

**CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND**

**REGULAR MEETING (COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND ZOOM)**

**SEPTEMBER 27, 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 Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Wicomico County Council President John Cannon, Field Operations Director Jana Potvin, Building Official William Holland, City Clerk Kimberly Nichols, City Attorney Michael Sullivan, members of the press and Public*

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**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 President John R. “Jack” Heath called the meeting. After reciting the pledge to the flag, he then called for a moment of silent meditation.*

**ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

*Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve the legislative agenda as presented.*

*Council President welcomed Wicomico County Council President John Cannon in the audience.*

**CONSENT AGENDA** – presented by Assistant City Clerk Julie English

*The Consent Agenda, consisting of the following items, was approved unanimously on a motion and seconded by Ms. Jackson and Mr. Boda, respectively:*

- *September 7, 2021 Work Session Minutes*
- *September 13, 2021 Legislative Session Minutes*
- **Resolution No. 3124-** *to approve the reappointment of Alexander McRae to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee for term ending October 2024*
- **Resolution No. 3125-** *to approve the reappointment of Jane S.W. Messenger to the Historic District Commission for term ending October 2024*
- **Resolution No. 3126-** *to approve the appointment of Leigh Yanus to the Zoo Commission for term ending September 2024*

**RESOLUTIONS-** presented by City Administrator Julia Glanz

- **Resolution No. 3127-** authorizing the City of Salisbury's Comprehensive Connection Charges to be waived for the development of 117-119 West Main Street

Ms. Jackson moved, Mr. Boda seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3127.

- **Resolution No. 3128-** authorizing the Mayor to enter into, on behalf of the City of Salisbury, an agreement with St. Peters Episcopal Church and Lodge Wicomico No. 91 AF & AM for the City of Salisbury's construction and installation of a handicap access ramp at the rear entrance of the Downtown Salisbury Visitor Center Building and other matters relating thereto

Mr. Boda moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3128.

**PUBLIC HEARING-** East Lincoln Avenue- M&L Rentals, LLP Annexation

- **Resolution No. 3105-** proposing the annexation to the City of Salisbury of certain area of land contiguous to and binding upon the Corporate Limit of the City of Salisbury to be known as "East Lincoln Avenue – M & L Rentals, LLP Annexation" beginning for the same point at a corner of the existing Corporate Limits Line of the City of Salisbury, MD, being near the northerly right of way line of East Lincoln Avenue and also being near the southwesterly corner of the land of M & L Rentals, LLP, being known as Lot A containing 0.245 acres, more or less.

Ms. Blake moved and Ms. Jackson seconded to approve Resolution No. 3105.

Ms. Glanz presented Resolution No. 3105.

At 6:14 p.m. President Heath opened the Public Hearing, and since there were no requests to speak or testify, immediately closed the Public Hearing.

Resolution No. 3105 was approved by unanimous vote in favor.

- **Resolution No. 3106-** approving the annexation plan for the annexation known as "East Lincoln Avenue – M & L Rentals, LLP Annexation"

Ms. Blake moved and Ms. Gregory seconded to approve Resolution No. 3106.

Ms. Glanz presented Resolution No. 3106.

At 6:18 p.m. President Heath opened the Public Hearing, and since there were no requests to speak or testify, immediately closed the Public Hearing.

*Resolution No. 3106 was approved by unanimous vote in favor.*

**ORDINANCES-** *presented by City Attorney Michael Sullivan*

- **Ordinance No. 2681-** *2<sup>nd</sup> reading- approving an amendment of the City's Grant Fund Budget to reallocate budgeted matching funds from other grant projects to the Zoo Special Events Pavilion, Phase 2 project*

*Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2681 for second reading.*

- **Ordinance No. 2682-** *2<sup>nd</sup> reading- approving an amendment of the City's General Capital Project Fund budget to reallocate funding for the Zoo Administrative Office Space project*

*Mr. Boda moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2682 for second reading.*

- **Ordinance No. 2683-** *1<sup>st</sup> reading- approving an amendment of the City of Salisbury's FY22 General Fund budget and the Grant Fund budget to allocate funding from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore and General Fund grant match for maintenance of the bandstand and bridge in the City Park*

*Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2683 for first reading.*

- **Ordinance No. 2685-** *1<sup>st</sup> reading- to amend Chapter 8.08 Brush, Weeds and Obnoxious Growth to include the definition & requirements of Meadow Cultivation and to allow for the cultivation of meadows in the City of Salisbury, Maryland*

*Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2685 for first reading.*

- **Ordinance No. 2686-** *1<sup>st</sup> reading- authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development for the purpose of accepting additional Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds in the amount of \$17,796.00, and to approve a budget amendment to the grant fund to appropriate such CDBG funds for the projects outlined in the 2021 CDBG Action Plan*

*Ms. Jackson moved, Mr. Boda seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2686 for first reading.*

- **Ordinance No. 2687-** *1<sup>st</sup> reading- approving an amendment of the City's FY22 General Fund budget and the Capital Project Fund budget to allocate funding for the Poplar Hill ADA Ramp and Bathroom Conversion Project*

*Mr. Boda moved, Ms. Gregory seconded and the vote was 4-1 to approve Ordinance No. 2687 for first reading.*

*Ms. Gregory said the project was long overdue and she was excited to see it. President Heath was concerned that only one person could be handled at a time in an emergency situation with a lift. He preferred having a ramp installed, but if there were handicapped people in the building and there was an emergency, they would be gotten out. The question was how they would be gotten out. He recommended at the time for it to return to the Historical Trust, and offered to testify as a former fireman and ask them to reconsider.*

*Field Operations Director Jana Potvin reported the ramp plans provided were denied because the footprint was excessive and encompassed the entire courtyard area. The Historical Trust suggested a lift as an alternate solution. There was no way to install a ramp with the required vertical elevation change without blocking the basement access. They would not allow the ramp to enter the kitchen since there were structural issues with it.*

*Ms. Gregory noted that as someone who regularly navigated ramps, it was slower going than one would think. With customized wheelchairs that extend longer than average ones, navigating turns took quite a lot of time. In the time it would take for a lift to go down with someone in it, she thought she wouldn't be at the end of a 60-foot ramp. Both options had their drawbacks, but the important thing was that the facility be made accessible.*

*Ms. Jackson said that more than one person could exit the ramp and be outside at once, as opposed to being trapped in a building and being removed from it one person at a time.*

*President Heath agreed that the building should have been made ADA compliant two years ago, but was going on his personal experience from Lower Shore Enterprises, his experience in the Fire Department, and his experience at building ramps. It was not uncommon in a fire to lose electricity, which would leave the lift inoperable. He thought Council should look at the entire picture, and if the lift was the only choice, he would support it because they needed the building to be compliant. The Fire Department should inspect it and understand in case there was ever an incident there. President Heath said he was disappointed that the alternative that was presented to a member of the Board and Ms. Meyers was not considered at all.*

*Ms. Blake asked when the Fire Department would be able to inspect the building and lift location. Ms. Glanz said they could do that if it was important to the vote for the next reading. At the point the lift was being installed it would probably be more important to look at locations, evacuation plans, etc. but they would make either option work.*

*Mr. Boda asked if the lift was not accessible in a fire, would there be an option to place a ramp at the front door or portable ramps during events. President Heath said they would carry the handicapped people out in such an event, and Ms. Potvin reported portables would bring the building into ADA compliance.*

*Ordinance No. 2687 was approved on a 4-1 vote, with Ms. Jackson voting "nay."*

- **Ordinance No. 2688**- 1<sup>st</sup> reading- approving an amendment of the city of Salisbury's FY22 General Fund budget for the addition of the position of Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs

*Ms. Jackson moved, Mr. Boda seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2688 for first reading.*

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*There were no requests to speak from the public.*

### **ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

*Mrs. Glanz reported Target and the US Conference of Mayors awarded the City of Salisbury \$75,000 for a Mental Health Response grant. Salisbury was the small city awarded, and the other two recipients were Albuquerque, New Mexico (mid-sized city) and Dallas, Texas (large city). On Wednesday, the Mayor would hold the "Home is Here" press conference announcing the comprehensive housing program that Administration was putting forth. The Pedestrian Bridge ribbon cutting was this Friday. Today there were over 50 patients COVID positive patients in the hospital. This was the highest number lately.*

*Mr. Boda was happy he participated in the Average Joe's run on Saturday.*

*Ms. Jackson asked everyone to be safe.*

*Ms. Blake asked everyone to watch the school buses and if healthy enough to please donate blood.*

*Ms. Gregory enjoyed Peace in the Park last weekend, and asked those not vaccinated to get vaccinated.*

*President Heath said he was scheduled for his booster this week and encouraged everyone else to do the same as they were able. Please donate blood if healthy enough.*

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*With no further business to discuss, the Legislative Session was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.*

*Kimberly R. Nichols*  
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City Clerk

*John R. Heato*  
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Council President