

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
June 11, 2012**

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

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Henry Trabert, Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Monica Correll, City Clerk
Doris Manner, Recording Secretary

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Pastor Merritt Schatz of Grove Presbyterian Church and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Landbeck.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2012, Council meeting as submitted.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

Ayes: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilwoman Young,
and Councilman Garner

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation – Aberdeen Lion’s Club, Mark Schlottman

Mr. Mark Schlottman of the Aberdeen Lions Club presented a check in the amount of \$500.00 made from the sale of hot dogs to Mayor Bennett for the Earth Day Committee.

Mr. Schlottman, who is also member of the Aberdeen Election Board, introduced the other members of the Board: Ms. Mary Law and Ms. Gina Bantam, Chair. They presented the City Clerk, Monica Correll, who was named 2012 Maryland Municipal Clerk of the Year by her peers, with a plaque and flowers from the Election Committee in recognition of her work for the Election Board.

2. Presentation – GIS Project, Science and Math Academy

Mayor Bennett introduced Ms. Yvonne Gabriel, a research advisor who teaches GIS at the Aberdeen Science and Math Academy. She stated that her students are working with Mr. Lapinsky on some of their projects. Ms. Gabriel and a student reported on the ecosystem analysis of trees in Festival Park.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Paul Curtis, Windemere Drive;
Mr. Curtis expressed his various traffic safety concerns and train noise pollution. He said he received his City newsletter late. The Mayor mentioned that Aberdeen is working on its roadways but that there are State roads they are not authorized to maintain. The Mayor said that there are federal requirements regarding train and Amtrak whistles.
2. Mr. Frank Turner, Chesapeake Court;
Mr. Turner asked for a Code revision so he would be permitted to raise chickens on his property. Mayor Bennett said the matter would be taken under consideration. Mr. Turner also asked for Code clarification regarding discharging of firearms within the City because he would like to do so in order to eliminate ground hogs on his property. Councilman Garner referred him to Harford County Animal Control.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 12-O-08, Fire Hydrants Amended (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller explained that the ordinance amendment would eliminate any conflict with established policy through the Department of Public Works (DPW).

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to approve the amendment to the ordinance, Temporary Water Using Fire Hydrants for Construction Sites. (*noted below*)

§ 450-4.1. Use of Hydrants.

- B. Except as provided above, fire hydrants may not be used for any purpose except by special ~~written~~ permission **AS DEFINED BY THE ESTABLISHED POLICY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.** ~~of the City Manager or his/her authorized representative for the time and at the location specified. If such permission is granted, the water used shall be charged at the prevailing water rates.~~

*Legend: **BOLD CAPITALIZATION** denotes addition.
STRIKETHROUGH denotes deletion.*

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

Ayes: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilwoman Young, and Councilman Garner

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to approve Ordinance No. 12-O-08, Amendment to the Code of the City of Aberdeen Chapter 450, Sewers and Water as amended. Council discussion followed regarding the current hydrant charges. Mr. Miller explained that the ordinance references the policy whatever it is at the time.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – absent.

Ayes: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilwoman Young, and Councilman Garner

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott

2. Charter Resolution No. 12-CR-01, 830 Gilbert Road Annexation (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Charter Resolution No. 12-CR-01, 830 Gilbert Road Annexation.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning and Community Development - None
4. Business from the Chief of Police

Chief Trabert thanked DPW for their help with the Swan Meadows neighborhood cleanup and community event.

5. Business from the Director of Finance – None
6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky announced that Mr. Charles Johnson was recently hired as the Risk and Safety Manager. He reported that DPW is working with the State of Maryland on the

intersection designs resulting from BRAC. Mr. Lapinsky acknowledged the presence of Boy Scout Troop 200 at the Council meeting. They were working on a Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badge and recently had two boys earn the Eagle Scout rank.

7. Business from the City Manager

a. Roof Project, Waste Water Treatment Plant

Mr. Miller reported on the poor condition of the roof at the Waste Water Treatment Plant and that estimates were being solicited. He said that the June-July newsletter was the first newsletter and is a work in progress.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

The Council commented on the Gilbert Road annexation, meeting itineraries, State road maintenance issues, noise pollution from traffic, and the need for a hotel tax.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett attended the following during the month of May: Capstone Project Walk at Aberdeen High School for the Science and Math Academy; a Chapter meeting of the Maryland Municipal League (MML) in Luke, Maryland; met in Annapolis with the Executive Director of MML; meeting with Mr. Miller and Councilman Garner; meetings with Council; and a ground breaking ceremony in Belcamp at the former Bata Shoes factory location.

The Mayor attended the following during the month of June: the food tasting at Ripken Stadium; community cleanup at Swan Meadows; a canine demonstration; and a Ravens softball game at Ripken Stadium. He attended a meeting with Ripken employees to plan a parade to be held in Aberdeen on August 11th for the Cal Ripken World Series; met with a running group from the City and State Police; and attended the Aberdeen High School graduation.

The Mayor reported that the Relay for Life was held last Friday evening and his team raised over \$112,000 for cancer research.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Meeting: Monday, July 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.