

The Mayor and City Council met in regular session at 6:00 p.m., Monday, March 30, 2020 in the Council Chambers. The meeting was pushed back one calendar week because of concerns regarding the arrival of the Corona Virus. The public was excluded from the meeting room because of the Governors Executive Order prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 individuals because of the Corona Virus concern. A special phone line and number was provided to the public so citizens could call into the meeting for public comment. The meeting was live streamed by Town Hall Streams so citizens could watch the meeting live and hear the discussion. The Police Chief checked everyone's temperature prior to entry into the council meeting room.

Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present. Those physically in attendance included Commissioners Sydnor, Foster, Cannon, and Hanson. Commissioner Rideout called in on a telephone line and participated in the entire meeting. The City Manager, the Police Chief, and the IT Director were also physically present. The city attorney watched the meeting on Town Hall Streams and called in by phone to participate in the meeting. The Mayor led the group in a moment of silence and Commissioner Hanson led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Agenda

1. Commissioner Hanson moved to approve the agenda and Commissioner Cannon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

The Mayor invited Citizens to call in for public comment by dialing 410-228-5808. No citizens called in for public comment.

Requests from the Public

Ms. Veronica Taylor and Ms. Sheila Jones requested consideration for \$5,000 in city funding for the Groove City Culture Fest planned for August on Pine Street. Commissioner Sydnor motioned that the city considers the request during the 2021 budget process. The motion was properly seconded and approved unanimously.

Consent Calendar

The Mayor read the items aloud on the consent calendar.

2. Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2020
3. The Girl Trekkers of Cambridge, MD are requesting to have March 28, 2020 as "We Are Harriet Day" throughout Cambridge, MD.

4. Dorchester Department of Social Services is requesting to have the corner of Race and Cedar Streets for "Family Fun Day", October 3, 2020 from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

A motion to approve the items on the consent calendar was made by Commissioner Cannon and seconded by Commissioner Sydnor. The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinances for Introduction and First Reading

There were no proposed ordinances presented for a first reading.

Ordinances for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption

There were no proposed ordinances presented for a second reading.

Old Business

5. A motion was made by Commissioner Sydnor to approve hiring the accounting firm of TGM Group to serve as the city's finance director for the balance of the current and the next two fiscal years based on the pricing for each fiscal year provided in the company's proposal. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hanson and was approved unanimously.
6. Commissioner Rideout made a motion to adopt the Reorganization Plan Proposal presented by the city manager. Commissioner Hanson seconded the proposal. The proposal passed 3-2. Commissioners Rideout, Hanson, and Cannon voted for the proposal. Commissioners Foster and Sydnor voted against the proposal.
7. Commissioner Sydnor made a motion to approve the Public Works Superintendent Position Description. Commissioner Hanson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
8. **Resolution No. 20-02** Forgiving the Lien for Demolition Costs on 507 Race Street was not adopted by the city council. Instead, after some discussion and a failed motion, Commissioner Rideout made a motion to approve releasing the lien if the developer sells the properties at 505, 507, and 509 Race Street to a tax paying entity and not a non-profit or government entity that would not pay property taxes on the property. The motion was seconded by both Commissioners Hanson and Cannon and adopted unanimously by the city council.

New Business

9, 10, & 12. Commissioner Hanson made a motion to appropriate \$10,000 to the K-9 Fund for the purchase of a dog; to appropriate \$327 to the Vehicle Account for purchases of supplies for the SWAT Van using \$327 of proceeds from bike sales; and to appropriate \$13,841.93 to the Vehicle Account 201.300.860 to purchase a new speed camera/trailer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cannon and adopted unanimously.

Item 11. Commissioner Hanson made a motion to appoint Barbara Knepp to the Board of Appeals. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cannon and adopted on a 3-2 vote. Commissioners Hanson, Cannon and Rideout voted in favor of the appointment. Commissioners Foster and Sydnor voted in opposition to the appointment.

13. Commissioner Foster made a motion to forgive three months of lease payments on Governors Hall; however, she also included a requirement that the operators of Governors Hall apply for grant assistance from the state and pay the city the lease amounts if they receive any grant funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sydnor and adopted on a 4-1 vote. Commissioner Rideout voted against the motion.
14. Commissioner Hanson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 20-03 Hours of Work as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Sydnor and Cannon. The motion passed 5-0.

Meetings

Dale Price, the city's IT Director, advised City Commissioners that he was planning to coordinate the next City Commission meeting utilizing Zoom so Commissioners could stay at home and participate in a virtual meeting.

Notices**Mayor and Council****Public Comment**

Grady Wilson called in by telephone and advised the Mayor and City Council he and the operators of Governors Hall would make the building available to the hospital if it was needed for caring for victims of the Corona Virus.

Adjourn

Commissioner Sydnor made a motion to adjourn that was properly seconded and adopted. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

I certify the foregoing is a true and accurate account of the Council meeting held Monday, March 30, 2020.


Victoria Jackson-Stanley, Mayor