

**Aberdeen City Council Meeting
October 29, 2007**

OPENING:

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

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Doug Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning & Community Development
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Randy Rudy, Chief of Police

Mayor Simmons called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Pastor Melvin Taylor, Word of Faith Outreach Ministries Church and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by four Boy Scouts from various Harford County troops.

The minutes of the October 22, 2007 council meeting were approved as submitted.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Mayor's Life Saving Medal - Mayor S. Fred Simmons

This medal was recommended by Officer First Class Amy Adams and was presented to five year old Edgar David Erby, III for placing a call to the Emergency Operation Center on behalf of his mother who was in diabetic shock and who fully recovered.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Resolution No. 07-4 Annexation Plan, 952 Gilbert Road LLC

City Manager, Mr. Miller, stated that there was a new House Bill, Number 1141, which alters the way annexations are processed. Due to this, we need to adopt an annexation plan for every annexation. The plan was sent to the allied planning agencies and response comes from the Department of Planning. The public hearing was advertised in "The Record" on October 12, 2007 on the annexation plan. The location, 952 Gilbert Road, is 4/10th of an acre to be

added on the Stadium Town Center Project. The facilities that are brought to the annexed property are the same extension facilities that are brought to the Stadium Town Center Project within the corporate limits.

Public Comment:

1. Mrs. Ruth Ann Young, 445 Doris Circle;

Mrs. Young inquired whether this project is inside or outside the development envelope defined by Harford County and what was the source of water? What were the State and County comments? What was the quantity of water for the proposed needs of this area? Also, has Harford County, through the Health Department, confirmed that we have enough water for this project? Regarding water, if not available at this time, would this project be held for further development pending the “Bay Water Research Project”?

The Director of Public Works, Matt Lapinsky, said, to answer the first question about stadium only, that he has been meeting with the County and Service areas and that this will fall in to the Aberdeen service area as it will be amended in the spring county plan. In regard to water, the Stadium Town Center is on the list for allocation and water is available. The County is aware of this. Mayor Simmons added that the additional properties annexed will not have the extension of water to them and, if they would add to the EDUs, they would have to go back into the allocation program. The allocation now is 8,000 gallons per day.

Mr. Miller added that the development is inside the envelope.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Bob Hartman, 226 Paradise Road;

Mr. Hartman inquired as to how much the payment was for the hookup to the sewer line that goes under I-95 and would it be recouped? Was the City Manager’s car budgeted?

Mayor Simmons said the recoupment question would need to be looked into and the City Manager’s car is in his contract, is used by the City in emergencies, for dignitaries, and was budgeted.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION: None

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Unfinished Business – None

2. New Business - None
3. Business from the Director of Planning and Community Development - None
4. Business from the Chief of Police

Chief Rudy said the Auxiliary Police was out in response to reports of windows shot out of local vehicles and there have been no additional incidences of the same issue.

5. Business from the Director of Finance - None
6. Business from the Director of Public Works

FY 08 Street Resurfacing Program

Mr. Lapinsky requested approval to amend the FY 06 paving contract for the option of extending this contract for the FY 08 paving which should not exceed \$520,414.00. There are 26 streets; 13 are carryovers from 2006-07. Thirteen new ones are added to the 2008 paving list and they are in alphabetical order.

Councilman Yensan asked about the water and sewer line replacements under the streets and if this was going to be done before or after street resurfacing? Mr. Lapinsky stated that this is under consideration.

A motion was made by Councilman Kupferman and seconded by Councilman Yensan to approve, as amended, the street resurfacing contract with the additional and carried over streets from the 2007 to the 2008 budget.

Councilwoman Elliott requested that these streets be prioritized. Mr. David Ranney, City Engineer, from the audience, stated that all these streets are visited, evaluated, a spreadsheet with pertinent information is considered, and categorized for this intent.

The motion was approved by a vote of 5 – yes.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller mentioned that Wednesday, October 31st is Halloween and that the City recognizes “Trick or Treating” hours to be 5 – 8 p.m. He cautioned motorists to be careful. There is no meeting on Monday, November 5, 2007 since it is the day before the election. Election day is Tuesday, November 6th, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Aberdeen Senior Center, 7 Franklin Street. Mr. Miller

thanked the elections judges for their willingness to serve the City and the long hours they dedicate.

8. Business from the Council

Councilwoman Elliott said that the Director of Planning and Zoning, Phyllis Grover, had foot surgery and is to return November 12, 2007.

Councilman Kupferman asked about the ditch and debris behind Mt. Royal Avenue along the B&O and requested a letter to be sent in regard to this. Mr. Lapinsky stated he would send a letter to B&O since it belongs to them. Also, Councilman Kupferman said that the Christmas Street Parade is December 1, 2007.

Council President Hiob mentioned to the Chief that something should be done about the people residing in the woods near the Moose Lodge and CSX tracks.

9. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Simmons said the Stadium Town Center, a \$32 million project, is moving forward and that the City will benefit from the synergies of this project. The Presbyterian Homes project will break ground in about a year and a half. Eagles Rest is platted and has approximately 132 single family homes planned. The Mayor thanked Mr. Peter Bosworth for his donation of 2 EDUs (Equivalent Dwelling Units) to the Habitat for Humanity project on Holloway Lane since water allocation is tight. Field Side Village has condominiums being built at this time. There are meetings planned with the Nottingham representatives.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Art Koszuro, 424 Doris Circle;

Mr. Koszuro wanted clarification on the new annexation that is being developed and that the water and sewer hookups would go into the enterprise funds and not the general funds. This was confirmed by Mayor Simmons.

2. Pastor Melvin Taylor, 18 Graceford Drive;

Pastor Taylor mentioned many of the outreach programs the church conducts within Aberdeen serves the homeless and helpless. This ministry also helps out at the Hickey School and at the Harford Detention Center. The members work full time and use no grant monies.

3. Ms. Karen Heavey, 634 West Bel Air Avenue;

Ms. Heavey requested the status of Parcel 620. She also wanted to know the cost of the recent Annual Report. Mr. Miller said that most of the work and writing was done in house and that the cost was just the printing and postage which was approximately \$4,500. Mayor Simmons pointed out that this was the Mayor's Report.

4. Mr. Charles Wallace, Robinhood Road;

Mr. Wallace inquired about 1) the flaws in the second Wetlands petition in regard to the 240 ft. error on the CNA study causing an amendment to possibly be made and, 2) about the invalidation of the annexation vote results.

5. Mrs. Ruth Ann Young, 445 Doris Circle;

Mrs. Young read comments from the Maryland Department of Planning in regard to Article 23A amended by House Bill 1141 and felt it was appropriate that those in attendance be aware of it. It recommended that the City review annexations in context of the finance procurement Article 5-7B-2 to determine eligibility for State funding of growth related projects. She would like to review all comments from Harford County pertaining to this. Since we have our own proposed document regarding annexations, decisions and voting should be postponed until this is reviewed.

6. Mr. Curtis Coon, 400 Hickory Road;

Mr. Coon responded to Mr. Wallace's earlier comment about a flaw in the second annexation petition. He explained that the clerical error made by the engineering firm in the narrative meets and bounds can be corrected and amended up until the resolution is passed. The tax parcels are constant and well described. He wanted to dispel any incorrect rumor or innuendo about this and if one were to say there was any fatal flaw whatsoever in the second and now pending annexation petition for the Wetlands/Aberdeen LLC, it would be false.

7. Amanda Nordell, 698 Courtney Drive;

Ms. Nordell thanked the Mayor and Council for their recognition and will speak further next time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.