

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 27, 2023

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

*Council President Muir W Boda
Council Vice President April Jackson
Councilwoman Michele Gregory*

*Mayor John R. Heath
Councilwoman Angela M. Blake
Councilwoman Megan Outten*

IN ATTENDANCE

City Administrator Julia Glanz, Deputy City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Procurement Director Jennifer Miller, Executive Administrative Assistant Jessie Turner, City Attorney Laura Hay, 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 Council Chambers. Council President Boda called the meeting to order. After the recital of the pledge to the flag, he invited Pastor Greg Carlson of Park Seventh-day Adventist Church to the podium to provide the City Invocation.

PRESENTATIONS

Endometriosis Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Heath presented the Proclamation to declare March 2023 as Endometriosis Awareness Month. Patients with this incurable, chronic illness must live with pain throughout their bodies, extreme fatigue, infertility, emotional and mental issues, and often other auto immune disorders. The Endometriosis Association, local support group Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore, and other groups promote awareness and support through education, diagnosis, research, and treatment to help guarantee hope for a better future for all those who suffer from it.

Shannon Hannawald, founder of Endo Warriors of the Eastern Shore, accepted the proclamation and presented her own touching story of how the disease affected her as a young woman.

Secretary of Kindness Certificate

Mayor Heath presented the Certificate of Recognition to Heather Brooks to recognize her new role as Secretary of Kindness and becoming the new leader of #kindSBY. Ms. Brooks served as a Kindness Commissioner for four years and has shown her dedication and passion for spreading kindness in the City of Salisbury. Former Secretary of Kindness Grace Murdoch wished Ms. Brooks good luck and presented her several fun gifts.

Grace Murdoch Day Proclamation

Mayor Heath then surprised Ms. Murdoch with a proclamation to declare February 27, 2023 as Grace Murdoch Day. Over the past four and a half years, Ms. Murdoch demonstrated countless acts of kindness and directed the following activities for the City: goody bags for MAC, Kindness Rocks Project, treats for clients and staff at Dove Pointe, honored teachers for Teacher of the

Year, donated art supplies to the Newton Street Project, Adopt A School, Celebrate Diversity Book Campaign, Dance for Kindness, and many other acts too numerous to mention.

Dominique Sessa Certificate

Mayor Heath presented Dominique Sessa the Certificate of Recognition to recognize her as 1st runner-up of Ms. Wheelchair Maryland 2023. Ms. Sessa has been an advocate for the disabled since she was 17 years old, has served as a Kindness Commissioner, serves as Chairwoman of the Assistive Technology Loan Program Board of Directors of MD, Commissioner for the MD Commission on Disabilities, and MD Advisory Council on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders.

Kindness Report

Secretary of Kindness Heather Brooks presented a PowerPoint to share #kindSBY's events last year including the Kindness Palooza & Dance for Kindness, Adopt-A-School Program, Random Acts of Kindness Week. Upcoming initiatives included MAC Center/Meals on Wheels Senior Gift and Dove Pointe stuffed animal giveaway. She then stated the goals of #kindSBY which included increasing the number of Kindness Commissioners, brainstorming new initiatives, promoting sponsorship opportunities, and encouraging community members to get involved.

Human Rights Award

Stephen Feliciano, Chair of the Human Rights Advisory Committee, presented the City of Salisbury 2022 Human Rights Award to Dominique Sessa. She thanked everyone for the award and said she was surprised twice this evening. Being a change maker was very important and not always easy. She also said that people had to be the change they wanted to see in the world.

Julia Glanz, 29th Mayor of Salisbury Day

President Boda presented City Administrator Julia Glanz with the proclamation to show the City's appreciation for her service and to wish her luck. Ms. Glanz first came to the Mayor's Office as an intern while she was a sophomore at Salisbury University, and then returned after graduation to become Assistant City Administrator, and two years later the City's first female City Administrator. In 2020 when Mayor Day's National Guard Unit deployed to the Horn of Africa, he appointed her as Acting Mayor to become the "29th Mayor" during the pandemic.

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous (5-0 vote) 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 on a motion and second by Ms. Jackson and Ms. Gregory, respectively.

- **Resolution No. 3221**- to approve the appointment of Shawn Jester to the Board of Appeals for term ending January 2026
- **Resolution No. 3222**- to approve the appointment of Maurice Ngwaba to the Board of Appeals for term ending January 2026

- **Resolution No. 3223-** to approve the appointment of Edward Torbert to the Board of Appeals for term ending January 2026
- **Resolution No. 3224-** to approve the appointment of William Hill to the Board of Appeals for term ending January 2026
- **Resolution No. 3225-** to approve the appointment of Lisa Campbell to the Disability Advisory Committee for term ending February 2026
- **Resolution No. 3226-** to approve the appointment of Robert Graham to the TRUTH Committee for the term ending February 2026
- **Resolution No. 3227-** to approve the appointment of Briana Curtis to the Youth Development Advisory Committee for term ending February 2026
- Manufacturing Exemption approval for the following due to equipment they purchased in 2021: DiCarlo Precision Instruments, Inc., 2021, K&L Microwave, Inc., Pepsi Bottling Ventures, LLC, Perdue Foods, LLC, and Spartech, LLC

President Boda thanked Shawn Jester, Maurice Mgwaba, Edward Torbert, William Hill, Lisa Campbell, Robert Graham, and Briana Curtis for volunteering to serve on the City boards and committees.

RESOLUTIONS- presented by City Administrator Julia Glanz

- **Resolution No. 3201-** proposing the annexation to the City of Salisbury of a certain area of land contiguous to and binding upon the Corporate Limits of the City of Salisbury to be known as “South Division Street Annexation”

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3201.

President Boda announced the Public Hearing would be held on March 27, 2023.

- **Resolution No. 3202-** proposing the annexation plan for the “South Division Street Annexation”

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3202.

- **Resolution No. 3228-** adopting a Capital Improvement Plan for the five-year period FY24-28

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3228. Ms. Jackson said that she would approve this resolution as long as her comments and questions from last week’s Work Session were heard and addressed.

- **Resolution No. 3229-** accepting a rifle forfeited by the Circuit Court for Wicomico County and adding such rifle to the Salisbury Police Department weapons inventory for use by the Salisbury Police Department Tactical Team

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Outten seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Resolution No. 3229.

ORDINANCES- presented by City Attorney Laura Hay

- **Ordinance No. 2779**- 2nd reading- to accept additional grant funds from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) Bay Restorations Fund (BRF) and to approve a budget amendment to the FY 2023 Water Sewer Fund Budget to appropriate such MDE BRF funds for chemicals and equipment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2779 for second reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2780**- 1st reading- approving a budget amendment of the City's Special Revenue Fund Budget and to accept and appropriate donated funds from the Bless Our Children Campaign for the Santa's Workshop Program

Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2780 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2781**- 1st reading- to accept grand funds from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore in the amount of \$7,500 for the Summer Youth Employment Program

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2781 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2782**- 1st reading- to accept additional SFY 2023 Homelessness Solutions Program funding in the amount of \$9,574 and to approve a budget amendment to the grant fund to appropriate these funds for the Homeless Services Case Specialist Position

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Outten seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2781 for first reading.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following comments were received from three members of the public:

- *Asked for the plans for the annexed property on the agenda, and Council informed speaker it was for student housing.*
- *Thanked Council for appointing him to the Board of Appeals*
- *Speaker said the final Comprehensive Development Plan was approved by Wicomico County for a new development consisting of 209 Town Homes on Parker Road. The area has traffic backups during certain parts of every day. He asked what was going to be done to handle the traffic on Parker Road. Mayor Heath said there was a traffic study done which concluded it could handle that amount of traffic.*

- *Speaker asked about cleaning up litter in the City and Council informed him about the Sustainability Advisory Committee and City cleanups.*
- *Council thanked speaker for coming forward to inquire about cleaning up the City.*

ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Heath announced a great need for blood in the area. He was happy a solution was found to the electricity problem on Anne Street, and hoped that they could be moving people in by the end of March. There were 24 homes with services, but there were 51 people on the waiting list. Wednesday was the public “Coffee With The Mayor” at the Bagel Bakery from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Gregory said there was an opening on the Disability Advisory Committee for anyone interested.

Vice President Jackson said that Black History was not just for the month of February, and our area was rich in it. Next month was Women’s History Month, so recognize women in Salisbury, MD who had made history. She wanted people to speak out like the young man did this evening.

Ms. Blake asked those healthy enough to donate blood. Call the Blood Bank on Mt. Hermon Road to donate plasma, red blood cells, platelets and whole blood. She also praised the young man for coming out to speak what was on his mind. What an evening with all of the kindness proclamations, awards and volunteers for committees. She thanked Ms. Glanz and said she would be missed.

Ms. Outten thanked everyone for the wonderful week on onboarding. She was excited to see Ms. Glanz do some wonderful things at the state level. There was so much Black history here and unfortunately not all was written. On March 14th the Wicomico Womens Commission was putting on “Bring Your Own Baby,” which was an opportunity for women to bring their babies to work.

President Boda recognized former President Von Siggers in the audience and thanked Ms. Glanz for her years of service and friendship.

MOTION TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

With no further business to discuss, at 7:22 p.m. President Boda called for a motion to convene in Closed Session. Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous. President Boda read the Closed Session would be held for the following reason: to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter under the authority of the Maryland Open Meetings Law, Annotated Code of Maryland General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(7).

MOTION TO CLOSE THE CLOSED SESSION / CONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

At 9:58 p.m. upon a motion and seconded by Ms. Jackson and Ms. Gregory, respectively, and approved by unanimous vote in favor, the Closed Session adjourned and Council immediately convened in Open Session whereby President Boda reported that Council had met in Closed Session and discussed negotiations concerning a legal matter.

The Open Session was then immediately adjourned.

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND
CLOSED SESSION (B)
FEBRUARY 13, 2023

TIME & PLACE: 6:56 p.m., Council Chambers, Government Office Building & Zoom
PURPOSE: to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals

VOTE TO CLOSE: Unanimous (4-0)

CITATION: Annotated Code of Maryland §3-305(b)(1)

PRESENT: Council President Muir W. Boda, Council Vice President April Jackson, Councilwoman Angela M. Blake, Councilwoman Michele Gregory, City Attorney Ashley Bosché, City Clerk Kimberly Nichols, Megan Outten, Brad Phillips, Chris Smith, Andrew Wilson, Joe Venosa, Randy Taylor

ABSENT: Mayor John R. Heath

The City Council convened in Legislative Session at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Government Office Building and via Zoom Video Conferencing. At 6:56 p.m. President Boda called for a motion to enter into Closed Session to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals under the authority of the Maryland Open Meetings Law, Annotated Code of Maryland General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(1).


Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to convene in Closed Session.

City Council interviewed the individuals and reached unanimous consensus to return to the next open meeting prepared to vote for the candidate of their choice.


At 9:41 p.m. Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous (4-0) to adjourn the Closed Session.

Council immediately convened in Open Session and President Boda reported Council had met in Closed Session to discuss the appointment of an individual.

The Open Session was then adjourned.



City Clerk



Council President