

CITY OF SALISBURY
WORK SESSION
NOVEMBER 21, 2011

Present

Council President Terry E. Cohen
Councilwoman Laura Mitchell*
Councilman Timothy K. Spies

Council Vice President Deborah S. Campbell
Councilwoman Eugenie P. Shields*

*Mitchell arrived 1:39 p.m.; Shields arrived 2:00 p.m.

In Attendance

City Clerk Brenda Colegrove, Mayor James Ireton, Jr., City Administrator John Pick, Assistant City Administrator Loré Chambers, Police Chief Barbara Duncan, Public Works Director Teresa Gardner, Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance Director Tom Stevenson, Billy Sterling, Dave Ryan (SWED)

The City Council convened in a work session at 1:30 p.m. in Conference Room 306 of the Government Office Building.

Economic development discussion

Salisbury/Wicomico Economic Development, Inc. Director Dave Ryan participated in a discussion involving the economic development status in the community, opportunities/incentives to attract new businesses to the area and marketability of properties such as the old fire house, The Bricks and Linens of the Week property. Mr. Ryan questioned if leasing of the old firehouse had been considered. In regards to the Linens of the Week property, Mr. Ryan believed its marketability would be increased if more demolition and clean-up took place on the site. Mr. Ryan was asked to give further thought to the Linens of the Week property and provide feedback to Council.

Follow-up discussion on changes to Title 15 regarding rental inspections

Copies of Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance Director Tom Stevenson's memos from September 26, 2011 and October 20, 2011 are attached and made a part of these minutes. The consensus of Council was to 1) have inspections at turnover rather than the current random and mandatory system and 2) have licensing and registration or certificate of occupancy – must agree to allow inspection (subject to questions clarified through legal). Questions/tasks to be addressed included the following:

- What would be the sanction(s) for lack of notification to Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance to inspect at turnover?
- What would be the sanction(s) if the property was not inspected?
- Tom Stevenson to compare the City's standards with HUD's.

- Paul Wilber to opine on the College Park federal case – not sure it provides a blanket legal basis for what the Council is discussing – seemed to be geared toward administrative search warrants.
- Advice from Paul Wilber on administrative search warrants.

Election redistricting/reapportionment planning

A copy of the information previously provided to Council at the November 14 regular meeting is attached and made a part of these minutes. Suggestions and questions from Council's discussion included:

- Public input meetings at different location (i.e., Firehouse on Cypress Street)
- Requested a map showing the breakdown of population (greater than 50% African Americans, less than 50% African Americans and the zeros) without the district colors and lines
- Clarification if houses were included on both sides of the street when the district line was split down the middle of the street (i.e., Homer Street, Jefferson Street, Middle Blvd., Virginia Avenue)
- Export data to Excel spreadsheet
- What criteria should be considered in developing a plan in addition to the minority percentage (i.e., voting age population, minority voting age population)?
- Should a consultant be used (no funds budgeted; availability of a consultant)?
- Utilization of other resources – Office of Civil Rights in the Governor's Office, PACE from Salisbury University, Department of Justice, State Board of Elections, Wicomico County Board of Elections
- Time frame if having to go back to court
- Would a new plan need to be in place by the 2013 election?

Policy development for off-duty uniformed police security

Police Chief Barbara Duncan joined Council for discussion. A copy of the Law Enforcement Services Agreement with the Centre at Salisbury is attached and made a part of these minutes. There was unanimous consensus for Chief Duncan, the City Attorney and Administration to work on a policy for Council to execute which authorizes the mayor to move the agreements forward. Mrs. Campbell suggested that the city attorney look at the language in the termination clause to determine if additional language was needed.

Onley/Bateman matrix review

A copy of the Onley/Bateman Intersection matrix and an excerpt from the September 6, 2011 work session are attached and made a part of these minutes. Public Works Director Teresa Gardner reviewed Option 1 and associated costs.

Scott Jensen, from Salisbury University, asked Council to put together what funding they wanted the University to participate in (i.e., lighting, additional crosswalks). He suggested that Jeff Downs (engineer from Salisbury University) work with Mrs. Gardner regarding any pedestrian configuration. Councilman Spies suggested moving the recycling bins on Avery Street to Wayne Street.

Council unanimously consented to Option 1 with 1) the crosswalk preferably closer to Bateman Street (north of the intersection as opposed to south of the intersection at Onley); 2) installing

delineators on Bateman or something nicer if the University funds improvements; 3) Bateman to be one-way going west and two-way once it reaches Wayne Street; 4) shaving off a bit of the northeast corner for turning purposes without making it pedestrian unfriendly; 5) striping and crosswalk across Onley; 6) leaving it up to Mrs. Gardner and the University's engineer on the possibility of another crosswalk and shaving further from the ball field side; 7) street lighting; 8) traffic calmers on Onley; and 9) possibility of some shaving on Division Street to accommodate three lanes.

Follow-up discussion on Towing (RFP for police towing; licensing/regulations for general towing)

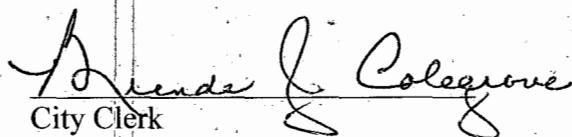
Attached and made part of these minutes are copies of the ordinances that resulted from the work group. A discussion ensued as to whether to proceed with an RFP approach for the police and city-initiated tows. Chief Duncan related that she would like to see something in place quickly. She suggested implementing the ordinance now and still work on the RFP process.

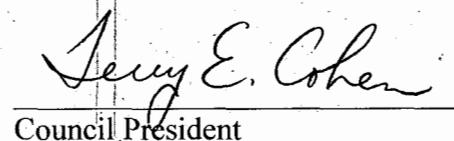
There was unanimous consensus to move forward with the ordinance as soon as possible (any further questions to be sent to Administration within two weeks) and to have an evaluation period of 120 days (March 19, 2012) with an interim report from the Chief in 60 days. The general towing ordinance can be separated out from the police and city-initiated tows. City Administrator John Pick to ask the City Attorney if he can suggest someone to address the regulatory transportation issues.

General discussion/upcoming agendas

Downtown events – Mr. Pick to check with the City Attorney to determine if a budget amendment is necessary to transfer the funds from Community Promotions to the Mayor's Office.

The work session adjourned at 7:32 p.m.


City Clerk


Council President