

City of Aberdeen
Business Meeting, Work Session
March 10, 2014

Present: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Elliott, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Garner and Councilwoman Young

Absent: None

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Monica Correll, City Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers by Mayor Bennett.

Business Meeting: Matters of Immediate and Urgent Business

1. MRWA Award Recognition

Mayor Bennett presented the following awards from the Maryland Rural Water Association for 2013: Josh Quesenbery for Collection Operations Specialist, and Paul Visser for Water System of the Year.

2. Resolution 14-R-03; Resolution of Support for Mason Dixon Home Care, LLC

A motion was made by Councilwoman Young and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve Resolution 14-R-03; Resolution of Support for Mason Dixon Home Care, LLC.

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

3. Award, Stadium Parking Lot Paving

Mr. Miller explained that the second coat of asphalt for the Ripken Stadium parking lot was not finished due to budget restraints; however, due to the efforts of Delegate Mary Dulany-James, Aberdeen obtained a \$450,000 bond bill for capital needs. The paving is scheduled to be done between March 24 – April 4, 2014. There was a 5% bid bond posted.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Young to award the low bidder, Daisy Concrete, Inc. of Maryland, Bid No. 14-01, Ripken Stadium Parking Lot Paving and Striping in the amount of \$412,000.

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

Work Session (4:12 p.m.)

1. Campaign finance ordinance amendments were discussed including the consideration of mileage reimbursement. Mr. Miller added that the Election Board had reviewed the amendments.
2. Planning Commission Primer – Ms. Grover stated that after the next Planning Commission meeting, she will report back to the Council, the Planning Commission's proposed changes on the integrated business district.
3. Legislative Session Mid-Point Report – Mr. Miller and Mayor Bennett reported on Maryland Municipal League's priorities and their position on certain legislative bills currently under consideration in the Maryland General Assembly.

MML Priority

- HURs to be funded greater than FY 14 levels
- State Aid for Police Protection to be funded greater than FY 14.

Examples of Issues and MML Stance

Bills supported or Supported with Amendments:

- Creation of a recycling and landfill diversion task force (SB 56).
- Statewide Interoperability Radio Control Board (SB 338).
- Posting required notices on the municipality's website (SB 397).
- Local vehicle registration fee (SB 629).
- Advanced Agendas of Council Meetings (HB 157).
- Allowing exemption of certain confidential information in Elected Official's financial disclosure (SB 913).
- Mandatory speed limits on divided roadways with crosswalks (HB 873).

Bills Opposed:

- LEOBR (two bills to weaken abilities of the police department in prosecuting officers) (SB 436)(HB 598).
- Local Government Tort Claims Act; altering notification requirements (SB 689).
- Exemption of certain manufacturing equipment from Personal Property Tax (SB 872).
- Mandatory filing of municipal financial disclosure of elected officials to State Board of Elections (HB 827).
- Application of lobbying regulations to MACO and MML (HB 1250).

Other Bills of Interest:

- Minimum Wage (HB 295).
 - Some bills to establish minimum wage by County.

- Bottle bill (SB 394).
- Sick leave for part-time employees (HB 527).
- “No Excuse” Absentee Voting (HB 25).
- Prohibition of using POS funds for artificial turf fields (HB 123).

Bills sponsored by Harford County representatives:

- (SB 464) Repeal Rain Tax– Senator Jennings.
- (SB 254) Fire and Ambulance Fund Distribution – Senator Glassman.
- (SB 135) Suspension of Rain Tax – Senator Glassman.
- (SB 273) Minimum Wage Established by County – Senator Glassman.
- (SB 270) Human Trafficking Training for Law Enforcement – Senator Jacobs.
- (SB 609) Bay Restoration Fee, Mobile Home Parks – Senator Jennings.
- (SB 634/HB 674) Task Force to Study Tax Assessment Procedures – Senator Glassman/Delegate Glass.
- (HB 1360) Speed Cameras- warnings – Delegate Glass.
- (HB 1041) Tax Internet Database – Delegate McComas.
- (HB 1357) Tax Credit; Veterinary Services to Police Dogs – Delegate Glass
- (HB 827) Mandatory Filing of Financial Disclosure to State Elections Board – Delegate Glass.

4. Boat and RV Storage – Mr. Miller said that there will be an ordinance to address the options discussed by the Council. This would be a matter that the Planning Commission needs to review pertaining to Chapter 235.
5. Residential Parking Permits - Mr. Miller explained that the municipal parking lot has been used inappropriately for storage, parking, etc. A concept of creating a residential parking permit for a nominal cost will be considered.
6. FYI
 - a. Constant Yield Tax Rate – There will not be a constant yield tax rate process due to non-growth of the assessable tax base.
 - b. Destination Harford Guide – The guide was given to the Council that featured an ad from the City.
 - c. Reenactment of Sediment Control Regulations – An ordinance pulled off of the State model will be presented to the Council in the near future.
 - d. Retreat – A Council retreat will be held at the Elks Club in Abingdon, Maryland on March 14 and 15.

Other: The Aberdeen Police Department was thanked for their help with parking issues. The Mayor announced upcoming meeting dates.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.