

Town Council Meeting December 14, 2020

Present: Randy McLennan, Lee Adams, Frank Vari, Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Hill, Ed O'Hara, Town Attorney Tom Yeager

Staff: Town Manager Rob Bernstine, Clerk Tonya Lockwood, Admin Asst Jesse Cloud, Clerk/Treasurer Val Walls

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

Approval of Minutes

- Town Council Minutes of November 9, 2020

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to accept the minutes with corrections. All in favor, motion carried.

- Town Council Workshop Minutes November 23, 2020

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman O'Hara to approve the minutes from the workshop. All in favor, motion carried.

- Town Council Closed Session November 23, 2020-move to the January meeting

Reports

Councilman Adams: No December meeting for the Planning Commission; Sign committee meeting did meet and there will not be a workshop for the Planning Commission. Meeting with WWTP, USDA, MDE to review list of 13 items on how the contract will proceed. Nov 30th notice to proceed with construction and it has started. First progress meeting is tomorrow and then once a month, the third Tuesday – reviewing progress and invoices that presented by the contractors. Invoices must be approved before payment.

Reviewed summaries from the county regarding the current work done on the WWTP. The aerators are pretty-well shot, a hole in the wall on northside was repaired. Looking at repairs totaling \$25,000 that will need to be done on our current plants.

Councilman Hill: read the account balances to date. No meeting for Historic in November for lack of business on the agenda. Toured the new elementary school mentioning that there's a lot of potential in the old school.

Councilman McLennan: no report from the state police, met with the Ad-Hoc committee, working on a survey to the residents.

Councilman O'Hara: thanking Greg regarding the Poplar Hall Christmas Market, there were a lot of people out and followed Covid guidelines. Business owners he talked to were very pleased with their sales for the day. This will probably be the last big event for the time being.

Planning on working with the County for promotional events for January/February.

Tonya Lockwood stated that 4 towns participating for the Winter Lights, Cecil Nights. Designed to help the smaller businesses and hosting Resident White Light decoration contest. County level marketing will include advertising in the Brandywine magazine. Ten or eleven have entered for the decorating contest already.

Councilman Vari: Public Works: Speed bump removed and relayed on Biddle Street, on George St. Delmarva replace the sidewalk, curbing and blacktop on Charles Street is completed. Sweeping done on December 8th and the Town streets looks good, a lot of prep work done by the Maintenance staff. Winterized the bathroom in HTP, There was some confusion on the Snowflakes. bought 10 and 5 free ones; with Covid setbacks and correspondence we received them last week. Same sale again in January; will need to see if the Town continues to purchase them. Today was the last day of yardwaste until March 1st. No yard waste will be mixed with the trees. If special pickup is needed, call MPK directly. Thanking everyone who had a part in the Christmas Market. No reason not to do this again next year. Christmas lights are up and on. John and Zach did a great job. Lots of compliments on them. Letter from the stormwater management regarding the rain gardens, thanking the Town for participating. Attending the 2020 meeting of the Cecil Transit. Planning to help CCEA with drivers from the homes to the Generation Center. Vaccine for Covid 19 is rolling out. Still need to protect yourself with wearing mask and social distancing.

Town Manager Rob Bernstine: We're in the preliminary stages of the Old Elementary School. Will be seeking out community input. Will be advertising the same ad for the Community Service Patrol position.

Valerie Walls, Treasurer: Councilman Hill has covered everything.

Mayor Rich Taylor: Everything has been covered. Echoing O'Hara complimenting Greg Shelton for the Christmas Market. Lots of raves for Chesapeake City, people were happy and cheerful. Very positive comments from the business owners and Christmas market vendors. Also thanking Jesse Cloud for directing traffic and keeping it under control.

Action Items

- Salt Distribution Box

Reviewed at the workshop, recommending \$4175 for installation. One to two weeks.

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman McLennan to approve the purchase of a new salt box recommended by Staff. All in favor, motion carried.

- Formally introduced Resolution 2020-04 For the purpose of providing for the sale and issuance, by the Town of Chesapeake City, upon its full faith and credit, of its General Obligation bond anticipation note in the original principal amount of one million five hundred thousand dollars.

Financing our share of the new plant. Typical practice for these types of projects. Funds construction of new plant. RPF sent out to banks, Howard Bank was responsible bid, interest only will pay off with bond closing.

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill approved the introduction of Resolution 2020-04. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Councilman Hill made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-04. Councilman Adams seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Appointment of Linda Bradley as a full member of the Board of Appeals
Anne Peacock resigned and moved out of Town. Linda was an alternate and offered to become a full member. The Town is currently looking for an alternate member.

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion to accept Linda Bradley as a full-time member of the Board of Appeals. All in favor, motion carried.

Event Application: Winter White Out Sip and Stroll

MOTION: Councilman Hill made a motion to accept the Event Application Winter White Out Sip and Stroll; seconded by Councilman O'Hara. All in favor, motion carried.

Introducing Charter Amendment Resolution: 2021-001

for the purposes of amending the charter of the town of Chesapeake City to remove the requirement that the Town publish a fair summary of an adopted ordinance in a newspaper of general circulation, unless specifically required by State Law, and adding other methods of publications

Old Business- None

Public Comments: Several positive comments about the Christmas Market -

Mayor & Council Comments

Councilman Adams and Councilman Hill both commented that it was a great day for the event

Councilman McLennan commented about the Ferris Wheel at the Fire House from the Reynolds family. Will be lit as a tribute to the First Responders.

Councilman Vari – Complimenting the Ferris Wheel is very nice to display. Hoping the Christmas Market continues every year. Thanking everyone for the donations to the Toys for Tots. Merry and Blessed Christmas, please be safe.

Workshop on 28th? No workshop on 28th unless something urgent comes up.

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to enter into a closed session at 7:55pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Closed Session

To discuss with Counsel the sale of Town Owned Properties

MOTION: Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to close the Closed Session at 8:53pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Open Session

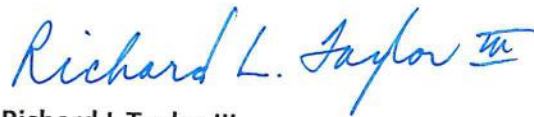
MOTION: Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve the actions discussed in the Closed Session. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Councilman O'Hara made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to adjourned the meeting at 8:55pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by:



D. Valerie Walls
Clerk/Treasurer



Richard L Taylor III
Mayor