



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

April 4, 2016

7:00 p.m.

**Ordinance 977- Public Hearing**

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 public hearing was called to order at 7:00pm with no comments from the citizens.

Council President Gamatoria explained the rationale of Ordinance 977. The public hearing was closed at 7:04pm.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on April 4, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Martin presiding and the following Councilmembers present: Councilmember's, Gamatoria, Worrell, Hitchings, Martin and Craig were present. Council Member Glenn was absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor William Martin and the opening prayer was given by Pastor Rick Haynes.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve the meeting minutes of March 21, 2016; motion carries 5-0

**RECOGNITIONS:** (Student of the Month Recognitions)

The following students received a recognition from Mayor Martin:

Havre de Grace Elementary School: Lacey Swart

Meadowvale Elementary School: Molly Martin

Havre de Grace Middle School: Ronda Smith

Havre de Grace High School: Mark Carson

**PROCALMATIONS:** None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

The Historic Preservation Commission presented awards to:

Rosemary & Jim Miller - The Miller House

Christie & Lou Silverstein - Joseph's Department Store

Beth Brendle Williams - Brendle Williams House

**APPOINTMENTS:** None

**OATH OF OFFICE:** None

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

1. Mr. C Baxter Leppert: 505 Camilla Street: Mr. Leppert is representing the Opera House Committee and would like the Mayor and Council to understand how important the Opera House Project is to the community. Supports the Resolution and Ordinance that is proposed so this the project is not delayed with incurring extra costs.
2. Joe Kochenderfer; Tydings Road: Supports the Resolutions supporting the Water Treatment Plant Ballot Questions. Feels this is a necessary thing to do given that other options in the past have not helped with the debt.

Mayor Martin requested at five minute recess at 8:06 p.m. All in favor 5-0

Mayor Martin reconvened the Council Meeting at 8:16p.m. with five Council Members present. (Council Member Glenn is absent for the meeting)

**RESOLUTIONS:**

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, 38, AND 39 APPROVING OF THE LANGUAGE OF A BALLOT QUESTION CONCERNING PROPOSED FUNDING FOR WATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS TO BE PLACED ON THE CITY ELECTION BALLOT ON MAY 3, 2016

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to introduce Resolution 2016-05; motion carries 5-0

After the header was read into the record and the rationale of the Resolution was explained, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to adopt Resolution 2016-05. Motion carries 5-0

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, 38, AND 39 APPROVING OF THE LANGUAGE OF A BALLOT QUESTION CONCERNING PROPOSED FUNDING FOR THE OPERA HOUSE TO BE PLACED ON THE CITY ELECTION BALLOT ON MAY 3, 2016

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to introduce Resolution 2016-06; motion carries 5-0.

After the header was read into the record and the rationale of the Resolution was explained, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adopt Resolution 2016-06. Motion carries 5-0

**ORDINANCES:**

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 motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to introduce Ordinance 978 on first reading; motion carries 5-0.

After the header was read and the rationale of the Ordinance was explained, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adopt Ordinance 978 on first reading. Motion carries 5-0.

A public hearing is scheduled for 4/18 at 7pm

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 motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to introduce Ordinance 979 on first reading. Motion carries 5-0

After the header was read and the rationale of the Ordinance was explained, a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adopt Ordinance 979 on first reading. Motion carries 5-0.

A public hearing is scheduled for 4/18 at 7pm

**UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve Budget Amendment 2016-05: motion carries 5-0.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**Mr. Patrick Sypolt- Director of Administration:**

Mr. Sypolt announced the Budget Work Sessions will be held April 11 and April 25 at 6 pm. He also announced that the next Council Meeting will be held at the Bulle Rock Residence Club at 7 p.m.

Mr. Sypolt stated Par Excellence is rated as a Top 10 Spas in the U.S.A

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

**Mr. Neal Mills: Director of Planning:**

Mr. Mills gave the permit report for the quarter.

**Mr. George DeHority; Director of Finance:**

Mr. DeHority gave a recap of financial results through February 2016.

**Mr. Tim Whittie; Director of Public Works:**

Mr. Whittie announced the Spring Cleanup days will be held on April 16 and April 23 from 8-3 at the HDG Community Center.

**Wayne Young; Police Department**

No report

**Business from Mayor Martin:**

Mayor Martin announced that he has released an educational video for the citizens discussing The Opera House and Water Treatment Plant Ballot Questions. Mayor Martin explained the importance of Bond Bill for the Water Treatment Plant and how this Bond Bill will allow us to be more efficient and how this investment is important to the future of our City. Asked the citizens to support Question A and Question B on the Ballot.

**Business from Council:**

**Council Member Hitchings:**

Council Member Hitchings attended many events in the last two weeks to include the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, The Boys and Girls Club Steak and Burger, The Heritage Expo and St. Baldrick's Fundraiser.

Council Member Hitchings congratulated A'maya Green for being recognized as Youth of the Year.

Council Member Hitchings stated the Planning Commission has revisited the Zoning Code.

**Council Member Glenn: Absent**

**Council Member D. Martin:**

Council Member Martin stated EDAB will be holding a breakfast for new business prospects on April 8 at 7:30.

The Candidate Luncheon will be held on April 14, Little League Opening Day will be held on April 16 and River Sweep will be held on April 23.

**Council Member Worrell:**

Council Member Worrell attended many events over the last 2 weeks to include the Boys and Girls Club Steak and Burger, Heritage Art and Expo, St. Baldrick's, Wedding Walk and the Greater Excellence Education Foundation.

Council Member Worrell is excited about the First Fridays- which will start May 6 along with a full weekend of activities. The F Cubed Festival is being organized by the Concord Point Lighthouse, the Decoy Museum and the Maritime Museum.

**Council Member Craig:**

Council Member Craig congratulated the Martin Family for the Molly Martin's recognition.

**Council President Gamatoria:**

Council President Gamatoria thanked Joseph's department store for the gift certificates they provide to the students every month.

Council President Gamatoria attended the New HDG Business Alliance meeting and met with the Board of Directors.

The Wage and Benefit Committee will meet on 4/5/16 and will present to their first report to Council on 4/18.

The Admin Committee will meet on Wednesday.

Council President Gamatoria thanked his colleagues for working on the legislation that has been brought forth.

**Comments from Citizens:**

Carolyn Zinner: 111 Tim Tam Court: Spoke on behalf of the "Neighbors for a Healthy Havre de Grace". The organization feels that there has not been enough time or opportunity for the citizens to speak about the hospital. Mrs. Zinner would like the Mayor and Council to support the efforts of Delegate Lisanti and form a committee with citizens who use the hospital so they can work together towards positive efforts regarding the hospital.

Kathleen O'Brien; 618 Lewis St: Mrs. O'Brien is also concerned if Harford Memorial Hospital closes and questions the effect on the community.

Robert Scoville: 610 Chesapeake Dr; would like to the Mayor and Council to contact the State Delegation and offer their support.

Edna Hirsch: 516 Glenville Road; Edna Hirsch encouraged the Mayor and Council to support the recommendation's that Mrs. Zinner commented about.

C. Baxter Leppert: Camilla Street; Thanked the Council for their support on voting for the Opera House Bond Bill.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to enter into closed session at adjournment to discuss legal matters. Motion carries 5-0

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn at 10:08 pm. Motion carries 5-0.