

CITY OF SALISBURY, MARYLAND

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 2023

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

*Council President D'Shawn M. Doughty
Council Vice-President Angela M. Blake
Councilmember Michele Gregory*

*Mayor Randolph J. Taylor
Councilmember April R. Jackson
Councilmember Sharon C. Dashiell*

IN ATTENDANCE

City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Acting Chief Darrin Scott, Deputy Chief Chris O'Barsky, Acting Deputy Chief Rob Frampton, Water Works Director Cori Cameron, Field Operations Director Mike Dryden, Police Chief Dave Meienschein, City Attorney Ashley Bosché, City Clerk Kim Nichols, and members of the public

CITY INVOCATION – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – INVOCATION

The City Council met in Legislative Session at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Salisbury Headquarters Building and via Zoom. Council President D'Shawn M. Doughty called the meeting to order and invited everyone to recite the pledge to the flag.

Demetria Marshall Leonard was invited to the podium to provide the Invocation followed by a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Greg Bassett.

PRESENTATIONS- *presented by Mayor Randolph J. Taylor and Acting Chief Darrin Scott*

- ***Fire Department Citizen Commendation Awards***
Acting Chief Darrin Scott presented the Citizens Commendation Award and Mayor Taylor presented the Mayor's Award for Valor to Haley Todd and Mandi Smith for performing CPR on the driver of a tow truck after an automobile collision. Emergency crews arrived, assumed patient care and quickly defibrillated the patient and restored his pulse and respiration. The patient made a full recovery.
- *Acting Chief Scott also presented the Commendation Award and pin to the following Fire Department personnel: Christina Justice, Madison Savage, Zach Bridges, Corey Mitchell, Logan Helmuth, Pat Andrews, Austin White, and Corray Heath. Matt Munday and Emily Kitching were absent.*

ADOPTION OF LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

President Doughty called for a motion to adopt the legislative agenda. Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve the legislative agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA- *presented by City Clerk Kim Nichols*

On a motion and seconded by Ms. Jackson and Ms. Blake, respectively, the following Consent

Agenda items were unanimously approved:

- *October 23, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes*
- *November 6, 2023 Work Session Minutes*
- *November 6, 2023 Closed Session Minutes*
- **Resolution No. 3309**- *approving the appointment of Amy Stewart to the Youth Development Advisory Committee for the term ending December 2026*
- **Resolution No. 3310**- *approving the appointment of Urjit Chakraborty to the Youth Development Advisory Committee for the term ending December 2026*
- **Resolution No. 3311**- *approving the re-appointment of Greg Tyler to the Disability Advisory Committee for the term ending December 2026*

President Doughty asked if any of the committee appointees were present either in the room or on Zoom. He thanked Dr. Stewart for volunteering, who was present via Zoom.

ORDINANCES- *presented by City Attorney Ashley Bosche*

- **Ordinance No. 2841**- *2nd reading- approving a budget amendment of the FY2024 General Fund Budget to appropriate funds to the Salisbury Fire Department's Operating Budget*

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2841 for second reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2842**- *1st reading- authorizing the Mayor to appropriate funds for the Naylor Mill Water Main Extension Project*

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2842 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2843**- *1st reading- approving a budget amendment of the FY2024 General Fund Budget to appropriate funds to the Department of Field Operations Budget*

Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2843 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2844**- *1st reading- to accept funds received from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance for the purchase of protective vests for police officers*

Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2844 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2845**- 1st reading- to accept state grant funds from the Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services in the amount of \$4,000.00 under the FY24 Police Recruitment and Retention

Ms. Gregory moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2845 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2846**- 1st reading- to accept grant funds received for the Mental Health Co-Responder Project from the Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth and Victim Services through the Byrne-Justice Assistance Program

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Blake seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2846 for first reading.

- **Ordinance No. 2847**- 1st reading- approving a budget amendment of the city’s FY24 Budget to accept and appropriate donated funds from the Community Foundation of the Eastern Shore Winter Wonderland of Lights fund to support the cost of the annual holiday lighting displays at Salisbury’s City Park

Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve Ordinance No. 2847 for first reading.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following comments were provided by one member of the public:

- *Speaker, representing the Wicomico County Education Foundation, spoke to share information on the Foundation.*

ADMINISTRATION AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Kitzrow shared that the Salisbury Police Department celebrated their 125th Anniversary last Thursday. The same evening last week Housing and Community Development held their Santa’s Winter Wonderland downtown. 176 vehicles came through to receive over 400 toys. He thanked the community partners and Toys for Tots for making the evening possible.

Mayor Taylor shared he had met with most of the City Department Heads this week and thanked everyone for their cooperation and well wishes.

Ms. Blake asked to keep our first responders and police officers in our thoughts and prayers. Please be mindful when you are out and about. If you are healthy enough, please donate blood.

Ms. Jackson was troubled about a comment mentioned in last week’s Work Session about the City and Community Centers not being baby sitters. She said we were baby sitters and should be good stewards of our City to include our children, youth and adult citizens. We were the village to ensure there were safe activities in our community and should always put our youth and

children first. It was mainly our children who committed the crimes in the news in our community. Stewardship was not just allocating money to the proper places but ensuring our citizens were safe. She apologized to anyone offended by the statement because she was also offended. She also announced there would be a Town Hall sponsored by Wicomico County NAACP on December 14th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to talk about Georgetown.

Ms. Gregory announced she attended the very first game for Salisbury State. They played so hard but unfortunately were not successful but they brought to community together.

Ms. Dashiell said she was thrilled to be there and was looking forward to working with everyone. She thanked Ms. Jackson for guiding her through her first meeting.

Mr. Doughty said Council was happy to have Ms. Dashiell. He announced the Truitt Community Center in District 2 had Open Gym every Saturday in December. He also asked everyone to be respectful, to be good citizens, and to do something kind for someone this week.

ADJOURNMENT / MOTION TO CONVENE IN CLOSED SESSION

With no further business to discuss, the Legislative Session adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

President Doughty immediately called for a motion to convene in 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, and to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto under the authority of the Maryland Open Meetings Law, Annotated Code of Maryland General Provisions Article § 3-305(b)(1)(3).

Ms. Blake moved, Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was unanimous to convene in Closed Session. The public exited the chambers, and Council convened in Closed Session at 6:38 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION / RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

At 7:10 p.m. Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded, and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the Closed Session.

STATEMENT TO PUBLIC / ADJOURNMENT

At 7:12 p.m., after reconvening in Open Session, President Doughty reported that Council returned to Open Session after convening in Closed Session. While in Closed Session, Council interviewed the Fire Chief candidate and discussed the acquisition of two parcels of property in accordance with the Annotated Code of Maryland § 3-305(b)(1)(3). The Open Session was then adjourned.



City Clerk



Council President