

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
May 9, 2011**

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Steven Smith, Deputy Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Scott Hunsinger, Recording Secretary

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Chaplain (LTC) Harry Rauch and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Elliott.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2011 meeting as submitted.

The motion passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Ordinance No. 11-O-04, Budget FY 2011-2012

No Public Comment

2. Constant Yield Tax Rate FY 2011-2012

Mr. Miller explained that the FY 2011 real property tax rate is 68.75 cents and the constant yield tax rate is 67.45 cents. The proposed real property tax rate for FY 2012 budget is 68.00 cents which is a reduction. Concerning the constant yield tax rate, the wording in the newspaper ad, stating that we are intending to increase property tax, is state-mandated. This is due to the growth of the City's assessable base consisting of reassessed or added properties.

Public Comment:

- 1) Ms. Sarah Willis, Beards Hill Road, Aberdeen;
Ms. Willis questioned the current tax rate and the constant yield tax rate.

- 2) Patrick McGrady, Holly Drive, Aberdeen;
Mr. McGrady asked the Council for an additional \$73,000 in budget cuts to match the constant yield tax rate.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Patrick McGrady, Holly Circle, Aberdeen;
Ms. McGrady would like a more affordable tax rate to attract more businesses.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 11-O-05, LEED Office Tax Subclass (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 11-O-05, LEED Office Tax Subclass.
2. Ordinance No. 11-O-06, City of Aberdeen Comprehensive Plan 2011 (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 11-O-06, City of Aberdeen Comprehensive Plan 2011.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development

Ms. Grover announced the Planning Commission meeting for Wednesday, May 11, 2011 and a Board of Appeals meeting for Wednesday, May 18, 2011.

4. Business from the Deputy Chief of Police - None
5. Business from the Director of Finance - None
6. Business from the Director of Public Works

a) LED Light

Mr. Lapinsky recommended the award of the contract to A/C Power, Inc., Bid No. CH 11-01, Streetlight and Interior Lighting LED Retrofit for Festival Park and the second floor, West Wing of City Hall, not to exceed the Empower Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant in the amount of \$80,000.00.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve award of the contract for Streetlight and Interior Lighting LED Retrofit for

Festival Park and the second floor West Wing of City Hall, Bid No. CH 11-01, to A/C Power, Inc., not to exceed the grant amount of \$80,000.00.

The motion passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

b) Law Street Contract

Mr. Lapinsky recommended S. Thomas Contracting, Inc. for the Law Street water line replacement and installation of a storm drain in the amount of \$68,310.00. Council discussion followed.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Young to award the contract to S. Thomas Contracting, Inc. for the replacement of 600 feet of 4-inch ductile iron water line on Law Street at a cost of \$68,310.00.

The motion passed with a vote of 5 - yes

7. Business from the City Manager - None

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

The Council members reported on their activities. The Mayor and Council acknowledged the contributions of the military and police.

2. Business from the Mayor

The Mayor reported his activities: ribbon cutting for WILY, Inc. on Aberdeen Proving Ground, a Maryland Municipal League (MML) meeting regarding orientation on newly elected officials (a new program), the Maryland City and County Managers Association meeting, NAACP banquet in Havre de Grace, BRAC Stat meeting in Annapolis, ribbon cutting for American Investment and Property Management, LLC, and a MML Board meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Work Session: Monday, May 16, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, May 23, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous agreement the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.