

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
March 25, 2013**

Present: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Landbeck, and Councilwoman Young

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott and Councilman Garner

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
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 by Pastor Dan Sheffield, from First Baptist Church of Aberdeen and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Landbeck.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2013 Council Meeting, the March 11, 2013 Business Meeting/Work Session, and the March 18, 2013 Business Meeting/Work Session as submitted.

The motion was passed with a vote of 3 – yes and 2 – absent.

Ayes: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Landbeck, and Councilwoman Young

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott, and Councilman Garner

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Proclamation in Honor of DeMolay Month

Mayor Bennett presented a proclamation in honor of DeMolay Month and designated March, 2013 as DeMolay Month in Aberdeen. The Order of DeMolay was described as a character-building organization of young men from twelve to twenty-one years of age.

2. Introduction of New Officers

Chief Trabert introduced the following new officers: Thaddeus Tomlinson from Annapolis, Michael Kirschner from Baltimore, and Danielle Folloso from Perryville.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Bob Hartman, Paradise Road;
Mr. Hartman proposed that the Council salary changes be put to a referendum. He opposed any increase to trash sticker fees and the water bill.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: None

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development – Ms. Grover was not in attendance.
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 advised the public regarding proper lawn care and installation plans for stormwater medallions for Chesapeake Bay environmental protection. Mr. Lapinsky also attended the Science & Math Academy meeting night at Aberdeen High School and anticipated mentoring other students from the Academy.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller discussed the preparation of the City's budget. He reported that the revenue was stable, there will not be a property tax rate increase, and there will not be a constant yield tax rate hearing due to the fact that the assessable base had decreased. Both the increase in landfill tipping fees and the operation of the waste water treatment plant, upgraded with enhanced nutrient removal technology (ENR), would affect water expenses in FY 2014.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

Councilmembers made favorable remarks about the Science and Math Academy mentoring program, welcomed the new Aberdeen Police Department officers, and encouraged everyone to attend Earth Day as well as other local events. The Council noted errors found in an editorial published by The Record newspaper concerning meeting times, terms of office, and proposed Council salary changes.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett reported on local community events, thanked the City staff, and welcomed the new police officers. He also reported on the current status of Harford County House Bill 1395, Harford County Hotel Tax and that he intended to continue to work toward its passage.

Although the Bill came out of the Ways and Means Committee and went to the House, it was ultimately referred back to the Ways and Means Committee. This thwarted the possibility of passage at the Maryland General Assembly this year. He thanked Delegates Mary-Dulany James and Sheila Hixson for their efforts in the matter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Business Meeting/Work Session:	Monday, April 8, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. Monday, April 15, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.
Next Council Meeting:	Monday, April 22, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Earth Day:	Saturday, April 20, 2013, Festival Park, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Aberdeen Lions Club Pancake Supper:	Tuesday, March 26, 2013, Aberdeen High School, 4:00 - 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.