

**Aberdeen City Council Meeting
March 3, 2008**

OPENING:

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

Present: Mayor Michael E. Bennett
Council President Ruth Elliott
Councilman Ronald Kupferman
Councilman Michael Hiob
Councilwoman Ruth Ann Young

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning & Community Development
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Captain Kenneth Cox, Aberdeen Police Department
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 Pastor Frank Gregg, Word of Faith Outreach Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council President Elliott.

The minutes of the February 25, 2008 meeting were approved as submitted.

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Mayor Bennett said that Ordinance No. 737-08, Proposed Townhouse Amendment to the Development Code, will not be introduced but will be discussed at the March 17, 2008 Work Session for introduction on March 24, 2008. Amendments are to be introduced on Ordinance No. 736-08, Annexation Procedures Incorporated into the Development Code, and this should be deferred to March 24, 2008.

A motion was made by Councilman Hiob and seconded by Council President Elliott to defer Ordinance No. 736-08 to the March 24, 2008 Council Meeting.

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

BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. Unfinished Business – Old Philadelphia Road

The Mayor asked the City Manager and Staff to prepare a preliminary report on this area to be presented at the March 17th Work Session with recommendations at the March 24th Council Meeting.

2. New Business – None

3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development – None

4. Business from the Chief of Police – None

5. Business from the Director of Finance – None

6. Business from the Director of Public Works [**Exhibit A**]

a) Bid No. 08-04, Three (3) Water Service Replacements, West Bel Air Avenue

A motion was made by Council President Elliott and seconded by Councilman Hiob to approve the Bid No. 08-04 to Stella May Contracting in the amount of \$11,900.00.

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

b) Bid No. 08-05, 8” Water Main Extension, West Bel Air Avenue at Ray Avenue

A motion was made by Councilman Hiob and seconded by Councilman Kupferman to approve the Bid No. 08-05 to LAI Construction the amount of \$16,000.00.

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

c) Bid No. 08-06, Roosevelt Avenue Water Main Replacement

A motion was made by Councilman Hiob and seconded by Councilman Kupferman to approve the Bid No. 08-06 to Stella May Contracting in the amount of \$59,000.00.

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

7. Business from the City Manager

There will be amendments offered on Ordinance No. 736-08, Annexation Procedures, on March 24, 2008 presented by Ms. Grover and the City Manager. There is no Council Session on March 10th; encouraged all to attend the BRAC Town Hall Meeting. (See announcements below).

8. Business from the Council

Councilwoman Young:

- encouraged all to attend the BRAC meeting.
- clarified and confirmed with the Mayor and Mr. Lapinsky that the Maryland Department of the Environment meeting at the HEAT Center was postponed and that city managers, sewer/water people, directors of public works were invited.
- confirmed with the Mayor his meeting with the County Executive about the water project having a regional approach. The Mayor responded that the County Executive meets with several mayors once a month to discuss county/municipal concerns and issues. The Harford Chamber of Commerce meeting is one topic of discussion. The Mayor will report back.
- asked for a report containing pricing options and work on Old Philadelphia Road.

Councilmen Hiob and Kupferman and Council President Elliott thanked the delegation which went to Annapolis for all their efforts regarding the hotel/room tax.

Council President Elliott asked for an update on the skateboard park which the City Manager said was in limbo as an unsupervised facility probably until July 1 (beginning of the fiscal year). The current insurance carrier will not give us a rider on the facility as an unsupervised facility. He is looking for other coverage.

9. Business from the Mayor

To add to the skateboard discussion, Mayor Bennett said statistically there is not much difference between a supervised facility and an unsupervised one in regard to the number of injuries sustained.

On February 28, he and the City Manager traveled to Annapolis to testify in support of House Bill 178 (hotel/motel tax bill). Other supporting members from MML (Maryland Municipal League) and ACT (Aberdeen Communities Together) attended.

Mr. Chuck Doty was the spokesperson for ACT; twenty-eight members attended. If this bill passed, the 2% tax would possibly generate at least a half million dollars for the City.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Bob Hartman, 226 Paradise Road;
Mr. Hartman expressed concern over Charter loopholes, questioned quotas and police news articles, and wanted the police to start issuing tickets.
2. Ms. Linda Adams, 64 East Bel Air Avenue;
Ms. Adams reported that she saw the Aberdeen Police issuing tickets on Route 40 today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- BRAC Town Hall Meeting – Aberdeen High School, March 10th, 6:30 p.m.
- Public Meeting – Gilbert Road Closing, County Administrative Building, 220 S. Main Street, Bel Air, March 26th at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor and Council Meetings

Work Session	March 17 th at 4:30 p.m.
Council Meetings	March 24 th at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit A Utility Projects, Requests for Bids, Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works -
Available for review at City Hall.