

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting  
February 11, 2013**

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

**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  
Doris Manner, Recording Secretary

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

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2013 Council Meeting as submitted.

**The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - yes.**

**PRESENTATIONS:** None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

1. Resolution No. 13-R-02, Bay Restoration Hardship Policy (For Introduction and Approval)

Mayor Bennett introduced Resolution No. 13-R-02, Bay Restoration Hardship Policy. Mr. Miller explained that the City is mandated to collect \$60 each year per household for the Bay Restoration Fund which is then forwarded to the State of Maryland. The State has now mandated that a provision for hardship cases meeting certain criteria be adopted as City policy. The exemption would be for a one-year period. Council discussion followed. Mr. Jack added that the City would receive a quarterly administrative fee from the State in the amount of 5%. Mr. Miller anticipated there would be minimal impact from this to the City.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve Resolution No. 13-R-02, Bay Restoration Hardship Policy.

**The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - yes.**

2. Ordinance No. 12-O-11, Code of the City of Aberdeen, Chapter 500, Utilities (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Lapinsky expressed concern over replacement and restoration costs not covered by the violation fees of this ordinance. Mr. Miller explained that these concerns could not be addressed in a penalty ordinance of this nature. Provisions to cover the replacement and restoration costs could be included in other water and sewer ordinances. Council discussion followed.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve Ordinance No. 12-O-11, Code of the City of Aberdeen, Chapter 500, Utilities.

**The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - yes.**

3. Ordinance No. 13-O-01, Ethics Ordinance Amended (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller said that he and the City Attorney recommended the passage of this ordinance to comply with State mandates; however, he would also like to see certain clarifications on activities for elected officials regarding civic, charitable, and religious organizations. In the future, to procure these changes, they may need to be proposed to the State Ethics Commission with explanation or perhaps through the efforts of the Maryland Municipal League which is working with the State Ethics Review Committee.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve Ordinance No. 13-O-01, Ethics Ordinance Amended. Council discussion followed.

**The motion was approved with a vote of 5 - yes.**

#### **BUSINESS OF THE CITY:**

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

Ms. Grover reviewed the agenda for the Planning Commission meeting.

4. Business from the Chief of Police

Chief Trabert reported that the armed robberies during November 2012 through January 2013 have all been cleared by arrests.

5. Business from the Director of Finance - None

6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky reported that the Enhance Nutrient Removal Technology project is two months away from being functional.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller said that assessment projections were received from the State of Maryland. The assessable base did not grow and the City will not go through the constant yield tax rate process. FY 14 will be a tight budget year.

**BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:**

1. Business from the City Council

The Council announced local community events, complimented and thanked City staff.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett announced the upcoming meetings and reported that he recently attended then Annual Mayors Winter Conference in Annapolis.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next Council Meeting: Monday, February 25, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Council Work Session: Monday, March 18, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting, February 13, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting, February 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and was seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.