hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.

Ordinance 979

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE ("CITY") PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND CITY CHARTER SECTIONS 34, 38, AND 39 APPROVING AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CITY BONDS TO FUND THE COMPLETION OF THE RENOVATIONS ("RENOVATION BONDS") TO THE CITY BUILDING KNOWN AS THE OPERA HOUSE ON UNION AVE ("OPERA HOUSE") UPON THE FULL FAITH AND CREDIT AND A GENERAL OBLIGATION OF THE CITY SUBJECT TO BEING APPROVED BY THE CITY VOTERS AT THE GENERAL CITY ELECTION HELD ON MAY 3, 2016

A public hearing was called to order at 7:08pm

Public Comments:

Laura Parker; 102 Flying Ebony Place: Asked the Mayor to clarify who will be able to use the Opera House? What groups and how will this be determined?

Gaylynn Price 200 S. Stokes: Supports Question B and encourages citizens to vote Yes.

Baxter Leppert: Also supports Question B and encourages citizens to vote yes. Commented the longer we wait to build this the more the project will cost.

Robert Ruben; 220 N. Washington St. Supports Question B and stated this will be a positive economic impact for the City.

Carol Jewett: Concerned with adequate parking for patrons of the Opera House.

Kurt Smith; Wanted to confirm that the Opera House be included in the City Buildings that are solar powered.

The public hearing was closed at 7:22pm.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on April 18, 2016 at 7:22 p.m. with Mayor Martin presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Councilmember's, Gamatoria, Worrell, Hitchings, Martin, Craig and Glenn were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor William Martin and the opening prayer was given by Father T. James Snodgrass of St. John's Episcopal Church.

The National Anthem was performed by Havre de Grace High School student Brindyn Cook.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the meeting minutes of April 4, 2016; motion carries 5-0 with Council Member Glenn abstaining given his absence.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the closed meeting minutes of April 4, 2016; motion carries 5-0 with Council Member Glenn abstaining given his absence.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the closed meeting minutes of March 21, 2016; motion carries 5-0 with Council Member Martin abstaining given his absence.

RECOGNITIONS: None

PROCLAMATIONS: None

PRESENTATIONS:

Ms. Barbara Richardson of Harford County presented the FY2016 Action Plan of Community Development
Mr. Fred Wills presented the first Wage and Benefit Committee Report to the Council.

APPOINTMENTS: None

OATH OF OFFICE: None

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Bill Price; 200 S. Stokes St; Mr. Price thanked the Mayor and Council for the Ordinance to fund the Opera House. Feels this investment will help the businesses and citizens.
2. Joe Smith: 110 Flying Ebony; Agrees with Mr. Price's comments and applauds the Council to move this Ordinance forward to support the Opera House.
3. Charlie Hiner: Fountain St; Mr. Hiner is supportive of both referendums. His concern is sustainability.

RESOLUTIONS: None

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 977- Second Reading and Adoption

An Ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace Pursuant to the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and City Charter Section 34 Amending the City Code Chapter 169 Storm Water Management and Chapter 49 Critical Areas to Establish Procedures to Address the Detection and Elimination of Illicit Discharges in the City.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to introduce Ordinance 977 on second reading; motion carries 6-0

After the header was read, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Glenn to adopt Ordinance 977; motion carries 6-0

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Patrick Sypolt- Director of Administration:

Mr. Sypolt gave an update on events and what projects he is working on.

Mrs. Adrean Troy; Director of Economic Development; Maternity Leave

Mr. Neal Mills: Director of Planning:

Mr. Mills stated that MD Sustainable Growth Commission is looking to host a meeting in Havre de Grace this year.

Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:

Mr. DeHority stated the Finance Department is closing out the third quarter and working with the state agencies on the Bond Referendum.

Also reminded citizens that the 2016 Real Property Taxes are due.

Mr. Tim Whittie; Director of Public Works:

Mr. Whittie reported the new roof on the Community Center is completed.

DPW will begin work on the gazebo in the upcoming weeks.

The Spring Clean Up days will be held on April 23 and April 30.

Chief Teresa Walter, Police Department

Chief Walter announced the National Drug Take Back will be held on April 30, 2016.

Chief Walter reminded citizens to beware of the IRS Scams.

Business from Mayor Martin:

Mayor Martin presented the 2016 Third Quarter Financial Results.

Mayor Martin encouraged all citizens to recycle and announced that a recycling campaign will be forthcoming.

Mayor Martin presented a City Flag to HOA President Ben Martorana.

Business from Council:

Council Member Hitchings:

CM Hitchings attended the Susquehanna Hose Banquet on April 9, 2016. Encouraged citizens to thank all EMS service providers.

Attended and participated in the bridging ceremony of Cub Scout 965 to Boy Scout 965.

Attended the HDG Middle School First Wellness Program.

CM Hitchings stated that April 30 and May 1st will be the Annual Dance Recital and thanked all the volunteers who make this successful.

Council Member Glenn:

Council Member Glenn commends the Mayor for his diligence and effort as it pertained to the financial report this evening.

Council Member Glenn also attended the Susquehanna Hose Banquet.

Council Member Glenn attended the Susquehanna Rail Road Bridge Open House.

Attended Opening Day for Little League.

Council Member D. Martin:

Council Member Martin commended the Havre de Grace Police Department for making us the second safest City in the State of Maryland.

Council Member Worrell:

Council Member Worrell commended the staff who made this off site Council Meeting a success.

Attended the Susquehanna Hose Company Banquet; recognized all the volunteers.

Council Member Worrell toured the hospital along with others and talked about some of the challenges.

Historic Preservation Commission met and had some concerns with BGE installing smart meters.

Attended the HDG MS Health Fair.

Council Member Worrell congratulated her boss, Dr. Feulner for being recognized in the top 300 refractive Surgeons of the United States.

The Budget and Finance Committee will meet 4/29

Council Member Craig:

Council Member Craig thanked the citizens that are in the audience this evening.

Encouraged citizens continue to attend the council meetings, offer input and volunteer for a board or a commission.

Council President Gamatoria:

Council President Gamatoria commends the Mayor for his outreach and keeping the citizens and community well informed.

Council President Gamatoria announced the next budget work session will be held on April 25 and May 9th.

The Admin Committee will meet on Wednesday at 4:00pm.

Council President Gamatoria attended his two favorite events, HDG Little League Opening Day and the Susquehanna Hose Company banquet.

Comments from Citizens:

Carolyn Zinner: Mrs. Zinner commented on her thoughts concerning the closing of Harford Memorial Hospital.

Kurt Smith; 102 Washington St. Would like to propose a food forest at Todd Park.

Joe Kochenderfer; Tydings Road: Mr. K reminded everyone of River Sweep this coming weekend.

Laura Parker: 102 Flying Ebony: Mrs. Parker commented on the types of venues for different performances.

Carl S :213 Fender Gold Circle: asked about the status on the construction on across the street.

Gaylynn Price, 200 S. Stokes St. Mrs. Price reminded everyone of the City wide yard sale.

Charles Packard; Shawnee Brooke Dr: Mr. Packard thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support to the Susquehanna Hose Company.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn at 10:00 pm. Motion carries 6-0.