

CITY OF SALISBURY
WORK SESSION
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Public Officials Present

Council President John “Jack” R. Heath
Council Vice-President Muir Boda
Councilwoman April Jackson

Mayor Jacob R. Day
Councilwoman Angela M. Blake
Councilwoman Michele Gregory

In Attendance

Infrastructure and Development Director Rick Baldwin, Field Operations Director Jana Potvin, Housing and Community Development Director Ron Strickler, Assistant City Clerk Julie English, Attorney Ashley Bosche, and members of the public.

On September 19, 2022 the Salisbury City Council convened at 4:30 p.m. in a hybrid Work Session in Council Chambers and on Zoom Conferencing Video.

Budget Amendment to appropriate additional funds for fuel and emergency repairs at the Marina

Field Operations Director Jana Potvin explained the need for additional fuel funds in the Marina budget to keep up with inflation. She projected an increase of \$10,000 would allow the Marina to operate through the rest of the current fiscal year. She also requested an additional \$10,000 to cover the water service. Ms. Potvin was hopeful that the money would cover the fuel for the remainder of the fiscal year. She responded to a question by Mr. Boda that they would use the City’s current contractor for the work on the sidewalk.

Mayor Day clarified that the good news and bad news was when expenses rise there was revenue associated with it for fuel and it is a budgeting challenge; however, the City remained the only consistent destination for getting fuel on the Wicomico River.

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

Resolution to execute a Quit Claim Deed with respect to Victoria Park Drive

Infrastructure and Development Director Rick Baldwin shared a request from Jason Malone of JM Holdings, LLC for a Quit Claim Deed associated with Victoria Park Drive. It would transfer the cul-de-sac to Mr. Malone to allow for the development of a complete street through West Street and then it would be transferred back to the City.

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

Budget Amendment for additional funds to construct the Street Scaping Division Circle project

Mr. Baldwin explained that additional funds were needed to get the Townsquare portion of the Circle and Division project put out for bid. The original funding was \$1.7 million and in the FY23 CIP there was \$900,000. This amendment would move a total of \$533,000 of unused funds from the Main Street project account and the Urban Greenway project account. With the additional funds, the total construction costs would be an estimated 3.2 million dollars.

At President Heath's request, Mr. Baldwin explained that Townsquare would be located at the top portion of Lot 1 directly across from the parking deck. It would go down to the canopy of the Gateway building.

Mr. Boda noted that this was an example of how well past projects were managed that it allowed the remaining funds to be used on current projects.

Mayor Day acknowledged the Eastern Shore Delegation and Governor Hogan for contributing to the projects mentioned above.

President Heath stated it was good to see tax dollars coming back to the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

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

Ordinance to accept grant funds for the Homeless Services Case Specialist Position

Housing and Community Development Director Ron Strickler addressed Council to accept funds from a Community Block Grant through the Wicomico County Local Behavioral Health Authority. The funds, in the amount of \$45,244, would be used to support the current position of Case Specialist and be transferred into a FY23 account.

Mr. Strickler shared that the target date to open Anne Street Village was the end of October.

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

Ordinance to amend Chapter 2.04 of the Salisbury City Code entitled "Ethics"

City Attorney Ashley Bosche briefed Council on the Ethics Code amendment. After meeting with the City of Salisbury Ethics Commission and receiving preliminary approval from the Maryland State Ethics Commission, she presented the ordinance with amendments to Chapter 2.04 of the Salisbury City Code. The primary changes included the addition of prevention of the use of retaliation tactics if someone were to file a complaint, as well as tidying up lobbying, gifts, and disclosures.

Ms. Bosche confirmed that she was working on updating the current financial disclosure form to reflect changes made to the code.

Ms. Bosche shared the City of Salisbury’s Ethics Commission’s request to have a public informative session and President Heath requested a presentation be made at a future meeting to better inform the Council and the public.

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

Administration and Council Comments

Mayor Day expressed his appreciation to the Council members, staff, and volunteers who came out to the community build and noted that there would be more opportunities for volunteers to assist.

Mr. Boda said he stopped by Anne Street over the weekend and was pleased with everything. He encouraged everyone to keep their dogs on a leash as some people have had their animals attacked by unleashed dogs. Not leashing your dog puts them in danger of being struck by a car. Lastly, he asked that people would pick up after their dogs.

Ms. Jackson apologized for not making it out to the build; she hadn’t been feeling well. She concurred with Mr. Boda that in the downtown area people were not picking up after their dogs. She also asked for continued prayers for her mother as she was still not well.

Ms. Blake asked for anyone who was healthy enough to please donate blood.


Ms. Gregory was amazed at how many people showed up to assist with the Anne Street project. She encouraged everyone to go get the booster that was available.

President Heath added that you could register online with Wicomico County Health Department on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for the booster. He seconded Ms. Blake as the blood supply was not where it should be and asked those that could to give blood. He shared his experience at Anne Street and was pleased to see that community members felt the same. The project made it easier for those needing an address to find a job.

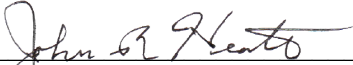
Ms. Jackson asked the parents of underaged children riding BIRD scooters to pay attention to what their children were doing. She pleaded for parents not to give them permission to ride these scooters as that would set a trap for them.

Adjournment/Convene in Special Meeting

With no further business to discuss, President Heath adjourned the Work Session at 4:55 p.m. and Council immediately convened in the Special Meeting.



City Clerk



Council President