

City of Aberdeen
Council Work Session
March 29, 2010

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

Absent: Councilwoman Elliott

Also Present: Douglas Miller, City Manager
Monica Correll, City Clerk
Doris Manner, Recording Secretary

Mayor Bennett called the work session to order in the Council Chambers at 4:00 p.m.

1. Matters of Immediate and Urgent Business - None
2. Work Session: Matters of Council Discussion
 - a. Legislative
 - 1) Charter

Mr. Miller noted that numerous questions were asked and answered at the last work session. The changes being made to the Charter should result from input from the current Council members. The salary increases mentioned were decisions made by the former Council not the current Council members. Mr. Miller conducted a page by page review of proposed changes suggested by the Council.

Listed below are some of the proposed changes to the Charter:

- Mayor's term to increase from 2 to 4 years;
- Primary residence would be considered domicile of candidate;
- Candidate must be age 25 on day office is assumed;
- Mayor shall be the CEO of the City;
- Mayor may direct City Manager on some duties;
- Mayor will no longer appoint department heads, this will be done by the City Manager;
- Mayor will sign documents needed by the City;
- Remove reference to Council President when a meeting chairperson is needed - a member of the Council to be chosen by peers;
- Council terms increase to 4 years from 2 years;
- Salary will remain the same;
- Removed the sentence regarding the Council President;
- Recall provision not changed from last year;

- Mayor to supervise City Manager;
- City Manager to supervise department heads with authority to remove employees;
- City Manager appointed with consideration to academic background and full membership in the International City Managers Association (ICMA);
- City Clerk and Finance Director duties separated;
- City Treasurer to be CFO;
- City Manager has authority to sign documents not signed by Mayor;
- City Manager serves at the pleasure of the Council and needs major vote of the Council for cause;
- Treasurer responsible to City Manager and prepares budget;
- Office of City Clerk created and minutes are the official journal;
- City Manager to have primary contact with City Attorney – Mayor and Council will have contact if needed;
- Non-interference clause;
- City Clerk to work with Harford County on elections;
- Define Board of Elections;
- Maintenance of registration list;
- Applicants must give mailing address;
- Polls to open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.;
- Candidate filing fees to be checked;
- Board decisions subject to Council review within 10 calendar days;
- Time frame established to be by noon on Friday after polls close;
- Harford County preserves ballots;
- Newspapers in Harford County used for notices along with the City website;
- Change in budget adoption date.

Mayor Bennett would like the City Manager contacted with any other additions or changes. Councilman Garner noted that salary was not mentioned at any previous meetings.

b. Legal

1) ENR Fee Ordinance

Mr. Miller noted that the amount paid by non-residential customers is in question.

2) Pool MOU with the Boys and Girls Club

Mr. Miller said if there are no objections, the City will prepare for operation of the pool by the Boys and Girls Club. There will be no

operational liability in the first year. Some of the net profits will be returned to the City.

3. Other Matters - None

4. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m