

The City Commission held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 12, 2021. The meeting was scheduled for its regular time of 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers at 305 Gay Street in Cambridge.

The Mayor opened the regular meeting at 6:04 p.m. Those present in person or virtually were Mayor Bradshaw, Commissioner Brian Roche, Commissioner Lajan Cephas, Commissioner Jameson Harrington, Commissioner Sputty Cephas, Commissioner Chad Malkus, City IT Division Director Dale Price, city assistant attorney Patrick Thomas, city police chief Mark Lewis, and city manager Patrick Comiskey. 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 were also able to 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.

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for the citizens lost in the fatal fire on High Street and for the citizen lost in a recent homicide.

Commission President Cephas led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

Commissioner Malkus made a motion to approve the agenda including amendments to show a second letter included identifying matching funds for Mace's Lane's application for a grant, to add Item 11 to appoint a city commission member as a liaison to the housing task force, to add Item 12 to appoint a city commissioner to the ADA Committee, and to add a city work session on Monday, April 19, 2021 to discuss policing. Commission President Cephas seconded the motion which was adopted unanimously.

Requests from the Public

Eagleman Presentation: Angie Hengst, Race Director Ironman Maryland identified June 13th for Eagleman and September 18th for Ironman. She gave information on the economic impact of the races held in 2019. She also explained the COVID safety procedures for the upcoming races.

Willis Johnson of Shore Hawks Travel Sports spoke about the youth sports travel league at a later part of the meeting.

Consent Calendar

Commissioner L. Cephas made a motion to approve the consent calendar as amended. Commissioner Harrington seconded the motion. The consent calendar was approved on a 5-0 vote. The consent calendar included the meeting minutes and the two letters of Support for the Maces Lane Community Center's Grant Application.

No ordinances were introduced for a first reading.

Ordinances for Second Reading, Public Hearing, and Adoption

The assistant city attorney Patrick Thomas read the ordinance summary aloud.

Ordinance No. 1172 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND AMENDING THE FORM-BASED CODE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS APPLICABLE TO THE GATEWAY SUBDISTRICT AND TABLE 2: PERMITTED USES BY ZONING SUBDISTRICT IN THE DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OF THE CITY'S UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PERMITTING PROPERTIES WITHIN THE 400 BLOCK OF MARYLAND AVENUE THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY USED AS MIXED-USE COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL TO BE CONVERTED ENTIRELY TO RESIDENTIAL USE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO THE GATEWAY SUBDISTRICT STANDARDS IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The mayor opened the floor for public comment. Mr. Jim Synder, the owner of 421 Maryland Avenue, called in and spoke in favor of the ordinance.

A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Commissioner Malkus and seconded by Commissioner L. Cephas. The motion passed unanimously.

The assistant city attorney Patrick Thomas read the ordinance summary aloud.

ORDINANCE NO. 1173 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND AMENDING TABLE 1: PERMITTED USES BY ZONING DISTRICT OF THE CITY'S UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING PROFESSIONAL OFFICES AS A PERMITTED USE IN THE CORRIDOR MIXED-USE ZONING DISTRICT; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL OFFICES IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The mayor opened the floor for public comment. No one provided public comment.

A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Commissioner Malkus and seconded by Commissioner L. Cephas. The motion passed unanimously.

The assistant city attorney Patrick Thomas read the ordinance summary aloud.

ORDINANCE NO. 1175 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 16.5 ENTITLED "HONORARY STREET NAME SIGNS" OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR HONORARY STREET NAME SIGNS IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO HONORARY STREET NAME SIGNS IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The mayor opened the floor for public comment. No one called in for public comment.

A motion to approve the ordinance was made by Commissioner S. Cephas and seconded by Commissioner Harrington. The motion passed unanimously.

The assistant city attorney Patrick Thomas read the ordinance summary aloud.

ORDINANCE NO. 1176 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND AMENDING CHAPTER 8 (HEALTH AND SANITATION) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARIFYING THAT THE CITY'S CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, AS WELL AS OTHER CITY EMPLOYEES AND OFFICERS DULY AUTHORIZED TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTERS 4 AND 8 OF THE CITY CODE GENERALLY, ARE AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED TO ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS THEREOF; PROVIDING THAT THE TITLE OF THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE DEEMED A FAIR SUMMARY AND GENERALLY RELATING TO GARBAGE, REFUSE, AND SOLID WASTE IN THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

The mayor opened the floor for public comment. No one called in to speak during the public comment period.

After an amendment to change the language identifying 30-gallon containers to state standardized container issued for city refuse collection. A motion to approve the ordinance as amended was made by Commissioner Harrington and seconded by Commissioner S. Cephas. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

The RFP for Legal Services was reviewed. Commissioner Harrington made a motion to approve the RFP as amended. Commissioner S. Cephas seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

MOU Agreement with Scooter Rental Company – Chris Stockwell, company representative for Bird Scooters, was on the line to present and answer any questions. After a presentation of Mr. Stockwell and a discussion on the proposal, a motion by Commissioner Lajan Cephas and a second by Commission Sputty Cephas to approve the MOU was approved on a 5-0 vote.

Resolution No. 21-08 and Executive Order 2021-02– consenting to a seventh extension of the State of Emergency in the City of Cambridge declared by the Mayor and the City Manager pursuant to the Executive Order Nos. 2020-01, 2020-02, 2020-03, 2020-04, 2020-05, and 2021-01, 2021-02. On a motion by Commissioner Malkus and a second by Commission President Lajan Cephas, the Resolution was approved on a 5-0 vote.

New Business

Mayor Bradshaw nominated Commissioner Sputty Cephas to become the commission's liaison to the Housing Task Force. On a motion by Commissioner Harrington and a second by Commission President Lajan Cephas the motion was approved unanimously.

Mayor Bradshaw nominated Commissioner Chad Malkus to the ADA Committee. A motion to approve was made by Commission President Cephas and seconded by Commissioner Harrington. The motion was approved by a vote of 4-1. Commissioner Malkus voted against the motion.

Public Comment

Lynette Wongus – 415 Jameson Road - called in referencing Ordinance 995 regarding fires. Ms. Wongus asked Chief Pritchett how tenants can get smoke detector, and when will the new code enforcement officers be on board.

Jim Snyder – 421 Maryland Avenue – called to comment on Ordinance 1172, stating that his property is to be leased as residential.

Trey Davis – 603 Edlon Park – spoke regarding the traffic since Poplar Street has been closed. Mayor stated that this issue will be referred to the Traffic and Safety committee.

The mayor announced upcoming meetings:

April 19, 2021 - Council Work Session for policing

April 21, 2021 - HPC meeting at 6:00 pm at Commission Chambers

Department or Division Head Comments**Commissioner's Comments****Mayor's Comments****Closed Session**

Commissioner S. Cephas made a motion to go into closed session under the closed session article read by the mayor.

Closed Session under General Provisions Article 3-305(b) (1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointee, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harrington. The motion passed unanimously. Commissioners entered the closed session at 8:50 p.m. and exited the closed session at 9:52 p.m.

After the closed session Mayor Bradshaw explained the closed session was to consider the potential employment of a potential city employee and the action of another employee regarding on-going disciplinary matters.

A motion was made by Commissioner Malkus to approve the employment agreement for the finance director. Commissioner L. Cephas seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn by commissioner S. Cephas and seconded by Commissioner Harrington passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:56 p.m.



Mayor