

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Meeting
August 10, 2015

The Mayor and City Council met at 7:30 PM on Monday, August 10, 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 Frazier led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the July 8, 2015 and July 13, 2015 regular meetings, with corrections to the July 13, 2015 minutes. – Councilmember Frazier interjected the following:

July 8 minutes – stated he did not physically meet with Thomas Devilbiss.

July 13 minutes – stated the minutes did not give him credit for his second motion to organize a water/sewer committee and the minutes do not credit him with his opposition to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to accept the above amendments by Frazier, 2nd by Vigliotti. Councilmember Zambetti requested that Clerk Kalman check the tape because his memory is that councilmember Frazier did in fact indicate he met with Thomas Devilbiss. Discussion followed.

Motion to approve the July 8 minutes as presented - motion by Zambetti, 2nd by Foster – no vote occurred
More discussion followed.

Frazier stated he wished to withdraw his motion to approve both minutes as presented. Mayor McCarron asked who was in favor of July 8 minutes as presented – no vote occurred.

Motion to approve July 8 as amended by Frazier, 2nd by Vigliotti. Mayor McCarron inquired if it was possible for Clerk Kalman to listen to tape again to verify.

Motion to approve as amended – carried 5 – 0.

Motion to approve July 13 as presented (with the original correction from Mayor and council workshop) - motion to approve by Wantz, 2nd by Zambetti – Frazier called again for his requested amendments. With 3 in favor of original motion and Frazier and Vigliotti opposing, motion carried.

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Adoption:

Resolution 2015 – 08 – Water Allocation for August 2015 – motion by Wantz, 2nd by Foster – carried 5 - 0

Approval:

Developer Rights and Responsibilities Agreement Amendment – Meadowbrook – motion by Wantz, 2nd by Zambetti - carried 5 - 0

City Manager Report:

- An ENR (Enhanced Nutrient Removal) progress meeting has occurred and 58 % of the construction is complete with 59% of the budgeted funds expended.
- The complaint of grass growing through the sidewalks on E. Baltimore Street has been addressed and remedied.
- City Manager Heine and Director of Public Works Weaver searched for any hoses on Grand Drive being used to divert water from homes to residents whose water has been shut off due to non-payment and found none.
- The results of a debt service report requested from the City Treasurer show that the funds borrowed to pay off a debt leveled the amount of repayment for several years. The reports showed the debt service for 2015 at \$1.3 million, with \$1.5 million beginning in 2016 and continuing for next few years. The result is a debt service of \$1.1 million of principal and interest to be paid per year. The debt matures on February 1, 2019 with the longest debt service to mature June 28, 2052. The grand total is \$16 million.
- Responding to a question from councilmember Zambetti, City Manager Heine indicated there are 41 residences with water shut off for non-payment and most of them are due to tax sales, foreclosures or abandonments. Councilmember Wantz requested the number of vacant homes for the September Mayor and council meeting.

City Manager Heine responded to a question from the audience.

Department Reports:

- None

Legal Report:

City Attorney Gullo offered the following updates:

- Dollar General – The stormwater easement agreement has been signed and received.
- Bentley Pool zoning issue – The property owner has covered the pool, therefore, no action is required at this time.
- Red Tulip – Stated that if the Mayor and councilmembers desire, they can enter into a closed session to discuss the details following the meeting.
- Councilmember Frazier stated several citizens have indicated that the enactment of the water and sewer rate increase went into effect July 1, 2015 and that the increase will show on the next billing. City Manager Heine and Attorney Gullo confirmed the correctness of the statement.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- Monthly Financial Report – motion by Wantz, 2nd Foster – carried 5 – 0.
- Accounts Payables Fee Schedule – motion by Zambetti, 2nd by Foster - carried 5 – 0.
- Approval of Mayor’s committee appointments – motion by Wantz, 2nd by Zambetti. Councilmember Frazier indicated he was disappointed with the appointments to the water and sewer committee and feels he was not able to express his input. Carried 4 – 1, with Frazier opposing. List of appointments made a part of these minutes.
- Approval of water/sewer committee appointments – motion by Wantz, 2nd by Vigliotti – carried 4 - 1 – with Frazier opposing.
- Release of Letter of Credit for Dollar General – Motion by Foster – 2nd by Wantz - carried 5 – 0.

Councilmember Reports:

- Councilmember Zambetti commended IT Specialist Daniel Dennis for his videography of open meetings and for expeditiously preparing them for public media.
- Councilmember Frazier indicated he received a letter from a concerned citizen with regards to yard waste pickup, stating that there are some areas with limited access to place bags and would like to have those areas cleared of debris. Frazier said he received a complaint from merchants that motorists are violating the cross walks on East Baltimore in front of the barber shop and expressed the need for enforcement. Frazier has also received complaints from merchants indicating that parking tickets are not being issued by police and it is inhibiting potential patrons. In response to the crosswalk issue, City Manager Heine stated the road is owned by State Highway Administration. A brief discussion followed expressing the various avenues that have been pursued to remedy the situation. Councilmember Frazier indicated 5 businesses are closing because of the lack of available parking. City Manager Heine stated he has video to prove lack of parking is not an issue and asked for the names of the businesses. Councilmember Frazier said he did not have that information with him, but that he will forward it to City Manager Heine.
- Mayor Pro Tem Foster announced that the water/sewer committee met for the first time and that meetings are at 10:00 and are open to public for observation. The 2nd meeting is on August 11. Mayor McCarron said he is encouraged by the first meeting.
- Councilmember Wantz indicated the Planning and Zoning Commission continue to work on the comprehensive plan and expressed their desire and willingness to work with potential businesses. Mayor McCarron added that Mayor Pro Tem Foster and Economic Development Director, McCormick are also actively working on the comprehensive plan. Mayor Pro Tem Foster announced she and McCormick are scheduled to meet with other municipalities for discussions.
- Councilmember Vigliotti attended the First Thursday event and was very pleased that it was well attended and centered around art.
- Mayor McCarron stated he would like to refine the ethics laws. City Attorney Gullo offered clarification of the ethics laws and stated he will research ways to refine ethics procedures.

- Councilmember Zambetti suggested implementation of a campaign financing and reporting law. Councilmember Frazier offered comments about his experiences in his campaign.

Mayor and councilmembers received questions and comments from the audience

With no further questions, motion to adjourn and move into closed session at 8:30 PM by Wantz, 2nd by Foster.

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk