5:04 pm Open Session

Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley and Commissioners of Cambridge met in open session on Monday, February 24, 2020 at 5:04 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 305 Gay Street, Cambridge, Maryland for the purpose of voting to meet in closed session pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Gen. Prov. § 3-305(b)(3),(4) and (8) to discuss a proposal for a business to locate, expand, or remain in the City and to consult with Staff and the City Attorney regarding potential litigation. Those Commissioners in attendance were Commissioners Rideout, Sydnor, Foster, Cannon, and Hanson. Commissioner Sydnor made a motion to go into closed session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Foster. The motion failed with a 2-3 vote. Commissioners Sydnor and Foster voted for the motion. Commissioners Rideout, Hanson, and Cannon voted against the motion.

Mr. Sandy McAllister, who has an office at 300 Academy Street, briefed city commissioners on an interest of a client of his to construct a multi-unit condominium building on a piece of property located adjacent to the Hyatt.

The city manager provided city commissioners with the Partial Proof of Loss Sworn Statement Form for consideration during the regular meeting. The city’s insurance carrier Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) proposed settling a claim of damaged equipment presented by the County of Dorchester.

The city manager asked city commissioners if they were okay with the city acquiring the properties at 505 and 507 Race Street for the cost of a lien on the properties provided the state reimbursed the city for the cost.

The discussion continued until 6:00 p.m. when Mayor Jackson-Stanley called the regular meeting to order. Those Commissioners in attendance were Commissioners Rideout, Sydnor, Foster, Cannon, and Hanson. The Mayor asked for a moment of silence then Commissioner Hanson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

1. Council to approve or amend agenda as presented.

   The city manager proposed amending the agenda to include the LGIT claim for consideration under old business. A motion to approve the amended agenda was properly made and seconded and approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Robert Aaron spoke regarding the location of the City elections being at the Cambridge Center of Chesapeake College. Mr. Aaron’s concern was the placement of the supporters handing out literature.
Jane Devlin, Executive Director of the Richardson Museum, asked for a letter of support from the city. The support for their effort to obtain state funds to assist with the rehabilitation of their building at 103 Hayward Street. Commissioner Sydnor made a motion that was seconded by Commissioner Foster to provide the letter of support. The motion passed unanimously.

Requests from the Public

Consent Calendar

The Consent Calendar was approved on a 5-0 vote. Commissioner Rideout made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Commissioner Hanson seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5-0.

2. The February 10, 2020 meeting minutes.

3. The request of the Nabb Center at Salisbury University to allow parking on both sides of High Street between Christ Church and William Street during a fund raiser party on May 2, 2020 from 4 pm – 7 pm.

4. The request of Cambridge Community Radio to host their 6th Annual Spring Gala on March 13th from 6-10 p.m. at 447 Race Street.

Ordinances for Introduction and First Reading

No ordinances for introduction were presented.

Ordinances for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption

No ordinances for a second reading were presented.

Old Business

5. A Memorandum of Understanding Agreement between the city and American Cruise Line, Inc. for the installation of electrical service for commercial vessels at the cost to American Cruise Lines, Inc. was approved on a motion by Commissioner Rideout and second by Commissioner Hanson with a 5-0 vote of approval.

The LGIT Claim Sworn Statement Partial Proof of Loss Form referencing the damage claim alleged by the County of Dorchester was presented. Commissioner Rideout made a motion to approve the settlement. Commissioner Cannon seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.
New Business

6. A Marina Fund Budget amendment was presented to increase the budgeted revenue by $179,000 for DNR grants. An increase of $99,000 was proposed for expenditures for “Long Wharf Upgrades” and an increase of $80,000 was proposed for “Franklin Street Ramp.” A motion to approve the amendment was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed on a 5-0 vote.

7. A proposal was made to amend the General Fund budget to accept $18,500 in police retention grant funds for disbursement to officers with five or more years of service. The proposal was to amend the budget as follows:
   
   Increase General Fund Revenue for “Officer Retention Grant”: $18,500
   Increase GF Expenditures for “Police Administration Salaries”: $1,542
   Increase GF Expenditures for “Police Administration Soc Sec”: $118
   Increase GF Expenditures for “Police Patrol Salaries”: $14,646
   Increase GF Expenditures for “Police Patrol Soc Sec”: $1,121
   Increase GF Expenditures for “Police Special Operations Salaries”: $2,312
   Increase GF Expenditures for “Police Special Operations Soc Sec”: $177
   Decrease GF Expenditures for “Police Patrol Vehicle Gas & Oil”: $1,416

   A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Rideout and seconded by Commissioner Hanson. The motion passed 4-0-1 with Commissioner Foster abstaining.

8. The Superintendent of Public Works position description was passed over until the next city council meeting.

9. The City Organization Chart changes proposed by the City Manager was presented. A final review of those proposed changes would be taken up at the next city commission meeting.

Comments

The Mayor announced that Secretary Holt would be coming to Cambridge on Friday to take a tour of the city with over 100 members of his staff.

Commissioner Cannon mentioned that some residents have suggested that additional streetlights be placed around the city. The Mayor indicated that there was a committee for that purpose and she would check the records to determine who might be serving on that committee.

A request was made that parties associated with the shed at 207 High Street be invited to the next city commission meeting for the purpose of providing information on the status of the structure.
Chief Lewis announced that the police department had sought funding to obtain and train a K-9 and had received a $10,000 grant to acquire one. In addition, Chesapeake Canine will assist the police department in raising funds for a second K-9 dog.

Chief Lewis also mentioned that a group of participants in the PAL program with adult supervision attended the PAL Conference held at the Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg where they had a great time.

New Business

Adjourn

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

With no further business, Mayor Jackson-Stanley adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate account of the Council meeting Monday, February 24, 2020.

Victoria Jackson-Stanley
Major