

The regular meeting of the Pocomoke City Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Monday, October 5, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

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

Councilman Tasker was not in attendance as he had surgery today.

Review Minutes:

In a motion (Trotter, Troast passed) to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2015 meeting as presented.

Review Bills:

In a motion (Downing, Trotter passed) the bills presented to be paid. (Copy of bill list attached to original minutes).

Laurie Becker to discuss activities for youth in Pocomoke City:

This item was taken off the agenda.

Review recommendation from Planning and Zoning Commission for approval of site plans for Auto Zone building on 2112 Old Snow Hill Road:

Mayor Morrison read a letter from acting Chairman Alex Kagan recommending the approval of site plans for 2112 Old Snow Hill Road.

In a motion (Hirshman, Troast passed) to approve site plans for 2112 Old Snow Hill Road for a new Auto Zone building.

Discuss letter from Tri-County Council concerning appointment of municipal representative from Worcester County to that board:

In a motion (Downing, Hirshman passed) to appoint R. Dale Trotter to be considered to represent Worcester County to the Tri-County Council.

Mr. Mike Thornton, EMS Director, to discuss replacing personal protective equipment from money saved on purchase of ambulance:

Mr. Thornton explained why he needed to purchase the personal protective equipment and that he had originally requested 14 for the budget year 2015/2016 but because of funding it was cut to 6 units for the full-time employees. The funds would be reallocated from the purchase of an ambulance.

After discussion (Trotter, Hirshman passed) to reallocate the funds to purchase 8 additional protective equipment.

Mr. Mike Phillips, Water/Wastewater Superintendent to discuss reallocation of funds from Radio Read Meters:

City Manager Crofoot stated that funds need to be moved from capital outlay for Radio Read Meters in the amount of \$1,800 for sand blasting and applying epoxy coating to all piping structures ladders, and walls at the Main Pump Station. We are not meeting the standards on operating the plant legally. We hope to have a response to MDE by November 2 on our progress with the violation notice. We have already incurred the cost of \$41,800 to complete some of the work that needs to be done.

In a motion (Troast, Trotter passed) to transfer the funds to pay for the invoice in the amount of \$41,800 to Pro Coat for work that has been completed at the Main Pump Station.

Mr. Mike Phillips, Water/Wastewater Superintendent to give update on Wastewater Treatment Plant:

This item was discussed above with reallocating funds for necessary maintenance at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. As Mr. Crofoot stated that the Wastewater Treatment Plant needs to be given a priority to get the plant back in compliance and operating efficiently. There will be a meeting next Tuesday to discuss further improvements for the plant.

Mr. Mike Phillips, Water/Wastewater Superintendent to discuss repairs on 8th Street lift station and uniforms for employees:

Mr. Phillips stated that the 8th Street lift station has two pumps. One has two large holes in it and it is not functioning correctly. It would cost \$14,326.67 to replace the pump. This needs to be replaced as it could cause overflows. The water treatment plant, wells, and water tower are not communicating with each other. He stated that he had obtained quotes from John Funk, Jr in the amount of \$5,995.88 to upgrade the Well SCADA RTUs to avoid potential problems. Mr. Phillips also stated that his employees needed new department uniforms and he would like to request money to be reallocated from capital outlay in the amount of \$1,000. The money would be reallocated from capital outlay for alarm lights and hour meters for lift stations.

In a motion (Troast, Trotter passed) to approve the request to reallocate funds from capital outlay in the amount of \$21,322.55 for a new 8th Street lift station motor, Water Treatment Plant well upgrades and uniforms for his department.

Mr. Bill East, Director of Public Works to discuss reallocation of funds from unfilled position to capital outlay for storms and building repairs/renovations:

Mr. East stated that at this time he could operate his department without the two new employees that was in his budget. He would like to reallocate the funds for the two new positions. At this time he needs to have funds for “Storms”, and the two new trucks need linex and tool boxes. He will also need a mini excavator.

Mr. Crofoot stated that Public Works Department is involved with the Wastewater Treatment Plant issues and will need \$46,973 moved from other accounts and is asking for approval.

In a motion (Troast, Hirshman passed) to allow the re-allotment of funds for two new employees to building maintenance, storms, and uniforms for employees.

City Manager to announce a grant from Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$15,000 to repaint and restripe the tennis courts at Cypress Park:

City Manager Crofoot announced that we had received a letter from Maryland Department of Natural Resources informing us that a request from Community Parks and Playgrounds was granted in the amount of \$15,000 to restripe and repaint the tennis courts at Cypress Park. The total cost of the project would be \$18,000.

City Manager to present list of proposed items to be declared surplus:

City Manager Crofoot stated that the City has several vehicles, miscellaneous computer items, office desk and file cabinets that need to be declared surplus. He thanked Carol Sullivan and Bill East for getting the upstairs storage room cleaned out. He stated that we now have offsite storage for our documents and now we have a conference room upstairs. He would like to donate the cars to a non-profit group that could use them to get folks to their jobs.

City Manager to discuss consideration of parking restrictions on Linden Ave:

City Manager stated that he would like to recommend a “No Parking” on west side of Linden Avenue, from Front Street to Fourth Street south right side.

In a motion (Trotter, Troast passed) to allow “No Parking” on west side of Linden Avenue, from Front Street to Fourth Street south right side.

Approve to advertise for sealed bids for 401 Fifth Street:

This item was taken off agenda.

Council Items:

Councilwoman Troast stated that St. James United Methodist Church would be having their 150th Anniversary on October 25 and she would like for the City to do a Proclamation for the event. She also stated that White Oaks and Homewood Drive were in need of street

sweeping. Also she would like to see the Water Department do regularly flushing around 14th and Cedar Street and 10th and Cedar Street.

Councilman Trotter stated that he would like to thank the City Manager Crofoot and Bill East for the work completed on Linden Ave.

Councilman Hirshman stated a street sign was missing at 5th Street and Market.

Special Correspondence:

Mayor Morrison read a letter from Save the Youth thanking the City for the financial assistance that they receive each year.

Comments from the Audience:

A residence was complaining about the pot holes throughout town. He wanted to know why it takes so long to have them repaired.

Someone else stated that while they were out flushing the water could they also flush in the area of 10th& 14th Street and 8th Street.

Mr. Ronnie White stated that there is a tree on the corner of Walnut and 10th Street that needed to be trimmed back as it was blocking the view.

Ms. MonnaVanEss thanked the Council for updating the website. She also asked them to consider adding District 4 to the election this year for a two year term.

With no further business a motion was made by (Trotter, Troast passed) the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 P.M.

Approved:_____

Carol L. Sullivan
City Clerk