

CITY OF ABERDEEN
Council Meeting
April 10, 2017

Council Present: Mayor Patrick McGrady
Councilman Steven Goodin
Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck
Councilman Timothy Lindecamp
Councilman Melvin Taylor

Also Present: Randy Robertson, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Kyle Torster, Director of Public Works
Henry Trabert, Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Monica Correll, City Clerk

Mayor McGrady called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was delivered by Pastor Sarah Elliott, Wesleyan Chapel United Methodist Church and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Timothy Lindecamp.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Goodin and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the Council Meeting minutes of March 13, 2017. **The motion passed by a by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.
Nays: None.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Update from Tom Fiddler, Executive Vice President and Principal, MacKenzie Commercial Real Estate Services, LLC
Mr. Fiddler reported on a retail inventory analysis of the City, his recommendations for marketable opportunities, cultivation of certain retailers, and a new marketing piece.
2. Aberdeen Proving Ground Update, Col. James Davis
Col. James Davis reported on the new command change at Aberdeen Proving Ground and that the bond with Aberdeen would remain strong.
3. Proposed Improvements to the Aberdeen MARC Station/Transportation Alternatives Program Grant Application: Phyllis Grover, Robert Infussi, Manager, Maryland Transportation Administration (MTA); George Hill, Architect, MTA; Earl Leach, Rummel, Klepper, and Kahl.

Mr. Earl Leach, a professional engineer from Rummel, Klepper, and Kahl, retained by the MTA, discussed the MARC/Amtrak train station improvement project. Mr. Infussi discussed the Maryland Transportation Alternatives Program Grant for improvements.

4. Proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week
Mayor McGrady read the Proclamation for National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week (April 9-15, 2017) in honor of the City dispatchers and presented it to Chief Trabert.
5. Proclamation for National Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month
Mayor McGrady read the Proclamation for National Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention Month and asked citizens to dedicate themselves to improving the quality of life for children and families.

PUBLIC HEARING:

1. Ordinance No. 17-O-09, Amendment of FY 2017 Budget (5)
 - a. Ryan Burbey, Rigdon Road: Mr. Burbey expressed support for the swimming pool managed by the Boys & Girls Club and that budgetary reports should be made by City entities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Harold Jones, S. Rogers Street: Mr. Jones reported on a municipal violation he received.
2. Marla Posey-Moss, Avon Drive: Ms. Posey-Moss discussed weatherizing the overpass and was opposed to both Charter Resolution 17-CR-01 (Structure of Government) and Ordinance No. 17-O-08 (Prohibited Occupancies).
3. Michael Siglow, Baltimore, MD: Mr. Siglow was opposed to Ordinance No. 17-O-08 and discussed the different types of people who become homeless.
4. Elyse Turpin, Bel Air, MD: Ms. Turpin expressed her opposition to Ordinance No. 17-O-08 and that criminalization of homelessness is a violation of human rights.
5. Dewey Lowman, Sr., Custis Street: Mr. Lowman discussed a property tax credit for veterans and the elderly.
6. Devin DeFord, Belcamp, MD: Mr. DeFord expressed his opposition to Ordinance No. 17-O-08 and suggested alternative methods.
7. Tamara Zavislan, Homeless Persons Representation Project Inc., Baltimore, MD: Ms. Zavislan explained that affordable housing, with an appropriate level of services, was a lasting solution to homelessness. Ordinance No. 17-O-08 would be an ineffective public policy criminalizing the homeless.
8. Sarah Ortiz Brown, Harford Family House: Ms. Brown stated her opposition to Ordinance No. 17-O-08, explained the lack of resources available to help the homeless, and that education was needed to change the public's perception. She extended an invitation to attend a Continuum of Care Meeting sponsored by Harford County.
9. Grace Callwood, We Canerve Movement, Inc.: Ms. Callwood talked about the lack of shelters for families and was opposed to Ordinance No. 17-O-08.
10. Ryan Burbey, Rigdon Road: Mr. Burbey stated his opposition to Charter Resolution 17-CR-01 (Structure of Government) and Ordinance No. 17-O-08 (Prohibited Occupancies).
11. Bob Hartman, Paradise Road: Mr. Hartman said that he did not agree with the fines in Ordinance 17-O-08 but was concerned about the welfare of the community.

12. Laura Bianca-Pruett, non-Aberdeen resident: Ms. Bianca-Pruett suggested alternative, humanitarian methods in the matter of dealing with homelessness and that other cities were implementing more innovative solutions.
13. Cletus Heldman, Aberdeen: Mr. Heldman asked the Council to consider the property tax credit for veterans and the elderly.
14. Bonnie Prater, Help for the Homeless Alliance, ERS Coordinator, Bel Air, MD: Ms. Prater talked about the Harford County emergency rotating homeless shelter program.
15. Katie York, Aberdeen: Ms. York was opposed to Ordinance No. 17-O-08, especially the fines.
16. Brian Wing, Bel Air, MD: Mr. Wing said that he was once homeless and that the homeless should be helped, not fined.
17. Janice Grant, S. Law Street: Ms. Grant said that she had been homeless and that they need help.
18. Joshua Price, Aberdeen Avenue: Mr. Price described how he found help when he was once homeless. He was opposed to Ordinance No. 17-O-08.
19. Tatiana Riberio, from outside Maryland: Ms. Riberio spoke about Harford Family House services.
20. Devin DeFord, Belcamp, MD: Mr. DeFord asked the Council about their intentions for follow up.
21. Michael Siglow, Baltimore, MD: Mr. Siglow said that more facilities are needed for the homeless.
22. Janice Grant, S. Law Street: Ms. Grant commented about a property that she owns.
23. Sarah Elliott, Pastor of Wesleyan Chapel United Methodist Church: Pastor Elliott said that the homeless matter is difficult to solve and that the community should help.
24. Randell Ewald, Avon Drive, Aberdeen, MD: Mr. Ewald asked about the Continuum of Care Meeting sponsored by Harford County.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 17-O-08, Prohibited Occupancies

A motion was made by Councilman Taylor and seconded by Councilman Goodin to table/postpone indefinitely (kill) Ordinance No. 17-O-08, Prohibited Occupancies. **The motion was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

2. Ordinance No. 17-O-09, Amendment of FY 2017 Budget (5)

Action on Ordinance No. 17-O-09, Amendment of FY 2017 Budget (5) was postponed.

3. Charter Amendment Resolution No. 17-CR-01, Revisions to City's Structure of Government

Councilman Lindecamp and Councilwoman Landbeck stated their intent to submit amendments on Charter Amendment Resolution No. 17-CR-01 for consideration at a future Council Meeting. Councilwoman Landbeck explained that the purpose of the Resolution was to eliminate inconsistencies in the Charter.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business: None.

2. New Business

a. Board Appointment

The Mayor nominated Mr. DeAunte Printup to the Aberdeen Board of Appeals. **The nomination was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.** The Mayor administered the oath of office to Mr. Printup.

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

3. Updates from City Manager and Staff

The City Manager reported on a new hire, City events, and meetings. He reported that Aberdeen Proving Ground donated playground equipment.

a. Final Subdivision Plan for Lidl US Operations, LLC

A motion was made by Councilman Landbeck and seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve the Final Subdivision Plan for Lidle US Operations, LLC, 621 S. Philadelphia Blvd. **The motion was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

b. Bid 17-16.1, Landscape Maintenance

A motion was made by Councilman Landbeck and seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve the award of Bid 17-16.1, Landscape Maintenance, to Brightview Landscape Services in the amount of \$82,035. Council discussion followed. **The motion was approved by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Ryan Burbey, Ridgon Road, Aberdeen, MD: Mr. Burbey explained his opposition to Charter Amendment Resolution No. 17-CR-01.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the Council Members: The Council discussed the rationale and misconceptions pertaining to Ordinance No. 17-O-08 and Charter Amendment Resolution No. 17-CR-01 and congratulated the new member for the Aberdeen Board of Appeals.
2. Business from the Mayor: The Mayor reported on budget highlights.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Planning Commission Meeting: Wednesday, April 12, 2017, 7 PM, Council Chambers
Council Work Session: Monday, April 17, 2017, 5:30 PM, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Council Work Session: Monday, April 24, 2017, 5:30 PM, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Council Meeting: Monday, April 24, 2017, 7 PM, Council Chambers
Harford Co. Earth Day Celebration, Sat., April 22, 2017, 11 AM – 4 PM, Festival Park
Dedication/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Victory Street Park, Friday, May 5, 2017,
12:30 - 1:30 PM, Victory Street Park
Aberdeen Farmers Market May Dates, Thursday, May 4 & Thursday, May 18, 2017,
4 PM - 7 PM, Festival Park

CLOSED SESSION:

At approximately 10:04 p.m., a motion was made by Mayor McGrady and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to close the meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Statutory Authority Md. Code Annotated, General Provisions Article § 3-305(b): (4) to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State, and (8) to consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. The topic, under citations (4) and (8), was an update on a contractual discussion. **The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.**

Ayes: Mayor McGrady, Councilman Goodin, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Lindecamp, and Councilman Taylor.

Nays: None.

The Mayor and Council proceeded to the second floor administrative conference room for the closed meeting and returned to the Council Chambers when finished.

REOPEN AND ADJOURNMENT:

The Mayor and Council reopened the meeting at 10:55 p.m. The Mayor scheduled a Work Session for Thursday, April 13, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Being there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 p.m.