

Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in Council Chambers on Monday, February 3, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present:

Mayor: Todd Nock

Council Members: R. Scott Holland,
C.L. Marshall, Diane Downing, Brooke Cottman

City Manager: John Barkley

Attorney: Andrew Illuminati

City Clerk: Melinda Stafford

Pledge of Allegiance, Prayer by Councilmember Marshall and Call to Order

Approval of Minutes from Meetings of December 16th, December 30th, and December 31st, 2024

Motion to approve the minutes of December 16th by Councilwoman Cottman and seconded by Councilwoman Downing. Motion passes. Motion to approve minutes of December 30th by Councilwoman Cottman seconded by Councilwoman Downing. Motion passes. Motion to approve minutes of December 31st by Councilwoman Cottman and seconded by Councilwoman Downing, Motion passes.

Review and Approval of Current List of Bills for Payment

The bill list was presented for payment. Motion to approve the bills as presented by Councilman Marshall, seconded by Councilwoman Downing. Motion passes.

Resolution No. 2025-R-7: Charter Amendment, Section C-19 Pocomoke City Charter, Authorizing the Mayor's Vote to Break a tie: Second Reading, Public Hearing, Vote.

Motion to table Councilman Marshall and seconded by Councilwoman Cottman. Motion Passes

Resolution No. 2025-R-9: Acceptance of Land Donation

Councilman Holland makes the motion to table Councilman C.L. Marshall for Second Vice President for Pocomoke City Council and seconded by Councilwoman Cottman. Motion passes.

Mayor Nock asks for motion for a 5-minute recess. Motion made by Councilman Marshall, seconded by Councilman Holland. Council meeting resumes.

Fairground and Fairboard Discussion

Mayor Nock discusses who is on the Fairboard with Dean Ennis. Mayor Nock informs Mr. Ennis about a missing check and Mayor Nock calls on Finance director Brandy Matthews to explain how the monies from the state are used to help the Horse Farm. The Council also talks about the passing of Mr. Ennis's father and the contributions he gave to Pocomoke City. There needs to be 2 slots filled on the board @ next meeting. Paperwork needs to be to the City Clerk. Mayor Nock explains that as a entity under the city, meetings for the horse farm need to be advertised. He also explains that there does not need to be a lease from the city due to this being a city facility. Grants can be applied for through the City.

Special Election Information

City Manager John Barkley explains that the Special Election will be held in the Maryland Room at the Community Center on April 29th, 2025 from 7am -7pm. Mayor Nock asks when the last day to register is. The City Clerk responds that the last day to register is February 28th. Andrew asks the

Council to vote on the swearing in date for May 6, 2025. The Mayor calls for a vote. Councilman Marshall motions for the swearing in date of May 6, 2025, seconded by Councilwoman Downing. Motion passes.

Pocomoke Armory Update

City Manager Barkley explains that the demolition will happen in 3 phases. Phase 1 is the asbestos removal and that has been completed. Phase 2 will be the actual demolition of the building. Phase 3 will be the cleanup. The estimated date of completion will be the end of March.

Comments

a. Comments from the City Council Members

1. Councilman Holland – Thank you to Councilwoman Cottman for her work with the Boys and Girls Club. States he would like to be the liaison between the Fair board and the City. He would also like to make a Fair board nomination. He nominates Sarah Chapman. There is a conversation going in about the 75 acres for rezoning.
2. Councilman Marshall – Thank you for keeping the events at the Fairground a family affair
3. Councilwoman Downing – No Comment
4. Councilwoman Cottman – No Comment

b. Comments from the Mayor

Mayor Nock states that we need to follow what is in our charter. The positions that we are wrecking our brains trying to fill are already listed in our Charter. Our minutes and documents need to be detailed so that as new members and officials come in, we leave as much information for them as possible so they will not have to do what we are doing now. Councilman Marshall states 'Eyes Forward' Mayor and Council needs to do better at showing up for events. Mayor states that the amount of comments he sees on social media, our committees should be full. Pocomoke needs to get the forms online and fillable. The city has hired an Events Coordinator for events in the City. This position will fall under Economic Development.

c. Comments from the City Manager

Councilwoman Cottman and the City Manager met with the Boys and Girls Club and sent a letter of intent. The application process is moving forward with a deadline in May/June to have everything in.

d. Comments from the Audience

1. Congrats from Rev. James to the Mayor and Council for the job that they are doing in Pocomoke City. Wants to solute them for a job well done and what they have accomplished will continue to help Pocomoke grow.
2. Lt. Castenada has removed the squatters that were in the area. The owner will be cleaning up the property in the coming weeks.
3. Clayton Morris Jr. moved back to Pocomoke from Ocean City. He wants to help make a difference in the town. Wants to make this a better place.

Motion to adjourn at 7:18 pm by Councilman Holland, seconded by Councilwoman Downing.

Approved: 
City Clerk

Agenda items may or may not be considered in sequence. This agenda is subject to change to include the addition or deletion of items, including executive/closed session.