



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 7, 2016
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on November 7, 2016 at 7:00 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 Dr. Baron Young of St. James AME Church.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve the meeting minutes of October 17, 2016; motion carries 6-0.

RECONIGITIONS:

Girl Scout Troop 5963 was recognized for attending the Council Meeting as part of their "Inside Government Badge"

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Martin presented a proclamation to Council Member Hitchings as the MML Cecil- Harford Chapter President: November is Municipal Government Works Month.

PRESENTATIONS:

Chief Joe Gamatoria and Ms. Brenda Desjardins presented 16 AED's to Chief Walter that will be placed in the HDG Police Department fleet. Funds were primarily raised by the Bulle Rock Turkey Trot.

Kaeley Hitchings presented on the three Little Free Libraries she constructed and placed around town as part of her Girl Scout Silver Award.

Mr. Lyle Sheldon introduced representatives from Cushman and Wakefield as the team to study the disposition of HMM.

APPOINTMENTS: None

OATH OF OFFICE: None

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Joe Kochenderfer, Tydings Road: Concerned with the Special Election Resolution and feels the Date is "lousy" due to proximity to Christmas holiday. Also, commented to what is the purpose of the properties and future of the properties?

Jen Morris, 708 Lewis Street; Relay for Life application
Thanked for application exploration and seeking possible alternatives but would like to stay with original application at this point.
Looking forward to outcome and participation at the event.

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 AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL CITY ELECTION ON DECEMBER 27, 2016 AND APPROVING THE LANGUAGE OF THE BALLOT QUESTION FOR THE PURCHASE AND PROPOSED FUNDING FOR THE CITY'S ACQUISITION OF 627 WATER STREET AND A PORTION OF 649 WATER STREET FROM HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to introduce Resolution 2016-24; motion carries 6-0

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 Glenn to adopt Resolution 2016-24; motion carries 6-0 on roll call vote.

UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:

Relay of Life 2016: A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Martin to un-table. Motion carries 6-0

After a lengthy discussion and a roll call vote of 3-3, with Mayor Martin breaking the tie in favor, the Relay for Life application passes. Mayor Martin stated that parks are to be used. "We" are also not the fairness police. We are to guard over the properties of the City. We need to also consider the cause. Lighthouse is a beacon of hope for such an event. CM Craig – Yes, CM Martin- Yes, CM Worrell –Yes, CM Hitchings – No CP Gamatoria – No- CM Glenn - No

Budget Amendment 2017-08:

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to untable Budget Amendment 2017-08. Motion carries 6-0

This was tabled due to source of funding. After discussion a motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Worrell to allow the David Craig Park charging station since it will come out of park improvements and dissolve Budget Amendment 2017-08.

Proposed Budget Amendment failed with all council opposing the passage.

NEW BUSINESS; None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Patrick Sypolt; Director of Administration:

Mr. Sypolt gave an update of upcoming events in the City.

Mr. Ben Martorana: Director of Planning:

Mr. Martorana gave an update on the Amtrak Bridge and commented on Harford Memorial Hospital.

Erika Quesenbery: Acting Director of Economic Development

Ms. Quesenbery gave an update on what projects she is working on and what businesses she has been meeting with.

Ms. Tracy Conaway: Deputy Director of Finance: No report

Mr. Tim Whittie; Director of Public Works:

Mr. Whittie announced the crack sealing project is still going on. Will be touching Congress, Market and Adams Street.

The hydrant flushing is almost completed.

Chief Teresa Walter, Police Department

Chief Walter thanked all public safety organizations in the National Drug Take. Over 400 pounds of drugs are now off the streets.

Chief Walter reminded everyone that with the holidays fast approaching to not drink and drive and have a designated driver.

Chief Walter announced the Police Department is having a can food drive for the holidays.

Business from Mayor Martin:

Mayor Martin presented the Quarterly Report.

Mayor Martin commented on Acting Director of Economic Development: Charter says we shall have a Director. Resumes have been received, but not hiring someone for hiring's sake. It's a very unique position, and quite non quantitative. Erika Quesenbery has served in this role quite well. Erika has been placed in acting role. Position still open for applications.

Commented on the Ballot item resolution - parcel purchases will be put before the citizens in referendum.

Seeking greatest opportunity to share information with the Citizens prior to the County's imposed EOCY deadline for decision. City will continue to seek grant funding to potentially offset the purchase costs.

Execution of this purchase will support development of the northern part of the City waterfront.

Business from Council:

Council Member Hitchings:

Council Member Hitchings stated it was great to see the service to our community reflected in tonight's meeting. From the Girl Scouts of Troop 5963 participating in tonight's meeting for their Inside Government badge, Kaeley's presentation of her Little Free Library project for her Girl Scout Silver Award, to the Susquehanna Hose Company and Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps.

Council Member Hitchings reminded everyone that Havre de Grace High School Music Booster's Holiday Craft Fair, November 12 @ 9:00 am - 2:00 pm, at the Havre de Grace High School Gymnasium, 60 crafters, live entertainment, pit beef and a Chinese raffle

Council Member Glenn:

Council Member Glenn congratulated Girl Scout Troop 5963, Kaeley Hitchings, Eagle Scout Evan Hartmann for their recent accomplishments.

Council Member Glenn also congratulated the HDG Warrior VB, Track and Football.

Council Member Glenn wished the relay for life the very best success.

Council Member D. Martin:

Council Member Martin announced that Parks and Harbor will meet on November 15th at 6pm.

Council Member Martin is happy with the six Free Little Libraries in our City and encourages citizens to step and make several more.

Council Member Worrell:

Council Member Worrell announced the Green Team will be hosting "Green drink with the Green Team."
Council Member Worrell attended the Forrest Food Opening at Todd Park, attended the Gala of Hope and the Library Gala.
Council Member Worrell will be attending the HDG Chamber of Commerce breakfast.

Council Member Craig: No Comment

Council President Gamatoria:

Council President Gamatoria gave an update on Independence Day Celebration Commission/Committee MOU. Mr. Ishak stated there is a single document separated into two documents. Community Projects of HdG will have separate MOUs with Commission (new) and Committee (old). These will be shared with Council for consideration/council.

Comments from Citizens: None

A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded by Council Member Martin to adjourn at 9:53pm. Motion carries 6-0