

The Mayor and Commissioners of Cambridge (the "City Council") held an open session on July 8, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 305 Gay Street, Cambridge, Maryland. A quorum being present, Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Those Commissioners in attendance were Commissioners Rideout, Sydnor, Cannon, and Hanson. A motion was made to go into closed session for the purpose of voting to meet in closed session pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(3), (4), (7), and (8) to: consider the potential acquisition of certain real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto and a matter concerning the potential proposal for a business to locate, expand, or remain in the City, consult with Staff and the City Attorney regarding potential litigation associated with the foregoing matters, and otherwise obtain legal advice from the City Attorney regarding the same and pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(1)(i) and (ii) to: discuss personnel matters involving the appointment, assignment, compensation, and/or performance evaluation of specific appointees, employees, or officials over whom the City Council has jurisdiction and which affect specific individuals. A motion was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 3-1. Commissioner Sydnor voted no. Commissioner Foster was not present for the vote but arrived soon after. The closed session ended at 5:56 p.m.

The City Council met in regular session on July 8, 2019 in Council Chambers. A quorum being present, Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Those Commissioners in attendance were Commissioners Rideout, Sydnor, Foster, Cannon, and Hanson. Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley asked for a moment of silence for the children of our community, then Commissioner Hanson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor reported on the items discussed in closed session. She advised the first item on personnel was forwarded to the city finance committee. The second item on property was referred to the city attorney to work out a solution.

Item 5a was withdrawn from the agenda by the city manager prior to the agenda being approved.

Commissioner Cannon made a motion to remove agenda item 13 from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 3-2. Commissioners Rideout, Cannon, and Hanson, voted for the motion. Commissioners Sydnor and Foster voted against the motion.

### **Public Comment**

Mike Starling of 119 Choptank Avenue spoke against the charter amendment change.

Cheryl Hannon of 103 Mill Street spoke against the charter change.

Greg Boss of 8 West End spoke against the charter change.

Jim Culver of 109 Choptank Avenue spoke against the charter change.

Marianne Benson of 112 High Street spoke against the charter change.

Allen Shinn of 3 Choptank Avenue spoke against the charter change.

Roman Jesien of 208 Belvedere Avenue asked if the proposed change has been rescinded.

Greg Meekins of 1344 Cambridge Beltway spoke against the proposed charter change.

Gene Lauer of 301 Muir Street, Unit 305 spoke in favor of a council compensation committee.

### **Requests from the Public**

2. Delmarva Community Services, Inc. request for a reduction in the building fee from \$50,844.62 to \$25,422 was approved on the condition that in five (5) years the agency will have created 50 jobs. The motion was made by Commissioner Sydnor and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. The motion passed 5-0.
3. Pastor Milton Walls was not present. No action was taken.

### **Items removed from the Consent Calendar**

4. Meeting Minutes from Council Meeting on May 28, 2019 were approved by a 3-2 vote. Commissioners Rideout, Cannon, and Hanson voted for the motion. Commissioners Sydnor and Foster voted against it.
5. Meeting Minutes from Council Meeting on June 10, 2019 were approved by a 3-2 vote. Commissioners Rideout, Cannon, and Hanson voted for the motion. Commissioners Sydnor and Foster voted against it.

### **Consent Calendar (Revised)**

Agenda Items 6-12 were approved. Motion by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. The motion passed 5-0.

6. Alvin Hutton, Jr.'s request to use Cosby Park, Saturday, August 24, 2019 was approved. Mr. Hutton was asked, prior, to get community feedback. Mr. Hutton obtained signatures from the neighbors in the community.
7. The CAN Group request to have a banner hung announcing the Jam Picnic and Music Fest, Long Wharf on August 25, 2019 was approved.
8. The Dorchester Center for the Arts request to close High Street and have a noise variance on September 22, 2019 from 12:00 noon-6pm for street closure and 5pm for noise variance was approved. The closure start time was set to comply with the city street closure policy.
9. The Dorchester Center for the Arts request to use Long Wharf Park, July 13 and 14 from 10am until 12:30pm for painters to set up easels and also receive a variance on the noise ordinance was approved.
10. The Memorandum of Understanding with Dorchester County regarding Maintenance of Cannery Park was approved.

11. Shore Rivers' request to hold a "Saturday in the Park" event (featuring oyster shell painting) in Cornish Park on July 13, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. was approved.
12. The Hyatt request for a special exception to all for a skeet shooting event on July 29, 2019, was approved with the condition they provide the public notice.

#### **Ordinances for Introduction and First Reading**

13. SUBJECT: CHARTER RESOLUTION NO. CR-2019-01 – This charter resolution was withdrawn from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE 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, SUBJECT TO SUFFICIENT APPROPRIATIONS AND WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, THE CITY MANAGER MAY APPOINT AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND MAY APPOINT A FINANCE DIRECTOR AND PROVIDING THAT ALL SUBORDINATE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICES, DEPARTMENTS, AND AGENCIES OF THE CITY SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE CITY MANAGER, WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO PERSONNEL AUTHORITY IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

#### **Ordinances for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption**

14. Ordinance No. 1154 – An Ordinance of the Commissioners of Cambridge, Maryland amending § 1-16 of the code of the City of Cambridge, Maryland to clarify and restate the amounts of impact fees to be charged by the City of Cambridge, providing that the title of this Ordinance shall be deemed a fair summary and generally relating to impact fees in the City of Cambridge. The commission held a public hearing and no one from the public spoke on the ordinance.  
A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 5-0.

**Old Business**

15. Ryan Price and David Roman of LSA presented their final report with recommendations for community redevelopment. No action was taken.
16. Pat Escher requested approval to submit a Community Legacy Grant application for funds to facilitate a better viewing experience of the Harriet Tubman Mural. A motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. The motion passed 5-0.
17. The Housing Specialist Job Description was approved. A motion was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 5-0.
18. Pat Escher presented a Memorandum from the Cambridge Planning and Zoning Commission regarding DWDD Neighborhood Sub-District Setbacks. A motion was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson to take no action on the Memorandum. The motion passed unanimously.
19. A proposal from Commissioner Rideout to create a committee of citizens to review and provide recommendations on the City Commissioner benefits was approved. The committee is to bring back a report of recommendations to the City Commission by April 1, 2020. A motion was made by Commissioner Hanson and seconded by Commissioner Rideout to adopt the motion. The motion passed with a 3-2 vote. Commissioners Rideout, Cannon, and Hanson voted for the motion. Commissioners Sydnor and Foster voted against it. Commissioner Rideout made a motion to have the city attorney request a legal opinion from the attorney general on the legality of an elected body to reduce the current health insurance benefit of an elected official. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 2-0. Commissioners Rideout and Hanson voted for the motion. Commissioners Sydnor, Foster, and Cannon abstained. Commissioner Foster made a motion to amend the city ordinance to allow city commissioners to receive health insurance benefits going forward at the same level as the current practice. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sydnor. The motion did not pass 2-3-1. Commissioners Foster and Sydnor voted for the motion. Commissioners Rideout and Hanson voted against the motion. Commissioner Cannon abstained. Mayor Jackson-Stanley voted against the motion to break the tie.
20. Mill Street School Building - Report from HPC. Herve Hamon presented a request to have the City Commission approve the decision of the HPC to acknowledge the Mill Street School building as a building of historic significance. Mr. Hamon advised the report would be provided to the Planning and Zoning Commission with an eventual return to the city commission.

**New Business**

21. Public Local Law Referendum Form – The city attorney advised he would check the form against what the county uses and bring back his findings. No action was taken.
22. Public Charter Amendment Petition Form - The city attorney advised he would check the form against what the county uses and bring back his findings. No action was taken.
23. Police \$1,000 Budget Revision – A motion to approve the revision was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion was approved unanimously.
24. Fire Department Budget Revision of \$11,000 for truck repairs - This item was referred to the Finance Committee. A motion was made by Commissioner Hanson to send the request to the Finance Committee and seconded by Commissioner Rideout. The motion passed unanimously.
25. Request to apply for Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program Funds – A motion to approve the request to authorize staff to apply for a \$455,000 grant to construct seawall replacements on Choptank Avenue, West End Avenue, and Oakley Street was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 5-0.
26. Rufus Sampson, owner of 807 Fairmont Avenue asked city commissioners about acquiring the city vacant lot at 809 Fairmont Avenue. A motion to refer the matter to staff to prepare a report determining if the parcel should be designated as surplus property was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 5-0.

**Mayor and Council**

Mayor Jackson-Stanley advised commissioners she will be out of town on July 22, 2019. Commissioner Cannon will preside at the meeting.

**Public Comment**

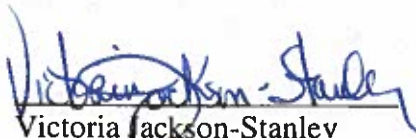
Mr. Foxwell spoke about beautifying Cambridge and the status of the Hearn Building. Theresa Stafford spoke about problems on Greenwood Avenue. Robert Aaron of Killarney Road spoke about forming a skateboard committee.

Jermaine Anderson, the Executive Director of Alpha Genesis, CDC spoke about the organization's recent work and activities at Cornish Park.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Commissioner Sydnor to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business, Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley adjourned the meeting at 8:56p.m. I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate account of the Council meeting July 8, 2019, insofar as I personally am aware.

  
Victoria Jackson-Stanley  
Mayor