

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
February 24, 2014**

Present: Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Elliott, Councilwoman Landbeck,
Councilman Garner, 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 (DPW)
Stephen Smith, Deputy 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 Kenneth Telsee, True Joy Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Young.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the following minutes:

- Business Meeting/Work Session, January 6, 2014
- Business Meeting/Work Session, January 13, 2014
- Council Meeting, January 27, 2014
- Business Meeting/Work Session, February 3, 2014
- Business Meeting/Work Session, February 10, 2014

The minutes were approved by a vote of 5 – yes, 0 – no.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Michael Hiob, Graceford Drive, Aberdeen: Mr. Hiob asked for an amendment to Ordinance No. 14-O-01, to restore a second public comment to the Council Meetings, and voiced opposition to Mayor and Council salary increases on Ordinance No. 14-O-03.
2. Mr. Steve Johnson, Johnson Family Pharmacy, Aberdeen: Mr. Johnson expressed his support for the Mayor and Council salary increases.
3. Mr. Robert Hartman, Paradise Road, Aberdeen: Mr. Hartman expressed his opposition to salary increases for the Mayor and Council.

4. Mr. Bernard Backus, Northgate Road, Aberdeen: Mr. Backus thanked the Mayor and Council for their commitment to the City.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Resolution No. 14-R-01, Debt Policy Amended (For Introduction and Adoption)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to adopt Resolution No. 14-R-01, Debt Policy Amended.

The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.

2. Resolution No. 14-R-02, Fund Balance Policy (For Introduction and Adoption)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adopt Resolution No. 14-R-02, Fund Balance Policy.

The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.

3. Ordinance No. 14-O-01, Campaign Finance (For Adoption)

Ordinance No. 14-O-01, Campaign Finance was deferred to the March 24, 2014 Council Meeting by unanimous agreement.

4. Ordinance No. 14-O-02, Mayor and Council Candidate Qualifications (For Adoption)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to adopt Ordinance No. 14-O-02, Mayor and Council Candidate Qualifications.

The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.

5. Ordinance No. 14-O-03, Mayor and Council Compensation (For Adoption)

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adopt Ordinance No. 14-O-03, Mayor and Council Compensation.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to amend Ordinance No. 14-O-03, Mayor and Council Compensation, to change the Mayor's salary from \$17,000 to \$15,000, the Council members' salaries from \$12,000 to \$10,000, and the rest to remain the same.

The motion passed by a vote of 4 – yes; 1 – no.

Ayes: Mayor Bennett, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Landbeck, and Councilwoman Young.

Nays: Councilwoman Elliott.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adopt Ordinance No. 14-O-03, Mayor and Council Compensation as amended.

The motion passed by a vote of 4 – yes; 1 – no.

Ayes Mayor Bennett, Councilman Garner, Councilwoman Landbeck, and Councilwoman Young.

Nays Councilwoman Elliott.

6. Ordinance No. 14-O-05, Transit Oriented Development (For Adoption)

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adopt Ordinance No. 14-O-05, Transit Oriented Development.

The motion passed by a vote of 5 – yes; 0 – no.

7. Ord. No. 14-O-06, Amendment to the Code, Chapter 250, Environmental Control (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 14-O-06, Amendment to the Code, Chapter 250, Environmental Control.

8. Ord. No. 14-O-07, Transit Oriented Development District Sectional Map Amendment (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 14-O-07, Transit Oriented Development District Sectional Map Amendment.

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business - None.

2. New Business – None.

3. Business from the Director of Planning and Community Development

a. Preliminary Site Plan for Frito Lay, Inc.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the Preliminary Site Plan for Frito Lay, Inc.

The motion passed with by a vote of 5- yes, 0 – no.

- b. Preliminary Subdivision Plan for Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna, Inc. on First Street

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve Preliminary Subdivision Plan for Habitat for Humanity on First Street.

The motion passed with by a vote of 5- yes, 0 – no.

4. Business from the Chief of Police

Deputy Chief Smith asked the Council for their approval to surplus the following vehicle:

- 1999 Ford Crown Victoria, VIN# 2FAFP71WXYX151769.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the surplus of the 1999 Ford Crown Victoria.

The motion passed with by a vote of 5- yes, 0 – no.

5. Business from the Director of Finance

- a. Budget Amendment

Mr. Jack presented the following on the budget.

The **General Fund** budget was being increased by a total of \$214,500 for the following:

- 1) Firing Range Maintenance, \$1,400 (funded with contribution from Maryland Transportation Authority)
- 2) Expenses for National Night Out, Police Department, \$500 (funded with funds from Target Corporation)
- 3) Electronic Traffic Citation Equipment, \$9,600 (funded with State Grant)
- 4) Painting of Senior Center, \$5,000 (funded with funds from Harford County)
- 5) Festival Park Lighting, \$19,000 (funded with Fund Balance)
- 6) 911 Memorial, \$37,000 (funded with Fund Balance)
- 7) Donation for the construction of baseball field at the Boys and Girls Club, \$68,000 (funded with Fund Balance)
- 8) Unexpected Vehicle Maintenance needs, \$5,000 (funded with Fund Balance)
- 9) Audio/ Visual System for Council Chamber, \$19,000 (funded with Fund Balance)
- 10) Transfer to Capital Projects Fund (Mini Excavator), \$50,000 (funded with Fund Balance).

Total \$214,500

The Capital Projects Fund budget is being increased by a total of \$906,404 for the following:

- b. BRAC Zone Improvement Projects, \$333,728 (funded with State Grant)
 - 1) Carry-over of prior years' CDBG projects, \$147,520 (funded with Harford County Grant)
 - 2) Festival Park Water Feature, \$100,000 (funded with State Grant)
 - 3) Sidewalk Improvements, \$61,700 (funded with State Grant)
 - 4) Additional Capacity for Mini Excavator/Trailer, \$50,000 (transfer from General Fund)
 - 5) Carry-over of prior years' street resurfacing projects, \$213,456 (funded with Fund Balance).

Total \$906,404

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the FY 2014 Budget Amendments: General Fund budget increased by \$214,500 and Capital Projects Fund budget increased by \$906, 404.

The motion passed with by a vote of 5- yes, 0 – no.

Mr. Miller requested Council's permission to allow an upgrade to the DPW mini excavator indicated in the budget amendment.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Young to permit the upgrade for the mini excavator as indicated in the budget amendment.

The motion passed with by a vote of 5- yes, 0 – no.

6. Business from the Director of Public Works (DPW)

Mr. Lapinsky reported on pothole repairs issues on City and State roads and a pipe bursting article published in *Chesapeake Magazine*.

7. Business from the City Manager – No report.

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

The Council discussed their thoughts on the salary ordinance and inaccuracies reported in the newspaper.

2. Business from the Mayor

The Mayor made announcements, thanked the public for their participation, and explained that the Council has worked diligently to increase the commercial base in Aberdeen. He

reported that the Highway User Revenue has increased this year and will continue to be monitored.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Work Sessions:	Monday, March 3, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. Monday, March 10, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.
Next Council Meeting:	Monday, March 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
Next Planning Commission Meeting:	Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.
Harford County Earth Day, Festival Park:	Saturday, April 26, 2014, 11-4 p.m. (Rain date: April 27)

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Young to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.