

AS AMENDED ON OCTOBER 8, 2012

CITY OF SALISBURY

ORDINANCE NO. 2225

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND
TO AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET TO ADDRESS AN
ANTICIPATED SHORTFALL IN THE GRASS CUTTING ACCOUNT.

WHEREAS, the Salisbury Municipal Code requires that every owner of any area, lot or parcel of land shall cut, trim or otherwise remove or cause to be cut or trimmed, all grass, weeds, brush or plant growth thereon in excess of eight inches; and

WHEREAS, from time to time, after providing adequate notice the Department of Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance may cause such work to be performed; and

WHEREAS, if the Department of Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance causes such work to be performed and the property owner does not pay the bill for such abatement action, the City files a lien against the property; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue to successfully correct such unabated nuisance violations during the remainder of this fiscal year, it is necessary for additional funds to be added to the Department of Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance budget to offset these costs.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the City of Salisbury, Maryland that the City's Fiscal Year 2013 General Fund budget be amended as follows:

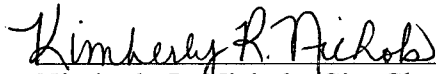
- 1) Increase the Current Surplus Available (#01000 - 469810) by \$20,000.00.

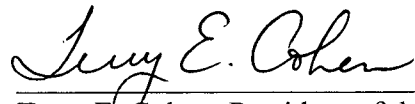
2) Increase the Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance budget by \$20,000.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND, that this Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage.

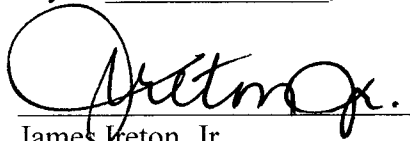
THIS ORDINANCE was introduced and read at a meeting of the Council of the City of Salisbury held on the 8th day of October, 2012 and thereafter, a statement of the substance of the ordinance having been published as required by law, was finally passed by the Council on the 26th day of November, 2012.

ATTEST:


Kimberly R. Nichols, City Clerk


Terry E. Cohen, President of the
Council of the City of Salisbury

Approved by me, this 28th
day of November, 2012.


James Ireton, Jr.,
Mayor of the City of Salisbury

Memo

To: John Pick
From: Tom Stevenson
Date: September 20, 2012
Re: Grass Cutting Account (Projected Budget Shortfall)

Attached please find an ordinance that will have the effect of amending the Fiscal Year 2013 General Fund budget. Of the \$23,652.00 (twenty three thousand six hundred and fifty two dollars) appropriated for abating grass and noxious growth violations, \$17,864.00 (seventeen thousand eight hundred and sixty four dollars) have already been paid out to contractors. This represents approximately 75% (seventy five percent) of the budgeted funds.

While we continue to experience a high voluntary compliance rate in many areas, conformity with orders to abate certain nuisance violations, such as weeds and noxious growth, continue to be challenging.

Below I have provided some basic information about the grass cutting program:

Grass Violations (Since July 1)

525 total 137 progressed to clean-n-lien, or 21%

Weeds in Sidewalk (Since July 1)

372 total 71 progressed to clean-n-lien, or 16%

The average cost to perform a clean-n-lien is approximately \$85.00 (eighty five dollars). In my opinion this cost is acceptable. The 208 (two hundred and eight) clean-n-liens referenced above will generate over \$20,000.00 (twenty thousand dollars) in administrative fees. As is typical, to date, very little of that money has been recovered. However, I believe it is important though to note that some of those fees may have only been billed once.

In order to continue our abatement efforts, I am recommending that \$20,000.00 (twenty thousand dollars) be added to the grass cutting account.

Unless you have any questions please forward this information to the Mayor and Council for consideration.