

Town Council Meeting & Workshop October 25, 2021

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

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

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:42pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes:

Town Council minutes of September 13, 2021

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

Town Council minutes of September 27, 2021

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to approve the workshop minutes of September 27, 2021, with corrections. All in favor, motion carried

Closed meeting September 27, 2021

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilman O'Hara to approve the minutes of the Closed Session on September 27, 2021. All in favor, motion carried.

Reports:

Councilman Adams: Planning Commission met on Oct 6th for a parking lot and storage building. Much discussion regarding an accessory building including demolition of the house destroyed in fire; Application tabled pending more info from the engineers. Reviewed two resumes for Rob McLarnon term. Comprehensive Plan group had another meeting. Rob reviewed his project status, and part of the Minutes Book.

Councilman Greco: Parking committee met; continued discussion of installing meters. Problems/vandalism along the town dock. Fishing late at night, trash build up. A letter sent to Walnut Drive residents for speeding. Signs to be installed shortly.

Councilman Hill: Gave account balances for Howard Bank. Historic Commission met on September 28th. Currently there are two open positions to be filled.

Councilman O'Hara: Looking into Fall and Winter events. The Second Version of the ghost walk seems to be a successful event. People are out and enjoying themselves. Getting ready for the Winterfest on Dec 4th. Based on reservations, people are coming into Chesapeake City.

Councilman Vari

Public Works – doesn't believe residents are reading the newsletter, yard waste pick up is on Monday, trash on Tuesday and recycling on Wednesday. Yard waste is tricky – the bags get wet and tears and cannot always be returned. Dec 20th last day for yard waste for 2021; resuming on March 20th 2022. Christmas trees only, for end of December, January and February. Over 8 ton in recycling so far this year. Household Waste Day was very successful. The County is very happy people are using them. Parks & Rec met last month – issues found in all three parks and the Maintenance crew handled them. Will need to mulch playgrounds in the Spring; still looking for volunteers. Prime 225 has completed the list of items, and are paying attention to the time to close. Very good communication. Special Events, MD day to serve is called Just Serve. Completed for the 6th year in a row. 534 pounds of food. Clean up day was a so-so day. Our Maintenance People took care of it. Getting into Christmas, Toys for Tots needs help this year. Yesterday attended St Basil's 100th year anniversary. Service was very nice. Church was spruced up. Cecil County Chamber of Commerce. Attended the mixer with New Castle County, a good networking event. Winterfest- will be starting within two weeks putting the lights around town. Need six to twelve people, especially for the Galleon at the Corp of Engineers. Sunday past, at the 5 Star Experience at Fair Hill. Many of the County officials and towns were there. Treated like VIPs. Received price quotes for more snowflakes in January – continuing to change out the old with the new. Some with the Northside Association. Approximately \$680 a piece, some residents will add to the pot, too. New Year's Day Fun Run will be discussed later. Anna England will be sprucing up where Karla's bench and the flag coming into the north side. Town Manager reviewed his report. Mt Nebo update: Checking deeds of the two that are left – would like to start as soon as possible; Contractor LECCO is ready to go. Road report has been sent to State Highway.

Treasurer

Discussion of recent audit; Council asking for a presentation from Jim Baxter.

Mayor

Parcel of land to the left of Luff Lane, 4-5 acres behind the house, the county purchases(?) from Kermode and either sell or give accessible for football and another Little League Field. Town have use of football field for parking, serve two purposes. Elected officials told us to stay out. Letting Little League handle it. Asking price is \$130,000. Bridge Point – Spoke last week discussing transfer the open space lots to us. There's nothing else we need to do. Town Attorney wants to review before the Mayor signs.

Action items:

Resolution 2021-004: 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 one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000), pursuant to the authority of sections 19-301 to 19-309, inclusive of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 26-58 and 26-59 of the Charter of the Town of Chesapeake City, and Ordinance 2020-007, passed by the Council on October 30, 2020.

MOTION: Councilman Hill made motion, seconded by Councilman Greco to approve Resolution 2021-004. All in favor, motion carried.

RUS BULLETIN 1780-27 LOAN RESOLUTION: Authorizing and providing for the incurrence of indebtedness for the purpose of providing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving, and/or extending its new Wastewater Treatment Plant Project.

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

Historic Appointments- Two open positions

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Greco to have Jeanne Staker fulfill Ashley Miller's position, term ending January 9, 2023. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Councilman O'Hara made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to have Carey Maloumian to fulfill Kelly Copeland's term ending May 9, 2026. All in favor, motion carried.

Planning Commissions

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to appoint Susan Trentham of 402 Biddle Street to fulfill the term of Rob McLarnon, September 13, 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Event Application: CC New Year's Day 5K Run/Walk

MOTION: Councilman Vari made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill to approve the event application for the Chesapeake City New Year's Day 5K. All in favor, motion carried.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

Public Safety

- **Walnut Drive Speeding:** A letter to Walnut Drive residents about the speeding not appreciated and being monitored. Trying to get signs on Walnut Drive

MOTION: Councilman Greco made a motion, seconded by Councilman Vari to post a 15mph limit on Walnut Drive. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Councilman Greco made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams for four Children at Play signs for Biddle Street. All in favor, motion carried.

It was suggested to place a sign in between trees at Titter Park to make it harder to get through.

There seems to be dogs running free off leash. There is video; a letter going out to remind the homeowner. Reminders that animal complaints to go Animal Control.

Council has requested a sign inventory of what we have, and where they should go.

- Fishing on Bulkhead, trash and vandalism, lights destroyed.

Council is considering installing camera's. Not determined if it's the people fishing or those with too much alcohol. There's a lot of nails from throwing lines out or crab traps, fish holders, etc. Lights have been there a long time. We could go higher and not need as many.

Councilman Greco said that was fine, but its not addressing the trash or vandalism. Councilman Adams is in favor of No Fishing Signs. Discussed making it Dusk to Dawn. Making it a Municipal Infraction and fine when caught. Penalties would need to be in an Ordinance.

MOTION: Councilman Greco made a motion, seconded by Councilman Adams to install la sign stating No Fishing Dusk to Dawn. All in favor, motion carried.

Update on lining conduit for the WWTP maps were part of the packet and included into the Minutes Book.

Public Comments- NONE

Mayor & Council Comments

Councilman Vari: Mentioned the 9/11 Edition in the Cecil Whig. Alan Myers is mentioned in the Bridge walk, he's a member of Appeals Board. 85-90 people participated in the event, the hardest part was the stairs. Also mentioned was the Service CCEA had at the VFW

Town Manager Rob Bernstine presented Council with a book that Gale & Jerry Testa created of the building of the water tower by the high school.

Clerk, Tonya Lockwood is meeting with Sandy Turner for Cecil Nights, Winter Lights. Will also be meeting on Wednesday with the Bike rack guys. General Code manuscript for the Town starting in October, has not been updated since 1976.

The Town gave a basket to the Sampson's. Their house sold and they're moving to Florida, The basket contained items bought from each shop in to Town. Certificates of Appreciation given to Harry and Tracy.

The Mayor thank Cecil Tourism for bringing the 5 Star Course to Cecil County. Backdrop included a pilot boat, USS Chesapeake City which gave us massive coverage as a water town to the Canal.

Adjourn

MOTION: Councilman Adams made a motion to adjourn at 8:49pm, seconded by Councilman Greco. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted:



D. Valerie Walls
Clerk/Treasurer



Richard L Taylor, III
Mayor