

RESOLUTION NO. 2362

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYALND ESTABLISHING A FORECLOSURE TASK FORCE TO ESTABLISH, EVALUATE AND REVIEW THE CITY'S RESPONSE TO FORECLOSURES AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE POLICIES AND/OR LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS THE IMPACT OF FORECLOSURES IN THE CITY.

WHEREAS, the City of Salisbury is well aware of the economic, community and quality of life impacts that foreclosures are having in the City of Salisbury, Wicomico County and the region and has undertaken several legislative, policy and funding initiatives to support efforts to encourage retention of homes and new homeownership opportunities; and

WHEREAS, according to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development Office of Policy, Planning and Research, Property Foreclosure Events in Wicomico County for 2013 Q3 have increased 463.7% over 2012 Q3; Notices of Mortgage Loan Default Issued in Wicomico County for 2013 Q3 have increased 382.7% over 2012 Q3; Notices of Foreclosure Sales Issued in Wicomico County for 2013 Q3 have increased 6290.0% over 2012 Q3; Lender Purchases of Foreclosed Properties in Wicomico County for 2013 Q3 have increased 79.1% over 2012 Q3; and Salisbury's 21801 and 21804 Zip Codes have been identified as "High Hot Spots" for Foreclosure Activity within the State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salisbury desires to further examine the opportunities for addressing issues related to residential property foreclosures, including through education, counseling, and homeowner and buyer financial assistance, and to consider appropriate recommendations for implementation of those opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Salisbury Foreclosure Task Force is hereby established to review and evaluate the City's response to foreclosures and to recommend appropriate policies and/or legislation to address the impact of foreclosures in the City, including an emphasis on foreclosure prevention, maintenance of foreclosed properties and

Court and City administrative policies and procedures for use in the foreclosure setting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Foreclosure Task Force shall be composed of nine (9) members, as follows:

1. The Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Wicomico County or her designee;
2. Two (2) representatives of banks or mortgage companies operating within Salisbury with experience in residential lending;
3. One (1) representative of a not-for-profit housing organization providing foreclosure related services within Salisbury;
4. One (1) representative of the Salisbury realtor community;
5. Two (2) residents of the City, not otherwise qualified;
6. The President of the City Council or the President's representative, as a non-voting member; and
7. The Deputy Director of the Salisbury-Wicomico Department of Planning & Zoning, as a non-voting member.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor shall appoint the members of the Task Force and the Task Force shall choose its Chair from amongst the nine appointed members.

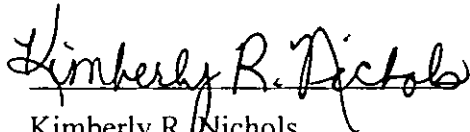
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Foreclosure Task Force shall present its evaluation and recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on or before September 1, 2014 and shall dissolve upon the acceptance of its report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be sent by the City Clerk to the City Council, the Mayor, the Secretary of the State Department of Housing and Community Development, the Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Wicomico County and the Chairs of the Eastern Shore House and Senate Delegations.

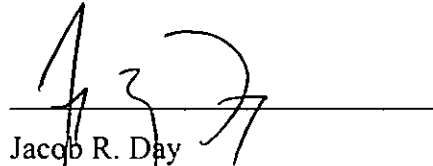
THIS RESOLUTION was introduced and duly passed at a meeting of the Council of the City of Salisbury, Maryland held on Jan. 13, 2014 and is to become effective immediately

upon adoption.

ATTEST:

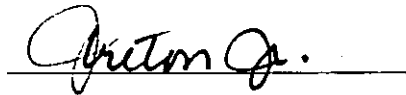


Kimberly R. Nichols
CITY CLERK



Jacob R. Day
PRESIDENT, City Council

APPROVED by me this 14th day of January, 2014



James Ireton, Jr.
MAYOR, City of Salisbury

INTER

OFFICE

MEMO

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

To: City Council
Mayor
From: Tom Stevenson
Subject: Foreclosure Task Force
Date: January 8, 2014

Attached please find a resolution that will have the effect of creating a Foreclosure Task Force. The group will evaluate and review the City's response to foreclosures and then recommend policies and/or legislation that will address the impact that foreclosures may have on the City. An emphasis will be placed on foreclosure prevention, maintenance of foreclosed properties and administrative policies and procedures.