

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Corbin Library.

PRESENT

Barry Dize, Mayor
LaVerne Johnson, Council Vice President
Barbara Ward, Councilwoman
Nelson Sheppard, Councilman
Jimmy Ford, Councilman
Mike Atkins, Councilman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer, via Zoom
Michael Sullivan, City Solicitor, via Zoom
Dean Bozman, Code Enforcement/Public Works, via Zoom
Kristie Eberly, Grants Writer/Administrator, via Zoom
Jason Loar, City Engineer, via Zoom

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; William Berryhill, I.T.; and Richard Crumbacker

CALL TO ORDER, LORD'S PRAYER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Dize called the meeting to order, opening with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Dize commented that due to the Covid 19 outbreak, this has been a long three months, without being able to hold a meeting. He stated that we pay a price for our freedom, but we need to get the economy moving again, while still taking care of our senior citizens and those with compromised immune systems, but we still need to open back up. He stated that whether or not we agree with Governor Hogan, we must understand that he is responsible for many people and is trying to find a balance to keep people safe. Mayor Dize thanked Governor Hogan for his work.

MEETING DISCLAIMER

Mayor Dize read the disclaimer for tonight's meeting, which would be broadcasted through Zoom and Facebook Live, noting that public comment would be taken during the public hearing, but not at this regular meeting, and that there may be a broadcast delay of those speaking.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Dize requested approval of the minutes from the meeting in March 11, 2020.

Councilman Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of March 11, 2020. Motion seconded by Councilman Sheppard and carried 4-0, with Council Vice President Johnson abstaining as she was absent from that meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING WIND TURBINE

Mrs. Morgan briefed the Mayor and Council concerning the requirement of CDBG to hold two public hearings; one of which had been held in 2012, prior to construction of the turbine, and one after it was completed, which had not been held. She noted that the Director, Cindy Stone, had agreed that the City could hold the second hearing at this time.

Mrs. Morgan presented and reviewed budget items concerning the savings for the Waste Water Treatment Plant from the turbine, which showed a fluctuation in savings.

Mr. Jason Loar, City Engineer, of Davis, Bowen & Friedel, reviewed the maintenance contract for the turbine. He noted that the turbine has a five year warranty, which expires in 2022. He advised that the City would need to renew the contract. He also noted that there are 14 years left on the loan.

Mayor Dize commented that we may save now, but will pay later.

Councilman Atkins inquired about the cost of the maintenance contract. Mr. Loar advised that it is \$150 K over five years. Councilman Atkins noted that this is \$30K per year and inquired what maintenance involves. Mr. Loar advised that it is generator powered, so it would involve changing oil, lubricating, checking parts, etc. done bi-annually by specialized mechanics. Mr. Loar also noted that there are several companies that do this, so the City should put out an RFP for the maintenance contract.

No public comments were offered via Facebook Live.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to close the public hearing. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously, 5-0.

2ND READER – ORDINANCE 106A-5-VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT FEE TO BE ADOPTED AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE

Mr. Sullivan noted that due to Covid19, 2nd reader of this ordinance was delayed from its' first reading on March 11, 2020, for over 60 days, and it is included in this year's budget, therefore it must be adopted as an emergency measure, per C2-10 of the City Charter.

At this time, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to adopt Ordinance 693 as an emergency measure per C2-10 of the City of Crisfield Charter. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins and carried unanimously, 5-0.

Mr. Sullivan went on to review Ordinance 693. He noted that a motion was needed to adopt it for 2nd and final reader. So moved by Councilman Atkins, seconded by Councilman Sheppard.

During discussion, Council Vice President Johnson commented that this was a large increase. Mr. Sullivan advised that it reflects the actual cost incurred by the City of Crisfield. Mayor Dize noted that the City was losing money.

Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CAED SUB RECIPIENT AGREEMENT

At this time, Kristie Eberly, Grants Writer/Administrator, reviewed both of the Sub-Recipient Agreements presented; The Technical Assistance Grant for \$15,000 and the Bike Rack Sub-Recipient in the amount of \$2,500.

Mr. Sullivan advised that he has completed review of these documents and they are ready for approval by the Mayor and Council.

At this time, Councilman Sheppard made a motion to approve the Sub-Recipient Agreement with CAED in the amount of \$15,000. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward and carried unanimously, 5-0.

Councilman Atkins then made a motion to approve the Sub-Recipient Agreement with CAED for the Bike Rack, in the amount of \$2,500. Motion seconded by Councilman Sheppard and carried unanimously, 5-0.

ADOPTION OF CIRCUIT RIDER RESOLUTION 459

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Resolution aloud. At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt Resolution 459. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Johnson and carried unanimously 5-0.

APPROVAL OF CIP CONTRACT WITH DAVIS, BOWEN AND FRIEDEL

Mayor Dize made reference to the previous meeting with Secretary Holt and his promise for funding for the City for important projects. Mr. Jason Loar noted that this would address the 5 year roadmap for the Capital Improvement Projects.

Mayor Dize thanked DHCD, Secretary Holt, Senator Coroza, Delegate Otto, Cindy Stone, Tracey Gordy and all of the Governor's staff who made this funding possible.

At this time, Councilman Atkins noted that Davis, Bowen and Friedel were the low bidders, and made a motion to approve the consulting contract with Davis, Bowen, and Friedel. Motion seconded by Councilman Sheppard and carried unanimously, 5-0.

DHCD ARMORY & FAÇADE GRANTS – CONFIRMATION OF EMAIL VOTE

Mr. Sullivan noted that the State had appropriated \$200K for the Armory and \$55K to continue the façade work in Crisfield. He advised that he had reviewed the grant and it looked fine, but needed to be approved ASAP, thus Mrs. Eberly sent out an email to the Council and received majority approval.

USDA RESOLUTION – 460 CONFIRMING RICK TAYLOR AS ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the Resolution for adoption by the Council, which is required by USDA funding. He noted that this document allows Acting Chief Taylor to sign documents regarding USDA funding, which had been acquired during the tenure of Chief Tabor.

At this time, Councilman Atkins made a motion to adopt Resolution 460. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Ward, and carried unanimously, 5-0.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS, QUESTIONS

Councilman Sheppard commented that he is glad everyone is healthy and able to meet.

Councilwoman Ward commented that a lot have been accomplished at this meeting and she is glad to see everyone.

Councilman Atkins made reference to the technical difficulties we had experienced with internet service at this meeting, noting that having the press in attendance is essential. He made reference to the request for 15 MPH signs for Heron Way. Mr. Bozman advised that he had spoken to some residents who are in favor, but he is still working on it. Councilman Atkins advised that he would like to have an Ordinance for First Reader at the next meeting.

Council Vice President Johnson made reference to people traveling the wrong way on Pine Street, which is designated as One Way. Mayor Dize instructed Mr. Bozman to make sure the sign is clear and advised that he would speak with Acting Chief Taylor concerning the matter.

Council Vice President Johnson made reference to the Crisfield EDC Ordinance that was adopted for First Reader at the March 11, meeting, but exceeded the time period for Second Reader due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Mayor Dize noted that it could be brought back up at the next meeting.

Councilman Ford commented that he is glad we are here, but feels we could do more for the City. He addressed the status of Police Chief interviews, money for the signage on the highway, the kayak launch, and the status of Carvel Hall. Mr. Sullivan noted that he would get in contact with Mr. Spangler concerning Carvel Hall.

Councilman Ford commented that the City is going downhill.

Mayor Dize advised that concerning the kayak launch, the City does not have to do mitigation, but we are still waiting for MDE approval. In reference to the sign, Mayor Dize advised that SHA has issues and

limitations. Mrs. Morgan noted that it is restricted in a scenic byway. Mr. Bozman added that per SHA rules, you can't put up a new sign, but can put the old one back up.

Mayor Dize inquired what designates a scenic byway, which is all of 413. Mr. Bozman advised that they are designated by the State. Mayor Dize advised that he would reach out to Ryan Snow of the Governor's Office for assistance.

Mayor Dize noted that several streets have been tar & chipped; Pine, Spruce, Tyler, and part of Minden and Franklin.

Mayor Dize noted that Police Chief interviews will be scheduled for week after next. He noted that Charlie Horner would be assisting with the interviews, and one would be done every hour and a half, all on the same day, with plans to do them prior to the next meeting.

Mayor Dize went on to thank City staff for their hard work during the Covid crisis. He also thanked the Council for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for discussion, Council Vice President Johnson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Ford, and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary