

CITY OF SALISBURY
SPECIAL WORK SESSION (VIA ZOOM MEETING)
MAY 26, 2020

Public Officials Present

Council President John “Jack” R. Heath
Council Vice President Muir Boda
Councilwoman Michele Gregory

Mayor Jacob R. Day
Councilwoman Angela M. Blake
Councilwoman April Jackson

In Attendance

City Administrator Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, City Attorney Mark Tilghman, City Clerk Kim Nichols, and interested City employees and citizens

On May 26, 2020 Salisbury City Council convened in the regularly scheduled Legislative Session at 6:00 p.m. via a Zoom Meeting. Following the adjournment of the Legislative Session at 6:50 p.m., Council immediately convene in a Special Work Session. The following is a synopsis of the topic discussed:

COVID-19 Frontline Worker Stipend

City Administrator Julia Glanz presented the request for the COVID-19 Frontline Worker Stipend. Since Governor Hogan declared a state of emergency on March 5, 2020, many City employees have not had the option to work from home due to the nature of their job. These employees have been on the “frontlines” with a greater risk of infection by COVID-19. They also have had limited ability to take leave, required to work overtime and are dealing with much added stress and anxiety. Ms. Glanz said that Administration wished to acknowledge this risk and thank employees with a stipend. Employees out sick, on worker’s compensation, FMLA, or military leave, for a large portion of time since City Offices closed were not eligible for this stipend.

Employees were broken into 2 Tiers:

- Tier 1 (\$750) - work a normal 40-hour work week (at work), interact with the public daily,
- Tier 2 (\$500) – work a normal 40-hour work week (at work), do not interact with the public daily, medium risk

The total amount of increase of surplus for the General Fund is \$151,248.25. The stipend would be paid upon passage of the legislation in one lump sum.

The City would work with the CARES allotment and MEMA to try and get the cost reimbursed.

President Heath indicated it was appropriate to endorse the stipend. The frontline workers showed up without question.

Ms. Jackson approved of the stipend because the frontline workers have put their lives on the line.

Ms. Blake approve of the stipend.

Ms. Gregory said she wished they could do more, and the stipend was well-deserved.

Mr. Boda indicated the stipend was well-deserved, as no value could be placed on the jobs that our frontline workers do.

Mayor Day reported there were currently a total of (5) COVID-19 positive City employees.

The consensus was unanimous to advance the legislation to legislative agenda.

Council comments

Ms. Jackson said to be safe.

Ms. Blake asked everyone to donate blood if possible.

Ms. Gregory asked everyone to be kind to their neighbors and look out for each other.

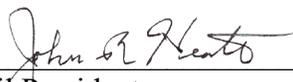
Mr. Boda asked everyone to be kind and to support local restaurants and businesses.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Special Work Session adjourned at 6:58 p.m.



City Clerk



Council President