

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. in the Corbin Studio and Gallery meeting room.

PRESENT

Darlene Taylor, Mayor
Ivan Lankford, Council Vice President (Zoom)
Eric Banks, Councilman
Casey Goldsborough, Councilman
LaVerne Johnson, Councilman
Ruthie Todd, Councilwoman
Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Andrew Illuminati, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Secretary; Jennifer Merritt; Kyler Tyler; Rick Taylor; John Wunder; A. C. Alrey; Richard Crumbacker; Paul Ellington; and George Friedley.

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

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

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Taylor requested approval of the minutes from the meetings of June 28, 2023 and July 12, 2023. So moved for approval by Councilman Banks, seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

Resolution 481 of the City of Crisfield Authorizing the Application for, and conditional acceptance of, financial assistance from The Department of Housing and Community Development of the State of Maryland – Jen Merritt

Mrs. Merritt explained the four State grants and read aloud Resolution 481. Mayor Taylor noted that all the applications have been submitted and we support the grant applications.

At this time, Councilman Goldsborough made a motion to adopt Resolution 481. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

Introduction of Paul Ellington our Government Relations Professional – Mayor Taylor

Mayor Taylor introduced Paul Ellington, the City of Crisfield's Government Relations Professional. Mr. Ellington noted that he was a former member of City Council in Bowie.

Mayor Taylor noted that we need to increase the awareness of Crisfield among our legislative body at the State and Federal level.

Mayor Taylor noted that Pastor Phil was supposed to be at the meeting, however, severe storms had hit his hometown, so he will be at the next meeting. She asked that we keep Pastor Phil in our prayers.

Public Input

George Friedley commented that there needs to be homes constructed for disabled veterans.

Chief Taylor commented that the homeless population in Crisfield has increased, noting that some have been sheltering in the City park. He noted that no one is permitted there from dusk to dawn. Chief Taylor advised that CPD has been trying to help the people involved. Councilwoman Todd commended CPD on their efforts.

Mr. Crumbacker noted that the Stars For Somerset County event has been moved to August 17th, due to impending storms.

Council Comments

Council Vice President Lankford noted that the Main Street Revitalization group met yesterday, and it was a great meeting, with a lot of great information shared and plans to re-build main street. He also welcomed A.C. who had attended the meeting.

Councilman Goldsborough noted that he was glad to see Councilwoman Todd on board.

Councilman Banks addressed street signs with Mr. Wunder. Mr. Wunder advised that CPD is getting a list.

Councilwoman Johnson listed the members of the Main Street Revitalization Committee along with herself; Ivan Lankford, A. C. Alrey, Dan Nelson, Nelson Sheppard, Anthony Jackson, and Mike Corbin.

Councilwoman Johnson thanked the Crisfield Fire Department, Goldsborough Marine, Robert and Steven Hunt, the Crisfield Library and Staff, and Mrs. Merritt for the work done to get and distribute the laptops. She also gave a special thanks to Ed Goyda, Library Director.

Mayor Taylor noted that they are looking into getting some more laptops.

Councilwoman Todd noted that it had been a good two weeks; She advised that she had met the staff, has come up with some ideas and is glad to be here.

Mayor Comments/Discussion -

Mayor Taylor noted that the National Night Out event went great, and gave a shout out to CAC Bernice Evans. Mayor Taylor noted Upcoming Events - World's Largest Rubber Ducky will be at the Marina this Friday through Sunday.

Stars of Somerset at the Marina – August 17th.

Andre Collins/Project Xposure Music Festival Bringing Awareness to Gun Violence, Bullying and Drug Abuse – This Sunday 1p-7p 4th & Broadway, 4th and Cove Street.

She noted that Code Red would be sending out notices of any street closure/changes.

ADJOURNMENT INTO WORK SESSION

Councilwoman Johnson made a motion to adjourn from the regular session into a work session. Motion seconded by Councilman Goldsborough and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary