

Town Council Meeting October 17, 2019

Present: Randy McLennan, Lee Adams, Frank Vari, Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Hill and Town Attorney Tom Yeager
Staff: Town Manager Rob Bernstine, W/S Clerk Tonya Lockwood, Clerk/Treasurer Val Walls
Absent: Ed O'Hara

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

Minutes

September 9, 2019 Meeting

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman McLennan to approve the minutes from March 9, 2019. All in favor, motion carried.

September 23, 2019 Workshop

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to approve the minutes from the workshop meeting on September 23, 2019. All in favor, motion carried.

September 23, 2019 Special Session, Closed Session

MOTION: Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve the minutes from the Special Session/Closed Session with one minor correction. All in favor, motion carried.

Proclamation - First Responders Day

Reports:

Councilman Adams: Reviewed the previous Planning Commission meeting; formal introduction for changes to the CDO, demolition of 209 Bohemia Avenue, conference yesterday with the attorneys to lay out a plan going forward. Fines have been paid, BOA fee paid and application forms – requesting a variance from the strict enforcement historic recommendation to BOA as to their position. W/S moving forward with waste water plant – out to bid early 2020. Town will be assuming large debt – need to raise the rates. Time line – Oct workshop – discussion headed with rates examples, November intro ordinance, workshop public hearing. Vote at December meeting. Gave flow reports from the county and water

Councilman Hill – gave his report on water and sewer billing rates and working on Highway User Funds. Historic report from chair Harriett Davis.

Councilman McLennan: Have done some noise checks, reminding everyone to get their flu shot.

Councilman O'Hara: Absent. Mayor gave update: Met with Chrissy McDevitt for some outside help with Economic Development. Rents are an obstacle, however that is between the tenant & store owner. Would like to schedule a session inviting the public to give ideas, what kind of shops/ businesses desirable, incentivizing part – want to do it soon, however no date set. Will talk to staff about participating in the Casa Festival of Trees.

Councilman Vari – Resurfacing moved back walk through end of October – done by Thanksgiving. Hazardous waste day will be in April around earth day. Street cleaning the last week in November. Yard waste ends Dec 16 and starts on March 2nd. Water bill contained a new message on what is accepted as recyclable. Racing program discussion later. Special Events 10/30 Cecilton meeting regarding truck traffic; 10/28 Cecil County second meeting on Census work; Will have paperwork later – paid for training. MD day to serve report is in and posted on MD day to serve website. CCEA donations are down from years past – every little bit helps. State is holding a meeting in Annapolis about the new bridge – Winterfest meetings started, will be hearing from Greg later in the meeting. Wednesday evening meet & greet at 6p about Poplar Hall. Talking with drama club to support like we did last year. Be careful of the children on the street – getting darker sooner and leaves and falling.

Councilman McLennan – Missed the 9/11 service because of a death in the fire company.

Mayor – Sidewalks: we have developed a couple of trip hazards; working on getting an inventory to Councilman Vari for grounding down.

Town Manager Bernstine – Report

Town Treasurer Val Walls, updated the P&L for October

Mayor Report – First Responders Dinner – If anyone on Council/Staff want to go let Val know before Nov 1. Attended Craig Memorial Service in Cecilton. Zach Lockwood did a great job singing the National Anthem and God Bless America.

Action Items

11th Annual Chesapeake City New years Day 5K Run/Walk

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the event application. All in favor, motion carried.

Annual Pet Parade

Usual parade route – sponsored by MPK and Chesapeake City Chamber of Commerce. More animals groups, rescue groups, dog kissing booth, and Santa. Moved the date ahead because of Thanksgiving being so late this year.

MOITON: Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve the event application contingent on insurance. All in favor, motion carried.

Road Repairs and Patching for 2019

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve the list of repairs. All in favor, motion carried.

Christmas Pop-Up

Greg Shelton talked about the event for Old World inspired Christmas Market. December 7th.

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the event application for the Christmas Market, contingent upon insurance. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

Request from Bayard House Free Shuttle Service

Official Sign with town logo for Special Parking for like the bus parking and Chesapeake City Boat Tours. Mayor wants a unified sign for throughout town.

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve a temporary sign. All in favor, motion carried.

Moving Nov meeting

Council agreed to move the November Town meeting to Thursday Nov 14th

Public Comment

Harriett Davis: Ghost walk cancelled for this year.

M&C Comment

Councilman McLennan: County is now supplying supplement drivers in Chesapeake City. 90% response with volunteers. Vaping with THC causes serious health problems. Inhaling chemicals into your lungs, causing choric illness. Thanking Town for CC Taste of Chesapeake, incredible response, hope to do it next year.

Councilman Adams: Next MML meeting? (It was tonight.)

Councilman Vari: Lions Club will be putting up snowflakes prior to Thanksgiving – we have six new snowflakes, December 1st Winterfest Opens.

Adjourn

MOTION: Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to adjourn at 8:14pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by:

Handwritten signature of Valerie Walls in cursive script.

Valerie Walls, Clerk/Treasurer

Handwritten signature of Richard L Taylor III in cursive script.

Richard L Taylor III, Mayor