

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Corbin Studio and Gallery.

PRESENT

Darlene Taylor, Mayor
Eric Banks, Councilman
Charlotte Scott, Councilwoman
Casey Goldsborough, Councilman
LaVerne Johnson, Councilwoman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Andrew Illuminati, City Solicitor

Absent; Council Vice President Ivan Lankford

Present; Valerie Swift, Secretary, Rick Taylor, Chief of Police; Jennifer Merritt; Kyle Tyler; Richard Crumbacker; Eric Emely; and Janet Johnson, IT.

CALL TO ORDER, LORD’S PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilman Banks made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 8, 2023. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Scott and carried unanimously, 4-0.

LAUNCH OF EDUCATION HIGHWAY – Councilwoman LaVerne Johnson

Councilwoman Johnson briefed concerning the launch of Education Highway. She advised that to sign up persons would have to go to getacp.org. She advised that flyers are available in various locations; the Elks, Lions Club, Legion and churches.

SOFT SHELL FAIR PRESENTATION – Eric Emely

Mr. Emely noted that the Lion's Club could no longer do the Soft Shell Fair, so he stepped up to take on the event. He noted that Handy's would be doing the Soft Crabs and Crab Cakes, the other vendors money would go to the Lions.

Mr. Emely advised that he had requested use of the show mobile from the Chamber, and had asked to be on the agenda, but had not heard back. He noted that they charge \$1,500 with a \$300 towing fee. He also noted that he would not be able to cover the cost of the liability insurance. He advised that the two things he needs are the stage and liability insurance. Mr. Emely advised that he is appealing to the City and the community. During discussion it was suggested that he contact the Elks and Legion.

**REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF BUILDING PERMIT FEE FROM THE EASTERN SHORE
LONG TERM RECOVERY COMMITTEE FOR 24 WYNFALL AVENUE -KIMBERLY
HOPKINS, PROGRAM COORDINATOR (permitting fees, if waived, would total
\$287.60 (\$30 Electric permit fee, \$30 HVAC permit fee, \$30 Plumbing permit fee
and \$197.60 Building permit fee) - Kyle Tyler**

Mr. Tyler reviewed the request from Kimberly Hopkins to waive the City of Crisfield permitting fees for the dwelling being constructed at 24 Wynfall Avenue by ESLTRC.

Mrs. Morgan reminded that we cannot waive any of the charges done by First State inspections.

After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Scott made a motion to waive the City of Crisfield Permitting Fees in the amount of \$287.60. Motion seconded by

Councilwoman Johnson, who commented that ESLTRC has been a servant to the community. Motion carried unanimously, 4-0.

**REQUEST FOR WAIVERS OF BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR HANDICAP RAMPS
FROM THE CHESAPEAKE HOUSING MISSION – Kyle Tyler**

Mr. Tyler explained that the fee would be \$40.00.

During discussion it was determined that a time limit for waivers would be established.

Councilman Banks made a motion to grant the waiving of the permit fees for the handicap ramps and continue through the balance of the year. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously, 4-0.

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CRISFIELD APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND
CONTINGENT ACCEPTANCE OF THE GRANT AWARD FROM THE RESILIENT
MARYLAND REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE
CRISFIELD CITY DOCK RES. # 472 – Jennifer Merritt**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CRISFIELD APPROVING THE APPLICATION AND
CONTINGENT ACCEPTANCE OF THE GRANT AWARD FROM THE RESILIENT
MARYLAND REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR IMPROVEMENT TO THE CITY'S
STORMWATER INFRASTRUCTURE RES. #473 – Jennifer Merritt**

Mrs. Merritt reviewed the Resolution requests.

Mayor Taylor noted that the request for funding has already been approved; now we need to approve the Resolutions.

At this time, Councilman Banks made a motion to approve Resolutions 472 and 473. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously, 4-0.

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION #474 FOR THE SOMERSET COUNTY HAZARD
MITIGATION PLAN – Jennifer Merritt**

Mrs. Merritt requested approval and adoption of the Somerset County Hazard Mitigation Plan which was available for the Mayor and Council's review.

At this time, Councilwoman Scott made a motion to adopt Resolution 474 as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Goldsborough and carried unanimously, 4-0.

PUBLIC INPUT

Hitesh Patel made reference to comments made previously by Mr. Eric Emely. He noted that Mr. Emely was scheduled to be on the Chamber's agenda at their last meeting and did not reply or contact them. Mr. Patel advised that a request for the show mobile must be voted on, so no letter of what it would cost was sent. He noted that Mr. Emely presented only one side of the story.

COUNCIL INPUT/COMMENTS

Councilwoman Scott noted that this would be her last meeting and wished everyone well. She encouraged everyone to work together to make the best decisions. Mayor Taylor commented that she was grateful for their friendship and Councilwoman Scott's leadership. She noted that they served in GCAC together, and thanked Councilwoman Scott for having a heart for the community. She then read a proclamation recognizing Councilwoman Scott.

Councilman Goldsborough thanked everyone working on the City's priorities. He noted that he is working on updating zoning information, codes, etc., and getting rid of derelict houses.

Councilman Banks thanked everyone for their hard work and noted that it is bittersweet to see Councilwoman Scott leave.

Councilwoman Jonson commented that there is a lot of work that goes on inside City Hall behind the scenes. She noted that she had learned perseverance from Councilwoman Scott and had also gotten good advice.

MAYOR TAYLOR – INPUT/COMMENTS

Mayor Taylor noted that she knows things will work out adding that she had learned a lot from Councilwoman Scott and that we need to listen and move forward even when we disagree, and make thoughtful decisions.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary