

CITY OF SALISBURY
WORK SESSION
JANUARY 28, 2019

Public Officials Present

Council President John R. "Jack" Heath
Council Vice-President Muir Boda
Councilwoman April Jackson

Mayor Jacob R. Day
Councilman James Ireton, Jr.
Councilman R. Hardy Rudasill

In Attendance

City Administrator Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Infrastructure & Development Director Amanda Pollack, City Clerk Kim Nichols, City Attorney Mark Tilghman, interested citizens and members of the press.

On January 28, 2019 Salisbury City Council convened in a Work Session at 6:50 p.m. in Council Chambers, Room 301 of the Government Office Building following the regularly scheduled Legislative Session. The following is a synopsis of the topics discussed in the Work Session.

Extending the Single Family Fee Moratorium

Infrastructure & Development Director Amanda Pollack joined Council at the table to discuss extending the single-family fee moratorium, which was in place for 24 months so far. She reported 39 single-family properties obtained the fee waiver during that time period. The average fees waived per property was \$6,000. She invited Mark Ackerman and Jamie Gladden forward to the table to speak about how the moratorium has benefitted their business, and established that the investment was small compared to the return.

After discussion, Council reached unanimous consensus to advance the legislation to legislative session to extend the moratorium another two years.

FY20 – FY24 Capital Improvement Plan presentation

Mayor Jacob R. Day said staff did a great job modernizing, tightening-up and aligning the CIP to the realities of what was affordable. Reducing the many annual projects has been a priority over the past six or seven years, and the CIP has evolved into a more realistic document. He gave credit to Finance Director Keith Cordrey and Public Information Officer Chris Demone to make the document more legible and understandable. He said in terms of the use of dollars in the forthcoming year (FY20), staff has continued to narrow down what was affordable for the City.

Council President asked about the recurring capital (Examples- equipment for the Fire Department, automobiles for the Police Department) and wondered if the City was budgeting for a certain number every year rather than all at once. Mayor Day that they have worked with each department to plan out rolling stock, with the exception of the Fire Department. It has to do with the fact that because many of the items are leased, when they come off of the budget they are

replaced with the new vehicles coming on. For instance, three ambulances will come on at once. One per year was examined, but it did not make economic sense because the City ended up spiking and increasing the lease costs and costs per unit.

Councilman Ireton asked about the terminology “contributions” in the CIP and wondered if it was from the volunteers. Mayor Day invited Fire Chief John Tull explained the \$395,000 was a land donation. They were trying to find a certain size and amount of acres needed for a fire department based on the number from Chris Jakubiak of a value associated with land and a donation.

Councilman Ireton asked if the Police Department was included, and Mayor Day said the public safety building that was originally drawn up remains open based upon the collective feelings of substation strategy and what the Chief recommends.

Councilman Ireton asked how much we had collected for the Enterprise Fund and Ms. Pollack reported the Stormwater Utility brings in around \$600,000 of revenue each year, and it has been increasing some. Street sweeping has been about ½ of it, but it has a tremendous impact. The City is at the first year of the new MS4 Permit, and she would speak to Council soon regarding the impervious area restoration requirement, and street sweeping is significant in helping the City meet its goals. She reported the surplus, now that the City has had about three years of the Stormwater Utility, was about \$85,000.00.

Council President Heath asked if every street in Salisbury was swept, and Mayor Day said the policy goal was twice per month. There is a line of thinking that begs the question if that is getting the City the best bang for the buck, and does every street equally affect runoff. We could get more bang from our buck if we swept every week on certain streets. Ms. Pollack said that from the way the state looked at it from a stormwater perspective, you could get credits if every street was swept twice per month. The mentality has been changed to actual tonnage being swept, and Field Operations segregates the street sweeping material. Credits are based on that actual tonnage they are getting every month, and gives the City the flexibility to sweep some areas more frequently and others less frequently. Mayor and Council agreed that residents would want to see some regularity and commitment to sweeping.

Council reached unanimous consensus to advance the draft CIP to legislative agenda.

President Heath congratulated Chief Duncan on the impressive yearly figures.

Motion to Convene in Closed Session

At 7:45 p.m., Mr. Heath called for a motion to convene in Closed Session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland §3-305(b)(7)(8). Mr. Boda moved, Mr. Rudasill seconded, and the vote was unanimous to convene in Closed Session.


Motion to end Closed Session / Reconvene in Open Session / Report to Public

At 8:55 p.m., upon a motion and seconded by Mr. Ireton and Mr. Boda, the vote was unanimous to close the Closed Session. Council convened in Open Session and President Heath reported to the Public that Council had obtained advice on a legal matter, received an update on a contract negotiation, and discussed the potential purchase of property.

The Open Session was then adjourned.



City Clerk



Council President