

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Corbin Studio and Gallery.

PRESENT

Darlene Taylor, Mayor
Casey Goldsborough, Council Vice President
Ivan Lankford, Councilman
Eric Banks, Councilman
Hitesh Patel, Councilman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer/City Manager
Andrew Illuminati, City Solicitor

LaVerne Johnson, Councilwoman – Via Zoom

Also, in attendance; Valerie Swift; Janet Johnson; LaFabian Marshall; Jackie Collins; Jennifer Floyd; Chief Eric Lee; Jason Loar; Mark & Leslie Langille; Peterallen Hirschhoff; Bryan Fowler; Steve Leonard; George Friedley; Palmer Gillis; Richard Crumbacker; Phoenix Sollberger & Family.

Call to Order, Lord's Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance Approval of Minutes

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order, opening with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Taylor asked for approval of the minutes from the previous meeting.

At this time, Councilman Banks made a motion to approve of the minutes from the regular meeting of July 8, 2026. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Goldsborough and carried unanimously.

Recognition of Phoenix Sollberger – Mayor Taylor, Neighborhood Watch, Chief Lee

Mayor Taylor presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the Mayor and Council to Phoenix Sollberger for his dedication to keeping Wellington Beach clean, along with a gift card. Mr. Friedley, President of Neighborhood Watch also presented Phoenix with a gift card. Chief Lee presented Phoenix with a letter of appreciation and a CPD patch.

Planning Commission Recommendation Regarding lot Consolidation & Site Plan approval for the Medical Office Building on West Main Street - Palmer Gillis, General Contractor and Steve Leonard, CEO, Tidal Health, – Mr. Hirschoff

Mr. Hirschoff presented final site plan for Tidal Health consisting of a lot consolidation of 11 parcels. He noted that they would be constructing a 20,000 square foot building with an 8.01-foot elevation.

Mr. Leonard noted that they would also be providing CT Scan services at that facility. Mr. Gillis noted that the next step was the foundation and pilings. He advised that he would be filing for building permit in September and construction would start in either September or March.

At this time, Councilman Banks made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation for lot consolidation and site plan approval for the medical office building on west main street. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Goldsborough and carried unanimously.

Moonshot Presentation – Mr. Meurer, Ms. Bashir (via zoom)

Mayor Taylor noted that the city had been working with Moonshot for two years with them looking for funding and supporting the City of Crisfield. She introduced Mr. Nick Muerer, who was out of Milwaukee and Ms. Rania Bashir, who was out of Minnesota.

Ms. Bashir noted that she had been working with the City since 2025 and reviewed the process of what they had done to help the City with nitrogen violations and moving forward.

Mr. Meurer reviewed the project and timeline, noting that the high nitrogen level was due to equipment failure. He went on to highlight and review the Capital Needs Assessment.

Mayor Taylor noted that she just learned that the Congressional Directed Funding is moving forward. She thanked Mr. Meurer, Ms. Bashir, and Moonshot for their support.

Councilman Banks inquired about the nitrogen numbers being better. Mayor Taylor advised that it is going in the right direction.

Mr. Meurer advised Moonshot would be happy to help in the future.

Business Façade Application Approval - Ms. Collins

Ms. Collins noted that this funding would be used for commercial buildings to make improvements to the outside of their property. She noted that the City had received this funding 5 times and the amount of the grant is \$75K, application due August 6, 2026. She noted that if funded, the project would be effective from January 1, 2027, to June 30, 2028. She reviewed items that the funding could be used on new or old businesses.

Council Vice President Goldsborough inquired if there is a cap of the number of businesses. Mayor Taylor advised that we decide how many.

At this time, Council Vice President Goldsborough made a motion to approve Ms. Collins moving forward to submit the Business Façade Grant Application. Motion seconded by Councilman Banks and carried unanimously.

Mr. Loar – Project Updates, PRE-BID WWTP RFP

Mr. Loar noted that in reference to the Cove & Rubberset pump station, the wet well is almost in and the project should be done by October.

He noted that the Jersey Island project has been sent out to contractors for pricing. Mr. Loar advised that the UV lamp would be here tomorrow. He also noted that the sand filter is clogged. He advised that the company installed it but Public utilities was to operate it.

Mayor Taylor made reference to the RFP for O & M for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Loar advised that four bidders attended the pre-bid conference today. He advised that bids are due August 26th.

Starter House Update - Ms. Floyd

Mrs. Floyd presented updated information concerning the low-income housing initiative. She noted that there were eleven people in attendance at the recent workshop. She also noted that one of the applicants would be receiving their loan number today and advised that they will be having a housewarming for the applicant.

Mayor Taylor noted that Long Term Recovery is building a home at 202 Laird Avenue. She commended Mrs. Floyd on the seminar.

Public Works Update – Mr. Fowler

Mr. Fowler noted that Public Works has been working on catching up mowing due to a lack of staff. He advised that he has been mowing the airport.

Mr. Fowler noted that Public Works employee Brandon Ebaugh, is taking classes on spraying weed killer, as we can't spray without a license. He advised that other staff can spray under his license.

Mr. Fowler thanked Tim Schultz for his assistance. He noted that he will be hiring one person to do edging. He also advised that the speed hump will be installed between 133 and 134 Somerset Avenue.

Mr. Fowler noted that the recent high water drained quickly. Mayor Taylor noted that there were some trees and branches down. He also advised that he had replaced the American flags at the depot and had 3 military banners left to go up.

He noted that Alfred Bradford had cleaned the ditch on Charlotte Avenue.

He also advised that the Public Works portion of the Citizens Academy would be held next Tuesday.

Public Input

George Friedley commented that the City needs smaller houses to accommodate retirees with money and should look for a local investor to build them.

Council Comments

Council Vice President Goldsborough commented that he is concerned that Public Works is becoming a lawn service and suggested bidding out cuttings. He also made reference to the Crisfield High School parking lot and if it would be back to true form before school starts. Mayor Taylor noted that CHS had reached out to the City and asked if we could clean the ditch on Franklin Lane.

Councilman Banks thanked department heads and city staff for their hard work.

Councilman Patel thanked staff and department heads and reminded everyone about the Wheels on the Waterfront event this Saturday.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Taylor noted the Project Map that has been created indicates that \$328,779,000 could benefit the City through planned and proposed investments.

Mayor Taylor noted that we are getting ready to hire additional people. She also noted that we would be discussing the plans for the beautification of the depot soon.

Adjournment

There being no further business for discussion, Councilwoman Johnson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Patel and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer/City Manager

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary