

The 5pm Closed Session was cancelled.

The City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 13, 2019 in Council Chambers. A quorum being present, Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those Commissioners in attendance were Commissioners Rideout, Sydnor, Foster, Cannon, and Hanson. Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley asked for a moment of silence. Commissioner Hanson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

1. Council to approve or amend agenda as presented.

A motion to approve the Agenda was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Public Comment

The mayor offered an opportunity for public comment inviting citizens with a comment to go to the podium. No citizen requested to speak.

Requests from the Public

Sandra Tripp-Jones, Executive Director of Cambridge Waterfront Development, Inc. (CWDI) gave the CWDI quarterly report. Sandra stated she would get copies of the report out to everyone.

Dr. Theresa Stafford requested \$10,000 for her New Beginnings Youth and Family Services program. Commissioner Foster made a motion to have the request considered with the 2021 Budget. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sydnor. The motion passed 5-0.

Consent Calendar

The consent calendar was approved on 5-0 vote. Commissioner Rideout made the motion that was seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The consent calendar included agenda items numbered 2, 3, and 3a.

2. The December 9, 2019 meeting minutes.
3. The request of Cameron Torres, the Tour Manager for the Brown Box Theatre Project, to allow the group to perform William Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing" at Long Wharf Park on September 23, 2020 from 4:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. including set-up and show time. The performance will be between 7:30-9:30 p.m.
 - 3a. The request of the Dorchester Chamber of Commerce to hang a banner on Race Street from 1/27- 2/7 for the 3rd Annual Harvesting Hope's Youth Expo.

Ordinances for Introduction and First Reading

4. ORDINANCE NO. 1161 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND AMENDING § 6.5.3 OF THE CITY'S UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE TO PERMIT STRINGS OF LIGHT BULBS FOR OUTDOOR DINING AT A RESTAURANT OR CAFE OR IN A RESIDENTIAL YARD AT OR BEHIND THE LINE OF THE PRIMARY REAR BUILDING FACADE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS, AND TO CLARIFY THAT SEASONAL EXTERIOR LIGHTING IS PERMITTED; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO EXTERIOR LIGHTING IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The city attorney read the ordinance summary. A second reading and public hearing on the ordinance is scheduled for January 27, 2020.

5. Ordinances for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption

Charter Resolution CR-2019-02 - Amendment

RESOLUTION FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND CHARTER RESOLUTION NO. CR-2019-02

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND PASSED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE CONSTITUTION OF MARYLAND AND §§ 4-302(1) AND 4-304 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE MARYLAND ANNOTATED CODE TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING THAT: (1) THE TERM OF OFFICE OF EACH COMMISSIONER AND THE MAYOR OF CAMBRIDGE SHALL BE FOR FOUR YEARS, OR UNTIL HIS OR HER SUCCESSOR TAKES OFFICE; (2) THE COMMISSIONERS AND MAYOR OF CAMBRIDGE SHALL BE ELECTED IN A CITY WIDE ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE THIRD SATURDAY IN OCTOBER 2020 AND EVERY FOURTH CALENDAR YEAR THEREAFTER; (3) THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS, ABSENTEE VOTING, AND THE ADMINISTERING OF ALL CITY ELECTIONS AND MAY CONTRACT WITH THIRD PARTIES TO ASSIST HIM OR HER IN ANY WAY WITH HIS OR HER DUTIES, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE; (4) THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED BY, THROUGH, OR UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE DORCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS, AND TO THE EXTENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTER; (5) THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS SHALL GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE OF EVERY CITY ELECTION, THE FIRST OF WHICH SHALL BE PUBLISHED NOT MORE THAN THIRTY DAYS BEFORE THE ELECTION; (6) VOTER REGISTRATION SHALL CEASE AT 4:00 P.M. ON THE TWENTIETH DAY PRECEDING THE DATE OF THE ELECTION; (7) THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO USE THE VOTING SYSTEMS AND BALLOTS HE OR SHE CERTIFIES, WHICH SHALL COMPLY WITH THE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, TO THE EXTENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTER, IN ALL CITY ELECTIONS; (8) ALL DOCUMENTATION AND PROCEDURES RELATING TO ABSENTEE BALLOTS AS CODIFIED IN THE ELECTION LAW ARTICLE, ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, TO THE EXTENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTER, SHALL APPLY TO ALL CITY ELECTIONS; (9) VOTING MACHINES MAY BE USED IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROVIDED FOR ELECTIONS HELD IN DORCHESTER COUNTY, TO THE EXTENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE CHARTER; (10) THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS SHALL FURNISH FORMS FOR THE TALLYING OF VOTES CAST FOR EACH CANDIDATE; AND (11) THE NEWLY ELECTED COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE SHALL TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS; AND AMENDING CERTAIN OTHER PROVISIONS REGARDING ELECTIONS FOR CLARITY AND CONSISTENCY; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The mayor and commissioners offered an opportunity for public comment on the proposed charter revision. No citizen offered any comment. Commissioner Rideout made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Commissioner Cannon. The motion passed 5-0.

Old Business

6. Mayor and Council Compensation Advisory Committee
The mayor advised city commissioners to provide nomination recommendations for the advisory committee so the council might approve the committee appointments at the next city commission meeting.
7. Packing House Development Project

The City Manager proposed committing \$142,000 of city general funds and \$78,000 of city sewer funds toward the Phillips Packing House infrastructure work. The city would commit \$142,000 of the annual allocation of \$250,000 utilized annually for milling and paving in the year of the commitment and \$78,000 of the undesignated sewer carry-over funds for the sewer commitment. The recommendation also included designating \$65,000 of general fund undesignated carry-over funds for the Maces Lane project. A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Sydnor and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. The motion passed 5-0.
8. SUBJECT: Cannery Park Trail Purchase Order Carried to FY2020
Recommendation: That Council appropriate \$4,144.00 of FY2019 reserves to Municipal Properties budget. A motion was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. This request was approved on a 5-0 vote.

New Business

9. Job Description – Assistant Engineer position.
On a motion from Commissioner Hanson and seconded by Commissioner Cannon, the job description was approved on a 5-0 vote.
10. SUBJECT: Police Officer Sign-On Bonus
The police chief requested the city commission authorize him to award a hiring bonus to police officer applicants who are currently certified. The proposal was to offer up to \$5,000 spread in two payments over two different years. Officers who receive the bonus will be required to return all of the funds if he/she leaves the city police department within the first two years. A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The request was approved on a vote of 4-1, with Commissioner Foster abstaining.
11. SUBJECT: FIP Grant Proceeds
The finance director requested that city commissioners approve a budget amendment appropriating \$140,504.17 to Facade Improvement. This money will be spent on incomplete projects that were approved in prior fiscal years. On a motion from

Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson, the request was approved on a vote of 5-0 vote.

12. SUBJECT: Revenues Generated by Cambridge RFC Service Billings

The fire chief proposed that city commissioners designate \$5,421.42 of City carry-over funds to a restricted line item on the City's monthly cash report titled RFC Billings Received and post any future funds received because of firefighter billings for services to this designated account. The funds will only be budgeted by a special budget revision when the Chief requests the use of the funds. On a motion by Commissioner Sydnor and seconded by Commissioner Foster, the request was approved on a 5-0 vote.

13. SUBJECT: Changing the Side Yard Setbacks to Six Feet

A proposal was presented to change the side yard set-backs to six feet and start the process required to make the change.

Commissioner Foster made a motion to approve the proposal. Commissioner Sydnor seconded the motion. The motion failed on a 2-3 vote. Commissioners Foster and Sydnor voted in favor of the motion and Commissioners Rideout, Cannon, and Hanson voted against.

Notices and City Council

Commissioner Foster asked that the Traffic and Safety Committee consider a light pole on Stiles Circle. She also made a motion that was seconded by commissioner Cannon to proclaim January 16, 2020 Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Day. The motion passed 5-0. Commissioner Foster also asked to have someone evaluate the permits and timeline allowed by the person fixing up the slave dwelling on High Street.

The Mayor announced that she had received a letter from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Cambridge was awarded a grant of \$510,000 for work to be performed at Cannery Park. She also announced that she would not be at the next meeting on January 27th, and that Commissioner Rideout as the Mayor Pro Tempore would run the meeting.

Commissioner Cannon raised the issue of how the city would be moving forward with the work of Habitat Choptank on High Street given the concerns raised earlier in the evening about the 3-foot set back requirement. It was noted that Habitat for humanity would be allowed to complete the construction of their house project on High Street.

Requests from the Public

Robert Aaron of 217 Dulaney Road spoke against CWDI buying the doctors buildings.

Adjourn

A motion by Commissioner Sydnor to adjourn the meeting was properly seconded and approved unanimously.

With no further business, Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate account of the Council meeting Monday, January 13, 2020, insofar as I personally am aware.

Victoria Jackson-Stanley
Mayor