

CITY OF SALISBURY
WORK SESSION (VIA ZOOM MEETING)
JUNE 7, 2021

Public Officials Present

Council President John “Jack” R. Heath
Councilwoman Angela M. Blake

Council Vice-President Muir Boda
Councilwoman Michele Gregory

Public Officials Absent

Mayor Jacob R. Day
Councilwoman April Jackson

In Attendance

Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Department of Infrastructure & Development (DID)
Director Amanda Pollack, Building Official William Holland, City Attorney Michael Sullivan,
City Clerk Kimberly Nichols, and members of the Public and press.

On June 7, 2021 the Salisbury City Council convened in a Work Session at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

LGBTQ Pride Month Proclamation

Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow presented the LGBTQ Pride Month proclamation. June 28, 2019 marked the 50th Anniversary of the beginning of the Stonewall Uprising in New York City, which symbolizes the start of the LGBTQ liberation struggle in America. While advancements have been made in the Nation regarding the equitable treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning persons, opposition against them continues to be a reality. PFLAG is committed to celebrating diversity and is the first and largest organization for the LGBTQ Community, with over 400 chapters and 200,000 members.

On June 12, 2021 PFLAG will remember the victims of the Pulse Nightclub Attack on the occasion of the 5th Anniversary of the attack and will repaint the first rainbow crosswalk in Maryland. Many of the residents, students, city employees, and business owners of Salisbury are part of the LGBTQ Community, and the City raised the Pride Flag on June 1st outside the Government Office Building to celebrate the LGBTQ Community and to show support and equality for all people in the Community.

Presentation- PFLAG- presented by Mark Delancey, Executive Director, PFLAG

PFLAG Executive Director Mark Delancey thanked the City for presenting the proclamation which reflected the dedication to change and respect by the City and its residents for all marginalized residents. The mission of PFLAG was to move forward with efforts to lift the forgotten and neglected, and to bring about awareness and growth.

Mr. Boda was glad that the City was celebrating equality and Pride Month and could be an example on the Eastern Shore.

Ms. Blake thought it was remarkable that Salisbury was a leader in diversity and inclusion for all people.

Ms. Gregory wished Mr. Delancey a happy Pride and was looking forward to repainting the crosswalk.

President Heath recalled raising the flag on the Plaza several years ago and explained his mantra was that what made Salisbury great was its people- not some of the people, but all of the people.

The following is a synopsis of the topics discussed in the Work Session:

Chesapeake Utilities Corporation- Somerset Natural Gas Project update

DID Director Amanda Pollack reported that Chesapeake Utilities had installed by mid May about 82% of the gas pipeline going into Salisbury. The City has submitted to Chesapeake the area the City would like to obtain that they own where the City wanted an easement for the Rail Trail.

Ms. Blake asked if Chesapeake could plant shrubbery near the pipeline as they did not want trees over it due to roots. Ms. Pollack thought it was a better possibility than putting large trees over the pipeline, and would ask Chesapeake. They were doing a tree planting at Lake Street Playground to help offset the trees that were removed. She would ask Chesapeake about planting shrubbery in the locations where the pipes were placed.

President Heath was concerned about the wording on the last two bullet points concerning them checking about safety in reference to the lines and the Rail Trail. He indicated it should have all been hammered out prior to Council finding out through DID that it was approved. He asked if there was concern that the Rail Trail might be impacted. Ms. Pollack did not think it should be a concern because there were gas mains throughout the City streets, and it should not impact the Rail Trail. She would invite Chesapeake Utilities to join Council for the July meeting.

The update was for Council information and did not require consensus or action taken by Council.

PennTex/Beaver Run Drive Annexation petition discussion

Building Official William Holland introduced William Owens, VP, PennTex Ventures and Jeffrey Harmon, PE, Becker Morgan Group. Mr. Holland reported the City received the petition to annex the 3.08-acre site located on the northeast corner of Rt. 50 and Walston Switch Road which was contiguous to the City corporate limits. Several years ago, the property started the annexation through another petitioner and now PennTex Ventures wished to follow through and

complete the annexation. The request contained a concept development plan for a 7-11 Convenience Store and there would be new stormwater management and landscaping. If Council approved the introduction, it would move to the Planning Commission to get rezoned. It had been rezoned, but Mr. Holland said the Legal Department recommended repeating the process since it was a different petitioner.

Council reached unanimous consensus to move forward with the annexation.

Ordinance to abandon the alley between Davis Street and East William Street

DID Director Amanda Pollack the alley was north of East Main Street between Davis Street and East William Street. DID had worked with Healing Hands Animal Hospital to look at a subdivision plat and realized there was an older alley that divided their property which was not being used by the public. The City Surveyor sent letters to all of the property owners adjacent to the alley and they all agreed to the alley being abandoned.

Council reached unanimous consensus to move forward with the ordinance to abandon the alley.

Resolution- agreement for land swap at 116 W. Chestnut

Ms. Pollack reported the land swap request was received from Roof Service of Delmarva, LLC for 116 W. Chestnut Street. They wanted to erect a fence to secure their property to store materials and park their vehicles. They could utilize their property better with the additional land that would be in the swap from the City. The area was not utilized by the City, and the area they were proposing to swap would give the City access through alleys and paper streets adjacent to the parcels. The swap would be a benefit for the City and Roof Service of Delmarva, LLC. If the resolution passed, the agreement would authorize Roof Service of Delmarva to begin the necessary survey work to be approved by the City Surveyor and City Attorney's office.

Council reached unanimous consensus to advance the legislation to legislative agenda.

Faith Baptist Church Annexation agreement amendment

Ms. Pollack said that after the May 17, 2021 Work Session discussion regarding the annexation agreement amendment, DID further discussed the agreement with the petitioners, and they signed the agreement of the amended annexation agreement. The main concern that the property owners had was they might have to pay if the property did not sell in twelve months. But the agreement had provisions in it that it would accrue interest and they would have to pay any of the fees and accrued interest before they could obtain a certificate of occupancy.

Council reached unanimous consensus to move forward with the amendment.

Ordinance to adopt the HORIZON Program

Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow announced the State passed the legislation, and the City was ready to move forward with the ordinance. There was one developer ready to make

application. The packet included the ordinance, HORIZON Program application and the HORIZON agreement. If approved, developers would enter into an agreement specific to their project. Ms. Pollack would review and approve the application initially, and then it would be approved by Council. She would then review the agreement, which would then go to Council for approval. These would be similar to when she had EDU waivers where the applications went to DID for review. Each individual request would come before Council.

Ms. Gregory asked how the applicants went through the approval process because Council had previously discussed putting in the question whether or they would use unionized labor. Mr. Kitzrow clarified there were two different pieces. The City had not decided to change what they build or how they build any project currently under development. As other properties that may open up, for instance Lot #10, the City could explore adding additional elements to give them points towards development.

President Heath informed Council that HORIZON unanimously passed at the State level.

Council reached unanimous consensus to advance the legislation to legislative agenda.

Administration and Council Comments

Mr. Boda hoped everyone was careful, and if not vaccinated to please wear a mask. He looked to seeing everyone out and about during the Summer.

Ms. Blake asked those healthy enough to please donate blood.

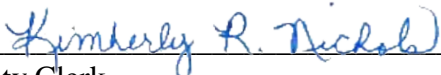
Ms. Gregory wished everyone Happy Pride. There were some good events- the flag raising and the art installation downtown. There was also an event at The Brick Room on Wednesday

Mr. Kitzrow said that Ms. Glanz and Mayor Day sent their best. The City was back to work as of today, but the GOB Building was still only open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

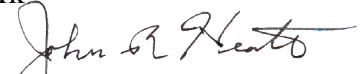
President Heath said the past week and weekend were great. He went out to dinner twice and also got encouraging news that the restaurants were nearly fully staffed again.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the Work Session was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.



City Clerk



Council President