

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
May 21, 2012**

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
Henry Trabert, Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Bethany Shaffer, Receptionist
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 Steve Lyons of Bread of Life Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Elliott.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2012 Council meeting as submitted.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Recognition of Aberdeen High School Dance Team

Mayor Bennett presented the Aberdeen High School Dance Team a proclamation in recognition of their accomplishments and proclaimed May 21, 2012 as Aberdeen Dance Team Day in the City of Aberdeen. They each received a City pin from Mayor Bennett.

2. Jonathan White, Legal Aid for Councilman Richard Slutsky

Mr. White introduced himself as the new legislative aid for Councilman Slutsky. He will be the Councilman's liaison to the City for Council meetings.

3. Proclamation for National Preservation Month – Aberdeen Heritage Trust,
Dr. Nancy Backus

Mayor Bennett presented a proclamation to Dr. Nancy Backus, Aberdeen Heritage Trust, to pronounce May as National Preservation Month in the City of Aberdeen with the theme, "Discover America's Hidden Gems."

Mayor Bennett announced that there will be a new event, "Inner County Outreach Day" to be held in Festival Park in June, 2012. Ms. Roslyn Johnson of Inner County Outreach, a children and family service nonprofit group, provided information on the celebration.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Resolution No. 12-R-05, Annexation Plan for 830 Gilbert Road, LLC (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller explained the past and current annexation process.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilman Garner to approve Resolution No. 12-R-05, Annexation Plan for 830 Gilbert Road, LLC.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

2. Ordinance No. 12-O-05, 2011-2012 Comprehensive Zoning Review (For Adoption)

Ms. Grover provided the following background details on the comprehensive zoning review: the process began November, 2011; it was introduced March 26, 2012; and a public hearing was held May 7, 2012. The City received four applications from the same property owner. The Planning Commission recommended approval at their February, 2012 meeting.

Application 1A

Property Owner – 1104 OPR LLC

Property Location – 1104 Old Philadelphia Road

Tax Id 02 039249

Harford County Tax Map 58

Acreage 15.78, Parcel 561

Current Zoning – M-1 Light Industrial District

Recommended Zoning – B-3 Highway Commercial District

Application 1B

Property Owner – 1104 OPR LLC

Property Location – MD Route 7

Tax Id 02 039257

Harford County Tax Map 58

Acreage 4.56, Parcel 562

Current Zoning – M-1 Light Industrial District

Recommended Zoning B-3 Highway Commercial District

Application 1C

Property Owner – 1104 OPR LLC

Property Location – NW Old Post Road

Tax Id 02 039265

Harford County Tax Map 58

Acreage 0.115, Parcel 130

Current Zoning – M-1 Light Industrial District

Recommended Zoning – B-3 Highway Commercial District

Application 2

Property Owner – Colony at Beards Hill LLC

Property Location – Beards Hill Road

Tax Id 02 107376

Aberdeen Tax Map 202

Acreage 17.9 (of which 15.993 acres requests zoning change), Parcel 55, p/o 1

Current Zoning – R-1 Low Density Residential and B-3 Highway Commercial District

Recommended Zoning – R-3 High Density Residential and B-3 Highway Commercial District.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve Ordinance No. 12-O-05, 2011-2012 Comprehensive Zoning Review.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

3. Ordinance No. 12-O-07, Budget FY 2012-2013 (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller reported that the FY 2012-2013 Budget was very lean. The ordinance had been introduced, a public hearing was held with comments considered, and is ready for adoption.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilman Garner and Councilwoman Landbeck to approve Ordinance No. 12-O-07, Budget FY 2012-2013.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

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

Ordinance No. 12-O-08 was deferred for adoption to June 11, 2012.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business – None

2. New Business – None

3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development

A. Revised Final Plat, Lot 1, and Lots 1 and 2 – Lands of Baldwin Manor, Inc.

Ms. Grover stated that this is a revised final subdivision plat for lot 1, and lots 1 and 2, Lands of Baldwin Manor, Inc. (Highland Commons). The preliminary site plan for 22 townhomes located off Polk Street and Taft Street were approved at the May 7, 2012 meeting. The Planning Commission made a favorable recommendation at their May 16, 2012 meeting.

Mr. Dudley Campbell, Bay State Land Surveyors, introduced Ms. Maria Miller and Mr. Tim Wise of Shelter Development, contract purchaser/developers. The proposal consists of 22 lots for the Village of Highland Commons and is construction ready. Mr. Campbell noted that Polk Street will be black topped. The proposal is in compliance with all City codes.

Ms. Miller stated that they are under time constraints and thanked everyone for expediting this. The development will include the construction of 22 townhouses, intended to be workforce housing. They will not be project-based housing, or Section 8, or subsidized housing. Additional work includes paving Polk Street, the storm water management pond to be converted to storm water management status, and demolition of the maintenance building. Council discussion followed. Ms. Miller said the rents would range from \$575 - \$1,700, the two boarded-up buildings will be taken down, and June 29 is the target date for closing. She added that construction will start immediately and there will be a nine-month construction build-out.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the Revised Final Plat, Lot 1 and Lots 1 and 2 – Lands of Baldwin Manor, Inc.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

4. Business from the Chief of Police – None

5. Business from the Director of Finance

Mr. Jack asked that the General Fund be amended for a \$16,000 grant from the State for an upgrade of the street camera software systems. The revenue and expenditures being amended as follows:

Revenue – State Grants

Original Budget	Revised Budget	Increase/Decrease
\$63,000	\$79,000	16,000

Expenditure – General Fund Contingency

Original Budget	Revised Budget	Increase/Decrease
\$25,000	\$41,000	16,000

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the Budget Amendment.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

6. Business from the Director of Public Works – Mr. Lapinsky was absent.
7. Business from the City Manager – None

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

Councilwoman Elliott noted that the Senior Center participated in a Harford County food drive program and received a proclamation from the County Executive for outstanding participation.

Councilwoman Landbeck commented on the positive aspects of honoring students and the successful school programs offered to students.

Councilwoman Young welcomed Mr. White, Councilman Slutzky's aid and reported on her activities and meetings.

Councilman Garner commented on "Inter County Outreach Day" and thanked everyone involved in producing the Budget.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett reported that he met with Pastor Dan Sheffield, First Baptist Church of Aberdeen regarding helping the community. The Mayor spoke at the Harford County budget hearing held in Havre de Grace in support of a new community center for the City of Aberdeen. He and the Mr. Miller attended the Quarterly Business Indicators Breakfast at the Abingdon Library to discuss economy and business with Harford County and municipal officials.

The Mayor stopped in briefly to the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce luncheon. He then journeyed to Annapolis to lead the "If I Were Mayor" Awards Ceremony held in the Governor's Reception Room honoring eleven fourth grade winners. He explained that every year the Maryland Municipal League (MML) conducts an essay contest.

Other activities included: a breakfast on Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) at the Post Chapel for Gold Star Families (families which lost loved ones in service to our

country); opening ceremony for Armed Forces Week; Military Appreciation luncheon at Richlin Ballroom with Councilwoman Young; MML meeting in Washington Grove in Montgomery County; Aberdeen Communities Together Group meeting; and the live fire demonstration at APG with Mr. Miller and Mr. Steve Johnson, Chairperson of the Aberdeen Economic Development Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Meeting: Monday, June 11, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Council Work Session: Monday, June 18, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.