

MINUTES

A Public Input meeting was held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, to allow residents and community stakeholders to comment on the proposed demolition of structures and salvaging of architectural elements from these structures before demolition. The properties are located at 9 N First Street, 308 W. Chesapeake Avenue, 321 W. Chesapeake Avenue and 332 W. Chesapeake Avenue.

PRESENT

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

Also, in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Tiffany McMahon, I.T., Shanelle Haughton; Dominique Parks; Richard Crumbacker; Carl Walter; Athena Argiris; and Richard Crumbacker.

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order. At this time Mrs. Parks briefed those in attendance concerning the Power Point information.

Mayor Taylor noted that the city wanted to make sure people are aware of the process going on if you are interested in salvaging anything from the four properties.

Miss Athena Argiris noted that she is interested, as did Mr. Carl Walter.

Mr. Crumbacker inquired how the situation would be handled if different people were interested in the same piece. Mayor Taylor advised that it is going to be first come first served basis. Mrs. Morgan advised that it will be managed through time stamping the request.

Mayor Taylor noted that request must be sent to Mrs. Parks.

Ms. McMahon inquired if a request can be submitted in from outside of the 21817 ZIP Code. Mayor Taylor advised that it could.

Mrs. Morgan inquired if the contract for demolition will be awarded before or after the items are awarded. Mrs. Parks advised that it would be awarded before. Mrs. Morgan noted that once the contract is awarded, the contractor owns the contents of the building.

A discussion followed concerning ownership of the contents once the demo bid is awarded. Mr. Illuminati noted that this is covered in the MOU.

Mayor Taylor inquired if we are to allow the public to go in and identify items that they want prior to the demo contract. Mr. illuminati advised that as we are using MHT funding, they have a say he advised that they developed the MOU and the contractor has to follow the guidelines

Mayor Taylor read loud the MOU document stipulations. Mr. Illuminati noted that the contractor must pull out the historical items.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding signing waivers for interested parties to go in and document items that they would like to be salvaged.

Mr. Crumbacker commented that it takes a lot of coordination as far as the removal of historical items and there needs to be a point person. He noted, for example you cannot remove the floor if someone wants to get a mantle. Mayor Taylor advised that we are not allowing anyone to remove anything. Whoever gets the demo bid must determine how much they will charge for removal of the specific items and determine how to safely remove them. She advised that interested people must sign a waiver, relieving the city of any liability, so that they can go into the property and list the items that they wished to have salvaged. The contractor will determine the cost to remove the items, and the contractor will work with the person who wants the items. She noted that the deadline to obtain a waiver and list the items you wish to have salvaged will be April 4.

With no further business for discussion Councilwoman Johnson made motion to close the public input meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Goldsborough and carried unanimously Meeting adjourned at 5:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift,