

June 5, 2017

The regular meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, June 5, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

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

Mayor Morrison made note that Councilman Brian Hirshman was not present.

Review Minutes:

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2017.

City Manager to introduce Director of Housing, Planning and Zoning-Daniel Brandewie:

City Manager Crofoot introduced Mr. Daniel Brandewie as the new Department of Housing, Planning and Zoning Director. Mr. Brandewie is an AICP Certified Planner, he has a lot of planning and zoning. He has worked at City of Cambridge, Talbot County, and presently Sussex County, DE. He has already started as an overlap with Harvey Davis to learn some learning curve things before Mr. Davis leaves.

Mayor Morrison and the Council welcomed Mr. Brandewie.

Authorize Mayor to sign Resolution No. 507 to authorize the submission of a grant application for Maryland Community Legacy:

In a motion (Trotter, Downing passed) to pass Emergency Resolution No. 507 to authorize the submission of a grant application for Community Legacy.

Public Hearing on proposed City budget for 2017-2018 fiscal year as required by Sec. 49 of Pocomoke City Charter.

In a motion (Tasker, Trotter passed) to open the Public Hearing on proposed budget for 2017/2018 fiscal year.

There were no comments from the audience.

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) to close the public hearing.

First Reading of Ord. 431 to establish certain City fees and other charges for fiscal year 2017-2018.

Mayor read for the record:

ORDINANCE 431

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

OF POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND ESTABLISHING THE
FEE SCHEDULE FOR CITY SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

In a motion (Trotter, Tasker passed) to introduced Ordinance No. 431 to establish certain City fees and other charges for fiscal year 2017-2018.

First Reading of Ord. 432 to adopt the proposed budget for fiscal year 2017-2018.

Mayor read for the record:

ORDINANCE 432

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND ADOPTING THE BUDGET
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018

In a motion (Tasker, Trotter passed) to introduce Ordinance No. 432 to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2017/2018.

Approval abatement of taxes for properties on Taylor Ave. and others.

Mayor Morrison stated that City Manager Crofoot presented a memo recommending that the taxes on certain real properties be abated (copy of memo attached to original minutes).

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) abate the taxes as requested in Memo.

Mayor and Council items:

Councilwoman Troast stated that she had a complaint that a tree was overgrown on Cedar and 10th Street, needs to be trimmed.

City Manager Crofoot stated that he had already spoke to the owner and he has agreed to take it down.

Councilwoman Troast stated that she has had several requests that we install a sign up on 11th Street, "Caution children at play".

City Manager Crofoot stated that there were some on order, where would she like them to be installed.

Councilwoman Troast said on each side of Market Street and Cedar Street at 11th Street.

Councilwoman Downing asked about the ditch on Market and Oxford to be cleaned.

City Manager Crofoot stated that it is in the program, he would try to clean it up.

Councilman Trotter asked if there was an update to the State Highway painting the drawbridge. Also, he asked if the Public Works Department could clean-up the Lippoldt Garden in Cypress Park.

Mayor Morrison stated that the bath house in Cypress Park needs to be locked at night. The police (in the past) was locking and unlocking, he would like to see them locking and unlocking as at night people are making a mess in the bath houses.

Comments from audience:

Mr. Greg Frostrom, 1406 Linden Drive, stated he came before the Council several months ago. He stated that he runs two five-micron water filters at his house. He showed the Council what his filter looked like after a month and after three months. He stated that he could not find any progress.

City Manager Crofoot stated that the City was advised by outside experts that the Water Treatment Plant back wash process, and it was discovered that the anthracite coal to the four tanks was gone, a lot of the sand was gone. It was further determined that six of the valves were not working properly, and a meter was not working properly. The jest of all this is that it has been like this for quite a while. The back wash is being done at too high of pressure. Instead of the back wash lifting the debris out of the filtering media and washing that debris out, the back washing the media out as well. We need the anthracite to catch the iron. We have two tubs with little or no anthracite. We have gotten one estimate to repair the plant at \$231,000 and we are waiting on another estimate from the company that has long term service contract on our water tanks. Once we get that in we need to complete the repairs.

Mr. Frostrom stated that he applauds Mr. Crofoot for searching deeper to get to the bottom of the problem. He stated that the public needs to be kept informed with what's going on with the streets.

With no further business Councilman Trotter made a motion to close at 6:55 PM, seconded by Councilwoman Downing.

Approved:

Carol L. Sullivan
City Clerk