

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Meeting
July 13, 2015

The Mayor and City Council met at 7:30 PM on Monday, July 13, 2015 in the City Council Chambers. **Present:** Mayor McCarron, Mayor Pro Tem Foster, Councilmembers Zambetti, Frazier, Wantz and Vigliotti. **Also Present:** City Manager Heine, City Attorney Gullo and Clerk Kalman. Councilmember Wantz led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the June 3, 2015 and June 8, 2015 regular meetings with revisions to the June 8, 2015 minutes. Motion to approve as amended by Vigliotti, 2nd by Frazier – carried 5 – 0.

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Introduction:

Adoption:

Resolution 2015 – 07 – Water Allocation for July 2015 – motion to approve by Wantz, 2nd by Foster – carried 5 – 0.

Ordinance 15 - 2015 – Floodplain Management – motion by Zambetti, 2nd by Wantz - carried 5 – 0.

Approval:

Fiscal Year 2016 Town/County Agreement – motion to approve by Foster, 2nd by Zambetti - carried 5 - 0

City Manager Report:

- City Manager Heine stated councilmember Frazier presented to him a **personal property tax bill** for a resident, who was disputing the bill. The bill was investigated and determined to contain an error on the part of the State Department of Taxation.
- City Manager Heine indicated he approached the Finance Department regarding the acceptance of **payment plans** for water/sewer bills and was advised that the department already has a process for establishing payment plans. He also indicated that there will be clarification provided in the upcoming edition of the Taneytown Record.
- City Manager Heine advised that he has a meeting scheduled to discuss possible **power saving options** for the wastewater treatment plant.
- City Manager Heine asked for direction regarding the payment of an invoice for two police cars that were to be paid from the FY2016 Budget, but were delivered in March. Motion by Foster to approve the payment of the invoice in the amount of \$53,106., 2nd by Wantz – carried 5 - 0.

Department Reports:

- No questions or comments.

Legal Report:

- **Flood Plain Ordinance** – Attorney Gullo indicated he was pleased with the adoption of the ordinance and explained that the next step is to complete an application to join the National Flood Insurance Program.
- **Developer Rights and Responsibilities Agreement** for Meadowbrook – Attorney Gullo expressed the need for an amendment to the DRRA. The consensus of Mayor and councilmembers was to proceed with a public hearing to be scheduled for August 5, 2015.

Unfinished Business:

- **Consideration to table water/sewer motion:** Councilmember Zambetti made a motion that Councilmember Frazier's motion be tabled until such time that a water/sewer rates plan which could serve as the basis for a replacement water/sewer rates resolution has been submitted and accepted by the council, 2nd by Wantz. Councilmember Frazier responded that he and councilmember Vigliotti had spent considerable time preparing several proposals to relieve the present conditions. Mayor McCarron suggested that implementation too soon could force the city to be operating on an unbalanced budget. Councilmember Frazier provided a handout regarding a solar energy project and also a graph that outlined a zero cost impact plan. He suggested allowing Maryland Department of the Environment to provide an assessment and suggested establishing an escrow account. There was discussion about how that account would be funded. Mayor McCarron indicated with more information a plan could possibly be devised for the future, but expressed some of the legal concerns that should be considered.
- Councilmember Zambetti presented an outline of the information that he would like to see answers to and that could be used in preparing a presentation to the council. He stated he would be supportive of a concrete plan if it would allow the city to continue to live up to the current financial obligations.
- Councilmember Frazier stated he feels the wording of the agenda item seemed to be misleading. Mayor McCarron stated the motion to table was due to a lack of substance. He also suggested that perhaps a committee could be formed to explore possible options to reduce the water/sewer rates. The vote on continuing to table pending further study carried 3 – 2, with Vigliotti and Frazier opposing.
- Councilmember Wantz made a motion for Mayor McCarron to form a committee, including councilmember Frazier, councilmember Vigliotti and members of the public to formulate a water/sewer rate reduction plan as outlined by councilmember Zambetti and present it to council, 2nd by Frazier – carried 5 – 0.

New Business:

- **Monthly Financial Report** – motion to approve by Wantz, 2nd by Frazier – carried 5 – 0.
- **Accounts Payables Fee Schedule** – motion to approve by Zambetti, 2nd by Wantz carried 5 - 0

Councilmember reports:

- Councilmember Vigliotti indicated he is looking forward to working with the water/sewer reduction plan committee and extended thanks to Clerk Kalman for her preparation of the materials for Mayor and councilmembers and also thanked the city employees for all of their hard work.
- Councilmember Wantz stated a recent visit by **Comptroller Peter Franchot** to the city was a great success with awards given to the Stone House Bakery, the Police station and the Kahlert Foundation. He also announced the Planning and Zoning Commission met and voted to take no action with regards to the rezoning of a property located at 226 E. Baltimore Street until the property owner provides more information about his intentions and also indicated the commission approved the combination of two lots located on Frederick Street and would like the city to explore having a process to combine lots as there is not a process in place currently. He feels the city would benefit from a Public Works Committee made up of residents and including councilmember Vigliotti and asked each councilmember to contact him with their ideas.
- Councilmember Foster congratulated Nancy McCormick on her receipt of a **Gold Coin Award** and stated that she is to be commended for being an excellent Director of Economic Development. She also stated that the visit by Comptroller Franchot was very enjoyable.
- Councilmember Frazier invited residents to attend the **Parks and Recreation** meeting scheduled for July 15, 2015 and encouraged residents to utilize the beautiful parks.
- Councilmember Zambetti expressed his concern and displeasure with some misleading comments and accusations recently made by councilmember Frazier. Councilmember Frazier responded with reasons for his comments.
- Mayor McCarron stated he was pleased with the visit by Comptroller Franchot and acknowledged the Kahlert Foundation for its contributions to the city and announced a proclamation was issued announcing July 6, 2015 as Greg Kahlert day. He also mentioned a couple of books he recently acquired and their significance to the city of Taneytown and indicated the Maryland Municipal League Convention was very informative and useful. Mayor McCarron invited the public to attend the concert in the park scheduled for Saturday July 18 at 5:00 P.M.

Mayor and councilmembers received questions and comments from the audience.

With no further questions, motion to adjourn at 9:05 P. M. by Wantz, 2nd by Foster, with Frazier opposing.

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk