

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING

MAY 9, 2022

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

City Administrator Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Police Chief Barbara Duncan, Procurement Director Jennifer Miller, Fire Chief John Tull, Deputy Chief Chris O’Barsky, Grants Manager Deborah Stam, Acting Director Department of Infrastructure & Development Rick Baldwin, Executive Administrative Assistant Jessica Turner, City Attorney Ashley Bosche, City Clerk Kimberly Nichols, and members of the public

CITY INVOCATION – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council met in regular session at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom and in person and Council President John R. “Jack” Heath called the meeting to order. After J. Anthony Dickerson of the Greater Mt. Olive Full Gospel Baptist Church provided the City Invocation, everyone recited the pledge to the flag.

PROCLAMATIONS- presented by City Administrator Julia Glanz

- **Haitian Heritage Month**
Ms. Glanz presented the Haitian Heritage Day proclamation and urged everyone to educate themselves on the culture and achievements of the Haitian community.
- **EMS Week**
Ms. Glanz presented the proclamation “EMS WEEK: Rising to the Challenge” and Assistant Chief Chris Truitt from the Fire Department received it at the podium.

PRESENATIONS

- **“I LOVE SALISBURY”-** presented by Salisbury University students Haley Taylor, Megan Spicer and Wyatt Parks
The students explained the Student Government Association did two major volunteer events – “I LOVE SALISBURY” and “THE BIG EVENT.” They had over 400 volunteers for the recent “I LOVE SALISBURY” event.

- **Law Enforcement Body Camera Grant**- presented by Timothy Ailsworth, LGIT Executive Director
Mr. Ailsworth thanked the City for belonging to LGIT and presented the check in the amount of \$4,425 to Police Chief Barbara Duncan for body cameras.

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA- presented by City Clerk Kimberly Nichols

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

- **April 18, 2022 Work Session Minutes**
- **Resolution No. 3168**- to approve the reappointment of Elise Trelegan to the Sustainability Advisory Committee (Green Team) for the term ending May 2025

AWARD OF BIDS- presented by Procurement Director Jennifer Miller

The following item was unanimously approved on a motion and seconded by Mr. Boda and Ms. Gregory, respectively:

- ITB 22-122 Park WTP Raw Water Main \$ 405,239.00

RESOLUTION- presented by City Administrator Julia Glanz

- **Resolution No. 3169**- to approve the City’s Action Plan for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for CDBG Program Year 2022

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to approve Resolution No. 3169.

ORDINANCES- presented by City Attorney Ashley Bosche

- **Ordinance No. 2717- 2nd reading**- to amend Chapter 5.52 of the City Code, defining the definition of “Food Service Facility” in lieu of “Restaurant,” and granting the City Fire Marshal the authority to enforce the provisions of Chapter 5.52

Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to approve Ordinance No. 2717 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2718- 2nd reading**- amending Chapter 2.32 of the Salisbury City Code, entitled “Purchases And Sales,” to increase the maximum dollar amount for direct purchases

and the minimum dollar amount for formal competitive bidding in order to increase Procurement efficiency in a market of increased costs

Mr. Boda moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to approve Ordinance No. 2718 for second reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2720- 2nd reading-** *amending Section 15.22 of the Salisbury City Code, entitled “Vacant Buildings”, to require registration of vacant lots and payment of annual fees*

Ms. Blake moved and Ms. Gregory seconded to approve Ordinance No. 2720 for second reading.

Ms. Blake moved to amend the ordinance as read by Ms. Bosche. Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was 3-1 to approve the amendment. Mr. Boda cast the “nay” vote.

Ordinance No. 2720 for second reading, as amended, was passed on a 3-1 vote. Mr. Boda voted “nay”.

- **Ordinance No. 2724- 2nd reading-** *approving a budget amendment of the FY22 General Fund Budget to appropriate funds to the Salisbury Fire Department’s Operating Budget*

Mr. Boda moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was 4-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2724 for second reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2725- 1st reading-** *authorizing the Mayor to accept Law Enforcement Body Camera Grant funds from the Local Government Insurance Trust in the amount of \$4,425 for the Salisbury Police body worn cameras project*

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was 4-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2725 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2726- 1st reading-** *authorizing the Mayor to accept donated funds in the amount of \$1,000 from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore, and to approve an amendment to the FY22 Budget to appropriate these funds to partially cover costs of the purchase and installation of a new water fountain at Ben’s Red Swings Playground*

Mr. Blake moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was 4-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2726 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2727- 1st reading-** *authorizing the Mayor to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Wicomico County Local Behavioral Health Authority for the purpose of accepting Community Mental Health Services (COVID relief) Block Grant Funds in the amount of \$12,562 and to approve a budget amendment to the Grant Fund to appropriate these funds for the Homeless Services Case Specialist position*

Mr. Boda moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was 4-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2727 for first reading.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Two members of the public provided the following comments:

- Has lived in her home for 42 years and watched taxes and water bills increasing over time.*
- The City has been paying for the water plant fiasco since Barrie Tilghman was mayor.*
- Her water usage and sewer outage were still 2.5 difference and it should not be. Sewer should be less than water intake, but still the sewer bill increases.*
- She appreciated Salisbury's great water, but was frustrated with the sewer billings and asked how long the citizens would have to pay.*
- President Day said there was a large debt, and the City had to pay.*
- Ms. Glanz said she was sorry to hear about the experience the speaker had and discussed the Water Incentive Program (WIN). Those behind on their bills could apply and receive up to \$2,000 of a late water bill for the entire year. If you were behind for multiple quarters, you could apply. She said Administration did not put forth the water and sewer fee increase lightly. It was something they had to keep evaluating. Everything was increasing, and the City couldn't not fund it adequately.*
- Speaker took advantage of the Bee Pollinator program offered by the SU students.*
- Speaker did not know why the registration of vacant lots was necessary, as taxes were paid on them. The comment about land banking was "overkill."*
- Her tenant applied for the WIN Program and has not heard if she qualified. It has not helped any of her clients as of yet.*
- The vacant lot registration, which passed this evening, seemed like it was redundant legislation.*

ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Glanz said the WIN Program was a partnership with Social Services. She would discuss with Finance to see how many people participated and if they could work through the kinks. Anyone interested could visit Salisbury.md/WIN. It was available in multiple languages. Also, the City was holding a baby shower for Chaska the bear and her twins to help with a new den. All donors will be invited to a fun baby shower.

Mr. Boda reminded everyone that May 21st was Hoppes on the River.

Ms. Blake reminded everyone to stay safe around school buses and if healthy enough, to please donate blood.

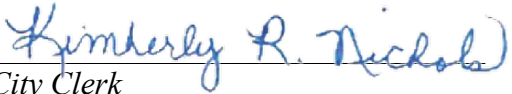
Ms. Gregory announced the Phoenix Youth Project's Sneaker Gala would be held in August. Last time, it was a small crowd. She recommended everyone getting tickets now.

President Heath said that several years ago the City hired a consultant to assess the City's charges for water and sewer. The recommendation was to immediately raise the fee by 15%. The City decided not to do that, but raised the rates by 3% twice in a row, and 6% twice in a row. He

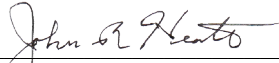
seconded Ms. Blake's request for blood, as the Eastern Shore was severely low on blood supply, and asked for everyone to continue to keep Ukraine in their prayers.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.



City Clerk



Council President