

The City Council met in a regular session on Monday, May 23, 2016 in Council Chambers. A quorum being present, Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those Commissioners in attendance were Commissioners Cooke, Thomas, and Hanson. Commissioner Vickers was absent. Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor asked for a moment of silence. Commissioner Hanson led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Agenda

1. Council to approve or amend agenda as presented

Sandra Tripp-Jones asked Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor to remove Item 10 from the agenda. She asked to add the following items: Item 12, an application from William Clyde for an appointment to the Board of Appeals; Item 13, a request from the Hyatt for fireworks on June 14<sup>th</sup>; Item 14, a request from the Cambridge Sail and Power Squadron to change the date of their event; and Item 15, a request from Ironman.

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to accept the amended agenda was seconded by Commissioner Hanson and approved 4:0.

### Consent Calendar

2. SUBJECT: Minutes from the May 9, 2016 Council meeting  
Recommendation: That Council approve as submitted.
3. SUBJECT: Request from Rescue Fire Company for a variance from the noise ordinance and a trash truck (and employees) during their 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Seafood Festival at Sailwinds Park on Saturday, August 13, 2016 from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Recommendation: That Council approve as requested.
4. SUBJECT: Request from the Hyatt Regency Hotel for approval of skeet shooting events on May 24, 2016, June 10, 2016, and June 23, 2016 from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm.  
Recommendation that Council approve the requests for June 10, 2016 and June 23, 2016 subject to the Hyatt publishing notice of their events within 14 days prior to the event, in compliance with Resolution No. 15-004.
5. SUBJECT: Request from Alpha Genesis Community Development Corporation to block of a portion of the 300 block of High Street on Saturday, June 11, 2016 from 11:00 am to 5:30 pm and a variance from the noise ordinance.  
Recommendation: That Council approve the request, with condition that access be maintained to Newcomb and Collins Funeral Home.

A motion by Commissioner Hanson to approve the recommendations on the consent calendar (Items 2 through 5) was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved 4:0.

## Public Hearing

6. SUBJECT: FY 2017 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget  
Recommendation that Council
  - A. Hold a public hearing on the budget;
  - B. Consider any requests for funding from the public and from outside organizations;  
and
  - C. Give direction to staff on the budget

The budget hearing was publicized in the *Dorchester Banner* on May 20, 2016 and in the *Sunday Star* on May 22, 2016 as well as in the published agenda. The budget has been available online and in the library.

A motion by Commissioner Hanson to hold a public hearing was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved 4:0.

Frances Creswell, Director of the Dorchester County Public Library, said they have had a close relationship with the City of Cambridge for many years. From 1939 until 1973, the Council Chambers building was the library. Three out of four people in Cambridge have a library card. Ms. Creswell explained the programs associated with the library. The library is also used for a cooling station. They are able to borrow books from anywhere in the nation. Computer tutorials are available along with free internet access to help with school work and job searches. East New Market, Church Creek, and Hurlock make regular donations to the library.

A motion by Commissioner Cooke to allow Ms. Creswell another 3 minutes to speak was seconded by Commissioner Hanson and approved 4:0.

Ms. Creswell asked the Commissioners to look at the benefits the library gives to Cambridge and help them provide better services for our community. Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor said at one point in time the City was making donations toward social programs. For many years, they were not able to contribute to the organizations. He thinks Council may want to advise the other groups so they can submit requests also.

Commissioner Cooke said the other organizations had to opportunity to come to the public hearing and make a request for funds. He made a recommendation to the City Manager to donate \$5,000.

Charles McFadden suggested a number of additional positions. These include a building inspector with fees adjusted to help off-set the position, an additional position to support the Finance Director with the focus on cost/benefit analysis studies, a program person in the IT area to look at different cities' programs and see which ones could be translated to Cambridge, and to look at the MUC management structure. There should be proper management skills there. It is very thin. He thinks the reserve fund should be part of the budget. It is not listed in the budget. The City should have an open discussion on how much is in the reserve and how large it should be.

Portia Johnson-Ennels, treasurer of the Pine Street Committee, said when she saw the agenda, she did not understand what this meant. The County notifies them in January to make a written request for funding. She asked that the City also notify organizations if funds will be available for them to request and the requirements.

Gloria Rojas spoke in favor of the library. The library is the one big function in the City that touches everybody. You see people of all ages going into the library. They make books available from all over the nation. It is probably the most equalizing place in the City of Cambridge.

Norma Miller is a Trustee for the Library. She pleaded for funding. She is a retired teacher. The library provides space for the children, use of computers, summer reading programs, school research, and job program assistance. The whole community is involved with the library.

Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor said concerning the request for funds, mainly for the library because they asked for it, the City asked for a budget from them so they could show the City the need that they have. That may be something the Council wants to consider before they begin giving out the money to make sure there is a need from them.

Steve Rideout asked that the Council consider the e-mail that he sent to Council as part of what he believes the City should be doing with this budget.

Nobody else asked to speak.

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to close the public hearing was seconded by Commissioner Hanson and approved 4:0.

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to direct Sandra Tripp-Jones to bring back to Council how \$5,000 could be approved for the library was seconded by Commissioner Hanson and approved 3:0 with Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor abstaining.

A motion by Commissioner Hanson to direct staff to take under advisement the necessary information that was presented for addendums to the budget was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved 4:0.

#### **Old Business:**

#### **7. SUBJECT: Council Goals**

Recommendation that Council:

A. Adopt the following five (5) goals for FY 2017:

- 1) Strengthen financial health of the City,
- 2) Address housing blight,
- 3) Promote economic development,
- 4) Advance Sailwinds development project,
- 5) Reduce Crime;

- B. Consider implementation plans;
- C. Direct staff to include implementation plans in the FY 2017 Proposed Operating and Capital Budget.

A motion by Commissioner Cooke to accept the recommendation of the pilot program to be run by both the City and the County staff with inclusion of the business community and direct the City Manager to put the program together was seconded by Commissioner **Hanson** and approved 4:0.

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to approve all five goals and 16 implementation plans including the revision to Plan 43 to approve the funding approach in Exhibit 2, and direct staff to increase the rental registration fee by \$15 incorporating that into the fees and charges resolution that will be considered with Council adoption was seconded Hanson and approved 4:0.

- 8. SUBJECT: Five Year Capital Program  
Recommendation that Council:
  - A. Receive a presentation on the Five Year Capital Program, the Proposed FY 2017 Capital Program and
  - B. Give direction to staff on the FY 2017 Capital Program.

No motion was necessary.

#### **New Business**

- 9. SUBJECT: Adjustment of MUC (Water) Services Fees  
Recommendation that Council authorize incorporation of certain services fee increases into the City Wide Fees Schedule to be approved by resolution with the FY 2017 budget adoption.

A motion by Commissioner Cooke to approve the recommendation was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved 4:0.

- 10. SUBJECT: Monitored Rehabilitation Ordinance

This item was removed from the agenda.

#### **Committee Reports**

- 11. City/County Coordinating Committee

The City Commissioners and County Councilmen talked about Economic Development, the old Maces Lane School, the Hearn Building, the Cambridge

Cemetery, the Burger King property demolition, the Route 16 roundabout, and blighted properties.

12. SUBJECT: Vacancy in the Board of Appeals

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to appoint William Clyde to the Board of Appeals was seconded by Commissioner Cooke and approved 4:0.

13. SUBJECT: Request from the Hyatt Regency Resort to display fireworks on Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 9:00 pm for approximately 8 minutes

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to approve the request was seconded by Commissioner Hanson and approved 4:0.

14. SUBJECT: Request from the Cambridge Sail and Power Squadron to change the date for their flare and fire extinguisher demonstration at Great Marsh to June 4<sup>th</sup> (rain date: June 5<sup>th</sup>).

A motion by Commissioner Hanson to approve the request was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved 4:0.

15. SUBJECT: Request from Ironman to serve and sell beer on Sunday, June 12, 2016 from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm in Great Marsh Park.

A motion by Commissioner Cooke to approve the request subject to the liquor license approval was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and approved 4:0.

16. SUBJECT: Request from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, to hold a clean-up day at Cornish Park on Saturday, June 4, 2016 from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm.

A motion by Commissioner Thomas to approve the request was seconded by Commissioner Cooke and approved 4:0.

A motion by Commissioner Hanson to adjourn the meeting was seconded and approved 4:0

With no further business, Acting Mayor Donald Sydnor adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate account of the Council meeting Monday, May 23, 2016, insofar as I personally am aware.

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Donald J. Sydnor  
Acting Mayor