

**City of Aberdeen Council Meeting  
June 14, 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  
Henry Trabert, Captain, Aberdeen Police Department  
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 Pastor Melvin Taylor of the Word of Faith Outreach Ministries and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Landbeck.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Council President Young to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2010 meeting as submitted.

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

**PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Proclamation in Recognition of Ms. Loretta Crites

Mayor Bennett presented a proclamation in recognition of Ms. Crites who devoted 14 years of service to the Golden Age Club, worked 56 years for Grove Presbyterian Church, and has been married for 68 years. He proclaimed June 14, 2010, as Loretta Crites Day in the City of Aberdeen. Council President Young presented her with a gift from the Mayor and City Council.

2. Presentation – Aberdeen Lions Club to the Earth Day Committee

Mr. Lambert of the Aberdeen Lions Club presented a \$500 check to Mr. Jim Litke, Environmental and Safety Manager, for Earth Day. Mr. Litke expressed his thanks for the continued support from the Lions Club.

3. Presentation – SHARE Food Network by Chris Byrd, Outreach Coordinator

Mr. Byrd said SHARE Food Network is a self-help and resource exchange which distributes groceries monthly to area residents. Individuals pay \$20.50 and perform two hours of volunteer service to receive food valued at \$45.00. This is open to anyone. The closest site is located in Edgewood. He asked the Council for help in directing them to groups in Aberdeen interested in joining the network and becoming involved in this program.

4. Signing of the Ripken Stadium Inspection and Maintenance Plan

Mayor Bennett and Glenn Valis of Tufton Professional Baseball, LLC signed the Ripken Stadium Inspection and Maintenance Plan Memorandum of Understanding. Councilman Garner, Glenn Gillis of Ripken Stadium Management Board, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Lapinsky were present for the signing.

5. Holiday Inn Express Comments, J. Carroll Holzer

Mr. Holzer asked that the Council not approve the proposed plans for the Holiday Inn Express based on the lack of parking.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION:**

1. Resolution No. 10-R-07, Disposal and Trade of Real Property  
(For Introduction and Adoption)

Mr. Miller stated that this action is needed to declare City property surplus and offer it for trade for two other parcels. The parcel consists of 5.71 acres owned by the City. COPT has requested trading the same amount of acreage it owns to the City. The Waste Water Treatment Plant is located near the COPT-owned acreage.

Councilwoman Elliott asked the appraised value. Mr. Miller answered that the City-owned parcel's value is slightly higher than that of COPT. This acquisition will enable the City to enlarge the Public Works Shop and the Waste Water Treatment Plant in the future. It will offer other tangible and intangible benefits to the City.

Councilman Garner asked if the City has use for their property at this time. Mr. Miller stated that no use is currently intended.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve Resolution No. 10-R-07 Disposal and Trade of Real Property.

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

2. Ordinance No. 10-O-09, Water Quality Bond Authorization (For Adoption)

Mr. Miller stated that this Ordinance is necessary for the City to borrow \$9,000,000 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve Ordinance No. 10-O-09, Water Quality Bond Authorization.

**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. Revised Final Subdivision Plat for Lots 1A, 1B, 1C, Lot 7 and Lot 8 of the Beards Hill Park

Ms. Grover stated that the subject property is a 5 lot subdivision located off of Rt. 22 and Beards Hill Road. The Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation on March 17, 2010, for B-3 zoning. Lot 1 – existing Holiday Inn, Lot 7 – former gas station, Lot 8 – existing Olive Tree Restaurant, Lot 1C – existing retail Olive Tree I, Lot 1B - Olive Tree Plaza II. Ms. Grover mentioned that there are no minimum lot requirements in B-3 zoning.

Mr. Joseph Snee, attorney representing the managing partners, Mr. Mitch Ensor of Bay State Land Services, and Mr. Dudley Campbell of Bay State Land Services were in attendance. Mr. Snee introduced Mr. Nick Hapsis and entities for the subject property. He commented on Mr. Holzer's remarks. Mr. Snee said the current request is for Lots 1A, 1B, and 1C to become Lots 7 and 8. The total lot area is 7.39 acres.

Councilwoman Landbeck indicated that the Planning Commission approved the revisions which met with their requirements.

Council President Young asked for clarification on the parking requirements. Mr. Snee said the existing businesses are under the old Code and the Holiday Inn Express would be under the new Code.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the Revised Final Subdivision Plat for Lots 1A, 1B, 1C, Lot 7, and Lot 8 of the Beards Hill Park.

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

- b. Preliminary Site Plan for the Holiday Inn Express and Revised Parking Layout

Ms. Grover stated that the Holiday Inn Express will be located on new Lot 7, at Rt. 22 and Beards Hill Road. It will contain an 80 room hotel, 86 parking spaces are required, and there will be 2 access points. She asked that Note 19 be added, and 5% of the parking area be landscaped. This request was approved by the Planning Commission on March 17, 2010.

Mr. Snee said the Fire Department representative had no questions at the time of approval by the Planning Commission. The hotel will contain an 80 room hotel

which is 6 stories high and contain 42,000 sq. ft. on 1.23 acres. All setback requirements are being met. He noted that 84 parking spaces are required and 86 are being provided. Mr. Snee stated the following proposed changes: a 30 ft. wide entrance; 8-inch sewer and water service; and a revised parking layout. The new Code became effective March 28, 2010. A breakdown of required and provided parking spaces was provided. Overall, 552 parking spaces are required for all occupants of the subject properties and 557 spaces are being provided. He added that Note 21 would show a wavier was required from the Board of Appeals for Lot 1A to reduce the loading requirements.

Mr. Campbell stated that he has worked with the DPW and City Staff to be sure the plan complies with all City requests.

Council President Young asked if the memo dated December 14, 2009, requesting several items had been addressed. Ms. Grover said it had. Council President Young asked Mr. Lapinsky if the December 14, 2009, memo for water and sewer requirements had been addressed. He said it had. Council President Young referred to the issue of gas tank removal to which Mr. Campbell stated that all tests show all levels below toxicity standard requirements.

Council President Young said the Rt. 22 and Beards Hill Road intersection has two times the number of accidents than any other corner in the City. She commented on the egress onto Beards Hill Road from the Holiday Inn Express and how the traffic would be directed. Mr. Campbell said this intersection is scheduled to be redone due to BRAC. Councilwoman Young noted that this was a challenging project to review.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the Preliminary Site Plan for the Holiday Inn Express and Revised Parking Layout with the addition of Note 19, Staff Requests and 5% landscaping.

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

#### 4. Business from the Chief of Police

Captain Trabert reported that on June 8, some of the officer participated in the National Law Enforcement Torch Run benefiting the Special Olympics. On June 17, the Harford County Chamber of Commerce chose Officer Timothy Helf for the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award for his actions to save the life of Officer Duncan.

The Captain reported that the Police Department applied for a U.S. Department of Justice grant for \$11,908 for a laser finger print scanner which will interface with Federal and State internet finger print identification systems. He wanted to inform everyone about this and ask for Council approval.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the use of the \$11,908 Grant Funds to purchase a Laser Finger Print Machine.

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

5. Business from the Director of Finance
  - a. FY 2010 Budget Amendment

Mr. Jack reported that an FY 2010 Budget Amendment was needed. He gave a verbal report and provided this summary.

**FY 2010 BUDGET AMENDMENT  
6/14/10**

**SUMMARY**

The Council's approval is being sought to amend the FY 2010 budgets for the following funds.

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
1. Overtime – Public Works Streets	\$56,749	Transfer from Winter Operations
2. Operating Expense – Winter Operations	(\$56,749)	Transfer to Public Works Streets
3. Parks Maintenance	\$ 4,000	Transfer from General Fund Contingency
4. Swim Club	\$ 6,000	Transfer from General Fund Contingency
5. General Fund Contingency	(\$10,000)	Transfer to Parks Maintenance and Swim Club
6. Recycling Expense – Items for Earth Day event	\$ 4,400	Funded with funds raised for Earth Day
7. Uniforms – Ballistic Vests	\$10,144	Funded with grant from the State
8. Financing (loan proceeds) of the trash truck	<u>\$77,291</u>	Funded with loan proceeds
	<b><u>\$91,835</u></b>	
 <b>CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND</b>		
1. Police Capital Purchases (Investigation equipment with camera, and Robot with night vision)	\$76,382	Funded with grants from the Dept. of Justice
2. Crosswalk and school zone sign replacement	<u>\$10,700</u>	Funded with grant from MD Highway Safety Office
	<b><u>\$87,082</u></b>	

Councilwoman Elliott asked if loan proceeds were taken from the line of credit. Mr. Jack said they were shown to reflect the financing.

A motion was made by Council President Young and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the FY 2010 Budget Amendment as described by Mr. Jack.

An amendment to the motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the allocation of \$2,000 from the Contingency Fund to the Aberdeen Museum for Operational Expenses. There was no second to the motion.

A second amendment to the motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the allocation of \$1,000 from the Contingency Fund to the Aberdeen Museum for Operational Expenses. There was no second to the motion.

A vote was called on the original motion made by Council President Young and seconded by Councilwoman Landbeck to approve the FY 2010 Budget Amendment as described by Mr. Jack.

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

6. Business from the Director of Public Works

a. Geo Tech Contract Award for the ENR

Mr. Lapinsky reported that nine bids have been received and he recommends awarding the contract to Froehling & Robertson, Inc. for materials required for special testing and special inspections. Councilman Garner stated that this issue has been dealt with in the past.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Landbeck and seconded by Council President Young to approve WWTP 10-07, Materials for Testing and Special Inspections and award the contract to Froehling & Robertson, Inc. in the amount of \$59,573.

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

b. Chemical Bids Awards

Mr. Lapinsky submitted a handout showing Bulk Chemical Bid Tabulations which would result in a saving of over \$34,000 collectively to Aberdeen and APG. A total of 15 chemicals were bid.

A motion was made by Councilman Garner and seconded by Councilwoman Elliott to approve the Chemical Bid Awards as submitted by Mr. Lapinsky.

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

Mr. Lapinsky reported the following items: Enhanced Nutrient Removal notices were sent out on June 4; single stream recycling begins on September 12; and the new waste water treatment plant in Havre de Grace was recently dedicated.

7. Business from the City Manager

Mr. Miller stated that due to the Maryland Municipal League Conference and the Fourth of July holiday, the next Council meeting will be July 12. He also reported that explanation fliers will be mailed in the near future concerning ENR fees. The project to stripe spaces and medians on Rt. 40 near W. Bel Air Avenue will be done this Saturday. Mayor Bennett thanked Councilman Garner for having this project done at no cost to the City.

Mr. Miller mentioned the Sixth Amendment of the County & City Water Agreement at a cost of \$1,000,000 to lock into the current rate by using a line of credit with Harford Bank.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL:**

1. Business from the City Council

Councilwoman Elliott asked if FEMA grant money for the snow storms was received to which Mr. Miller said it may be two more months. She mentioned that a “no turn on red” sign was posted at W. Bel Air Avenue and Beards Hill Road and requested an additional sign be posted at eye level. Councilwoman Elliott said that the flower boxes downtown need watering and that the merchants should dress up the City. She asked that recycling directions be sent to residents. Mr. Lapinsky said fliers would be sent with stickers and it would also be on the website. Councilwoman Elliott donated \$1,000 of her salary to the Aberdeen Museum.

Councilwoman Landbeck noted that June 14<sup>th</sup> is Flag Day and asked everyone to think about its meaning.

Councilman Garner visited the Fairbrooke Senior Apartments on Flag Day and also a 2010 Parks and Recreation Awards Ceremony held in Jarrettsville. Councilman Garner thanked Mr. Lapinsky for all of his time and effort spent on the Inspection and Maintenance Plan for Ripken Stadium.

Council President Young represented the Council at the annual Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC) bus tour on Post and attended a Corporate Office Properties Trust (COPT) briefing.

2. Business from the Mayor

Mayor Bennett reported the following that on May 31, he and the Council attended services at Veteran Park with music provided by middle school students. On June 1, Council President Young, Councilwoman Landbeck, and he attended graduation at

Aberdeen High School. On June 7, Council President Young, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilman Garner, and he attended the Army Alliance Dinner. On June 14, Councilwoman Landbeck, Councilman Garner, and he attended the ceremony at the Fairbrooke Senior Apartments and presented them with a flag previously flown over the U.S. Capitol.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Elliott and seconded by Councilman Garner to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.