



PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
October 17, 2016  
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on October 17, 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 Pastor Bo Van Dyke.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to approve the meeting minutes of October 3, 2016; motion carries 6-0.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Worrell to approve the closed session meeting minutes of October 3, 2016; motion carries 5-0 with Council Member Glenn abstaining from the vote.

**RECONGITIONS: Student of the Month recognitions (Presented by Mayor Martin)**

Havre de Grace Elementary School- Isabella Lugo- Frasier  
Meadowvale Elementary School- Cameron Ball  
Havre de Grace Middle School- Sara Busch  
Havre de Grace High School- Celyna Clendenin

**PROCLAMATIONS:** None

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Mr. Corey Troutman and Mr. Nate Swartz of Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC: Presentation of the 2016 Financial Statements

Council Member Worrell: Presented the Sustainable Maryland Award to Mayor, Council and Staff. Thanked everyone who participated and made this possible to achieve. Council Member Worrell is very proud of our community.

**APPOINTMENTS:** None

**OATH OF OFFICE:** None

**COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS:**

Jen Morris: Relay for Life- Havre de Grace.

Followed up on comments made at the last council meeting. Stated other areas have been considered. Since the last meeting she submitted an update map. Would like Council to understand she does not want to close off the promenade- looking to make the event more inclusive.

Council President Gamatoria suggested Bloomsbury/Seneca area.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**A Resolution concerning a Tax Credit: 406 ST. JOHN STREET**

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 THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE TITLE 9 SECTION 9-103 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 APPROVING REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AGAINST THE CITY REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON THE ELIGIBLE ASSESSMENT FOR REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE KNOWN AS COAKLEY'S PUB, LLC LOCATED AT 406 ST. JOHN STREET, HAVRE DE GRACE, MD 21078 OWNED BY TWO FISH BOWLS, LLC.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to introduce Resolution 2016-20; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Worrell to adopt Resolution 2016-20; Motion carries 6-0.

**A Resolution concerning a Tax Credit: 400 N. UNION AVE**

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 THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE TITLE 9 SECTION 9-103 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 APPROVING REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AGAINST THE CITY REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON THE ELIGIBLE ASSESSMENT FOR REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE KNOWN AS BACKFIN BLUES GROUP, INC. LOCATED AT 400 N. UNION AVE, HAVRE DE GRACE, MD 21078 OWNED BY GO HAVRE DE GRACE, LLC.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Craig to introduce Resolution 2016-21; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number, a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Worrell to adopt Resolution 2016-21. Motion carries 6-0

**A Resolution concerning a Tax Credit: 424 N. UNION AVE**

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 THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE TITLE 9 SECTION 9-103 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 APPROVING REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AGAINST THE CITY REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON THE ELIGIBLE ASSESSMENT FOR REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE KNOWN HARFORD PROPERTY SERVICE, INC. LOCATED AT 424 N. UNION AVE, HAVRE DE GRACE, MD 21078 OWNED BY HARFORD PROPERTY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT, INC.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to introduce Resolution 2016-22; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Worrell to adopt Resolution 2016-22; motion carries 6-0.

**A Resolution concerning a Tax Credit: 500 WARREN ST.**

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 THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE TITLE 9 SECTION 9-103 OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND CITY CHARTER SECTION 34 APPROVING REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AGAINST THE CITY REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX IMPOSED ON THE ELIGIBLE ASSESSMENT FOR REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE KNOWN AS HARFORD PROPERTY

SERVICES DEVELOPMENT, INC. LOCATED AT 500 WARREN ST., HAVRE DE GRACE, MD 21078 OWNED BY HARFORD PROPERTY SERVICES DEVELOPMENT, INC.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to introduce Resolution 2016-23; motion carries 6-0. After the header was read and assigned a number a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings; motion carries 6-0

Mayor Martin asked for a ten minute recess. All in favor. Recessed at 8:15. Reconvened at 8:28pm with all members of Council present.

**UNFINISHED OLD BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to un-table the Relay for Life. Motion carries 6-0

Concerns are still present with the proposed location. Would like more time for consideration. A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings to re-table the Relay for Life application until the next meeting, motion seconded by Council President Gamatoria. Motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Craig opposing the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS;**

**Budget Amendments**

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve budget amendment 2017-01: to adjust the changes in beginning fund balance. Motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Craig opposing the motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve budget amendment 2017-02: to provide additional funding to SHCO; motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Martin to approve budget amendment 2017-03: to fund City Dog Park; motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve budget amendment 2017-04: to remove promenade repairs completed in 2016; motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Martin to approve budget amendment 2017-05: to provide funding for Independence Day commission; motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Craig opposing the motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve budget amendment 2017-06: to re-classify for recycling containers; motion carries 6-0

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve budget amendment 2017-07: to provide funding for HDG Alliance; motion carries 5-1 with Council Member Craig opposing the motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Worrell and seconded by Council President Gamatoria to approve budget amendment 2017-08: to provide funding for Electric Vehicle charging stations. Under the question, a motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to table the motion.

Motion carries 4-2 with Council Member Craig and Worrell opposing the motion. Budget Amendment 2017-08 was tabled.

Contract: Director of Planning- A motion was made by Council President Gamatoria and seconded Council Member Glenn to approve the Contract of Mr. Ben Martorana as the Director of Planning. Motion carries 5-0. Council Member Martin is abstaining from the vote for personal reasons.

Mr. Ben Martorana was administered the Oath of Office.

A motion was made by Council Member Glenn and seconded by Council Member Hitchings to approve the Re-Configuration of Parking: 500 Block (Union to Stokes) 600 Block (Stokes to Adams) 700 Block (Adams to Juniata) Motion carries 6-0

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

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

Mr. Sypolt gave an update on the up-lighting downtown.

Mr. Sypolt congratulated Pats Pizzeria on their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Mr. Sypolt welcomed a new business- Reservoir Boat Works on Juniata St.

Laurrapin Grill's Executive Chef Kristina Sciarra was featured on the Food Network's "Chopped".

Mr. Sypolt announced the upcoming Halloween events.

**Mr. Ben Martorana: Director of Planning:**

Mr. Martorana looks forward to getting to know more staff. The staff he has met with are great.

**Erika Quesenbery: Economic Development:** Absent

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

Mr. DeHority stated the audit firm is a local government specialist. They are professional and did a lot of work on a tight timeline.

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

Mr. Whittie announced the repaving projects start tomorrow and the crack sealing continues throughout town.

**Everett Humphreys, Police Department**

Sergeant Humphreys announced the National Drug Take Back program will be 10/22/2016.

**Business from Mayor Martin:**

Mayor Martin thanked Council Member Worrell, City Staff and Council for their efforts and dedication towards the Sustainable Maryland.

Thanked Council for their support on the budget amendments, however in regards to the charging stations, they were not well thought out actions. A lot of time was spent researching, going with a reputable company. The proximity to I-95 would have supportive of getting an app for the next tourism season. The goal is to have the City in a certain direction, a 21<sup>st</sup> Century City.

The Oktoberfest event was successful and is very proud of our City.

**Business from Council:****Council Member Hitchings:**

Council Member Hitchings congratulated the Student of the Month recipients.

Council Member Hitchings attended the MML Fall Conference last week and will be attending the MML Cecil-Harford meeting this week in Chesapeake City.

Mr. Hitchings attended the Chamber of Commerce Bull Roast and volunteered at the Oktoberfest event.

Mr. Hitchings wished his wife Shannon a Happy Birthday.

**Council Member Glenn:**

Council Member Glenn congratulated Student of the Month.

Council Member Glenn reminded citizens to be cautious of the increased foot traffic with the upcoming events.

Council Member Glenn asked for thoughts and prayers for the Patterson Mill student that suddenly passed away.

**Council Member D. Martin:**

No Comments

**Council Member Worrell:**

Council Member Worrell announced Budget and Finance will meet on 10/28 3:30 and EDAB will meet on 10/19 at 4pm.

Council Member Worrell congratulated Student of the Month.

Council Member Worrell is happy to have Mr. Ben Martorana to the Planning Department.

The Oktoberfest was a success and thanked staff and volunteers.

Attended the MML Fall Conference, was exposed to great trainings.

Congratulations to her son Dan who placed 12<sup>th</sup> out of 30 National Oyster Shucking contest.

Attended the Chesapeake Women's professional fashion show and Joseph's department store was debuted with new fashion.

**Council President Craig:**

Council President Craig stated on 10/19 Former Governor Bob Ehrlich will be speaking at the American Legion.

Council President Craig appreciates the good public debate tonight.

**Council President Gamatoria:**

Council President Gamatoria thanked Joseph's Department Store for supporting the Student of the Month with a gift certificate.

Council President Gamatoria stated the curbside recycling survey is online.

Council President Gamatoria thanked Council Member Worrell for her efforts with the Sustainable Maryland.

Wage and Benefit will be meeting on 10/18 6:30 and 10/19 Admin will be meeting

The Susquehanna River Bridge Advisory Board continues to work on this project.

Council President Gamatoria commented on Former Mayor David Craig's new book and its features and acknowledgements.

**Comments from Citizens:**

Jason Robertson, 517 Bourbon St.: Thanked the Council for the support and the seed funding for the Independence Day Commission. Stated the Commission has a lot to do in a short period of time.

Chip Paradis 330 Cigar Loop: On behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, he thanked the City and citizens for attending the Bull and Oyster Roast and the Oktoberfest.

Christy Silverstein, 414 Congress Ave & Pam Spelker- Executive Director of the HDG Alliance; Thanked the Mayor and Council for the support and the grant funding provided. Also congratulated the City on the Sustainable Maryland Certification.

Kirk Smith: Washington St:

Congratulated the City on the Sustainable Maryland Certified; commented that out of 166 municipalities 66 have applied- 36 have received the certification but only HDG was able to obtain the certification on the first try. Feels the tabling of the charging stations is a mistake from the Green Team perspective.

A motion was made by Council Member Hitchings and seconded by Council Member Glenn to adjourn at 10:51pm. Motion carries 6-0