

Town Council Meeting  
April 8, 2019

Present: Lee Adams, Frank Vari, Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Hill, Carolyn Blevins, Town Attorney Tom Yeager

Staff: Town Manager Rob Bernstine, Clerk/Treasurer Valerie Walls

Absent: Rebecca Mann

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Minutes:

Special Session/ Closed Session February 7, 2019

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the minutes from the Special Session/Closed Session February 7, 2019. All in favor, motion carried.

Closed Session February 13, 2019

**MOTION:** Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to approve the minutes from the Closed Session February 13, 2019. All in favor, motion carried.

Special Session/Closed Session February 25, 2019

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Blevins to approve the minutes for the Special Session/Closed Session February 25, 2019. All in favor, motion carried.

Town Council Minutes March 11, 2019

**MOTION:** Council Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2019 with the correction of adding Councilman Vari to the minutes as present. All in favor, motion carried.

Town Council Workshop Minutes March 25, 2019

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the workshop minutes. Aye: 2 Nay: 0 Abstaine: 2 –Councilman Vari and Councilwoman Blevins were absent from the meeting. For the record, the minutes were approved by a majority of those that were present.

Reports:

Councilwoman Blevins read the reports from the Maryland State Police. Reports are part of the Minutes Book. Signs are up on Cecil and Moss for lowering the speed limit to 15 mph.

Councilman Adams – Josh from Miller Environmental gave the summary flows for last month. Violations for March on north side pH of 8.7 on March 18<sup>th</sup>; four hours later it was 7.36 and achieved without any additional work done. March 21<sup>st</sup> was the second was chlorine residual of

1.10. Tested two hours later was .06 after the pump was re-primed (mechanical issue). No word on the consent order yet from MDE. RFP for wastewater to be reviewed later. Town Manager Bernstine updated information towards the Water & Sewer departments. His report is part of the Minutes Book. At the last Planning Commission, updated the time to apply for open position is now due on April 16<sup>th</sup>. The Commission will review and submit candidate(s) to Council to vote on in May. The Commission also reviewing fee schedule, making recommendations to Council after they've reviewed them; Board of Appeals hearing on Wednesday.

Councilman Vari: Public Works – Town Manager Bernstine updated from the 301 Toll meeting, hoping to see the impact study the end of April. Attended meeting at the Corps for bridge work/closing to one lane starting on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Reminded about Hazardous Waste Day the end of April at the landfill and it's free. Asking residents to let the Town know of any potholes, putting together a list to get repairs done. State Highway has been approved for the removal of islands on Biddle Street, re-surfacing in July. Parks & Rec had the Easter Egg Hunt last Sunday – had about 200 children. Thanking Joanne Healy for guidance in showing how to do the pruning and management in the landscaping. For trash & recycling – there is no increase in trash rates or recycling from the county. 2018 top recycler will be named at the next meeting. Starting to see number creep up with plastic bags in recycling. Social Local April 18<sup>th</sup>. Starting Thursday – free event for the Bohemia Manor Drama Club. Presented certificates to the Elementary School for work with the food pantry and the Town. Racing program – about 30 sponsors for the June race and at least one runner; Always looking for volunteers. Please bring non-perishable food item on race day. Councilman Hill questioned about the Waste Collection RFP, and an audience member wanted to know when they would be available (Council Vari – at the end of the month) and where would it be posted? (Vari- on the website and Facebook page and ad to be in paper).

Councilman Hill: At the upcoming workshop there will be a public hearing for constant tax yield, and the public presentation of budget, Capital Improvements – no major changes; No Historic Meeting this month; the taxi dock is in and the Chesapeake City Water Tours and taxi should begin May – Town Manager will verify schedule and have it posted.

Town Manager Rob Bernstine – discussion of the Safe Routes to School and Street Scapes.

Clerk Treasurer Val Walls – discussion of open balances and checks paid so far in April.

Mayor – MML dinner next Thursday in Charlestown, attending will be Councilman Adams, Councilman Vari, Councilwoman Blevins and the Mayor.

#### Board of Appeals

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Council Adams to re-appoint Marty Salmon, Alan Myers, Findlay McCool and Cindy Ortt to the Board of Appeals. All in favor, motion carried.

#### Budget Amendments 2018/2019

**MOTION:** Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Blevins to approve the suggested budget amendments. All in favor, motion carried. *NOTE: The budget for the workshop will reflect the updated numbers.*

#### RFP for Sewer

Will be a one year contract with a one year extension. Town Manager to revise a more specific time line and any revisions at his discretion that does not materially alter the RFP.

Clerk/Treasurer will post to the MML website.

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari, to approve the RFP with necessary modifications. All in favor, motion carried.

#### Open Air Music Permit

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the updated Open air Music Permit with corrections to "76 and over". All in favor, motion carried.

#### Town Attorneys Cost for MML Convention

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Blevins to split the Town Attorney's Conventions costs between five other Towns. All in favor, motion carried.

Resolution 2019.001 for the purpose of providing for the issuance and sale, by the Town of Chesapeake City, upon its full faith and credit, of its general obligation installment bond in the original principal amount of \$486,000.

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to approve the Resolution 2019.001. All in favor, motion carried.

#### Cecil Soccer Practices

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the application for Cecil Soccer Practices at Helen Titter Park, including waiving all fees. All in favor, motion carried.

Taste of Chesapeake Food Festival at north-side Fire Station October 5, 2019

Closing Biddle Street from S curve to the Firehouse for the parade, starting at 1p and will be short; Vendors at Fire House and at the parking lot at St. Rose Church next door. Event is 12-6p with clean up afterwards.

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Blevins to approve the event application, pending SHA approval and liability insurance policy. All in favor, motion carries.

Public Comment:

Michele Buckley: Questioning the reasons for a closed meeting and procedures

There was a question about Summer Music in Park – didn't they need a Music Permit for the concerts? Town Attorney stated that concerts in Pell Gardens didn't need one because music under 6 hours in length did not need a permit.

Mayor & Council

Councilman Vari: Musical at Bo Manor this Thursday; admission and concessions are free.

Councilwoman Blevins would like a discussion on the Sunday Summer music. There are some Sundays when there are three bands playing at the same time.

Town Attorney Tom Yeager thanking Council for covering part of his Convention costs.

Mayor: Councilwoman Mann has ended her term early; resigning on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The consensus of Council is to leave the seat to be vacant in two months; whomever wins in the June Election, to swear them in for the open seat and then again for the next term.

Adjournment

**MOTION:** Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted



Valerie Walls  
Clerk/Treasurer



Richard L Taylor III  
Mayor