

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING (COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND ZOOM)

JUNE 28, 2021

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

*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, Finance Director Keith Cordrey, Department of Infrastructure & Development Director Amanda Pollack, Fire Chief John Tull, Assistant City Clerk Julie English, City Attorney Michael Sullivan, 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. in a hybrid meeting (in person and on Zoom Conferencing Video). Council Vice-President Muir Boda called the meeting to order and invited Chaplain Cooper of New Dimensions Family Ministries, Salisbury Fire Department Volunteer Firefighter & Chaplain to the podium to provide the invocation, followed by the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION –presented by City Clerk Kimberly Nichols

Ms. Nichols presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Assistant City Clerk Diane K. Carter, MMC for her outstanding service and commitment to excellence as Assistant City Clerk for the past 9 years. Ms. Carter would retire on June 30, 2021 after 23 years in Municipal Government.

President Heath remarked that Ms. Carter had faithfully served the City and kept him out of trouble, especially while he was President of the Lower Eastern Shore Mayor’s Association.

Ms. Blake said she would miss Ms. Carter and wished her the best in her retirement.

Ms. Gregory said that she would also miss Ms. Carter and wished her a relaxing retirement.

Mr. Boda wished Ms. Carter the very best and she welcomed him when he was new to the City.

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Mr. Heath moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve the legislative agenda as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA – presented by City Clerk Kimberly Nichols

The Consent Agenda consisting of the following item was unanimously approved (4-0 vote) on a motion and seconded by Ms. Gregory and Ms. Blake, respectively:

- **Resolution No. 3111-** declaring that 106 North Division Street LLC is eligible to receive Enterprise Zone benefits for property located at 106 N Division Street, Salisbury, MD

RESOLUTION- presented by Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow

- **Resolution No. 3112-** making a Declaration Of Official Intent regarding reimbursing from proceeds of a future borrowing project expenditures made in connection with a project identified as Apparatus Replacement – Aerial Ladder

Ms. Blake moved, Mr. Heath seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve Resolution No. 3112.

ORDINANCES- presented by City Attorney Michael Sullivan

- **Ordinance No. 2669-** 2nd reading- to establish a program to encourage hotel and large-scale residential development and revitalization in the Downtown area of Salisbury, to be known as the HORIZON program

Ms. Gregory move, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve Ordinance No. 2669 for second reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2670-** 2nd reading- for the abandonment of an alley located between East William Street and Davis Street, near East Main Street

Mr. Heath moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve Ordinance No. 2670 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2671-** 2nd reading- approving a budget amendment of the FY2021 General Fund to appropriate funds for Attorney Fees

Ms. Gregory moved, Mr. Heath seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve Ordinance No. 2671 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2672-** 1st reading- to authorize the Finance Department to establish a Project Expenditure Account in order to pay those invoices for Mitchell Landing Apartments that will be reimbursable through the Mitchell Landing Reserve for Replacement (RFR) Account

Mr. Heath moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve Ordinance No. 2672 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2673-** *1st reading- to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of accepting grant funds in the amount of \$20,000.00, and to approve a budget amendment to the Grant Fund to appropriate these funds for eligible expenses associated with the 2021 National Folk Festival*

Mr. Heath moved, Ms. Gregory seconded and the vote was unanimous(4-0 vote) to approve Ordinance No. 2673 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2674-** *1st reading- to authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the purpose of accepting grant funds in the amount of \$12,708.50, and to approve a budget amendment to the Grant Fund to appropriate these funds for offsetting COVID-19 expenses*

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0 vote) to approve Ordinance No. 2674 for first reading.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

One member of the public inquired about the status of the Fortune Telling License review and if some of the steps could be done ahead of time in order to obtain the license the day it became available. Business Development Director Laura Soper reported the changes to the legislation were almost ready to go to Legal for review and should come before to Council for review by August. The requirements were pared down quite a bit and some requirements were entirely removed.

Michael Dunn, Great Salisbury Executive Director, Former City Council President, and CO Chair of the National Folk Festival (NFF) Fundraising Committee, reported that virtually instantly all of the money was raised and exceeded for the NFF. There were no monetary worries as the City went into the 80th year. He thanked the City, Council members, and all involved for the extraordinary work in keeping the City moving during the pandemic and while the Mayor was deployed in Africa.

Mr. Dunn thanked the City for the HORIZON Tax Credit idea which took roots in the Greater Salisbury Committee Conference Room. There was the challenge, and Ms. Glanz and Mr. Kitzrow came forward with answers. The MD House of Delegates and State Senate voted unanimously to give the City and County the permission to establish a HORIZON Tax Credit, and was immediately passed into law by Governor Hogan. Whenever anything was unanimously passed with both parties involved says a lot. The County Council would consider HORIZON Tax Credit on their July 6, 2021 Agenda. The tax credit had remarkable opportunities for Downtown.

ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Kitzrow reported on attending a great Maryland Municipal League (MML) Conference. There were tremendous things around Maryland. He echoed Mr. Dunn's points, and said Salisbury was

looking forward to moving forward as a community. Mayor Day was the incoming President of MML.

President Heath said it was getting very hot, and we sometimes forgot individuals and neighbors during the heat waves. Check on these people to ensure they are cool enough and have food.

Ms. Gregory echoed what Mr. Kitzrow said about MML having great speakers. It was a lot of fun and she's met a lot of new people. She was excited about the National Folk Festival coming up. Stay safe and if not fully vaccinated yet, please get that taken care of.

Mr. Boda was looking forward to the NFF. He asked everyone to pay attention to the events held at the Amphitheatre. There was a concert held last weekend, and there was a great series planned. Ms. Blake had to jump off the meeting early, as she was attending a State Association dinner. She would say to donate blood, as the Blood Bank was still in dire need.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the Legislative Session was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Kimberly R. Nichol

City Clerk

Council President