

CITY OF SALISBURY
WORK SESSION
MAY 16, 2022

Public Officials Present

Council Vice-President Muir Boda
Councilwoman Michele Gregory

Councilwoman Angela M. Blake
Councilwoman April Jackson

Public Officials Absent

Mayor Jacob R. Day
Council President John “Jack” R. Heath

In Attendance

City Administrator Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Police Chief Barbara Duncan, Housing and Community Development (HCDD) Director Ron Strickler, Department of Infrastructure & Development (DID) Acting Director Rick Baldwin, Media, Events Specialist Allison Foster, City Clerk Kim Nichols, and City Attorney Ashley Bosche.

On May 16, 2022 the Salisbury City Council convened at 4:30 p.m. in a hybrid Work Session in Council Chambers of the Government Office Building and on Zoom Conferencing Video.

Proclamation- presented by City Administrator Julia Glanz

National Police Week

Ms. Glanz presented the proclamation to Police Chief Barbara Duncan. Police Week was a way to publicly salute the service of law enforcement officers in our community and across the Nation, and to honor the service and sacrifice of those officers who died in the line of duty.

Resolution to accept forfeited vehicle to add to the SPD fleet

Police Chief Barbara Duncan reported that as a result of a case held in Circuit Court handled by SPD officers, as part of the disposition of the case the court ordered a forfeiture of a 2014 Nissan Ultima awarded to the City Police Department. The vehicle, valued at about \$10,000, needed approximately \$1,700 of minimal cosmetic repairs to pass inspection.

She requested the vehicle be accepted and incorporated into the City Police Department fleet.

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

Non-conforming Use Zoning Exemption program update

HCDD Director Ron Strickler presented the six-month update on the non-conforming use zoning exemption program, created to solve several problems in the City. He reported that a majority of the properties HCDD identified were vacant and in disarray, and others were not. Eighteen properties were identified through the process. The initial mailings went out about a six weeks after the program began, did not receive a good response. An additional mailing was sent out about two months later, and response has been received. The first application has been received and under review. Another four properties were identified. Some of the properties, as expected, were now on the market to be sold. One of the properties sold for 80,000 three years ago, and was currently listed for \$285,000 and was under contract. They knew that by doing this they could increase property values by eliminating blight and vacancy. One of the properties was selling contingent upon being converted into multiunit, of which it was originally built as and six were currently under rehabilitation plans. He was unsure if he would be asking for an extension in November, but if the need was there they obviously would address it at that point. Once applications were approved they had twelve months to have the property rehabilitated and receive the Certificate of Occupancy.

Some of the properties needed major work but he did not think it would deter them.

Ordinance to approve a budget amendment for Poplar Hill ADA lift

DID Acting Director Rick Baldwin stated that previously a total of \$75,000 was appropriated for both a bathroom restoration and the installation of an ADA ramp to access the building. The bathroom conversion was completed and the original ramp design was rejected by the Maryland Historical Society, which has now approved reconstruction of the rear steps, deck and installation of the ADA compliant inclined platform lift. DID worked with Procurement to get bids for the work, and they received three bids. The lowest bidder was not deemed responsible, and the second bidder, East Coast Contracting, was selected with a bid of \$73,300. There was \$52,000 remaining, and the request was for a \$21,000 increase. Finance Director Keith Cordrey identified available funds in the General Fund Capital Improvements. The project would be finished in the early Fall.

He added that posts would be anchored at the base into a small area of concrete, with the remainder of the supporting posts running up the stairs.

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

Charter Amendment to change budget public hearings requirements of publishing ad in newspaper published in the City

City Clerk Kim Nichols stated that the Constant Yield, annexations, and charter amendment public notices all had state requirement to be published in a newspaper published in the City. City Attorney Bosche would check to see if text amendments to the Zoning Code were also a state requirement. The only thing possibly changing would

be the budget advertising, and questioned whether it was worth changing. She shared that Procurement added “or electronic media” to leave the option. Ms. Bosche thought the code could be cleaned up, and they could add a disclaimer, “unless required by statute” giving the City the discretion to publish however they deemed fit. She would go through the Charter and Code to clean up the language throughout.

Administration and Council Comments

Ms. Glanz said it was going to be a fun-filled weekend. Friday would be Third Friday with the theme “Wheels” and they were extending the footprint down Main Street towards Mojo’s, having a car show and a lot of other features. There will be the Movie “Uncharted” on Friday night at the Amphitheater around dark. The Haitian Flag Day Festival was on Sunday Downtown from 2pm to 6pm. The next budget session was scheduled for 8:30 a.m. tomorrow.

Ms. Blake asked everyone to be kind to school buses. When officers have a car pulled over, please get as far away as possible in the far lane to keep them safe. There was also an urgent need on the Eastern Shore for blood. If healthy enough, please donate blood.

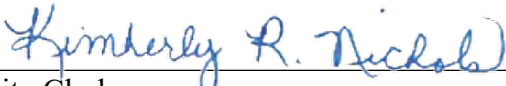
Ms. Gregory asked everyone to remember COVID was a real thing and the numbers were up again. Please get vaccinated or boosted.

Ms. Jackson commended all the seniors and their proms this weekend. She was proud to see the young people dressed and looking lovely. She reminded everyone about the dirt bike discussion meeting at VFW #10159 at 821 W. Main Street at 6 p.m.as there were serious concerns that needed addressing. There had to be some kind of leadership in place for them to help the City decide what could be done with the bikers.

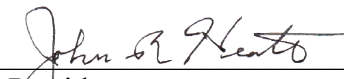
Mr. Boda said the Saturday was Hoppes on the River. Mr. Kitzrow would be taste testing everything and Ms. Glanz would be serving. He was looking forward to the City getting back into summer activities. There was a lot going on.

Adjournment of Work Session

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Boda adjourned the Work Session at 4:55 p.m.



City Clerk



Council President