

June 20, 2016

Pocomoke City Mayor and Council held a budget meeting in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, June 20, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

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

Review and approval of minute from meeting June 6, 2016:

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2016 meeting as presented.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 426 to adopt the proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017:

ORDINANCE 426
AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF
POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND ADOPTING THE BUDGET
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

In a motion (Tasker, Troast passed) to adopt Ordinance 426 to adopt the budget for fiscal year 2016-2017.

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 428 to establish certain City Fees and other charges for fiscal year 2016-2017:

ORDINANCE 428
AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF
POCOMOKE CITY, MARYLAND ESTABLISHING THE
FEE SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

After some discussion from the audience a motion made by Councilman Trotter, seconded by Councilwoman Troast(passed) to adopt Ordinance 428 establishing the Fee Schedule for fiscal year 2016-2017.

Approval abatement of taxes for properties on Taylor Ave. and others:

Mayor Morrison stated that City Clerk Sullivan presented a memo recommending that the taxes on certain real properties be abated (copy of memo attached to original minutes).

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) abate the taxes as requested in Memo.

Emergency Resolution No. 500 to support Homes for America's Supportive Service Programs at Sunshine Village apartments in Pocomoke City, Maryland. To provide a mentoring program two times a week:

City Manager Crofoot stated that this is not an item of expenditure for the City. He recommends that the City approve this for a tax credit for America's Supportive Service Program at Sunshine Village apartments. It is a state run program and must be approved by the local jurisdiction to participate in the mentoring program.

In a motion (Trotter, Downing passed) to approve Emergency Resolution No.500 to support Homes for America's Supportive Service Programs at Sunshine Village apartments in Pocomoke City, Maryland.

Discuss request for abatement of real property taxes and waiver of water and sewer fees for MarVa Theater:

Mayor Morrison read a letter from Treasurer Will Stevenson, requesting the abatement of real estate taxes and waiver of water and sewer fees. Mayor Morrison stated that this is considered another donation to the MarVa and that the City has been doing this for sometime now.

In a motion (Tasker, Trotter passed) to abate the real property taxes and waiver of water and sewer fees for the fiscal year of 2016-2017.

Authorize Mayor to sign Emergency Resolution No. 501 to authorize submission of a grant application for Maryland Community Legacy Funding:

City Manager Crofoot stated that this would allow for the City to apply for Strategic Demolition Fund and Community Legacy. He stated that the City would apply for two grants for Strategic Demolition Fund; one for the old armory building and one for the old fire house building. Also, we will be applying for Community Legacy on behalf of the Costen House and Downtown for building improvements.

Councilwoman Downing asked about the bid on the firehouse, that was received.

City Manager Crofoot stated that it was a low bid and it was not accepted.

Councilwoman Downing stated they there were going to give it away at one time, why can't we give it away.

City Manager Crofoot stated that is not a viable option to give away.

In a motion (Tasker, Troast passed) to approve Emergency Resolution No. 501 to authorize submission of grant applications for Maryland Community Legacy Funding. (Councilwoman Downing opposed).

Comments from Council:

Councilwoman Downing stated that the ditch back of 8th Street and Laurel Street was filled in and needed to be cleaned out. Also, there is a cone there would like to know why the cone is there.

City Manager Crofoot stated that he would go over to look to see why the cone was there and see what needed to be done to remove it.

Comments from audience:

An individual from the audience stated that the water meter plates on 8th Street needed to be repaired as some of them needed to be filled in around the sides, it could cause someone to trip.

Monna VanEss stated that she would like to see flushing the hydrates continue year round.

With no further discussion (Tasker, Downing passed) to adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Approved: _____

Carol L. Sullivan
City Clerk