

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING (VIA ZOOM MEETING)

MARCH 22, 2021

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

*President John “Jack” R. Heath
Councilwoman Angela M. Blake
Councilwoman April Jackson*

*Council Vice-President Muir Boda
Councilwoman Michele Gregory*

PUBLIC OFFICIALS ABSENT

Mayor Jacob R. Day

IN ATTENDANCE

City Administrator / Acting Mayor Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Procurement Director Jennifer Miller, Police Chief Barbara Duncan, Department of Infrastructure & Development Director Amanda Pollack, Business Development Director Laura Soper, City Planner Anne Roane, City Attorney Mark Tilghman, City Clerk Kimberly Nichols, members of the press and Public

CITY INVOCATION – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. via a Zoom Meeting. Council President John R. Heath called the meeting to order and called for a moment of silent meditation.

PROCLAMATION

- *100th Anniversary of Success Temple #154, Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, Inc.*

City Administrator Julia Glanz presented the proclamation recognizing the 100th Anniversary Celebration Weekend of Events recently held for Elk Family and Friends at the Success Temple #154 and Queen City Elks Lodge #1051 joint facility located at 230 Catherine Street in Salisbury. Success Temple #154 commenced March 22, 1921 as an auxiliary to Queen City Lodge #1051 of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, Inc. Success Temple #154 “Daughters” and Queen City Lodge #1051 “Brothers” operate under the umbrella of the Elks Grand Lodge of the Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World, Inc., a charitable, non-profit organization organized in 1898.

Success Temple #154 and Queen City Lodge #1051 sponsor most events jointly including voter registration and education, REAL ID and Census assistance, Christmas dinner with gifts and entertainment to area Senior Citizens, Salvation Army Red Kettle bell ringing, National Nights Out, Bless Our Children Campaigns, and Black History Programs. They partnered with the NAACP to help provide computers and equipment to Wicomico

County students, provided financial support to community churches, organizations, and clubs, held a community yard sale where all items were free and a bouncy house was provided for children, and held a Line Dance Class at the Elks Home that was open to the public.

The citizens were invited to join with the City in celebrating Success Temple #154's 100th Anniversary of providing service and fellowship with gratitude for the many lives affected positively by its presence in our community with wishes for continued success.

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to approve the legislative agenda as presented. Mr. Boda was dropped from the Zoom meeting momentarily.

CONSENT AGENDA – presented by City Clerk Kimberly Nichols

The Consent Agenda consisting of the following items was unanimously approved (5-0 vote) on a motion and seconded by Ms. Jackson and Ms. Blake, respectively:

- February 22, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes
- February 22, 2021 Closed Session Minutes (e-mailed separately)
- March 1, 2021 Work Session Minutes
- **Resolution No. 3096**- approving the appointment of Ley Rideout to the Sustainability Advisory Committee for term ending March 2024

AWARD OF BIDS- presented by Procurement Director Jennifer Miller

The Award of Bids, consisting of the following, was unanimously approved on a motion and seconded by Mr. Boda and Ms. Jackson, respectively, and approved by unanimous vote in favor:

- Award of Contract(s)
 - ITB 21-118 Park WTP Window Restoration & Office Construction \$ 129,971.80

RESOLUTION

- **Resolution No. 3097**- appointing the law firm of Cockey, Brennan & Maloney, P.C. as City Solicitor

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3097.

Each Council member present expressed their appreciation to Mr. Tilghman and his firm for the legal service to the City since 2012.

ORDINANCES

- **Ordinance No. 2656**- 1st reading- to amend Title 5-Business Licenses and Regulations of the Salisbury Municipal Code by adding Chapter 5.53 in order to place a limit on third-party restaurant delivery fees and to protect the third-party driver's income during the current COVID-19 pandemic

Ms. Jackson moved and Mr. Boda seconded to approve Ordinance No. 2656 for first reading.

Mr. Boda asked which department would enforce the ordinance, and Ms. Glanz ensured Administration would come to second reading prepared with the answer.

President Heath said his vote was based on numerous interviews and discussions with restaurants and Chamber of Commerce's recommendations.

Ordinance No. 2656 for first reading failed with 1 vote in favor and 4 votes against. Ms. Gregory voted "aye."

- **Ordinance No.2657- 1st reading**- to accept federal grant funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) in the amount of \$15,000.00 for Grant BJAG-2019-0001, National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRA) training, and amending the Grant Fund budget to appropriate these grant funds for NIBRS training

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2657 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2658**- 1st reading- accepting grant funds from the Maryland State Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services in the amount of \$24,000.00 under the FY21 Police Recruitment and Retention Program (PRAR) and amending the Grant Fund budget to appropriate these grant funds for payment of retention bonuses to eligible Salisbury Police Officers

Ms. Jackson moved, Mr. Boda seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2658 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No.2659**- 1st reading- to abandon an area of land being the alley connecting Washington Street and Eastern Shore Drive

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2659 for first reading.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following comments were received from one member of the Public regarding the City's Fortune Telling License:

- *Appreciated the meetings held by City Council were on Zoom.*

- *Thought that the permit required in Chapter 5.28 Fortune Telling Permit, was out of date and required a \$1,000 permit.*
- *She was trying to start a business reading Tarot Cards.*
- *Ms. Glanz informed Council that the citizen attended the County Council meeting last week and expressed the same because the County's license fee was also \$1,000 for Fortune Telling licenses.*
- *The citizen informed Council that the County's permit required 13 steps, including a moral character interview with the Sheriff. The City's process required 8 steps, and a moral character interview with the Police Chief.*
- *She asked Council to read through it and decide on their own.*
- *Ms. Gregory agreed that it was a large fee.*

The following comments were received from one member of the Public regarding security at Gateway Village Apartments:

- *Julie McCabe, Vice President of Service Enhanced Housing for Homes for America, a non-profit affordable homes developer, and current owners of Gateway Village Apartments, discussed the increased and aggressive nature of criminal activities in the community and against residents.*
- *There have been assaults, vehicular and home break-ins, trespassing, soliciting of residents, sleeping on stairwells, and two shootings through residents' windows.*
- *They have collaborated with Delegate Sample-Hughes, Councilwoman Jackson, and Chief Duncan in trying to institute avenues to eradicate the behavior and trespassing.*
- *A homeless camp is adjacent to Gateway Village Community on property owned by Joseph Smith & Sons at their business called Salisbury Scrap Metal.*
- *The request was for a greater collaboration between the County and City services to help immediately eradicate the homeless encampment and the trespassing of persons on the property. They spent thousands of dollars in the past year trying to create a safer community, and most recently hired a third-party security firm, planted natural fencing, increased lighting, and about to undergo a huge redevelopment of the community.*
- *Ms. Glanz said Chief Duncan had worked diligently with Gateway Village to resolve the issues and the City would do everything they could to help resolve the issue.*
- *Chief Duncan said there were a number of recommendations made over the years, and some of them were being employed now. They spent a lot of time. It was a vulnerable residential area because of the nature of types of residents the community served. The City officers were well informed and did numerous patrol checks. Some of the natural barriers had been damaged. The best service would come with the installation of security cameras.*
- *Regarding the shot windows- even though the property was just outside City limits, the Salisbury Police engaged with folks at the camp who had shot at cans and did not realize the projectiles reached the complex. They did not have jurisdiction to issue a citation.*
- *The camp was located at the site for quite a long time, and there was a lot of refuse built up.*
- *Ms. Jackson wanted the City and the County to work together to make it work for the benefit of the City and County.*
- *President Heath said he delivered Meals on Wheels there, and asked Ms. McCabe about the security she mentioned. Ms. McCabe said the security firm started about a month ago on a rotating schedule.*

ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Glanz thanked Mr. Tilghman, Pete and Kristine earlier and wanted to extend her gratitude since 2012. A number of City employees were vaccinated recently.

Ms. Jackson thanked Homes for America and Habitat for America for coming on the meeting. We all needed to work together. She congratulated the Queen City Elks Lodge and Success Temple #154 because 100 years was quite an achievement.

Ms. Blake reminded everyone to consider donating blood if they were healthy enough.

Ms. Gregory said to please sign up for your vaccination.

Mr. Boda commented on the background he used for the Zoom meeting, which was the old Salisbury Mall. Support local businesses, and tip your waitresses and drivers. He hoped everyone could get outside and enjoy the nice weather.

President Heath said to wear your masks and give blood. He wished everyone a good week.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the Legislative Session was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND
CLOSED SESSION
MARCH 15, 2021

TIME & PLACE: 4:52 p.m., Zoom Work Session of City Council
PURPOSE: To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals
VOTE TO CLOSE: Unanimous (4-0)
CITATION: Annotated Code of Maryland §3-305(b)(1)
PRESENT: Council President John “Jack” R. Heath, Councilwoman April Jackson, Councilwoman Angela M. Blake, Councilwoman Michele Gregory, City Administrator Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, City Clerk Kimberly Nichols, and attorneys Ashley Bosche, Heather Konyar, Laura Hay, and Michael Sullivan of Cockey, Brennan, and Maloney Law.
ABSENT: Mayor Jacob R. Day, Council Vice-President Muir Boda

The City Council convened in Work Session via Zoom Meeting at 4:30 p.m. At 4:56 p.m., President Heath called for a motion to convene in Closed Session as permitted under the Annotated Code of Maryland §3-305(b)(1). Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to convene in Closed Session.

City Administrator / Acting Mayor Julia Glanz and President Heath explained the process used in selecting the candidates. The new team was invited into the Zoom Meeting to introduce themselves to Council.

After discussion, Council unanimously approved of the selection of the firm as recommended by Administration.

At 5:23 p.m., Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to adjourn the Closed Session.

Council convened in Open Session via Zoom at 5:25 p.m. and President Heath reported that while in Closed Session Council had discussed the appointment of the candidates.

With no further business to discuss, the Open Session immediately adjourned.



City Clerk



Council President