

The regular meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, March 6, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Bruce Morrison
Council Members: Diane Downing, Brian Hirshman, Esther Troast, Dale Trotter, George Tasker
City Manager/City Attorney: Ernie Crofoot
City Clerk: Carol L. Sullivan

Review Minutes:

In a motion (Trotter, Troast passed) to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2017 meeting as presented.

Atlantic General Hospital Care Giver Annual Update-Michael Franklin to present-Action Needed:

Mr. Michael Franklin gave an update concerning the medical team at Atlantic General Hospital. He explained how they were expanding their services in each community in Worcester County. They are having a \$10,000,000 campaign for the future expanding of cancer center. He stated that the expansion would include comprehensive women's health service, modernization of patient care, modernization of surgical facilities and expansion of their emergency department and outpatient services. The plan is to start the ground breaking in July 2017 with a completion date of spring 2018 for the cancer center. He asked the City for a contribution of \$10,000.

Mayor Morrison thanked Mr. Franklin for giving the City an update and he stated that he was glad that they were close by.

Swear in alternate member to Board of Elections Supervisors (Corey Dean):

Mayor Morrison swore in alternate member of Board of Election Supervisor Corey Dean.

Karah Lacey, Economic Development Coordinator to request approval for Beer & Wine License for Downtown 4th Friday Art Stroll:

Mr. Marc Scher thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support of the Downtown Association. He stated that Councilman Trotter lives in the downtown district and he is always working hard at their functions, Councilman Tasker is always willing to work and supportive, Councilwoman Troast is always out and about with her camera taking pictures. He stated that he appreciates them getting downtown cleaned-up. He also discussed the 4th Friday Art Stroll and how successful that it is.

Mayor Morrison thanked Mr. Scher for his leadership of the DPA and helping with the events in the downtown area.

Ms. Karah Lacey asked permission to sell beer and wine at the 4th Friday Art Stroll. She stated that they have not had any incidents for the past three years. She asked to sale beer and wine again this year during the 4th Friday Art Stroll.

In a motion (Trotter, Troast passed) to allow beer and wine to be sold at the 4th Friday Art Stroll.

Mario Herandez, a representative from Redspeed Maryland, LLC to discuss speed cameras:

Mr. Herandez discuss speed cameras in various locations within the school zone. He stated that the cameras could be moved from one location to another, but it had to be in the original notice to the public. Each ticket will be a forty-dollar (\$40) cost for speeding. Thirteen dollars (\$13) the City keeps and the funds will go back into safety budget. Although he did say that this should not be a fixed budget item, as each year it may decrease in revenues as residents will be aware of their speed in the school zone. He will e-mail the information to City Manager Crofoot for the Council to review.

Lt. Hancock to give an update on traffic study on Cedar Street and Pocomoke Beltway:

Lt. Hancock stated that he looked to see what the surrounding communities had in the school zones. He found that most had flashing amber lights in the school zone. He would like to have them prior to the school zone. He stated that is will not cure the problem, but it will make awareness that it is a school zone. He would also like to see more speed signs on Cedar Street and Pocomoke Beltway.

Mayor Morrison thanked Lt. Hancock and Chief Harden for their work and stated that he appreciates them monitoring Cedar Street and Pocomoke Beltway before and after school.

Councilwoman Troast also stated that the presence of them being on Cedar Street has been noticed and she appreciates them as the speeding as slowed down in the area.

Approval amendment for Riverside Grill's lease agreement:

Mayor Morrison stated that the Council had the lease agreement and asked if they had any questions, if not he would like to get a motion to approve.

In a motion (Tasker, Troast passed) to approve the lease for Riverside Grill.

Approval and sign MOU with State Highway Administration for Cypress Park Nature Trail:

City Manager Crofoot stated that we were approved for a grant from State Highway Administration. This grant is for \$40,000 to be matched by \$19,000. This grant will include installation of an 1864-foot-long, four-foot trail topped with Trex decking.

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) for approval to sign the MOU with State Highway Administration for Cypress Park Nature Trail.

Jen Rafter, to give an update on Energov and Circuit Rider Program.

Ms. Rafter gave an update on the Circuit Rider Program, stating that it is a shared position with Crisfield. The program is for two-years and her position with Pocomoke is to get information from staff to create a data base for the Energov. Once she gets the information she needs, she will be working with Energov to get the program up and running. The program will have GIS-maps, building permits, code violations, plan management, inspection management, business licenses and Community Development Block Grant housing rehabilitation process. She stated that Ms. Laurie Camp, a Salisbury University student who will be scanning and inputting

our plats, and maps that we currently have. Ms. Rafter showed how the system would work with the GIS showing the parcel and address layer with any permits or violations. She stated that the GIS system will be completed by March, site visiting and training will be in April, business license billing would be completed by June and the software will go live in July.

City Manager Crofoot said that Ms. Rafter was doing a great job and he thinks they did a great job in selected the right person for the job.

Robert Hart, representative from Worcester County Commission on Aging to discuss FY2018 Budget Request for Pocomoke Senior Center:

Mr. Hart stated that Worcester County Commission on Aging is a nonprofit agency that serves the Senior Citizens in Worcester County. He is asking the City for a donation of \$1,500 to help increase the service and activities for the Center in Pocomoke.

Mayor Morrison stated that the City was getting ready to start their budget meetings, so it is a great time to make your request. He thanked Mr. Hart for coming tonight and the job he is doing at the Senior Center.

Correspondence:

Mayor Morrison stated that the City received a post card from an unknown concerning the speeding on Cedar Street.

Council Comments:

Councilman Tasker stated that there are potholes on Lynnhaven that he would like to see repaired. He also asked City Manager Crofoot if he had gone to Jenkins Orchard.

City Manager Crofoot stated that he and Mr. Davis had gone over to look and take pictures. Mr. Davis is writing a report on the inspection. Also, City Manager Crofoot stated that he had asked the Homeowners Association for a copy of their rules and regulation, and that he would be attending a meeting with them.

Councilman Tasker stated that once the paving begins this Spring he would like for the City to look at the streets in Jenkins Orchard as there are some bad areas that need to be repaired.

Councilman Trotter stated that he would like to thanked Bozman Paving and City Manager Crofoot for the fast respond of repairing the bridge at Cypress Park. Bozman Paving did a really nice job in repairing the bridge and paving.

Mayor Morrison reminded the Council that Delmarva Discovery Center would be co-hosting a reception for the EMS, Fire emergency personnel, police before their meeting at the Community Center, he asked them to attend, if possible.

Comments from the Audience:

Mr. Billy Sparrow stated that the roads on Newtowne Blvd needs to be repaved as there are large potholes.

Ms. Monna VanEss asked if the ditch on Linden Ave needs to be cleaned out.

Ms. Rita Ulman thanked the City for their continued support of the Costen House. She stated that they are going to have somebody to cut down a tree could they put them on Second Street and the City will pick them up.

City Manager Crofoot stated that the City would pick up the branches and he asked her to let him know so that he could let Public Works know to pick up the branches.

Following a motion by Councilwoman Downing and seconded by Councilman Trotter, the Council voted to meet in a closed session at 8:12 P.M. in the Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Morrison, Councilman Hirshman, Councilman Trotter, Councilman Tasker, Councilwoman Downing, Councilwoman Troast, City Manager/City Attorney Crofoot, and City Clerk Carol Sullivan. The Mayor and Council discussed to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State of Maryland Section 3-305 (b), (4) of the General Provisions Annotated Code of Maryland the meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Approved: _____

Carol L. Sullivan
City Clerk