

CITY OF ABERDEEN
Council Meeting
February 13, 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 Chaplain (LTC) Arleigh vonSeggern, Aberdeen Proving Ground, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Timothy Lindecamp.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilman Goodin to approve the following minutes:

- Council Work Session, January 9, 2017
- Council Meeting, January 9, 2017
- Council Work Session, January 23, 2017
- Council Meeting, January 23, 2017
- Closed Meeting Minutes, January 23, 2017

The motion passed by a by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.

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

STATEMENT OF CLOSED MEETING:

The Mayor read the Statement of Closed Meeting for January 23, 2017.

On January 23, 2017, the City Council held a regularly scheduled Work Session in the Second Floor Administrative Conference Room at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. All Council members voted by roll call in the affirmative to close the session with the exception of Mayor McGrady, who was absent.

At approximately 6:27 p.m., a closed meeting was convened by the Council in the same room. Members present were: Councilman Steven Goodin, Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck, Councilman Timothy Lindecamp, and Councilman Melvin Taylor. Mayor Patrick McGrady was absent. Also in attendance were: Frederick Sussman, City Attorney; Randy Robertson, City Manager; Monica Correll, City Clerk; Henry Trabert, Chief of Police, attended 6:27 p.m. to 6:33 p.m. under citations (7) and (8); and, Theresa Hartman, Human Resources Manager, attended 6:27 p.m. to 6:33 p.m. under citations (7) and (8).

The session was held pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Statutory Authority Md. Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b): (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter, and (8) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. The topic of the meeting under citations (7) and (8) was a pending lawsuit. The topic of the meeting under citation (7) was to consult the City Attorney regarding a possible tax issue.

Under citations (7) and (8), the Council discussed a pending lawsuit from 6:27 p.m. to 6:33 p.m. Under citations (7), the Council discussed a possible tax issue from 6:33 to 6:47 p.m. No action was taken under any of the citations. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:47 p.m.

OATHS OF OFFICE:

The Mayor nominated Mr. Gary Getz to the Architecture Review Committee. **The nomination was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

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

The Mayor nominated Mr. Douglas Kopeck to the Architecture Review Committee. **The nomination was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

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

The Mayor administered the oath of office to Mr. Getz and to Mr. Kopeck.

The Mayor and Council agreed to postpone the nominations of Mr. Jason Kolligs and Mr. Michael Hiob for the Aberdeen Planning Commission.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Introduction of New Employees

Chief Trabert introduced two new, Aberdeen Police Department employees, James Bodine and Joshua Pietrogiacomo, both lateral police officers.

2. Presentation by Aberdeen Lions Club to the Aberdeen Police Department

Mr. Mark Schlottman from the Aberdeen Lions Club, presented Chief Trabert, stuffed toy lions for the police officers to give to traumatized children. Mr. Schlottman also announced that the Aberdeen Lions Club was providing academic scholarships to local, eligible students.

3. Middleton Road Update

Mayor McGrady gave a briefing on the proposed, future construction of Middleton Road from Rt. 22 to Beards Hill Road.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Ordinance No. 17-O-04, Sewer Notes Authorization. There were no public comments.
2. Ordinance No. 17-O-05, Use of Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenues. There were no public comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Michael Hiob, Graceford Drive: Mr. Hiob commented favorably on the future Middleton Road construction.
2. Mr. Steven Winter, Bond Counsel: Mr. Winter said that the interest rates were currently low and the City would get a tax-exempt, fixed rate for 5 years for the sewer notes loan.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 17-O-04, Sewer Notes Authorization

A motion was made by Councilman Lindecamp and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to adopt Ordinance No. 17-O-04, Sewer Notes Authorization. **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-05, Use of Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenues

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilman Lindecamp to adopt Ordinance No. 17-O-05, Use of Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenues.. **The motion passed by a vote of 4 – yes; 1 – no.**

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

Nays: Mayor McGrady.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business: None.

2. New Business

a) 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard Transfer Action

Mr. Robertson reported that the City was ready for transfer of the deed for 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard for the cost of \$1.00.

A motion was made by Councilman Goodin and seconded by Councilman Lindecamp to accept the conveyance of 34 N. Philadelphia Boulevard from Harford County Government and to authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City. **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.

3. Updates from City Manager and Staff

The Chief announced Aberdeen Police Department community meetings. Mr. Robertson reported on the following matters.

- A letter would be sent to the Maryland State Comptroller requesting payback forgiveness for a piggyback tax overpayment.
- A rail was brought in to demo the ones to be used at Ripken Stadium.
- Improvements were made to the City Hall lobby.
- Train station improvements would start March 1, 2017.
- A “Citizens Chat” was held last week for the public to meet with staff and discuss City matters.
- A new website property listing of available Aberdeen properties was now on the City’s website as well as an illustration of how tax dollars were spent.
- A letter would be sent to federal representatives regarding the lack of a handicap ramp at the Aberdeen Post Office.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no public comments.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the Council Members: Councilwoman Landbeck encouraged attendance at future Citizen Chats and the importance of heart health for women. Councilman Lindecamp reported on recent school accomplishments.
2. Business from the Mayor: The Mayor made the announcements and explained the Open Meetings Act.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Planning Commission Meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers
- Council Work Session: Meeting: Monday, February 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room
- Regular Council Meeting: Monday, February 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers

CLOSED MEETING:

At approximately 8:02 p.m., a motion was made by Mayor McGrady and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to close the meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Statutory Authority Md. Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b): (14) before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process. The reason and topic of the closed meeting was a consultation with a potential contractor regarding a consulting role. **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.

REOPEN AND ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor and Council reopened the meeting at 9:19 p.m. Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.