

**Aberdeen City Council Meeting
July 28, 2008**

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

Present: Mayor Bennett, Council President Elliott, Councilman Kupferman and Councilwoman Young,

Absent: Councilman Hiob

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning & Community Development
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Randy Rudy, Chief of Police
Monica Correll, City Clerk

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order in the Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. The prayer was led by Minister Peggy Norton, Elohistic Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Kupferman.

A motion was made by Council President Elliott and seconded by Councilman Kupferman to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2008 meeting as submitted. The motion was passed with a vote of 4 - yes, 1 - absent.

The July 21, 2008 Statement of Closed Session was read by the City Clerk and approved as submitted.

Statement of Closed Session:

On July 21, 2008 at approximately 4:45 p.m. at City Hall, a closed session was held by the Mayor and Council in the second floor administrative conference room. All members present voted in the affirmative to close the session. Councilman Michael G. Hiob was absent. Also in attendance were: Elwood V. Stark, Esq., City Attorney; Douglas R. Miller, City Manager; Matthew M. Lapinsky, Director of Public Works; and Monica A. Correll, City Clerk.

The session was held pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Section 10-508 (a): (3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto, (7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter, and (8) to consult with staff, consultants or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The Mayor and Council discussed the current issues surrounding the risk of litigation and were in agreement to procure outside legal counsel with litigation experience specific to the risks that were discussed. Matters pertaining to acquisition of property were postponed to an unscheduled date. No other actions were taken during the session.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation by Charles J. White, Aberdeen Masonic Lodge 187
Mr. White presented Mayor Bennett with an American Flag for the City of Aberdeen to be flown over the park. This flag flew over the White House and it was a gift from Congressman Ruppertsberger.
2. Resolution No. 08-3, Annexation Plan for 952 Gilbert Road, LLC
Phyllis Grover presented background information. Mr. Brad Stover, Esq. and Mr. Dudley Campbell of Bay State Land Services were present. Mr. Stover added that this is part of the Stadium Town Center and that the security cameras will be paid by the developers.
3. Ordinance No. 08-5, Amendment to Chapter 46, Aberdeen City Code
Ms. Grover provided background information and summarized the need for this ordinance to update our Code with the most current building and residential standards and amendments. She added that Mr. Lapinsky is the Chief Building Official for the City.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

1. Karen Heavey, 634 West Bel Air Avenue;

Ms. Heavey stated that in regard to the Paradise Meadows annexation, the proposed density is in contradiction to the County and City Land Use Plan recommendations. She also asked for damage information on a recent storm.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 08-2, Proposed Townhouse Amendment to the Development Code (Adoption, Deferment to August 2)

The Mayor announced this would be deferred to August 25, 2008 in order for the full council to be present. All were in agreement.

2. Resolution No. 08-3, Annexation Plan for 952 Gilbert Road, LLC (For Adoption)

A motion was made by Councilman Kupferman and seconded by Council President Elliott to adopt, as presented, Resolution No. 08-3, Annexation Plan for 952 Gilbert Road, LLC.

The motion was passed with a vote of 3 - yes, 1 - no, 1 - absent.

Ayes	Mayor Bennett, Council President Elliott, Councilman Kupferman
Nays	Councilwoman Young
Absent	Councilman Hiob

3. Resolution No. 08-4, Annexation Plan for Paradise Meadows, Inc. (For Introduction)

Resolution No. 08-4 was introduced.

4. Ordinance No. 08-5, Amendment to Chapter 46, Aberdeen City Code (For Adoption)
Chapter 46, Building Construction, Article I, Building Standards, Section 46-1,
Adoption of standards by reference.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Young and seconded by Councilman Kupferman to adopt, as presented, Ordinance No. 08-5.

The motion was passed with a vote of 4 - yes and 1 - absent.

**Ayes Mayor Bennett, Council President Elliott, Councilman Kupferman,
Councilwoman Young**

Absent Councilman Hiob

5. Resolution No. 08-6, Annexation Plan for the Presbyterian Home of Maryland, Inc. and
Vernon K. Johnson Trust Properties (For Introduction)

Resolution No. 08-6 was introduced.

6. Resolution No. 08-7, Scotten Property Annexation Plan (For Introduction)

Resolution No. 08-7 was introduced.

Phyllis Grover said the tentative date for public hearings on Paradise Meadows, Presbyterian Home/Johnson Trust Properties, and Scotten Property is September 8, 2008

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business - None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development - None
4. Business from the Chief of Police

Chief Rudy announced that twelve people were arrested for valid violations in Festival Park.

5. Business from the Director of Finance – None

6. Business from the Director of Public Works

Mr. Lapinsky reported on the cleanup due to the recent storm. The Department of Public Works helped residents with tree chipping. The chips were taken to the City compost pile. A damage waiver was signed by residents on West Bel Air Avenue in order for the City vehicle to use private driveways.

A storm drain has been started on Bush Chapel Road with expectations that it will be completed by the end of the week to be following by paving. Gunnison Drive is in the process of having a storm sewer installed. This is a project being worked on for the City by the State Highway Administration. SHA said it will be completed before the paving of West Bel Air Avenue.

The Mayor commended and congratulated the Public Works Staff.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller announced the Council Retreat on Saturday, August 2, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in order to talk about growth in the City. There will be no Council Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2008 because it is Ripken World Series Week.

The City Manager reported on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) results. Councilman Hiob served on the Convention Planning Committee. Several officials are working toward becoming Fellows in the Academy for Excellence in Local Government including the City Clerk, Director of Planning and Community Development, Human Resource Director, and the Chief of Police. Councilwoman Young is attending as well.

Mr. Miller congratulated the Mayor on being elected to the Board for the Maryland Municipal League. Mr. Miller was also pleased and honored he was appointed back on the Legislative Commission. Mayor Bennett said he enjoys the annual golf outing Mr. Miller runs as well.

8. Business from the Council

Councilwoman Young said she learned a lot from the classes she took at MML. She also requested that citizens help keep the storm drains cleaned.

Councilman Kupferman asked that those considering volunteering as a host family for the Ripken World Series call Ripken Stadium. He looks forward to the next several months regarding the City's growth and encouraged his fellow council members to participate fully and to do what is right for Aberdeen.

Council President wanted to remind those who made commitments on "Adopt-a-Road" signs to remember their responsibilities to clean the area. She requested that a letter be sent to them. She also would like to employees to help with picking up trash. She suggested fining offenders.

9. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett said he and the City Manager have met individually with Council members about water issues and options. Also, there have been meetings with the Maryland Department of the Environment regarding ENR technology (Enhanced Nutrient Removal) impacting the City which is a complex situation requiring consideration and patience. He is waiting for confirmation on some good news and will announce it at the next Council Meeting. Their goal is to move the City forward.

On Saturday, July 19th, he attended the Frierson family reunion of about 60 people at the Aberdeen Holiday Inn where he presented a proclamation to the family. Mayor Bennett also presented an unexpected proclamation to one of the family members who is the Mayor of Kalamazoo, Michigan and made him an honorary citizen of Aberdeen.

The Code of Conduct will be introduced on August 18. The Mayor invited everyone to the August 2 Council Retreat on Growth.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 2008 Aberdeen Free Summer Concert Series, Festival Park, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Every Tuesday through August 19
- Council Retreat (Council Chambers) Saturday, August 2 at 8:30 a.m.
- Next Council Work Session: Monday, August 18 at 4:30 p.m.
- Next Council Meeting: Monday, August 25 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.