

The Mayor in City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Corbin studio and Gallery meeting room

Present

Darlene Taylor, Mayor
Eric Banks, Council Vice President
Ivan Lankford, Councilman
Casey Goldsborough, Councilman
Hitesh Patel, Councilman via Zoom
Andrew Illuminati, City Solicitor

Also, in attendance, Valerie Swift, Tiffany McMahon, Chief Eric Lee, Jason Loar, Trenton Brittingham, Brian Fowler; Jason Loar and Paul Hadad.

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order opening with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. At this time she requested approval of the minutes from the meetings of September 17 and September 23.

At this time Council Vice President Banks made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2025, meeting and the regular meeting of September 23, 2025, with a correction to remove Councilman Patel's name, as he was not present at that meeting. Motion second by Councilman Goldsborough and carried unanimously with abstention from Councilman Patel for the meeting on September 23rd.

Lower Shore Workforce

Paul Hadad, of the Lower Shore Workforce, presented information concerning a program for obtaining a marine service technology certification. He advised that classes will be held at Chesapeake College with plans for them to be held next year at Wor-wic community college. He noted the great increase in demand for maritime related jobs and the need for marine technicians.

Mayor Taylor commented that the only drawback right now is the need for transportation to Chesapeake College requiring a person to meet in Salisbury. Mr. Hadad commented that there is transportation available if you are leaving from Salisbury and tuition is paid. He noted that he has 12 applicants currently, with another class scheduled for January. Mayor Taylor inquired if there were any requirements to take the class. Mr. Hadad advised that the only requirements are that the person is interested in the program, has work experience and work ethics.

Mr. Hadad also advised it training is being scheduled for Living Shoreline certificate. He advised this class is through Salisbury University and pertains to design and construction of living shorelines. He advised that they will be able to work with a contractor or a group, etc., and will also receive a certificate. He noted that the class has not yet been defined. Mayor Taylor advised that the city is very familiar with living shoreline.

Councilman Goldsborough inquired when the program would be available at Wor Wic. advised that the He also noted that the program runs 3 times a year.

Councilman Lankford commented that Chesapeake College is pretty far up the road for some people. Mr. Hadad noted that this is the closest option that offers what is needed for the class, and he's hopeful that Wor-wic will be able to provide it next year. Councilman Lankford commented he would like to see UMES be able to offer the training. Mr. Hadad advised that they don't have anything with marine technology and Salisbury University is not a good spot.

Mayor Taylor commented that the program relates to where we live. She inquired if there are other services provided by the Lower Shore Workforce. Mr. Hadad advised that there is apprenticeship with electricians, welders, and HVAC flagging, and forklift. If you go to their website portal, Mayor Taylor inquired if there's a cost. Mr. Hadad advised that there is no cost to students. They just need to call or email.

Councilman Goldsborough inquired if this is just training or a certificate. Mr. Hadad advised that this is just a basic foundation.

Mayor Taylor reviewed information provided by Humble Care Providers located in Pocomoke.

Mayor Taylor noted the upcoming Jenna Drewer-Noll day tomorrow at Somers Cove Marina honoring the life of Jenna on her birthday.

Mr. Loar provided updates concerning the wind turbine, noting that the maintenance crew is due here next week or this weekend to figure out the issue with the breaker. Mayor Taylor noted that we do have a maintenance contract with them. Mr. Loar advised that we should have a remote monitor in the next week.

Mr. Loar made reference to the armory and advised that Delmarva Veteran Builders will be in to do the mold removal as the next phase.

Mr. Loar made reference to the stormwater pump system, and Bayland updates for resubmission. Mayor Taylor noted that the city will be replacing sewer line using our funding.

Mr. Loar advised that they will be starting 11th St. next week from Tyler to Main and will close fourth Street. He also noted that the Jersey Island pump station project has not been approved yet. He advised that the Cove Street and Rubberset pump station forced man should be done by the end of October or mid-November.

Mr. Fowler made reference to upcoming paving and noted that prior to paving being done, he is working on diverting water on Somerset. He advised that he needs to brick in the old catch basins and the upper catch basins are still holding water. He advised that he hopes paving will begin in the next 2 to 3 weeks.

Council Vice President Banks made reference to revisiting the street paving list that had been discussed in previous years. Mayor Taylor advised council to come up with a list for review. Councilman Goldsborough commented that Somerset Avenue was very costly and inquired about HUR funds. Mayor Taylor advised that \$80,000 won't do anything. Mr. Fowler noted that the paving from Main Street to the Corbin library would cost \$1.5 million.

Councilman Goldsborough made reference to paving the five worst streets.

Public Input

None

Youth Council

Youth Council rep Trenton Brittingham, noted that SAT tests were given at Crisfield High School this past Saturday. He also noted that the band will be participating in the kids day parade on October 25. He advised that the skills USA testing will be held November 6 & 7.

Mayor Taylor made reference to the DARE program which is about to begin at Crisfield high school. Chief Lee advised that the program will start October 29 and 31st.

Mayor Taylor made reference to the curb painting project and asked Mr. Brittingham to see if any students would like to participate for community service. Mayor Taylor made reference to attending a recent program at Crisfield High concerning suicide. She asked that the presenter do a presentation for the Crisfield Police Department

Council Comments

Councilman Patel thanked Mr. Fowler for the work he has done to prevent flooding.

Councilman Lankford advised he was glad to see Mr. Brittingham at the meeting

Council Vice President Banks thanked all department heads and commented that the jazz festival was a success with over 300 in attendance. He also advised that he will be contacting Design Collective concerning the design for the depot.

Councilman Goldsborough thanked Mr. Fowler concerning there being less water in roads and ditches. He also noted that he would be absent from the next meeting as he was getting married.

Mayor Comments

Mayor Taylor made reference to the low-income housing initiative and the issue with getting people prequalified. She noted that Mrs. Hires is working on this program now.

Mayor Taylor also made reference to the suggestion of a curfew given at the last meeting and asked the Council to consider if they want to pursue this or not.

Mayor Taylor noted the need for an update concerning the Soldiers Cemetery.

Mayor Taylor noted that the Solar Simplified Campaign will soon be kicking off and noted for the public that any documents they may receive are legit.

Mayor Taylor noted that the M & C Meetings for November 26th and December 24th will need to be rescheduled.

Mayor Taylor also noted the loss of Mrs. Cindy Freeman's son.

Mayor Taylor commented that a lot goes on in Crisfield and noted that the Heritage Foundation event was a success as was the fishing tournament at the American Legion, the Car Show, Jazz Festival and crab feast.

She noted that this weekend was the Un-Corked Wine Festival at the Marina and the Gun Bash.

With no further business for discussion, Council Vice President Banks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Goldsborough and carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer/City Manager

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary