

CITY OF ABERDEEN
Council Meeting
August 14, 2017

Council Present: Mayor Patrick McGrady
Councilman Steven Goodin
Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck
Councilman Timothy Lindecamp
Councilman Melvin Taylor

Also Present: Randy Robertson, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Kyle Torster, Director of Public Works
Henry Trabert, Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Monica Correll, City Clerk

Mayor McGrady called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was delivered by Pastor Sarah Elliott, Wesleyan Chapel United Methodist Church and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Melvin Taylor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Goodin and seconded by Councilman Lindecamp to approve the following Council Meeting minutes. **The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

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| 1. May 1, 2017 Council Work Session | 5. July 31, 2017 Special Council Meeting |
| 2. May 22, 2017 Council Work Session | 6. July 31, 2017 Closed Meeting |
| 3. June 5, 2017 Council Work Session | 7. August 3, 2017 Emergency Council Meeting |
| 4. July 24, 2017 Closed Meeting | 8. August 3, 2017 Closed Meeting |

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

STATEMENT OF CLOSED MEETING:

The Mayor read the following closed meeting statements:

1. July 24, 2017 Council Meeting

On Monday, July 24, 2017, the Mayor and Council held a regularly scheduled Council Meeting in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. All members voted by roll call in the affirmative to close the meeting except for Councilman Goodin who was absent.

At approximately 8:54 p.m., a closed meeting was convened by the Mayor and Council in the second floor administrative conference room. Members present were: Mayor Patrick McGrady, Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck, Councilman Timothy Lindecamp, and Councilman Melvin Taylor. Councilman Goodin was absent. Also in attendance were: Frederick Sussman, City Attorney; Randy Robertson, City Manager; and Monica Correll, City Clerk.

The meeting was held pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Statutory Authority Md. Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b): (4) to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State; and (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. The topic for closing was property tax feedback from the City Attorney as requested by the Council.

During this meeting, the Mayor and Council met with the City Attorney and City Manager to discuss a property tax matter. The Council voted to authorize the City Attorney to send a letter on behalf of the Council. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:18 p.m.

2. July 31, 2017 Special Meeting

On Monday, July 31, 2017, the Mayor and Council held a Special Council Meeting in the second floor administrative conference room at 6:00 p.m. All members voted by roll call in the affirmative to close the meeting.

At approximately 6:02 p.m., the meeting was closed. Members present were: Mayor Patrick McGrady, Councilman Steven Goodin, Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck, Councilman Timothy Lindecamp, and Councilman Melvin Taylor. Also in attendance were: Randy Robertson, City Manager; Frederick Sussman, Esq., City Attorney, and Monica Correll, City Clerk.

The meeting was held pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Statutory Authority Md. Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b): (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; (4) to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State; and, (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. During this meeting, the Mayor and Council discussed personnel matters under citations (1) and (7) and contract matters under citation (4) and (7).

No action was taken and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

3. August 3, 2017 Emergency Council Meeting

On Thursday, August 3, 2017, the Mayor and Council held an Emergency Council Meeting in the second floor conference room at 4:00 p.m. All members voted by roll call in the affirmative to close the meeting except for Councilman Timothy Lindecamp who was absent.

At approximately 4:09 p.m., a closed meeting was convened by the Mayor and Council in the second floor administrative conference room. Members present were: Mayor Patrick McGrady, Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck, Councilman Steven Goodin, and Councilman Melvin Taylor. Councilman Timothy Lindecamp was absent. Also in attendance were: Randy Robertson, City Manager; Henry Trabert, Chief of Police, and Monica Correll, City Clerk.

The meeting was held pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Statutory Authority Md. Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b): (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. The topic for closing was a personnel matter.

During this meeting, the Mayor and Council met with the City Manager and Chief to discuss an urgent personnel matter. No action was taken and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:41 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Introduction of Col. Robert L. Phillips, Aberdeen Proving Ground: Col. Phillips could not attend the meeting.
2. Introduction of Bunky Luffman, Intergovernmental Affairs, Eastern Shore Liaison, Office of the Governor: Mr. Luffman introduced himself and explained that his responsibilities included the area east of Baltimore County.
3. Ramona and Freddy Bennett Memorial Scholarship Award: Mayor McGrady, along with Ms. Judith Hinch, presented a scholarship award to Franklin J. Shedleski, a Science and Mathematics Academy graduate from Aberdeen High School.
4. Beautification Awards: Mayor McGrady, along with Ms. Judith Hinch, presented the Beautification Awards to the owners of the properties of 110 Baltimore Street and 4 S. Parke Street.
5. Update on State Rte. 22 by State Highway Administration (SHA): Tom Briggs, Area Engineer Construction; Amy Andrews, Project Engineer Construction; Jeff Schroeder, Project Engineer Construction

Mr. Briggs reported on the State Rte. 22 and Beards Hill Road construction. Rain delayed work by ten days which resulted in missing the August 1, 2017 deadline. He anticipated completion within two weeks depending on the weather. Concrete medians and curb/gutter work needed to be completed.

The City brought these matters to the attention of SHA:

- There was peripheral flooding and draining issues produced by lack of drainage, fencing, and cleaning of ditches. Trees needed to be moved back.
- Grass cutting was needed on Old Post Road.

- A traffic plan should be instituted to prevent traffic complications produced by the construction. Aberdeen Police had to be used to rectify recent traffic control deficiencies.
- Road striping was needed near Beacon staffing.
- Homes on Farm Road were flooded.
- Dipping patches were needed, especially on Paradise Road.

Business owners and a resident commented on the traffic conditions, insufficient signage/traffic patterns, poor road conditions, construction times, and other problems affecting the community and businesses. Mr. Torster said that he was informed by SHA Maintenance/Churchville Office, that there would be a development strategy completed after the rights-of-ways were determined.

Mr. Biggs said he would contact Traffic and Maintenance Departments on these issues. Completion of the project was scheduled for the spring of 2018 to include the final paving, pavement markings, etc.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Resolution No. 17-R-06, Support for the Greater Aberdeen/Havre de Grace Enterprise Zone Expansion

A motion was made by Councilman Lindecamp and seconded by Councilman Taylor to adopt Resolution No. 17-R-06, Support for the Greater Aberdeen/Havre de Grace Enterprise Zone Expansion. **The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.
Nays: None.

2. Ordinance No. 17-O-14, Fee Schedule Revision

A motion was made by Councilman Taylor and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to introduce Ordinance No. 17-O-14, Fee Schedule Revision. **The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.
Nays: None.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business: None.

2. New Business: None.
3. Updates from City Manager and Staff

Mr. Robertson reported that the storage containers, used by the Parks and Recreation Board, were repainted. The City manicured the property at 122 North Philadelphia Boulevard. He received five potential bidders for the facility condition assessment of Ripken Stadium. An APG Centennial 10K Race starting at Festival Park was scheduled on August 30, 2017. He had been contacted by the U.S. Postal Service and was informed that the accessibility ramp study had been completed, the design was under review, and the plan for construction would be awarded after October, 2017.

- a. Update on James Avenue Interceptor

Mr. Robertson reported that the bids for the work on this project were higher than budgeted and that work may have to be completed in phases or segments. Mr. Torster explained the project and that it would increase the sewer size.

- b. Feasibility Study for the Transit Oriented Development, Bid No. 17-19

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilman Goodin to award Bid No. 17-19, Feasibility Study for the Transit Orient Development, Festival Square Area, in the amount of \$22,000 to the low bidder, The Chesapeake Group, Baltimore, MD. Council discussion followed. **The motion was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

- c. Aberdeen Façade Improvement Program, Harford Lanes, Custis Street

A motion was made by Councilman Lindecamp and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the Aberdeen Façade Improvement Program Application in the amount of \$11,542, for Harford Lanes, 20 Custis Street. Council discussion followed. The owner, Ms. Sarah Letscher, spoke about the renovations. **The motion was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

d. Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program

A motion was made by Councilman Lindecamp and seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve the Minority Business Plan, Section 3 Plan, and the Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity Plan through the Maryland Community Development Block Grant Funds. Council discussion followed. **The motion was approved by a vote of 4 – yes; 1 – no.**

Ayes: Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.
Nays: Mayor McGrady.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the Council Members: The Council members commented on the Council Visioning and Goals Session held on Saturday, August 12, 2017. Councilman Lindecamp discussed the funding and facilities of the Parks and Recreation Board and the Boys & Girls Club; Aberdeen compared to Havre de Grace and Bel Air.
2. Business from the Mayor: The Mayor commented on the positive results from the Visioning and Goals Session and made the announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Planning Commission Meeting: Wednesday, August 23, 2017, 7 PM, Council Chambers
Council Work Session: Monday, August 28, 2017, 5:30 PM, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Council Meeting: Monday, August 28, 2017, 7 PM, Council Chambers

Events

Aberdeen Farmers Market, August 17, 2017, 4-7 PM, Festival Park
Third Fridays, August 18, 2017, 6 PM, Festival Park
Public Safety Appreciation Day, Saturday, August 19, 2017, 10 AM-2 PM, Festival Park
Keep Aberdeen Beautiful Community Clean Up, Saturday, September 2, 2017, 9 AM, City Hall

ADJOURNMENT:

Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.