

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting  
July 25, 2011**

**Present:** Mayor Bennett, Councilwoman Elliott, Councilwoman Landbeck,  
Councilwoman Young, Councilman Garner

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Douglas Miller, City Manager  
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development  
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 Kenneth Telsee with True Joy Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Elliott.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2011, meeting as submitted. The motion carried with a vote of 5 – yes.

The City Clerk read the Statement of Closed Session.

**Statement of Closed Session:**

On July 18, 2011, the Mayor and Council held a regularly scheduled meeting/work session in Council Chambers which began at 4:00 p.m. All members voted by roll call in the affirmative to close the session with the exception of Councilwoman Elliott, who was absent.

At approximately 4:25 p.m. a closed session was convened by the Mayor and Council in the second floor administrative conference room. Members present were: Mayor Michael E. Bennett, Councilman Bruce Garner, Councilwoman Sandra Landbeck, and Councilwoman Ruth Ann Young. Councilwoman Elliott was absent. Also in attendance were Douglas Miller, City Manager, and Monica Correll, City Clerk.

The session was held pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Section 10-508(a): (14) before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, discuss a matter directly related to a negotiation strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

During this meeting, the Mayor and Council discussed with the City Manager the formulation of Annexation Agreements for Aberdeen Technology Campus, LLC & Route 22 Properties and Chapel Estates/Hiob Lane and came to a consensus as to what these agreements should stipulate.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Recognition of Eagle Project – Max Landbeck

Mayor Bennett and the Council recognized Max Landbeck, for the completion of an Eagle project where he and a volunteer committee painted 63 fire hydrants in the City. Mr. Landbeck was presented a “gift box” from the Department of Public Works and a fire hydrant. He thanked everyone involved.

2. B&O Train Station Update – The Historical Society of Harford County

The B&O Train Station update was presented by: Mr. Richard Herbig, Assistant Vice President of the Historical Society; Mr. Len Parrish, professional engineer, Mr. Richard Wagner, an associate with David Gleason & Associates of Baltimore. The progress of the station was discussed including: that the building could be moved and saved; possible tax credits could be realized; and \$100,000 in grant funds will be available upon finalization of the deed of easement.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**       None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

1. Ms. Iyong Johnson, Manor Road;  
Ms. Johnson asked the Council to lower taxes.
2. Mr. I. A. Riden , Market Street;  
Mr. Riden expressed his support the B&O preservation efforts
3. Mr. Richard Herbig, Historical Society of Harford County;  
Mr. Herbig announced a program celebrating Harford's veterans.

Councilwoman Young asked Mr. Herbig about the future financial plans and use for the train station. Mr. Herbig replied with possibilities of a restaurant, museum, future site of the Aberdeen Room, Visitor Center, or Chamber of Commerce.

4. Ms. Ruth Hendrickson, Aberdeen Heritage Trust;  
Ms. Hendrickson, Chair of Heritage Trust, said that although the train station is a valuable, historic property, it is beyond Heritage Trust's and the City's financial resources.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

1. Ordinance No. 11-O-07, Amendment to the Code, Chapter 36, Elections (For Introduction

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 11-O-07, Amendment to the Code, Chapter 36, Elections.

**BUSINESS OF THE CITY:**

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development

Mayor Bennett presented Ms. Grover with an award of appreciation from the City for her work on the Comprehensive Plan which required approximately 3 years of work. Ms. Grover had no department business to report.

4. Business from the Chief of Police

Chief Trabert announced upcoming local neighborhood policing events.

5. Business from the Director of Finance – None
6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky reported that the Enhanced Nutrient Removal Project (ENR) is 75% complete; a future open house event is planned; the installation status of LED lighting in City Hall and Festival Park with grant money; the donation of new trash cans, bike racks, and flower pots for the downtown area; and the paving Baltimore Street extended from Community Block Grant money. He also reported that part of Mt. Royal Avenue has been paved; fiscal year paving is contracted out for the end of August for Beards Hill Road; the Law Street water line is to be replaced; a meeting will be held in the near future to go over the new Edmund Street pumping station; walls for the new salt shed have been erected and will be completed early August; and the painting of the Parks and Recreation skate board park was completed last week.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller thanked the Director of Public Works and his Department for fixing a complicated water main break feed line to Aberdeen Proving Ground.

**BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:**

The City Council extended condolences on the passing of local business owner of the Odyssey Salon, Heidi Zuchelkowski. Thanks were given to Mr. Lapinsky, Director of Public Works, and Roger Hall, Shop Superintendant, for helping Max Landbeck with the hydrant project. Ms. Grover was congratulated for her award.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett announced the opening of the Aberdeen Amish Farmers Market. He read a resolution from the Cecil/Harford Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League (MML) to the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) regarding Thomas H. Hatem Memorial Bridge and the elimination of AVI decals for local commuters in lieu of increased toll rates of over 250%. The Resolution declared the Chapter's rejection of MDTA's proposal to end the use of AVI decals for local commuters, the increased toll rates, and urged all Harford and Cecil citizens, and Municipal, County, State, and Federal elected officials to contact MDTA and Governor O'Malley to request retaining the current procedures. The Resolution had been approved July 21, 2011 by the MML Chapter President and approved by all 11 municipalities in Harford and Cecil Counties.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next Council Meeting: Monday, August 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m.  
Aberdeen's Amish Farmers Market, Every Friday, July 29 – October 28, 3 – 7 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilman Garner to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion carried.