

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting
February 22, 2010**

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

Absent: None

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Phyllis Grover, Director of Planning and Community Development
Matthew Lapinsky, Director of Public Works
Randy Rudy, Chief of Police
Opiribo Jack, Director of Finance
Monica Correll, City Clerk
Doris Manner, Recording Secretary

Mayor Bennett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The prayer was led by Mayor Bennett and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council President Young.

The minutes of the February 8, 2010, meeting were approved as submitted with a vote of 4 – yes and 1 – abstention.

Ayes: Mayor Bennett, Council President Young, Councilwoman Landbeck, and
Councilman Garner

Abstain: Councilwoman Elliott

PRESENTATIONS: None

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Ordinance No. 10-O-01, an Ordinance to Adopt an Amendment to the Aberdeen Zoning Map, Phase III

Ms. Grover stated that this ordinance was advertised in *The Record* on January 15, 2010. The property is owned by the Colony at Beards Hill, LLC and is located on Rt. 22 and Beards Hill Road. It consists of 6.58 acres and is zoned B-3 and R-2. The request is to change the zoning for the entire parcel to B-3 Highway Commercial. It was introduced by the Council on January 11, 2010.

- a. Ms. Karen Heavey, W. Bel Air Avenue;
Ms. Heavey feels that the parcel is too close to residential areas and that the ordinance should not be approved.
- b. Mr. Michael Hiob, Graceford Drive;
Mr. Hiob stated that he favors the proposed zoning.

- c. Mr. Tory Pierce, Frederick Ward Associates;
Mr. Pierce introduced Mr. Salvo with the Colony at Beards Hill. Mr. Pierce's plans show the extension of Middleton Road to Beards Hill Road. He noted that development would be acceptable before the road is extended.
2. Ordinance No. 10-O-02, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 142, Section 25, Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements

Ms. Grover noted that a public hearing was advertised in *The Record* on February 12 and 19. This action would impact off-street parking and loading for multi-family housing, shopping centers, etc.

3. Ordinance No. 10-O-03, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 142, Section 7, Definitions and Appendix A, Table of Use Regulations (Auction House)

Ms. Grover stated that this ordinance was introduced February 8, 2010, and advertised in the Record on February 12 and 19. The proposed amendments are to change permitted uses in B-3 and M-1.

- a. Ms. Karen Heavey, W. Bel Air Avenue;
Ms. Heavey said that she has concerns about loud noise from outside auctions and the lack of adequate parking.
- b. Mr. Michael Hiob, Graceford Drive;
Mr. Hiob is in favor of this ordinance.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Ms. Karen Heavey, W. Bel Air Avenue;
Ms. Heavey asked that the Mitchell House, located on Aberdeen Proving Grounds, be considered by the City for use by the Aberdeen Room or one of its entities. Mayor Bennett said that Heritage Trust would be contacted.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

1. Ordinance No. 10-O-04, Code of Conduct (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Ordinance No. 10-O-04.

2. Resolution No. 10-R-01, Annexation Agreement, 952 Gilbert Road, LLC (For Introduction)

Mayor Bennett introduced Resolution No. 10-R-01.

3. Resolution No. 10-R-03, ICMA-RC, Retirement Plan Amendment

Mr. Miller stated that most on the non-law enforcement City personnel have a Retirement Plan through ICMA-RC which is a defined contribution program. The resolution would amend the plan to allow employees to borrow and pay back against the balances in their accounts.

Mayor Bennett noted that payroll deductions are used to repay borrowed amounts. The employees are allowed to borrow up to 50% or up to \$50,000 of the amount in their personal retirement account, whichever is least.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve Resolution No. 10-R-03, ICMA-RC, Retirement Plan Amendment.

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

BUSINESS OF THE CITY:

1. Unfinished Business – None
2. New Business – None
3. Business from the Director of Planning & Community Development
 - a. Final Plat Three – North Gate Business Park

Ms. Grover said this Parcel is located off of Rt. 22 and Research Boulevard. It consists of Lots D, B, H, I, and a Lot designated for the City Pumping Station. The Planning Commission recommended approval at their January meeting.

Mr. Tory Pierce with Frederick Ward Associates noted that the storm water management was located on Lots D and H. All required information has been submitted to the City for its approval. Everything is in place for the infrastructure and the groundbreaking will take place in the spring.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the Final Plat Three – North Gate Business Park.

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

4. Business from the Chief of Police – None

Councilman Garner said he received an e-mail regarding parking at the train station indicating that 50 parking tickets were issued on a daily basis. He noted that Perryville and other areas are sending people to park at the Aberdeen Station.

Chief Rudy said he would check on the matter.

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

Mr. Lapinsky stated that his department is fixing pot holes and residents are being asked to e-mail the location of any pot holes which need attention to *pothole@aberdeen-md.org*.

7. Business from the City Manager – None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Mr. Michael Hiob, Graceford Drive;
Mr. Hiob said that the Public Works Department did a great job during the snowstorm and that residents should shovel their sidewalks.
2. Ms. Karen Heavey W. Bel Air Avenue;
Ms. Heavey commented on the snow removal and City newspaper notifications.

BUSINESS OF COUNCIL:

1. Business from the City Council

The City Council gave a report of their recent activities such as the Habitat for Humanity ribbon cutting, the Regional Rail Committee meeting, and Aberdeen Lions Club Pancake Supper. Other topics included the pending Property Maintenance Code, Code of Conduct, lobbying information from Harford County, and the Middelton Road extension.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett reported that application has been made for disaster relief due to the two recent snowstorms. He attended the Mayor's Conference in Annapolis and the Harford County Delegation and supported Delegate Dan Riley for the Hotel Tax House Bill No. 664. He encouraged citizens to show support this Bill by contacting the Maryland State Legislature by mail, e-mail, or by telephone.

Mayor Bennett, who is the State Chair for the Maryland Municipal League Hometown Preparedness Committee, attended a meeting along with Harford County Councilman Fred Cullum and Bel Air Councilman Ed Hopkins. They are preparing a list of training courses for elected officials need to have in order to satisfy FEMA and get funds returned back to the municipality.

Mayor Bennett announced that the Council liaison to the Aberdeen Room will be Councilwoman Elliott.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next Council Meeting: Monday, March 8, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

Next Council Work Session: Monday, March 15, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.