

CITY OF SALISBURY
WORK SESSION
MAY 15, 2023

Public Officials Present

Council President Muir Boda
Council Vice-President April Jackson
Councilmember Michele Gregory

Mayor John R. Heath
Councilmember Angela Blake
Councilmember Megan Outten

In Attendance

City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Assistant City Administrator Tom Stevenson, Finance Director Keith Cordrey, Sgt. Scott Elliott, Col. Dave Meienschein, Business Development Director Laura Soper, Assistant Chief Rob Frampton, City Planner Brian Soper, Assistant City Clerk Julie English, City Attorneys Heather Konyar and Ashley Bosché, and interested members of the public

On May 15, 2023 the Salisbury City Council convened at 4:30 p.m. in a Work Session in Conference Room 306 of the Government Office Building.

The following is a synopsis of the items discussed in Work Session.

Budget amendment to appropriate funds for the Comprehensive Plan Project and the Zoning Code Project

Brian Soper, City Planner, introduced a budget amendment to appropriate funds for the Comprehensive Plan Project and the Zoning Code Project. He explained that when the budget for those projects was initially done it was prior to the inflation seen recently. The amendment was to ensure there were sufficient funds prior to the completion of the bidding process.

Ms. Blake thanked Mr. Soper for his work and acknowledged the good employees the City had.

President Boda requested a status on the Zoning Code Project. Mr. Soper responded that it was put on hold until the Comprehensive Plan was updated.

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

Resolution to modify the City's Sustainable Community Boundaries to include 510 West Road

Business Development Director Laura Soper addressed Council for a resolution to support the addition of 510 West Road, formerly Campbell's Soup plant, to the City's Sustainable Community Designation. The request came from the property owner and

Wicomico County. The County applied for and received a grant for \$500,000 from the Maryland State DHCD Strategic Demolition Fund. In order to receive the funds the property had to be located in the Sustainable Community boundary which was administered through the City. The pre-annexation agreement was obtained and recorded in the land records.

Ms. Jackson asked if Brett Davis would be the one to develop the property. Mrs. Soper confirmed he would. Ms. Jackson then asked what their plans were. Mrs. Soper responded that portions of the factory were falling apart and the roof was caving in. The short term plan was to then lease it to tenants. The long term plan was to develop affordable housing on the property.

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

Budget amendment to accept \$99,633.55 grant for license plate recognition equipment

Sgt. Scott Elliott explained that the grant funds referenced in the budget amendment would be used to purchase two mobile systems to be installed in two patrol vehicles, along with two radar signs that would be stationed throughout the City. The radar signs would indicate the speed of passing vehicles as well as read the license plates.

President Boda asked if Amber Alert's would be communicated through the system as well. Sgt. Elliott explained that all the information the readers gather would be transferred to the State of Maryland Analysis Division. These readers would assist in investigations and help track the location of individuals.

Col. Meienschein added that the systems would be deployed in high crime areas and the information would be relayed to the department in real time.

Ms. Jackson questioned where the readers would be installed. Sgt. Elliott explained that the two mobile systems would be installed in two police vehicles and the signs would be on trailers allowing them to be relocated to various areas depending upon situations that came up. He also shared that the readers would provide the department with information on vehicles such as stolen vehicles, expired or suspended registrations, if the owner of the vehicle had a warrant, and if a license was suspended or revoked.

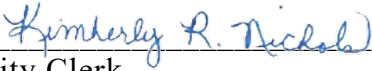
Col. Meienschein added that the grant funds were part of a state wide initiative to expand technology that was very expensive. He also explained that one reader would only scan one lane. If there were a three lane highway, it would require three readers to scan each lane. In addition, this system would allow the Salisbury Police Department to interconnect with other jurisdictions in Maryland.

Ms. Blake noted that these systems would improve the safety of the public and the officers.

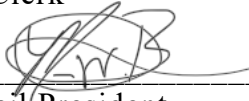
Council reached unanimous consensus to advance the legislation to legislative agenda.

Adjournment / Convene in Special Meeting

With no further business to discuss, President Boda adjourned the Work Session at 4:43 p.m. and Council immediately convened in the scheduled Special Meeting.



City Clerk



Council President