

The City Commissioners conducted the City business on Monday, January 25, 2021 by way of a conference call because of the Corona Virus threat. The Mayor was stationed at his normal station in the City Commission Meeting Room on Gay Street. City Commissioners conference called into the meeting utilizing Webex. Citizens were able to observe the meeting by going on-line to TownHallStreams.com. Citizens were invited to call in their public comments by calling the Mayor during the meeting at 410-228-5808. Citizens could participate in the meeting by logging into the meeting by calling 408-418-9388 and entering the meeting number and password: Meeting Number 132 958 6308; Password 5808

Mayor Andrew Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. All the city Commissioners were present on the conference call. City Attorney Chip MacLeod, City Police Chief Mark Lewis, City IT Director Dale Price, City Manager Patrick Comiskey and Commissioner Malkus were physically present. Commissioners Roche, L. Cephas, Harrington, and S. Cephas participated remotely in the conference call.

Commissioner Malkus made a motion to go into closed session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harrington. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting was closed under Maryland General Provisions Article S 3-305(b) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The commissioners exited the closed session at 5:22 p.m.

The Mayor called the regular meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Commission President L. Cephas led in the pledge of allegiance after a moment of silence.

The Mayor reported on the closed session.

Commissioner S. Cephas made a motion to adopt the agenda with a second by Commissioner Harrington after a section for department head (division head) comment was added. The motion was adopted 5-0.

Public Comment

Verlisha Taylor of 2512 Westwind Blvd – read a statement and stated that all Pine Street Revitalization funding should go the Pine Street

Joseph Manokey of 6 Choptank Avenue – spoke regarding the amended agenda process.

Sharon Wilson - spoke regarding her proposal of affordable housing – she was referred to Pat Escher

Gregory Meekins – spoke of the shift of funding for Pine Street in previous years

Dr. Stafford of 2425 Rock Drive – spoke of the lack of notice for the CBDG grant hearing

Nancy Jackson of Mace’s Lane – spoke of the lack of notice for the CBDG grant hearing

Lynette Wongus spoke in support of funds for Pine Street and suggested using the funds saved from the Marina Contract renewal.

Pat Escher – Planning and Zoning Director explained to the community how the grants work and how they can work together to get the information out to the community.

The Mayor and Commissioners suggested ways to get information out to the public.

Requests from the Public

Consent Calendar

That council approve the January 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes after amending the Mayor Pro-Tempore to Chair Pro-Tempore, Commissioner Harrington made motion, Commissioner S. Cephas seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Ordinance for First Reading

No proposed ordinances for introduction

Ordinance for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption

No proposed ordinances for second reading.

Old Business

No old business to discuss

New Business

3. The Street Sweeper and Clam Shell Truck purchase and financing proposal was approved by a 5-0 vote with a motion from Commissioner Malkus and a second from Commission President Cephas.
4. LaSara Kinser was appointed to the HPC on a 5-0 vote with a motion by Commissioner S. Cephas and a second by Commissioner Harrington.

5. Commissioners approved in a 5-0 vote the placement of a historical marker between the curb and the sidewalk at 207 High Street. The motion was made by Commissioner Malkus and seconded by Commissioner Harrington.

Meetings

Notices

Department Head(s)/Division Comments

Ina Holden, Superintendent of Public Works spoke about Mace's Lane and Washington Street regarding the safety risk of the intersection. Commissioner Roche stated that the intersection is a safety risk for both pedestrians and driving traffic.

Chief Lewis mentioned getting a crossing guard at the Mace's Lane and Washington Street intersection.

Carol Richardson spoke regarding community concerns, comments.

Mayor and Council

Commission President Cephas – made comments regarding the rising costs of rent increases during the Pandemic, i.e. the City of Salisbury

Commissioner Harrington likes the idea of putting information notices into the water bills.

Commissioner S. Cephas spoke regarding having the community getting involved in the city committees. He asked that we look into the Dorchester Star for publishing announcements, however the city attorney made mention that it is a free paper, the State requirements do not allow the use of free publications for legal announcements.

Commissioner Malkus suggested that the community use the city website and social media to get general city information.

Public Comment

None

Mayor's Comments

Mayor has asked that we continue to follow the CDC's information regarding COVID-19. He gave information on who is eligible in Phase 3.

The Mayor spoke of the Council planning work sessions. He stated that the public will be advised.

Adjourn

A motion by Commissioner S. Cephas to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Commissioner Malkus and approved unanimously.

With no further business, Mayor Andrew Bradshaw adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m
I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate account of the Council meeting Monday, January 25, 2021, insofar as I personally am aware.



Andrew Bradshaw
Mayor