



LEGISLATIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES MARCH 24, 2025

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

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

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

City Administrator Andy Kitzrow, Fire Chief Rob Frampton, Procurement Director Jennifer Miller, Assistant Director of Arts, Business and Culture Scott Roberts, Events and Culture Manager Caroline O'Hare, City Attorney Ashley Bosché, City Clerk Julie English

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

The City Council convened in Legislative Session on March 24, 2025 at 6:09 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.

PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

INVOCATION - Pastor Greg Morris, Parkway Church of God

President Doughty entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Jackson motioned and Ms. Gregory seconded.

CONSENT AGENDA – presented by City Clerk Julie English

- September 16, 2024 Work Session Minutes

The vote was 4-0 to approve the consent agenda as presented.

AWARD OF BIDS – presented by Procurement Director Jennifer Miller

President Doughty entertained a motion to award the bid. Ms. Gregory motioned and Ms. Dashiell seconded.

- ITB 25-118 Salisbury Fire Department Pumper Engine \$1,283,886.00
- ITB 25-116 Salisbury Fire Department Station 1 Kitchen Remodel \$145,080.00

The vote was 4-0 in favor.

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS - Presented by Procurement Director Jennifer Miller

President Doughty entertained a motion to declare the items listed below as surplus. Ms. Jackson motioned and Ms. Gregory seconded.

- Salisbury Fire Department – defibrillators, radios, and radio accessories

The vote was 4-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION - presented by City Clerk Julie English

- **Resolution No. 3384** - to show support for the Bird City Maryland Initiative

Ms. Dashiell motioned and Ms. Gregory seconded. The vote was 4-0 to approve Resolution No. 3384.

ORDINANCE – presented by City Attorney Ashley Bosché

- **Ordinance No. 2928** – 1st Reading – approving a budget amendment to appropriate funds for the 2024 and 2025 Maryland Folk Festivals

Ms. Gregory motioned and Ms. Jackson seconded. The vote was 4-0 to approve Ordinance No. 2928.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following public comments were made:

- Speaker #1 addressed the legal conflict between the Salisbury City Code and state law that currently prevents the Board of Zoning Appeals from approving variances related to increased residential density. He emphasized the importance of transparency and public communication throughout the process.

- Speaker #2 recognized former Black councilmembers, reflected on her own contributions as a councilmember and encouraged continued recognition of Black leadership.
- Speaker #3 expressed his frustration over not receiving the agendas through the media list. He urged the Council to prioritize transparency and accountability and requested, for the third time, to be reinstated on the email list.
- Speaker #4 expressed her gratitude for the dedication and involvement of the City leaders.
- Speaker #5 shared concerns about experiencing discrimination within his business. He also expressed concern about a recent code enforcement inspection, alleging that health and safety issues were overlooked to benefit a landlord, and reported ongoing delays in police response time in his neighborhood.
- Speaker #6 asked if the Folk Festival would be relocated due to the proposed new building development downtown. He also shared that he was working on a film project based on his life in Salisbury from 2005-2012 and was seeking historical photos of the City.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Mr. Kitzrow highlighted upcoming City events, including Hops on the River and a new Easter Jeep event. He also expressed his appreciation for the approval of funding for the Maryland Folk Festival.

Mayor Taylor invited the public to attend the Vietnam Veteran Celebration taking place on Saturday. He encouraged both veterans and non-veterans to join and expressed his enthusiasm for the event.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ms. Jackson requested an update on the long-delayed memorial garden at 617 W. Isabella Street honoring Girty Shockley. She also expressed frustration over the lack of communication regarding the Hometown Hero Banner project. She raised concerns about tractor-trailer traffic damaging residential streets and requested signage to restrict trucks in certain neighborhoods. Lastly, she invited everyone to the Vietnam Veterans Day event.

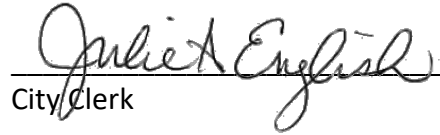
Ms. Gregory requested improved signage and stricter enforcement of fines for improperly parked vehicles in downtown disabled parking spaces. Additionally, she reported a recent meeting with Council President and Senator Alsobrooks through the Eastern Shore Mayor's Association. She mentioned she discussed local municipal concerns including grant funding and appreciated the Senator's openness to dialogue and support.

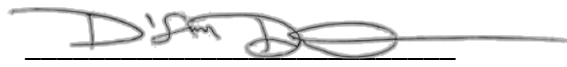
Ms. Dashiell noted that PAC 14 moved to cable channel 4 and highlighted the Junior Achievement Inspire event, which connected students with local industries to encourage them to remain on the Shore. She shared her participation in a zoo event and mentioned the upcoming retirement of Chaska. She encouraged Jeep owners to join the upcoming Easter Jeep event, as well as Earth Day activities and a race supporting the bison exhibit.

President Doughty highlighted the recent “Council President for a Day” event, where a local student toured various city departments, including fire, police, and the zoo, and participated in legislative activities. He expressed enthusiasm for expanding partnerships with public schools and noted upcoming collaborations with the zoo, including plans related to a new veterinary school. He noted that the clerk’s office was working on a new software program to improve agenda access. He reported a productive meeting with Senator Alsobrooks and emphasized efforts to strengthen regional cooperation through the Eastern Shore Mayor’s Association to address shared challenges like federal funding. He also mentioned ongoing work on the “Adopt-a-Road” program. Mr. Doughty shared excitement about engaging with local students who proposed innovative ideas for urban development and expressed a commitment to involve younger generations in City planning.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the Legislative Session adjourned at 7:02 p.m.


City Clerk


Council President