

September 8, 2015

The regular meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, September 8, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

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

Review Minutes:

In a motion (Trotter, Troast passed) to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2015 meeting with a few corrections.

Review Bills:

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) the bills presented to be paid. (Copy of bill list attached to original minutes).

Announcement of selection of Police Chief pending successful completion of employment process:

Interim City Manager Crofoot stated that there were eight candidates that had applied for the position and that he was happy to introduce William Harden, Sr. as the selection for the new Chief of Police.

Pastor Ronnie White and Rev. James Jones:

Community members are still looking for answer as to why former Chief Sewell was fired. They also discussed the April 2015 election.

Approve Proclamation to commend Rev. Isaac Jenkins on the occasion of his fifty-five years serving as Pastor of New Macedonia Baptist Church:

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) to approve the Proclamation for Rev. Isaac Jenkins fifty-five years of service to New Macedonia Baptist Church.

Special recognition of Mr. Don Holdren and Ms. Elizabeth Eberhart for coaching a Jr. Golf training class at Winter Quarters Course in July 2015.

Mayor Morrison presented Mr. Holdren and Ms. Eberhart a “Certificate of Appreciation”. He thanked them for continuing the golf training classes.

Mr. Holdren stated that he was glad to continue coaching Jr. Golf at Winter Quarters Golf Course.

Mrs. Eberhart stated that it was a pleasure to assist in this project and she looks forward to next year. She also stated that this is a free service to the public and she was blessed and honor to help with this project.

Authorize Mayor to sign Maintenance Service Agreement with Telewire:

Director of Finance Janet Wilson stated that this was a Maintenance Service Agreement to continue the maintenance on our phone system.

In a motion (Tasker, Trotter passed) to authorize Mayor Morrison to sign the Maintenance Service Agreement with Telewire.

Authorize Mayor to sign lease agreement with SECAP Finance for postage meter:

Director of Finance Janet Wilson stated that this was to upgrade our postage meter and that the price was reduced.

In a motion (Hirshman, Tasker passed) to authorize Mayor Morrison to sign the SECAP Finance agreement to upgrade the postage meter.

Discuss Maryland Department of Transportation’s Consolidated Transportation Program-to identify priority projects for City of Pocomoke:

Mayor Morrison stated that if they had any suggestion for major improvements to let Mr. Crofoot know. He suggested moving the crosswalk at the restaurant closer to the Chamber of Commerce building.

Approve motion to allow sale of beer and wine at Pocomoke City’s 150th Anniversary Celebration.

The Council considered an item whether to authorize the Mayor to sign a liquor license application for sale of alcoholic beverages by the Pocomoke Downtown Business Association at the Community Center during the 150th Anniversary Celebration. After discussion and comments from the public in opposition, the action was not approved.

Pentecostal Church of God of Lincoln would like permission to use 401 Fifth Street for their Fish Fry on September 12, 19 and October 10, 2015:

Councilman Tasker stated that they should have liability insurance.

In a motion (Trotter, Hirshman passed) to allow Pentecostal Church of God of Lincoln to use 401 Fifth Street on September 12, 19 and October 10 for their Fish Fry once they provided the City with liability insurance.

Approve to advertise for sealed bids for 401 Fifth Street:

Item was removed from agenda.

Comments from Council:

Councilman Tasker asked when the paving would begin, on Lynnhaven Drive; the pot holes were terrible in that area.

Councilwoman Troast stated that school has started and she would like to see police in the area of the school before and after because of speeding in the area she was worried about the children's safety.

Comments from audience:

Ms. Monna VanEss spoke concerning policing in her neighborhood.

Following a motion by Councilman Hirshman and seconded by Councilman Trotter the Council voted to meet in a closed session at 8:44 P.M. in the Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Morrison, Councilman Hirshman, Councilman Trotter, Councilman Tasker, Councilwoman Downing, Councilwoman Troast, City Manager Crofoot, City Attorney Hudson, and City Clerk Carol Sullivan. The Mayor and Council discussed employee issues as permitted under the provisions of Section 3-305 (b), (1) of the General Provisions Annotated Code of Maryland the meeting adjourned at 9:44 PM.

Approved: _____

Carol L. Sullivan
City Clerk