

**Aberdeen City Council Meeting
March 5, 2007**

OPENING:

Roll Call: The Aberdeen City Council Meeting roll was called with the following results:

Present: Mayor Simmons, Council President Hiob, Councilwoman Elliott, Councilmen Kupferman, and Yensan

Also Present: Mr. Miller, Ms. Grover, and Chief Rudy

Mayor Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Pastor Kenneth Telsee of True Joy Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council President Hiob.

Pastor Telsee invited everyone to participate in the 10K Race on May 5th. This event is being held in conjunction with Unity in the Community Day. The Race will begin at 7:00a.m. and further information will be available in the near future. Pastor Telsee said participants, sponsors, and volunteers are needed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Minutes of the February 26, 2007, meeting were approved as submitted.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Aberdeen Lions – Ms. Linda Baine, and Ms. Kathy Ruth

Mayor Simons noted that he and Council President Hiob will be on Mr. Mark Schlottman's radio show tomorrow. Mr. Schlottman is also very active in the Lions Club.

Ms. Baine and Ms. Ruth presented stuffed animals to Chief Rudy for the Police Department to give to children as a consolation when traumatic situations occur. These toys will also be given to ambulance crews for children involved in other situations.

Mayor Simmons said the police arrested a husband and wife in Wal Mart accused of shoplifting and the small child with them was traumatized. One of these toys would have been helpful for the child.

Chief Rudy thanked Ms. Baine, Ms. Ruth, and the Lions Club for their donation.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

None

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Zoning

A. Preliminary Site Plan for Aberdeen Fire Station, No. 3, Aberdeen Thruway

Ms. Grover stated that the proposed Fire Station is to be located on Aberdeen Thruway between Beards Hill Road and Paradise Road. The existing fire station is approximately 1,500 sq. ft. and is scheduled to be demolished. A new one/two story building will be built with 25 parking spaces. The total square footage of the new building will be 6,300 sq. ft. The facility will house the equipment, an office, a kitchen, bunk, and storage areas. The Planning Commission has given their approval to this Plan. The Board of Appeals has acted favorably on the requested special exceptions.

Mr. Paul Edmeads, the architect, noted that Mr. Rick Kosko of the Aberdeen Fire Department, the City, and the Fire Department agreed on the new site and Plans. Mr. Edmeads said the traffic pattern on Aberdeen Thruway will maintain the medium. The facility will be operating as a drive-through. The Fire Department in conjunction with the State Highway Administration will investigate and make any necessary corrections to traffic lights for emergency response.

Mr. Kosko stated that the current building is 50 years old and contains 1,500 sq. ft. which is too small for the equipment involved. The new building will house a paid crew and/or a sleep-in crew, bathroom facilities, a kitchen, recreation room, exercise room, and storage area. Harford County standards for the building have been complied with. Mr. Kosko feels this project is necessary for the safety of the City and the timing is also good for BRAC.

Councilwoman Elliott asked when construction would begin; she was told it would begin as soon as possible.

Council President Hiob asked if SHA has approved the new entrance and exit; he was told this request was being processed. He noted that light coordination was needed. Those involved are aware of this situation and lights will be geared for emergencies. There could possibly be a flashing light which could be changed as needed in the future. Council President Hiob said current drainage is a problem; he was told the new plans would have the water drain to a storm water management facility. He feels this is a good location for the new fire house.

Councilman Yensan asked the plans for the small fire station in the Historic District. He was told it would continue as it is currently.

Mr. Kosko said 3 fire houses were needed because of the possibility of trains blocking access to fire scenes.

A motion was made by Councilman Yensan and seconded by Council President Hiob to approve the Preliminary Site Plan for Aberdeen Fire Station, No. 3, Aberdeen Thruway.

The motion was passed with a vote of 5 – yes.

4. Business from the Chief of Police

Chief Rudy reported that the Rapid Response Team recently executed two drug related search warrants successfully.

5. Business from the Director of Finance

None

6. Business from the Director of Public Works

None

7. Business from the City Manager

None

8. Business from the Council

Council President Hiob reported that legislation is currently being considered for the proposed Hotel Tax. He encouraged everyone to listen to Aberdeen Happenings tomorrow and contact their State Senators and Delegates to ask for their support.

Councilman Kupferman represented the City at a Ribbon Cutting at the HEAT Center for the Discovery Cart Company. They produce a self-contained cart which contains technology products. Every school in Harford County will be supplied with one of these carts. Councilman Kupferman noted that this is a unique product.

9. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Simmons thanked Councilman Yensan and Chief Rudy for testifying in Annapolis on Bills related to Gang Activity and the Hotel Tax. Representation is important to the City with legislators.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Bob Hartman, 226 Paradise Road

Mr. Hartman asked if there will be a sidewalk at the new fire house. Mayor Simmons will check and report back next week.

2. Mr. Don Kempler, 411 Grace Lake Way

Mr. Kempler asked the Budget amount for the new fire house. He also wondered if there would be any County or State financial help. Mayor Simmons will report back next week with this information.

Mr. Kempler would like to know the status of the design on the Bay Wells. Mr. Miller said meetings will be held with the Army to review the report. After this is completed the report will be available to the citizens. More and better water sources must be studied for the least amount of treatment required. Mayor Simmons assured the citizens that the report would be available to them before a decision is made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45p.m.