

## Town Council Meeting July 12, 2021

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

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

Mayor Rich Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:33pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

### Minutes

June 14, 2021

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the minutes of June 14, 2021. Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Abstain 1- T Greco

Closed session 6/14/2021

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to approve the minutes of the Closed Session on June 14, 2021. Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Abstain 1 T Greco

June 28, 2021

**MOTION:** Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilmen O'Hara with minor changes noted. Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Abstain 1 T Greco

### Swearing in of Newly Elected Councilman

Mayor Taylor swore in the newly elected Councilman for the term of two years, Todd Greco, Ed O'Hara and Frank Vari.

### Reports

Councilman Adams-There was no workshop in June or meeting in July for the Planning Commission. The sub-committee on set-backs met on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Water & Sewer: week of June 22 there was a major concrete pour; things are moving as planned. Detailed tour of Perryville Waste Water Treatment Plant – similar to our new plant, but that plant is 10x bigger than ours, with the Mayor, Rob and himself. Two of the easements on Mt Nebo have been returned, seven were sent out. Rob will reach out to those that haven't signed to see what questions there may be. No flow reports for this meeting.

Councilman Greco: Have met with Commission McLennan and Trooper Procter to see where things were.

Councilman Hill: Updated Council on the account balances. Historic Commission met on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and several applications approved.

Councilman O'Hara: Thanking property owner, John Giordano for use of his property for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fireworks; felt attendance was well attended, Coast Guard, State Police and Fire Company. Farmer's Market: will continue, hunting for more vendors, but it's hard to fight Mother Nature. Encouraging the residents to come out. Vendors want more residents, residents want more vendors. Discussed plans for the Christmas Market and expanding it to a two-day event.

Councilman Vari: First time back, feels good to be live in Town Hall. Public Works: street repairs have been approved and working on a new list for the fall. Extended yellow curb on Lock & Biddle St, Second & George St. Thanking MPK putting out cans for the fireworks and picking them up the next day. Council received the recycling campaign of 2021. Have been told we're number #1 in Cecil County again. Hats off to all the residents for keeping us number one. Other Towns have improved numbers, also. NYD 5K plans will start shortly, "Welcome Back Run". Special Events: attended Cecil County mixer at Schaefer's. Good networking ideas, the soccer team we helped, won the tournament in Texas. Came in 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Nationals. Remember Music in the Park, had two so far with good attendance; Aug 28<sup>th</sup> is the car show. Will be talking with MPK to put cans around town, like July 4<sup>th</sup>. 9/11 Service to be held in VFW on Basil Avenue, more information next month

Town Manager Rob Bernstine: Bad storm the end of June, John and Jesse opened up three of the roads that evening. Broken branches and trees removed the following days.

Trooper Procter: A lot of rain in June, so there was more of a police presence. July increasing time of shifts, ending at 3am instead of 2am.

Mayor, Rich Taylor: Thanking John & Jesse for tree work done after the storm. We are committed to Farmers Market and we are putting tax payers resources to support it. Given time to establish the market, it will be a nice commodity for the Town. Visiting boaters on our docks were from Oregon, Texas, nobody from Europe this month, lots from up and down the East Coast.

#### Action Items

Ordinance 2021-004 permitting the possession and consumption of alcohol in Pell Gardens and the dedicated surrounding areas on the day of the Chesapeake City Running Festival.

**MOTION:** Councilman Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to approve the Ordinance 2021-004. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

Resolution No. 2021-003 –A resolution of the Town of Chesapeake City, Maryland for purposes of appointing the Heads of all Offices, Departments and Agencies.

**MOTION:** Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to accept Resolution No. 2021-003. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Comment: None at this time

Mayor and Council Comments:

Councilman Adams: Liked the fireworks display and it was enjoyed by his neighbors, too.

Councilman Greco: Kudos to the team for the fireworks, the Town was packed.

Councilman Hill: Welcome Todd to the Council along with Ed and Frank being re-elected. Music in the Park has had light attendance on Sundays from 6p-8p. The music has been very nice.

Councilman O'Hara: Second that for Music in the Park; Fireworks went off wonderfully.

Councilman Vari: Fireworks went well. Getting out went well. People directing traffic did a great job. Welcoming Todd and Ed and myself back.

Town Clerk Tonya Lockwood : 15 applications for the Façade Grant; The top 5 will be chosen on Wednesday by Cecilton, and sent to the State by the end of week. Paperwork done for 2022, too. Welcome Todd and Congrats to Ed and Frank.


Town Attorney: Tom Yeager: Chestertown did not do fireworks; congrats to the winners of the election.

Mayor Rich Taylor: Comments concerning the fireworks and the length of the show. Budget has not increased, but the fireworks cost has and is the reason the show is shorter. We could see costs eventually of \$1000 a minute. We need to be expanding the pool. Maybe a workshop item, forming a committee for fundraising events. Town Attorney suggested contacting Rock Hall, they have a lot of contributors to theirs.

**MOTION:** Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman O'Hara to convene into a Closed Session at 7:22pm. All in favor, motion carried.

A five-minute recess

Submitted:

  
Valerie Walls, Clerk/Treasurer

  
Richard L Taylor, III Mayor

End of open Meeting 7/12/2021

**Attendees**

Mayor Rich Taylor  
Councilman Lee Adams  
Councilman Frank Hill  
Town Manager Rob Bernstine

Councilman Frank Vari  
Councilman Ed O'Hara  
Councilman Todd Greco

Frank Hill made motion for Council to offer employment for the position and rate as discussed in closed meeting.

Second Frank Vari  
All in favor

Lee Adams made motion for Personnel Committee to continue process and for the Town Manager to solicit services as discussed.

Second Todd Greco

Motion to close meeting by Frank Hill

Second by Todd Greco  
All in Favor

Submitted by R. Bernstine

Approved By

Richard H. Gorton Date 8/11/21