

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
March 14, 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
Henry Trabert, Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Monica Correll, City Clerk

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Pastor Kenneth Telsee of True Joy Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Elliott.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilman Garner to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2011 meeting as submitted.

The motion passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

PRESENTATIONS: None

1. Proclamation for American Diabetes Week, Sharon Sheppe

Mayor Bennett presented a proclamation to Ms. Sharon Sheppe of M & T Bank to increase diabetes awareness. March 22-26, 2011 was proclaimed as American Diabetes Week in the City of Aberdeen. Ms. Sheppe made comments and announced upcoming events relative to diabetes.

2. Proclamation for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Harford County

Mayor Bennett presented a proclamation in recognition of the Boys and Girls Club of Harford County and proclaimed March 20-26, 2011 Boys and Girls Club Week in the City of Aberdeen. Mr. Tory Pierce, President; Ms. Jacinda Gibbons, Branch Director; and several young club members were present.

3. Presentation - Clean Energy Grant, Kate Autry, Grant Coordinator

Ms. Kate Autry announced that the City of Aberdeen was awarded \$40,000 from Maryland State Energy for the Clean Energy Grant Program to provide 5-7 eligible families, low-to-moderate incomes, with energy upgrades to their homes. She encouraged interested parties to contact the City.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Bob Hartman, Paradise Road;
Mr. Hartman inquired about the debt service charge on his water bill and expressed concern over the poor conditions of vacant homes near Ripken Stadium and near a local car dealership.
2. Mr. Pat Faircloth, Southgate Road;
Mr. Faircloth announced the next Aberdeen Communities Together (ACT) meeting. He also stated his opposition to the tax breaks requested by Presbyterian Home. He said that local Harford County delegates should represent the desires of the citizens and encouraged citizens to contact them. He supported the Council in their efforts to obtain the hotel tax and prevent unfair tax forgiveness.
3. Ms. Karen Heavey, W. Bel Air Avenue;
Ms. Heavey expressed her concerns regarding Ordinance No. 11-O-03.
4. Mr. Bernard Backus, North Gate Road;
Mr. Backus, a member of the Heritage Committee, discussed historical tapes and presentations. He also expressed that the delegates should represent the citizens and their wishes.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 11-O-03, Amendment to the Code, Chapter A550, Fees (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 11-O-03, Amendment to the Code, Chapter A550, Fees. There was no discussion from the Council.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development - None
4. Business from the Chief of Police - None
5. Business from the Director of Finance - None
6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky announced tours of the waste water treatment plant.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller said that there will be a work session on Monday, March 21, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss normal matters. The Mayor and Council will then go into executive session to meet with the City Attorney to discuss the annexation agreements for Aberdeen Technology Campus LLC & Route 22 Properties (ATC) and Chapel Estates/Hiob Lane.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

The Council discussion included the Heritage Trust lecture series, the grand opening of Perryman Station Senior Apartments, the Aberdeen High School Girls Basketball Team, Christian Slattery (Hall's Cross Roads Elementary School teacher) as a candidate for Harford County Teacher of the Year, and the citizen response to the Presbyterian Home project along with House Bill (HB) 584. The Council encouraged participation in the Clean Energy Grant Program and expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the Comprehensive Plan under the direction of Ms. Grover.

2. Business from the Mayor

The Mayor stated that the hearing on HB 584 is scheduled for March 17, 2011 and that he and the Council will be united against tax exemption for the independent living units of the Village at Carsins Run (Presbyterian Home). They are also united in favor of the hotel tax. He urged the citizens to attend the Council Meetings and asked for their feedback.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Work Session/Executive Session: Monday, March 21, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, March 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilman Garner to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous agreement the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.