

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
January 10, 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, Interim 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 Melvin Taylor, Word of Faith Outreach Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Elliott.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Young to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2010 meeting as submitted.

The motion passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 11-O-01, Amendment to Development Code, Repeal Article III, Peace and Good Order, Fortune Telling (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 11-O-01. Mr. Miller explained that this ordinance will define and allow fortune-telling in a B-3 district granted special exception. It will also repeal Article III of Chapter 413 of the Code of the City of Aberdeen in its entirety.

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

a. Budget Amendment

Mr. Jack stated that the City would need to amend the FY 2011 budgets for the Capital Projects Fund and Water Fund for unfinished FY 2010 projects and the water purchase from Harford County. These projects were mostly funded with grants and bonds; however, the debt service on the water purchase bonds would be funded from retained earnings. They would not require funding from the General Fund.

The City would need to amend the General Fund for the Clean Energy Program grant received from the State, the purchase of tasers and digital camera equipment for the Police Department, and an increase in the required annual contribution to the police pension plan due to an unanticipated increase in the actuarial valuation of the plan. The tasers were funded with seized money, and the pension contribution would be funded with an appropriation of fund balance.

GENERAL FUND

1. Clean Energy Program (projects that increase energy efficiency)	\$ 66,650	Funded with grant from the State
2. Police Pension Plan	106,099	Funded with appropriated fund balance
3. Tasers and digital camera equipment	<u>11,107</u>	Funded with seized money
Total	\$ 183,856	

CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND

1. Carry-over of FY 2010 school sidewalk improvement projects	\$ 2,154	Funded with grant from the State
---	----------	----------------------------------

WATER FUND

1. Carry-over of FY 2010 Water infrastructure Projects	\$1,126,649	Funded with bonds
2. Water purchase from Harford County	5,044,079	Funded with bonds
3. Debt service on the water purchase bonds	<u>344,098</u>	Funded with retained earnings
Total	\$6,514,826	

The Council followed with comments and questions which included the Police Department pension plan shortfall where a balance of money must be maintained.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the FY 2011 Budget Amendment: General Fund for \$183,856; Capital Projects Fund for \$2,154; and the Water Fund for \$6,514,826.

The motion passed with a vote of 5 - yes.

6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky discussed snowstorm preparations.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller announced that there will be no work session on January 17, 2010 due to observance of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. There would be a work session on January 14, 2011.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

The Council discussed their community activities, the homeowner's property tax credit, and the public hearing scheduled on January 31, 2011 for the proposed annexation of Aberdeen Technology Campus, LLC (Lee Annexation). The Council observed the January 8, 2011 Arizona tragedy and commended the APD on exceptional performance.

2. Business from the Mayor

The Mayor commented favorably on the First Annual City of Aberdeen Hamburger Challenge to benefit the Wounded Warrior Program. He gave an accounting of his recent activities which included a proclamation for Stewart Landbeck during an Eagle Scout event held in Level. In Perryman, the Mayor recognized Eagle Scout, Emery Cook, with a proclamation.

As President-Elect for Maryland Municipal League (MML), he met with Maryland House of Delegates Speaker, Michael Bush, to discuss the need for a hotel tax in Harford County and the MML priority issues: highway user revenue and state aid for police protection. He also attended the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) conference in Cambridge.

The Mayor stated that entire Council supports the hotel tax which would promote tourism in Harford County and the maintenance of Ripken Stadium, the number one tourist attraction in Harford County.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Work Shop: Friday, January 14, 2011.

Next Council Meeting: Monday, January 31, 2011.

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 7:35 p.m.