

## Town Council Meeting March 8, 2021

Present: Lee Adams, Frank Vari, Frank Hill, Ed O'Hara, Town Attorney Tom Yeager

Staff: Town Manager Rob Bernstine, Town Clerk, Tonya Adams, Clerk/Treasurer Valerie Walls, Admin Asst. Jesse Could

Absent: Randy McLennan

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

### Approval of Minutes

Town Council Meeting February 8, 2021

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion and seconded with one correction. All in favor, motion carried.

Closed Session Town Council Meeting February 8, 2021-next meeting

Town Council Workshop Meeting February 22, 2021-next meeting

Closed Session Town Council Meeting February 22, 2021-next meeting

### Reports

Councilman Adams:

Continuing to move along with waste-water treatment plant. He also gave the flow reports from the past month. Report is included in the minutes. Six parcels total need easements from for the work on Mt. Nebo. More information at the next meeting. Planning Commission updates; setbacks in the CDO should not be a one size fits all. Some of these applicants going to the Board of Appeals seems unnecessary. Town Manger and the Attorney spoke this afternoon and agree with Councilman Adams. Next planning Commission Workshop is March 24, 2021, instead of St. Patrick's Day, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Hill: Read the bank balances, Budget Committee has met twice and completing reviewing the General Fund. Will be working on it until a final approval. Historic Commission, a couple of small approvals. Business people in Town brought up they would like sandwich boards out, and we don't have a defined section in the sign ordinance. We are meeting tomorrow night to review regulations by other communities. We want to get it done before the summer so merchants can put out signs.

Councilman McLennan: Absent, no updates from Trooper Proctor

Councilman O'Hara: Winter months are our slowest months. Sip & Stroll new event was very successful. Thanking the organizers and workers. It was a great event. People wanted out of the house. April 30<sup>th</sup> start date of this years Farmers Market. Fridays 4-7pm. Greg Shelton will continue to organize the event, he's hoping to double the number of vendors. The St Patrick's Day Parade is cancelled, the organizers could not get people to participate. Town Manager mentioned the Car Show the Lions Club will be August 28. Bob Kidner is working on getting it together now. Waiting on approvals from the State.

Councilman Vari: Public Works- Catch basins are in; 2<sup>nd</sup> & Bohemia tripping hazard has a patch until spring, there is more work to be done. Patching with cold patch – 2nd & Bohemia – needs a

full patch, instead of temporary fixes. Parke & Rec – Spring brings yearly inspections. Looking for volunteers. As of March 1, yard waste will be picked up again. If you need a special pick up – call MPK directly. Numbers for recycling, we believe we're still number one. April 18<sup>th</sup> Household Hazardous Waste Day. Its free event. Special Events: thanking this past Saturday's volunteers for lowering our Christmas lights; it only took about 45 minutes with such a great turn-out. This Thursday Virtual County State of Address. Snowflakes for upcoming Holiday Season have been ordered. Chesapeake City as a member of 2020 Census Partnership, we came in 9<sup>th</sup> as a Member with 71.2%; Cecil County had 67% returned. Chesapeake City had a return of 65% - we were the third highest in the state. Since March last year 2447 masks to Union Hospital Volunteers who were able to distribute to Outreach, visitors, etc. Collected over 2800 pounds of food to distribute. We are not out of the woods; Many need the second shot and we still need to wear masks, until CDC gives us the all clear.

Rob Bernstine, Town Manager: Little League reached out to the property agent for additional property that is for sale in the area; suggested to apply for grant money from Open Space for overflow parking. Mayor in favor of pursuing and Council agrees.

Valerie Walls, Treasurer: Reminding Council of the Annual State of the County Address on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 9-10am. This is a Virtual Event

Mayor Rich Taylor: Good to see alot of activity going on in Town, specifically at the New Waste Water plant and Schaefer's parking lot. The Scenic Byway is now updated to include area from Long Creek to Summerset County. This was prompted by the Cell Phone Tower.

### **Action Items**

Introducing Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2021-001

for the purposes of amending the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City to removing 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 publication.

State code amended a while ago – need 21 day's notice instead of the 14 days. Nothing changes, re-introducing same information.

### **Old Business**

Councilman Vari, one year we started our journey of converting the Ben Cardin's Trail into a State Park. Army Corp is working on the Federal side to make this happen. It will come from Ben Cardin's office, and Delaware has moved forward on their end. Hope to learn more after speaking to Cardin's office tomorrow.

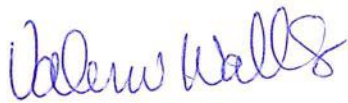
### **Public Comments**

A resident commented online that if the Town charged for parking for the Lion's Car Show, those funds can be used to help cover the cost of street sweeping

**Mayor & Council Comments - None**

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to adjourn the meeting at 7:36pm.  
All in favor, motion carried.

**Submitted:**



**Valerie Walls**  
Clerk/Treasurer



**Richard L Taylor, III**  
Mayor