

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Crisfield met in regular session on Wednesday, November 12, 2025, at 6 PM in the meeting room in the Corbin studio in Gallery library.

PRESENT

Darlene Taylor, Mayor
Eric Banks, Council Vice President
Ivan Lankford, Councilman
Casey Goldsborough, Councilman
LaVerne Johnson, Councilwoman
Hitesh Patel, Councilman via zoom
Joye L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer
Andrew Illuminati, City Solicitor

Also in attendance; Valerie Swift, Tiffany McMahon, Jennifer Merritt, Chief Eric Lee, Richard Crumbacker, D. J. Parkinson, Brian Fowler, Dave Thompson and Dr. Paul Klaverweiden.

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

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order opening with the Lord's prayer and a pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Taylor requested approval of minutes from the previous meetings. At this time, Council Vice President Banks made motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of October 22, 2025, and the closed meeting of October 22, 2025, as is written. Motion seconded by Councilman Lankford and carried unanimously 3-0.

Inspiration Health Services Presentation – Dr. Paul Klaverweiden

Dr. Paul Klaverweiden appeared before the Mayor and Council to introduce his practice, Inspiration Health Services, which is in the old liquor store. He reviewed slides of the setup of the interior of the practice and noted that he had been in the field of medicine for 25 years starting as a phlebotomist, then a nurse and then a psychiatrist. He advised that his practice sees patients ages five and up.

Adoption of Resolution Number 494, The 2024 Somerset County Nuisance Flooding Plan as the City of Crisfield Nuisance Flooding Plan – Mrs. Merritt

Mrs. Merritt presented the nuisance flooding plan for the city of Crisfield and the Resolution accompanying that, number 494. She advised that it was adopted five years ago and must be adopted every five years. Mrs. Merritt read the resolution into record. At this time Councilwoman Johnson made motion to accept Resolution number 494. Motion seconded by Councilman Lankford and carried unanimously.

Mr. illuminati noted that the critical area ordinance would be adopted in the new year.

Flood Mitigation Grant Update – Mrs. Merritt

Mrs. Merritt also presented a flood mitigation grant update noting that she would be requesting permission to apply for two grants.

Mrs. Merritt advised that the first grant was a great point grant application in the amount of \$6 M from NOAA, concerning the permitting of the great point living break water.

At this time Council Vice President Banks made motion to approve the grant application.

Motion seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Merritt also requested approval of a grant application for DNR grant Gateway for the Southern Crisfield Flood Mitigation. She advised that this is a \$2 million application.

Approval so moved by Council Vice President Banks, seconded by Councilman Lankford and carried unanimously.

Status of Bids for 24 Asbury Avenue – Mr. Petrulli

Mr. Petrulli, Code Enforcement Officer, noted that he had received eight bids for the clean up work to be done at 24 Asbury Avenue. At this time, Mrs. Morgan opened and read the bids aloud. (hard copies in file) The low bidder was Schultz Landscaping in the amount of \$3,850. Mrs. Morgan noted that the cost of the work would be filed as a lien against the property.

At this time Councilman Goldsborough made a motion to award the bid to Schultz Landscaping. Motion seconded by Council Vice President Banks and carried unanimously.

Public Utilities Update, Mr. Parkinson

Mr. Parkinson advised that Teal Construction has been on Fourth Street replacing line in the section, putting in plastic pipe and replacing sewer laterals. He noted that they had run into some trouble at the depot.

Mr. Parkinson made reference to hydrant flushing and advised that they are planning to do one to two per week. He also made reference to the leak at 502 W. Chesapeake Ave. that needs to be repaired. He advised that all the RAZ pumps are in.

Mr. Fowler made reference to the ditch system and explained how it works, noting that any trash that gets in there interrupts the drainage process. He urged people to refrain from throwing trash on the streets.

Tri County Council Nomination – Mayor Taylor

Mayor Taylor made reference to the position of Somerset County municipal representative to the Tri-County Council to serve from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026. She advised that Councilwoman Johnson currently serves and inquired if she would like to continue. Councilwoman Johnson advised that she would continue to serve.

(Councilman Patel exited meeting – 7:30 p.m.)

Meeting Dates – Thanksgiving, Christmas

Mayor Taylor noted that a date would need to be set for the next meeting, which falls on Thanksgiving Day. After a brief discussion, Council Concurred that the meeting day would be Monday, November 24th.

Mayor Taylor noted that there would only be one meeting in December, held on December 10th.

Public Input

Mr. Dave Thompson made reference to the lack of a letter of easement from the company installing fiber optic

Good Things in Crisfield – Ms. Marshall

Ms. Lafabian Marshall referred to Good Things in Crisfield and noted that we would need to vote on the pictures for the calendar in January.

Council Comments

Council Vice President Banks thanked employees and department heads for their hard work.

Councilwoman Johnson thanked Mr. Fowler for his ditch explanation. She also noted that the Main Street group is working on a dog park and a dry cleaning pick-up satellite location.

Councilman Goldsborough noted that he had observed some kids throwing trash. He thanked Mr. Petrulli for addressing the Asbury Avenue issue. He also thanked the staff for their hard work.

Councilman Lankford commented that he is glad to be present at the meeting in person. He thanked everyone for their hard work.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Taylor made reference to the letters being mailed to residents from Solar Simplified. She noted that their offer is legitimate and offers those who sign on a 10% discount. She also noted that the City receives \$50 for anyone who signs up. She advised that there is no charge for their service.

Mayor Taylor noted that this is not the same company as the group constructing the solar farm on Calvary Road; this company is ECA Solar.

Mayor Taylor noted that the Christmas in Crisfield event will be held on Saturday, November 29th from 5 to 7 p.m. She advised that the Christmas Parade will be held on Friday, December 5th.

Introduction

At this time, Mr. Illuminati introduced the new lawyer to their firm, Ms. Gabby _____. He noted that she had just passed her Bar Exam. The Mayor and Council congratulated her and welcomed her aboard.

Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce L. Morgan, Clerk-Treasurer/City Manager

Prepared by Valerie Swift, Secretary