

# Town Council Workshop Minutes

Monday, July 25, 2022

Present: Mayor Rich Taylor, Frank Hill, Todd Greco, Frank Vari, Lee Adams, Ed O'Hara, Tonya Lockwood (staff), Rob Bernstine (staff)

Absent: Tom Yeager (attorney)

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

## Special Session:

**Motion:** Todd Greco made a motion, seconded by Sarah Ford-Ferrara to enter the Special Session. All in favor, motion carried.

## Public Hearing:

**Motion:** Todd Greco made a motion, seconded by Ed O'Hara to enter open the Public Hearing for Ordinance 2022-005 – An Emergency Ordinance revising the Residential Parking Regulations within the Historic District including the Permit Requirements, the Fees for Permits, and the Fines for Violations. All in favor, motion carried.

*Emergency Ordinance 2022-005 – An Emergency Ordinance revising the Residential Parking Regulations within the Historic District including the Permit Requirements, the Fees for Permits, and the Fines for Violations*

## Public Comments:

Joanne Lund, a Bohemia Ave. resident, sent an email in (attached) with statements on the proposed Ordinance.

Sandra Edwards, a Walnut Drive resident, agrees with Ms. Lund that the residents without off-street parking should not have to pay for permits and feels they should be entitled to two permits, regardless of the number of cars they own. She also stated that those same residents should get two dedicated spaces near their residence.

## Council Comments:

Todd G- Permits given out already are grandfathered into the old ordinance.

**Motion:** Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Frank Vari to close the Public Hearing. All in favor, motion carried.

## Acton Items:

*Emergency Ordinance 2022-005 – An Emergency Ordinance revising the Residential Parking Regulations within the Historic District including the Permit Requirements, the Fees for Permits, and the Fines for Violations*

**Motion:** Todd Greco made a motion, seconded by Sarah Ford-Ferrara to approve Emergency Ordinance 2022-005 – An Emergency Ordinance revising the Residential Parking Regulations within the Historic District including the Permit Requirements, the Fees for Permits, and the Fines for Violations. All in favor, motion carried.

*Resolution 2022-006 – Appointing the Heads of Offices, Departments, and Agencies*

**Motion:** Sarah Ford-Ferrara made a motion, seconded by Todd Greco to approve Resolution 2022-006 – Appointing the Heads of Offices, Departments, and Agencies. All in favor, motion carried.

*Event Application – Lions Club Car Show*

**Motion:** Lee Adams made a motion, seconded by Sarah Ford-Ferrara to approve Event Application – Lions Club Car Show. All in favor, motion carried.

Discussion Items:

*Dumpster Fees*

It was discussed at the July Planning Commission Meeting that we should consider charging a fee for Dumpster's placed on Town Property. Recently, there have been a few dumpsters placed on Town Streets and left for extended periods of time. Some PC members thought a daily fee or weekly fee would expedite the removal of these dumpsters. Lee will discuss the idea of having a free time period, for example 2 weeks, to complete the project and remove the dumpster and then a fee will be charged after the expiration of that period.

*DBM Films – “Little Heroes”*

The team from DBM Films reached out and would like to film a few scenes from their upcoming movie in Chesapeake City. They are scheduled to film from September 18 through October 2 and would need to be in Chesapeake City for approximately 3 or 4 days in that timeframe to film outside. They do not foresee needing to close any roads.

Council would like a pre-walkthrough to see what needs to be updated prior to filming.

*Town Hall Generator*

This was discussed pre-covid as a refuge for residents to charge phones, cool off/warm up in a large power outage. We would need to budget approximately \$10,000.00 for a generator large enough to run all of Town Hall, as well as a propane tank to fuel it. We will investigate the actual cost and get a better idea of the amount of funds needed for the entire project.

Public Comment:

Findlay McCool- We are in a recession, and we need to think about what we are spending taxpayer funds on. Council needs to look at how often we would need to use the proposed generator. Statistically, we would only need to use this a few times a year, at best. Council needs to be fiscally responsible.

Sandra Edwards- Generator makes sense if you can use ARPA Funds. Not only to assist residents without power, but also to keep Town Hall staff up and running.

Sandra E.- Reach out to Cecil County regarding the Elementary School Project and make clear that the Town wants parking!

Tammy Smithers- The Chamber has a budget of about \$30,000 to use toward parking, lighting, and safety/security in general. Delmarva may be able to help us get additional lighting under the bridge in the parking areas. Café on the Bay has installed security cameras due to some of the issues happening. A walkway along the fence of the south WWTP fence would be a nice way to get folks to the red parking lot.

Findlay McCool- Could the Town have someone pick up the trash from the folks parking on the levies, following the fireworks? The Corp allows the Town to use it and the trash left behind is awful. The Town could as for volunteers, such as students needing community service hours.

We need to sweep the streets more often, it not only makes the Town look better, but it also cleans up the gravel that tears up the paved streets when it continues to get ground into it. It was a minimal cost when he was mayor, and was money well spent to maintain the roads.

Yard Waste is not being picked-up on a regular basis. When it is getting picked up, they are putting it in with the regular trash, which is unacceptable. The Town is charged a higher rate for trash and a lower rate for yard waste, so combining them is unacceptable. It was not picked-up today at all and what is left there tomorrow is going to create a bigger mess.

Sadly, Findlay will be resigning from the Board of Appeals, effective January 1, 2023, as he is retiring and will be busy spending time with his growing family!

#### Mayor and Council Comments:

Todd Greco- We need lighting in the under-bridge parking areas. If we expect visitors to park there, we need to clean up the whole area. Once the WWTP is taken down, we need to look at additional walkways to the red lot. The Chamber should bring ideas to the Council, he will try to attend the next Chamber Meeting.

We need to address the weeds around the Town. He agrees that the Street Sweeping needs to happen more often.

Rob Bernstine- The owners of the Bayard House are looking to add a dock along their property, where we could possibly tie a new walkway project to their dock project.

Rich Taylor- We hear you Findlay, and we are currently addressing the Street Sweeping and Yard Waste.

#### Adjourn:

**Motion:** Todd Greco made a motion, seconded by Sarah Ford-Ferrara to adjourn the Special Session at 7:43pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonya Lockwood

Richard L. Taylor, III, Mayor