

## Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in Council Chambers and via Zoom/Facebook livestream on Monday, June 20, 2022. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Mayor Susan Marshall Harrison  
First Vice President: Esther Troast  
Council Members: Daniel J. Tarr,  
Todd J. Nock, Diane Downing  
City Manager: Jeremy Mason  
City Attorney: Andrew Illuminati  
City Clerk: Michelle Beckett-El Soloh

Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer by Mayor Marshall Harrison and Call to Order:

Approval of Minutes from Meeting of June 6, 2022:

Motion to approve minutes for June 6, 2022 as written (Nock, Downing passed)

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

Review and Approval Current Bill List:

Motion to approve the bill list (Downing, Troast passed)

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

Public Hearing & Adopt Resolution No. 553, Budget FY 2022-23, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Finance Director, Janet Wilson read: **Resolution No. 553**  
**Budget FY2022-23**  
**Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Ms. Wilson said there was one change since the first reading. The Revenue and Expenditures for the General Fund increased. The Revenue increase was by \$6,000.00. To offset the increase and balance the budget, Expenditures decreased by \$6,000.00. The General Fund Operating Totals are \$5,590,521.00, the Ambulance is \$1,349,867.00, Water/Sewer is \$2,205,650.00 and for the entire City is \$1,138,038.00.

Public Hearing opened. There were no comments or objections from the public. Public Hearing closed.

Motion to adopt the Budget for FY 2022-23 (Troast, Nock)

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

Approve Boat Docking Event

Mike Shannon said this year's boat docking event is scheduled for August 13, 2022. Because of fuel prices, other events up and down the coast were canceled by captains to encourage participation. This event is the same as past 8 events. Nothing has changed. The people for fireworks and bands have already been contacted. He reminded the Council that he carries liability insurance. As the Council is aware, the area underneath the docks have been shored up. In case a boat would hit the dock, it will be able to withstand any major damage. He has to have Council permission to serve

alcohol. He has already been in touch with the County. Councilmember Nock clarified that Public Works would not be used. Mr. Shannon said he just needs the trash cans and trash truck.

Motion to allow alcohol sales on 8/13/2022 for Boat Docking event, permission contingent on everyone is carded (Troast, Downing)

Acclamation: Troast-aye, Downing-aye, Tarr-nay, Nock-aye; 1 opposed, motion carried

Mr. Shannon said that the restaurant has a system in place that includes carding and wristbands.

Public Hearing & Adopt Resolution No. 554, PCPD Recruit and Retain Grant, 2nd Reading

Mr. Mason read:       **Resolution No. 554**  
                                  **Police recruit and Retain Grant**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Public Hearing opened. There were no comments or objections from the public. Public Hearing closed.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 554 (Tarr, Nock)

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

Public Hearing & Adopt Resolution No. 555, PCPD Community Initiative Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Mr. Mason read:       **Resolution No. 555**  
                                  **Police Community Initiative**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Public Hearing opened. There were no comments or objections from the public. Public Hearing closed.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 555 (Downing, Tarr)

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

Public Hearing & Adopt Resolution No. 556, PCPD Body Armor for Local Law Enforcement Grant, 2nd Reading

Mr. Mason read:       **Resolution No. 556**  
                                  **Body Armor for Local Law Enforcement**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Public Hearing opened. There were no comments or objections from the public. Public Hearing closed.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 556 (Nock, Troast)

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

Public Hearing & Adopt Resolution No. 557, DHCD Downtown Rehabilitation Grant Façade Program, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Mr. Mason read:       **Resolution No. 557**  
                                  **Police Community Initiative**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Public Hearing opened. There were no comments or objections from the public. Public Hearing closed.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 557 (Downing, Tarr)

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

ARPA Funding /Obligation Update

Introduce Emergency Resolution No. 560, Tanks #1 & #2 with Mixers Project, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Motion to revise Resolution No. 560 to an emergency resolution (Nock, Tarr)

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

Ms. McNeil read:       **Resolution No. 560**  
                                  **Tanks #1 & #2 with Mixers Project**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Public Hearing opened. There were no comments or objections from the public. Public Hearing closed.

Motion to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 560 (Troast, Downing)

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

Introduce Resolution No. 561, Ambulance Procurement Grant FY 2022-23, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Ms. McNeil read:       **Resolution No. 561**  
                                  **Police Community Initiative**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Motion to table until July 5, 2022 (Troast, Nock)

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

Introduce Resolution No. 562, Main Street Improvement Grant, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Ms. McNeil read:       **Resolution No. 562**  
                                  **Main Street Improvement Grant**  
                                  **Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Introduce Resolution No. 563, Cypress Park, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Ms. McNeil read:       **Resolution No. 563**

**Cypress Park Project  
Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Introduce Resolution No. 564, Lowes Kitchen Remodel for E.M.S. Grant, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Ms. McNeil read:           **Resolution No. 564**  
**Lowes Kitchen Remodel for E.M.S.**  
**Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Introduce Resolution No. 565, Annexation for 833 Ocean Highway, Pocomoke City, Maryland, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

City Attorney, Andrew Illuminati, read:           **Resolution No. 565**  
**Annexation for 833 Ocean Highway**  
**Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Introduce Resolution No. 566, Annexation Plan for 833 Ocean Highway, Pocomoke City, Maryland, 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

City Attorney, Andrew Illuminati, read:           **Resolution No. 566**  
**Annexation Plan for 833 Ocean Highway**  
**Pocomoke City, Maryland**

Comments from Council

Councilmember Troast said she attended the MML Conference in Ocean City, MD. She finds it educational and helpful. It is always nice to network with other municipalities. She saw a lot of new faces and a lot of regulars this year. She enjoys working with and being on the board of Tri-County Council. She is allowed to attend meeting but will not be a voting member this year. Tri-County Council manages and directs several different departments and it is crucial for Pocomoke City to be involved.

Councilmember Nock also attended the MML Conference. He was disappointed to find out that Pocomoke was not a banner city even though the Council had met all the requirements. The paperwork had not been turned in. He attended the Juneteenth celebration. Officer Rachael Northam attended with him and they even danced. He complimented Officer Northam on her ability to connect with the public. There is a need for municipalities to join together and enforce laws. There is a problem with dirt bikes being ridden and raced on streets.

Councilmember Downing said she also enjoyed attending the MML Conference.

Comments from the Mayor

Mayor Susan Marshall Harrison said she also enjoyed the MML Conference and had the chance to attend

Comments from City Manager

In regards to the dirt bikes, there was an incident this week where officers responded to the Arby's for men on untagged and no helmets fueled up at the gas station. One man took off across the median while the other bike was impounded. The incident could have been a lot worse. Pocomoke City is enforcing those laws. A moment of silence was held for the Wicomico officer who was killed in the line of duty, Deputy First Class, Glenn R. Hilliard.

Comments from Chief of Police

None

Comments from Audience

Kevin Taylor, 109 4<sup>th</sup> St, said that he has purchased the house at said address. It was built in 1880. He would like to know if the City has any funding for remodeling through grants. He has heard of a program and wants to know if Pocomoke city participates. Grants Administrator, Linda McNeil, was able to respond and said the City used to participate in the program and has plans to participate in the future and that there are many caveats to grant funding such as it is necessary to live in the house and there are limits to the sale of the home. Mr. Taylor said he sees a lot of older or historical properties that could benefit from those funds. He has seen a lot of issues in Salisbury with the motor bike issues. They are copycats of what is going on in Baltimore. He suggested having a direct number to text the PD to decrease their response time to traffic incidences. Mr. Mason said

Motion to adjourn meeting (Troast, Nock)

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

Approved: *K.M. Beckett-El Soloh*  
City Clerk