

Town Council Meeting

Monday, April 9, 2018

Present: Rebecca M., Carolyn B., Rich T. (Mayor), Frank V., Frank H., Lee C., Tom Y. (Attorney)

Mayor Rich Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Minutes:

March 12, 2018 Meeting

Add date of parade to minutes.

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Blevins to accept the minutes from March 12, 2018. All in favor, motion carried. Frank Hill and Lee Collins abstained.

March 19, 2018 Workshop

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Blevins to accept the minutes from March 19, 2018 Workshop. All in favor, motion carried. Frank Hill and Lee Collins abstained.

March 24, 2018 Special Session

Add Frank Hill and Lee Collins to Present Line

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Lee Collins to accept the minutes from March 24, 2018 Special Session. All in favor, motion carried.

Council Reports:

Frank Vari

See Miller Environmental Report for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Report. (Higher numbers are due to snow and above average rainfall.) The basket was fixed on the North Side Plant (needed some welding). The new water tower will begin to be painted this week. We received a \$225,252.24 reimbursement from USDA #1 and a \$66,264.50 reimbursement from MDE #4. As for the demolition of the old tower, Rob is hoping to add costs into the new tower financials or with MDE Grants. KCI is preparing 90% drawings and a cost estimate for the new sewer plant; we should have them by the end of April. Settlement on the Turner property is scheduled for May.

Tourism – Independence Day Fireworks are underway. We have submitted a request for License from the Corp. There will be no parade this year.

Parks – Easter Egg hunt held behind Firehouse was a great success! Thank you to the Fire Company and Town Hall Staff.

Waste Mgt.- New budget is showing no increases for trash and possibly a \$5 / \$10 raise per ton for recycling. Refuge rebate will remain the same as last year.

Races- Races are in full swing, the Canal Race will be held June 30, 2018. Corp gave blessing to use trail.

Special Events- Hazardous Waste day for the County will be held Saturday, April 22.

Town Wide Yard Sale is Saturday May 12, 2018. CCVFC will hold an Open House on Sunday, April 15, 2018.

Rebecca Mann- Congrats to Town Staff on the Easter Egg Hunt!

Grants- She would like approval from Council for a Facade Grant. This is a 100% grant for residents to improve the facades of their home.

Eco. Dev.- She is continuing communication with Sister's Property owner in regards to the Development Proposal.

Carolyn Blevins

Historic- There was no Historic Meeting last month.

Police- See attached report for Police Activity Update.

Noise- She would like the noise ordinance put on the April Workshop Agenda.

Public safety- She would like to put the generator discussion on the April Workshop Agenda.

Frank Hill

Planning Commission- the PC approved 2 signs, one for mortgage office and one for Bayheads Brewing Co. There was a deck approval on Biddle Street. Frank and Rob spoke with DJ from Chesapeake City Ferry Service on an approval of a deck on the North side of the Kiosk. North dock was installed and all pilings put back. Due to the dredging the poles on the dock are shorter than they should be; we are looking at building extensions or driving new longer poles. A tree on Bohemia fell across road, we had it taken down.

Lee Collins

Budget- Most recent budget printout was given to Council. We hope to finalize the budget by May 14. Budget timeline is as follows: Saturday, April 14, 2018 Line Item Review; Monday, April 23, 2018 Public Hearing; Monday, May 14, 2018 Approval of Final Annual Budget.

We are also working on a Long Term Financial Plan for Loans and Grants. We hope to have this available by July 1.

He recommends that updated budgets be made available on or before the 15th of each month reflection all transactions for the previous month.

In his opinion, it may be necessary to raise Property Tax Rates a few cents/\$100 of Assessment, effective July 1. Also, a raise in our W/S Rates may have to happen for the first time since July 2013, but not anticipated to be effective until January 2019.

Rob Bernstine

Rob reported all information during Council Reports.

Mayor Rich Taylor

Rich met with several Cecil County Department Heads. They discussed the closing all the Harford Crossings which made everyone realize there needs to be a plan in place for such issue. We should think about having a plan in place in the event that the Chesapeake City Bridge and Summit Bridge were to close. Also discussed was the fire at Owens Landing- 800,000 gallons of water was used on that fire and we are sitting here without a water tower. Thank heavens ours is almost complete. There is an Eco. Dev meeting in the morning on Friday, April 13, 2018, Rich and Rob will try to attend.

Action Items:

Introducing Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2017.11 for the purposes of amending the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City to require Town Council approval for the appointment of the Town

Treasurer, to require the Mayor to submit a budget to the Council at least 90 days before the beginning of a fiscal year, and to authorize a designated Town Councilmember to countersign checks

Motion: Rebecca Mann made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Blevins to approve Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2017.11. All in favor, motion carried.

Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2017.11A for the purposes of amending the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City to transfer the power to appoint and remove officers and employees of the Town Government from the Mayor to the Town Council

Motion: Rebecca Mann made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Blevins to approve Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2017.11A. Rebecca Mann, Lee Collins, Frank Vari, and Carolyn Blevins in favor; Frank Hill opposed, motion carried.

Historic Commission Vacancy

Contingent upon their acceptance

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Blevins to appoint Margaret O'Brien to the Historic Commission. All in favor, motion carried.

Park Reservation – Cecil Soccer Practice at Helen Titter Park

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Lee Collins to approve Cecil Soccer to use Helen Titter Park for practice on Mon-Fri, 5:30 pm-8:00 pm, from March 26-June 11, 2018. All in favor, motion carried.

Closure of Pell Gardens at First Street

Motion: Frank Hill made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to close Pell Gardens from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm on Friday, May 4, 2018 to accommodate Bohemia Manor HS Prom Pictures. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business:

Draft Budget and Budget Schedule

Lee Collins gave report earlier.

General Fund Projects – Parks, Trails, and Sidewalks

Rob will give report on general funds projects at workshop. Rob will see if KCI can attend.

Truck Options

Council given a few options to look at, one is a used truck (with plow) with high miles for \$12,300.00, or a new truck for \$55,000.00. We have a 50% grant that can be used toward the NEW truck only. Used truck is capable of pulling new trailer with tractor on it.

Public Comment:

Bob Meffley is saddened by the decisions made tonight to strip the power from the Mayor.

Council Comments:

Rebecca brought up the plan of having a Closed Session following the Special Session scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2018, Council agreed, Closed Session is scheduled.

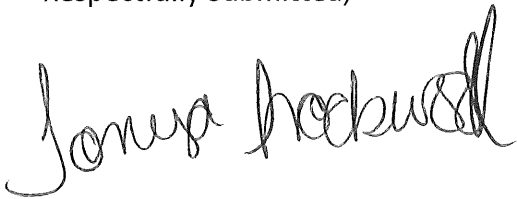
Tom: The Campbell's appealed the decision made by the Cecil County Circuit Court.

Rich: General perception is Council has stripped all power from Mayor, but Mayor remains key member of Employment Committee. Would have preferred not to have had to make a Charter Amendment, however we basically changed it to what was already being done in the past. Will discuss filling Town Manager position at Saturdays Special Session.

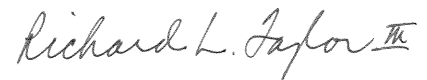
Adjourn:

Motion: Frank Vari made a motion, seconded by Carolyn Blevins to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tonya Lockwood".

Tonya Lockwood

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard L. Taylor III".

Rich Taylor, Mayor