

December 5, 2016

The regular meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, December 5, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Bruce Morrison
Council Members: Diane Downing, Brian Hirshman, Dale Trotter, Esther Troast, George Tasker
City Manager/City Attorney: Ernie Crofoot
City Clerk: Carol L. Sullivan

Review Minutes:

In a motion (Troast, Trotter passed) to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2016 meetings as presented.

Second reading of Resolution No. 503 to amend Charter by adding and deleting language to Section C26-C36 Concerning the Conduct of Elections:

In a motion (Tasker, Hirshman passed) to pass Resolution No. 503 to amend Charter by adding and deleting language to Section C26-C36 Concerning the Conduct of Elections.

Mr. Ronnie White asked about the tie vote.

Mayor Morrison stated that all agreed that at the next meeting a new deck of cards would be opened and shuffled and who ever draws the highest card will be the winner.

Mr. White did not agree with that. He would like to see the City hold another election.

City Manager Crofoot stated that when there is a tie vote everywhere, it is handle this way.

Mr. White stated that he feels that it was unfair, as the people that are running worked hard. He feels that people of the City should be heard. He stated that it was unheard of.

City Manager Crofoot stated that it was not unheard of, it happens all over the country.

He stated that it was tabled at the last meeting, as there were changes that the Council wanted to make.

Request from Chesapeake Conservancy to replacing/commemorating Capt. John Smith's cross on the grounds of Delmarva Discovery Center:

City Manager Crofoot stated that the City has been asked by the Chesapeake Conservancy to place a commemorating Capt. John Smith's cross with a suitable monument, 6x6-inch granite marker, at either the boat landing by Salem Cemetery or on the grounds of the Delmarva Discovery Center. He stated that Capt. John Smith left 24 brass or carved-in-tree bark crosses at various points to signal the extent of his explorations. These are shown on his famous map. City Manager Crofoot suggested placing the marker at the Delmarva Discovery Center. He said it would add to the experience of visiting the DDC.

In a motion (Tasker, Trotter passed) to place the 6x6- inch granite marker at the Delmarva Discovery Center.

Council Items:

Councilman Tasker asked for an update on Second Street.

Mayor Morrison stated that the houses were prepped today, they will be burned down Sunday morning at 7:00 am.

Councilman Hirshman thanked Councilwoman Troast and Councilman Trotter on the wreath donation.

Comments from audience:

Mr. Duane Durham stated that he had spoken to Mr. Crofoot regarding the incident involving the golf ball that hit his house. He said Mr. Crofoot asked him to get an estimate to repair. He found a piece of fence in the attic that he used to replace the broken fence. He stated that he was still interested in the City putting up a net to protect his property and children.

City Manager Crofoot stated that so far, the employee was instructed to mow away from houses and a guard was placed on the mowers. He thanked Mr. Durham for repairing the fence himself. On behalf of the City he apologizes for the accident.

Mr. Ronnie White stated that the ACLU came in and made the City have another election at the last election, and he asked if that is what will happen at an election, if a tie came up.

City Attorney Crofoot stated that if there was a tie and it was settled with the way the Council passed tonight, the ACLU can't come in and force the City to have another election, when our procedures are followed and are constitutional and has been in practice for years.

Mr. White stated they can't legally make you have another election.

City Attorney Crofoot stated that they can suggest but they can't legally make us have another election.

With no further business, Councilman Trotter made a motion, second by Councilwoman Downing to adjourn at 6:53 pm.

Approved: _____

Carol L. Sullivan
City Clerk