

## Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in Council Chambers and via Zoom/Facebook livestream on Monday, September 21, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

Present: Mayor Susan Marshall Harrison  
First Vice President: Todd J. Nock  
Council Members: R. Scott Holland, Diane Downing, Daniel J Tarr, Esther Troast-Not Present  
City Manager: Jeremy Mason  
City Attorney: Andrew Illuminati  
City Clerk: Michelle Beckett-El Soloh

### Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer by Councilmember Downing

### Review and Approval of Minutes from Meeting of September 8, 2020:

Motion to approve minutes from September 8, 2020 with 2 amendments to City official's names (Downing, Nock passed) @ 6:45 PM

Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-aye, Tarr-aye, Downing-aye; none opposed; motion carried

### Review and Approval of Current Bill List:

Councilmember Holland asked for clarification of a bill for internet connection device for Mayor's computer. There is already a City cell phone with unlimited data issued to the Mayor. He isn't sure why it was approved. Mayor Marshall Harrison said she is happy to either pay for that service or turn it back in.

Motion to approve current bill list excluding Mayor's jetpack device and setup cost (Holland, Tarr passed) @ 6:47 PM

Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-aye, Tarr-aye, Downing-aye; none opposed; motion carried

### Award of Contract for Remaining Improvements to Cypress Park Tennis/Pickleball Courts:

Mid-Atlantic Asphalt placed a bid to finish the tennis and pickleball courts for \$50,521.22 to complete installation of nets and courts. Bids started on September 14, 2020. This amount allows us to be under budget. This is grant award funding that was received last year for a total of \$73,742.00 by MD Department of Natural Resources for Parks and Playgrounds. We are asking for Council approval to accept and award bid.

Motion to award bid for finishing tennis and pickleball courts in Cypress Park to Mid-Atlantic Asphalt for the amount of \$50,521.22 (Downing, Nock passed) @ 6:53 PM

Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-aye, Tarr-aye, Downing-aye; none opposed; motion carried

Councilmember Holland asked if anyone from Worcester County Parks and Recreation had input on this proposal. Mr. Brandewie said that the City had worked with Worcester County Parks and Recreation but the City followed their input in the planning stages. They have not reviewed this specific proposal.

2020 Submitted by Daniel G. Clabaugh for 1301 Market Street:

Mr. Brandewie asked to set the Public Hearing date for October 19, 2020. Mr. Clabaugh recently purchased this property and plans to move his auto repair business to this location. The Public Hearing is to reset the zoning code from a R2 to a B2 in the rear part of the property. The City will contact adjacent property owners and run the legal ads. Councilmember Nock asked for a point of discussion. He said that the property looks awful and needs repair. He would like to see processes started before changing anything about the property. Mr. Brandewie said that Mr. Clabaugh has recently purchased the property in August. He has filed and received a demolition permit for the house on the property and, hopefully, it will come down in the next 30 days. He also has plans for the building with roof damage and will apply for a conditional-use permit. The immediate concern is to get his auto business up and running at the rear of the property. Changing the zoning will accomplish that otherwise, his plans are at a standstill. Councilmember Downing asked if the Council can approve changes contingent on improvement of the property. City Manager Mason said this is just to set a date for the Public Hearing. This is not a final decision about the property. There are more plans for the property, possibly putting a dog kennel, but this is the legal start to get discussion in action. Mr. Brandewie said that there have already been property violations issued but because he recently purchased the property the City is trying to work with him through the zoning process. This is a big project and Mr. Clabaugh has been a good business owner in Pocomoke City.

Motion to set Public Hearing date for zoning map amendment to property located at 1301 Market Street for October 19, 2020 (Downing, Holland passed) @ 7:02PM

Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-aye, Tarr-aye, Downing-aye; none opposed; motion carried

Councilmember Nock said his vote is contingent on Mr. Clabaugh being open to the City regarding property plans and a time schedule.

Unscheduled Agenda Item: One Day Beer/Wine Permit for Mar-Va Theater for a Rocky Horror Picture Show Fundraiser on October 23, 2020:

Mayor Marshall Harrison said the Mar-Va Theater request for a one-day beer/wine permit was received today. Hours are 9:00PM to 12:00AM.

Motion to grant one day beer/wine permit for Mar-Va Theater Rocky Horror Picture Show fundraiser (Downing, Holland passed) @ 7:08PM

Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-nay, Tarr-nay, Downing-aye; 2 opposed; motion denied

Comments from Council

Councilmember Holland thanked the City Manager and the Planning Director for helping to get classes started in the new karate building. Recreation Committee is holding a canoe day on October 3, 2020 from 2:00PM-4:30PM at Stevenson Pond area. It is a free event for people of all ages and social distancing rules will be followed. There is a Recreation Committee meeting on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 6:30PM. He asked for street paving in the Heights updates. Mr. Mason said Bosman's will be coming to do that job before cooler weather comes. The City should have a definite starting date within the next week or so.

Councilmember Nock thanked all the people who are working on the neighborhood watch project. A lot of citizens have been providing great ideas. The next meeting will be via Zoom on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 7:00PM. Contact the Mayor, Councilmembers Tarr or Nock to join the group and/or meeting. Also, was the City Manager able to determine when the last engineering study was done on the old fire station. Mr. Mason said he is still following up on the information.

Councilmember Tarr said he is happy to say that the participation in the neighborhood watch meeting has been good. He encourages more participation and on being proactive in taking measures. He will see everyone on Thursday night at the meeting.

Comments from Departments

The engineering survey on 10th and Market St began today. Traffic was rerouted and announced on Facebook. Also, the normal bulk trash day falls on Veteran's Day holiday, November 11, 2020. City Hall will be closed so bulk trash day will be moved to November 18, 2020 and posted on the City website as well as Facebook.

Comments from Audience

None

Councilmember Nock clarified that the Mar-Va Theater can still hold their event without alcohol. He has not voted for it for the last few years because he believes that you don't need alcohol to have fun.

Motion to adjourn meeting (Downing, Tarr passed) @ 7:19PM

Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-aye, Tarr-aye, Downing-aye; none opposed; motion carried

Approved: K. Michelle Beckett-El Soloh  
City Clerk