

## Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in Council Chambers and via Zoom/Facebook livestream on Monday, October 5, 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  
City Manager: Jeremy Mason  
City Attorney: Andrew Illuminati  
City Clerk: Michelle Beckett-El Soloh

### Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer by Councilmember Troast

### Review and Approval of Minutes from Meeting of September 21, 2020:

Motion to approve minutes from September 21, 2020 (Nock, Troast passed) @ 6:40 PM  
Acclamation: Holland-aye, Nock-aye, Tarr-aye, Downing-aye; none opposed; motion carried

### Review and Approval of Current Bill List:

Motion to approve current bill list (Troast, Downing passed) @ 6:42 PM

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

### Set Public Hearing Date as Authorized Under Chapter 107 Unsafe Buildings for the Demolition or Repair of: 424 Bank St, 807 2nd St and 719 Bishop Isaac Jenkins St:

City Manager Mason said that these properties have been slated for demolition for some time now. The property at 807 2<sup>nd</sup> St have windows that are boarded up and there is trash that accumulates even though it has been picked up several times. The owners are not respondent. If that house were gone, police patrol would be easier and maybe less trash would accumulate from people not hanging out there. Several attempts to reach the property owner have been made but no response. It's doubtful that the house is habitable. 719 Bishop Isaac Jenkins St, there is no one claiming the property. Notices were issued to Mr. Belote. Planning Director, Mr. Brandewie suggested a December 7, 2020 Public Hearing date.

Motion to hold Public Hearing on December 7, 2020 for demolition of 424 Bank St, 807 2nd St and 719 Bishop Isaac Jenkins St (Troast, Downing passed) @ 6:59PM

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

### Comments from Council

Councilmember Nock said with the discussion of house demolition, it is important to keep houses in good repair, power-washed, painted and grass cut. He knew the people that originally lived at all three of the houses for demolition and they would be greatly disappointed in the current condition. We all have a responsibility as a town to make Pocomoke look like a good place. Everyone has to do our part as a neighbor. We all choose to live here and we all love Pocomoke.

Councilmember Tarr said that the canoe event on Saturday was amazing. He thanked everyone who attended.

Councilmember Troast thanked the Police department on the speed control on Cedar St and

working. She wanted to remind everyone that she is available by phone and email.

Councilmember Holland said he would like to thank everyone who came out to the canoe event. Everyone had fun and is looking forward to doing it again next year. All the help was appreciated. The next event will be the 5K Run. Please look for more information about that coming soon. He suggested to follow the Recreation Committee page on Facebook to keep in touch with the upcoming events that are planned.

City Manager Mason said he also enjoyed the canoe event. He and his family attended along with several councilmembers and the mayor. He hopes that we can do that one again. The City has been awarded a grant of \$150,000.00 for the lift stations, especially on 10<sup>th</sup> St and Market St. The other 3 lift stations will be of similar construct. Congratulations to the Grant Writer, La Fabian Marshall, for working hard on her first grant for Pocomoke City. The Force Main Sewer study is going well. We expect to have more information on the main line that goes into Virginia. That will tell us what future development we will be able to handle. We will also be putting out RFP's for contracting bids on City Hall. There is roof damage, damage to the cupola and gutter damage. There should also be some grant money for those repairs. He corresponded with MD Senator Carozza who was glad to help to get the drawbridge restored.

Councilmember Nock complimented Mr. Mason for his hard work in getting the bridge restored. The bridge is iconic to Pocomoke. That's the first thing people see. It will look nice with fresh coat of paint.

Mayor Marshall Harrison said she also enjoyed the canoe event. It was a beautiful day. She thanked all who participated and councilmember Holland. She also posted, as several people have requested, the meeting information on her mayoral page.

(Meeting information is posted by Friday afternoons, at the latest, before a Monday meeting on [cityofpocomoke.com](http://cityofpocomoke.com), government, mayor & council meetings)

#### Comments from Departments

None

#### Comments from Audience

Brenda Miller, 106 Front St, has a concern about parking on Front St. There used to be a no parking sign that was taken down. Everyone parks facing Mr. Tasker's church and now there is a neighbor who parks the opposite way on the other side of the street. The sign was taken down when Delmarva Power & Light cut trees a few years ago. The police have said they can't do anything because the sign is gone. She is concerned about cars getting hit due to not being able to pass through the street. Mr. Mason he will contact the Police Department in the morning and determine what can be done about parking on Front St.

Motion to adjourn meeting (Troast, Holland passed) @ 7:20 PM

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

Approved: K. Michelle Beckett-El Soloh  
City Clerk