



LEGISLATIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Council President D'Shawn M. Doughty, Vice President Angela M. Blake, Councilwoman April R. Jackson, Councilwoman Sharon C. Dashiell, Mayor Randy Taylor

PUBLIC OFFICIALS ABSENT

Councilwoman Michele R. Gregory

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

City Clerk Julie English, City Attorney Ashley Bosché

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The City Council convened in Legislative Session on September 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Government Office Building Council Chambers, Room 301, located at 125 N. Division Street. After reviewing the emergency exit instructions, President Doughty asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Pastor Greg Morris from the Parkway Church of God was called forward to provide the Invocation.

PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

President Doughty presented the meeting agenda and called for a motion and a second to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Blake motioned and Ms. Dashiell seconded. The vote was 4-0 to approve the legislative agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

President Doughty called for a motion and a second to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Jackson motioned and Ms. Dashiell seconded.

City Clerk Julie English presented the following items on the consent agenda:

- August 5, 2024 Work Session Minutes
- August 5, 2024 Closed Session #1 Minutes

The consent agenda was approved by council with a vote of 4-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – presented by Ashley Bosché

- **Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-1** – to amend SC1-1 of the City Charter to add that all references to the “City” or “Salisbury” in the City Charter and Municipal Code shall mean the “City of Salisbury,” a municipal corporation of the State of Maryland

Ms. Blake motioned and Ms. Dashiell seconded. President Doughty opened the public hearing at 6:08 p.m. Having no comments, the hearing was closed at 6:08 p.m.

The vote was 4-0 to approved Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-1.

- **Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-2** – to amend SC2-2 of the City Charter to further clarify the qualification requirements to run for Council and maintain a seat on Council

Ms. Blake motioned and Ms. Dashiell seconded. President Doughty opened the public hearing at 6:10 p.m. Having no comments, the public hearing closed at 6:10 p.m.

The vote was 4-0 to approve Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-2.

- **Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-3** to amend SC3-2 of the City Charter to further clarify the qualification requirements to run for the Office of Mayor

Ms. Jackson motioned and Ms. Dashiell seconded. President Doughty opened the Public Hearing at 6:11pm. The Mayor requested clarification on the difference between “registered” and “qualified.” Ms. Bosché explained the difference. Having no further comments, the hearing was closed at 6:12 p.m.

The vote was 4-0 to approve Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-3

- **Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-4** – to amend Section 6 of the City Charter entitled “Elections” to amend SC6-6 governing nominations and SC6-9 governing the election of the Mayor and Council and adding sections providing the requirements for

Write- in Campaigns and Certificated of Withdrawal

Ms. Blake motioned and Ms. Jackson seconded. President Doughty opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. One individual was sworn in providing the following comment.

He commented on how the wording may be intimidating and that it may prevent individuals from participating in government. They wondered if there may be a simpler, less intimidating approach without losing the documents effectiveness. Having no further comments, the hearing was closed at 6:17 p.m.

The vote was 4-0 to approve Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2024-4

ORDINANCE – presented by City Attorney Ashley Bosché

- **Ordinance No. 2889** – 2nd reading – amending Chapter 1.08 of the Salisbury City Code, entitled “Election Board,” to adopt recommendations made by the City of Salisbury Election Board regarding the application for Mail-in Ballots and the canvassing of ballots

Ordinance No. 2889 was approved for second reading on a motion by Ms. Jackson and a second by Ms. Dashiell. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

- **Ordinance No. 2890** - 2nd reading – amending Chapter 1.12 of the Salisbury City Code, entitled “City Election Campaign Advertising and Finance”

Ordinance No. 2890 was approved for second reading with a motion and second by Ms. Jackson and Ms. Dashiell, respectively. The vote was 4-0 in favor.

- **Ordinance No. 2891**- 1st reading – authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Maryland State Arts Council for the purpose of accepting grant funds in the amount of \$41,002 and to approve a budget amendment to the Grant Fund to appropriate these funds for expenses associated with the Maryland Fold Festival

Ms. Blake motioned and Ms. Jackson seconded, and the vote was 4-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2891

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following public comments were made:

- Speaker #1 was glad to see Ms. Jackson back after being out ill. He applauded Mayor Taylor for Mitchell Landing. He was not in favor of doubling the density.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Mayor Taylor stated the Maryland Folk Festival was a success. He appreciated the staff, volunteers and sponsors.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Jackson was glad to be back. She shared the plans for a new pavilion in the Waterside Community Park and that more Park and Recreation Committee members and stakeholders were needed. Youth could participate with parental permission. She stated that the meetings were held on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m.

Ms. Dashiell mentioned the “Perpetual” sculpture dedication featuring rings that symbolize rebirth and how it was striking, especially at night. She added that she attended the State of the University Address which focused on community involvement that was given by Salisbury University President Carolyn Lepre. Ms. Dashiell mentioned the Legislative Breakfast she attended, highlighted the need for public participation in lobbying for bills. She shared that Junior Achievement celebrated it’s 40th year and was looking for volunteers to help students with financial education.

Ms. Blake welcomed Ms. Jackson back. She noted that she was working with the City Clerk on updated Rules of Order. She asked those healthy enough to please donate blood and plasma and consider being an organ donor.

President Doughty stated that once the Rules of Order were ready, they would be presented to the public for review. He shared that he had also been working with the City Clerk to make changes to the public comment process. He gave a shout out to the City Clerk for reaching the goal of getting the agenda packets out by the deadline. He shared about attending the Folk Festival and the inauguration for Dr. Deb Casey. He advocated for the upcoming neighborhood walk. He added that the Night Watch Childcare LLC was moving from Riverside Drive to Phillip Morris Drive.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the Legislative Session adjourned at 6:39 p.m.


City Clerk


Council President



**CLOSED SESSION
MEETING SUMMARY
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Council President D'Shawn M. Doughty, Vice President Angela M. Blake, Councilwoman April R. Jackson, Councilwoman Michele R. Gregory, Councilwoman Sharon C. Dashiell, Mayor Randy Taylor

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, City Clerk Julie English, City Attorney Ashley Bosché, City Attorney Heather Konyar

Following the adjournment of the Legislative Session, the City Council convened in a Closed Session on September 9, 2024 at 8:04 p.m. in the Government Office Building Council Chambers, Room 301, located at 125 N. Division Street. The Closed Session was to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation as authorized by the State Government Article, § 3-305(b)(7) and (8). The topic of discussion was for council to receive an update and legal advice on the PFAS lawsuit.

City Attorney Heather Konyar, and PFAS Attorney Carla Burke Pickrel, with Baron & Budd, P.C., provided an update to the council regarding the PFAS lawsuits. An explanation was given as to what PFAS was and where it could be found. The main concerns of PFAS were shared, along with the deadlines that were set by the court.

Counsel provided a recommendation to council and unanimous consensus was received from the council to continue moving forward.

At 8:23 p.m. Ms. Jackson moved, Ms. Gregory seconded and the vote was unanimous to adjourn the Closed Session. Council immediately returned to open session and President Doughty reported that Council had met in Closed Session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter and to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation as authorized by State Government Article § 3-305(b)(7) and (8). The open session adjourned at 8:24 p.m.