

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
PUBLIC SESSION
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2014
7:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Councilmember Yeargin called the meeting to order at 7:06p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant (Late), Councilmember Johnie L. Higgs, Sr., Councilmember Eugene Kennedy, Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms (Excused), Councilmember Aretha Stephenson (Excused), Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Christopher Cotillo, Chief of Police, LaTasha C. Gatling, City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Higgs

1.1.4. Approval of Agenda

It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Kennedy to approve the agenda. The motion carried and the agenda was unanimously approved.

1.1.5. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, January 6, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Thursday,

January 9, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Public Session meeting minutes for Monday, January 13, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Friday, January 17, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the Closed Session meeting minutes for Friday, January 17, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. PRESENTATIONS:

2.1. Swearing-In of Police Officers

2.1a. Vernon Edmonds, Officer

Marcellus Long, Officer

Naomi G. Walthall, Officer

- Mayor Grant had sworn in the above officers.
- Chief Cotillo welcomed the officers and explained the hiring processing for the officers

2.2. Marcus Jones, Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department Fire Chief-Plaque Presentation

- Assistant Chief Jones presented the Thank You plaque to the City of Seat Pleasant from the banquet held on Saturday, January 28, 2014.
- Assistant Chief Jones stated that Councilmember Porter was in attendance and they wanted to present the plaque to the full council.

2.3. Tawana Greene, Care-End Funeral Consulting

- Ms. Greene presented to the City Council the Carend Funeral Consulting, LLC package for funeral expenses.

3. LEGISLATION

3.1. None

4. REPORTS:

4.1. Mayor's Report

- Mayor Grant stated that last month the Public Session had discussion centered around the City Center Project and they will continue to raise the issue with citizens to express their concerns.
- Mayor Grant stated that in the democracy we should never allow a decision to be made without the residents to have an input.
- Mayor Grant stated that it is important that we as elected officials should always put our residents first who put us in our position.
- Mayor Grant stated that the Office of the Mayor is requesting that the Council rescind the motion made on November 25, 2013.
- Mayor Grant stated that we don't know what the end result could be and we do not know the final numbers.
- Mayor Grant stated that anyone can give any information without presenting the facts.
- Mayor Grant stated that if the decision of the Council is based on the personal likes of the Mayor, they need to get over it, as he is the Mayor of the City.
- Mayor Grant stated that it is a project across the street in Ward 5 and he has requested to meet with the representative of that Ward who has refused to meet with him.
- Mayor Grant stated that it is respectable to request the meeting.
- Mayor Grant stated that he will continue to fight for the residents of the City.
- Mayor Grant stated that last month was only the beginning of what will take place tonight. You will hear from the young people of the City who could have taken advantage of jobs that would've been available through the building of the project.
- The young people will be the Mayor, Council, City Administrator, City Clerk, and Chief of Police.

4.4. City Administrator Report:

- Ms. Gatling stated that she will be very brief tonight, the Department reports are on the kiosk.
- Ms. Gatling stated that the windows at City Hall will be replaced next week.

- Ms. Gatling stated that she had received a few telephone calls regarding the hole and she was not pleased with the work. The Public Works will be contacting them tomorrow.
- Ms. Gatling stated that the other streets will be repaired in the summer with grant funding. Please contact City Hall and speak with Ms. Darby with the street that needs to be repaired.
- Ms. Gatling requested for citizens to contact her with any concerns and that they inform her.
- Ms. Gatling stated that she meets with citizens every Thursday at 3:00pm and she has not had any meetings in awhile.

4.6. Police Department Report

- Ms. Gatling stated that the Department reports are on the kiosk.

5. CITIZEN COMMENT

Amanda Feggans-300 69th Pl

- Ms. Feggans stated that she has resided in the City since 1965 and she has never seen a meeting such as the one from last month.
- Ms. Feggans inquired if the City still had a Code Enforcement Officer. She stated that we have a new residents on the corner of 69th and Drylog. They are putting their bags on the street.
- Ms. Feggans stated that it appears that someone is parking a car with District tags on the corner of 69th St. Ms. Gatling stated that the white car was towed.
- Ms. Feggans stated that it is a sign on the corner that says no parking and cars are parking their every Saturday.
- Ms. Feggans requested that they do something about that area.

Matthew Page-609 70th Pl

- Mr. Page stated that some of them have watched him grow up and don't know the impact that they have on his life.
- Mr. Page stated Mayor Grant helped him construct his first resume.
- Mr. Page stated that Councilwoman Simms attempted to help him with his homework.
- Mr. Page stated that they are looking at themselves and some of the decision that you make have an impact on their lives.
- Mr. Page stated that there is value in support of the youths.
- Mr. Page stated if the City becomes complacent it is an equivalent to death.

- Mr. Page stated that he may not agree with everything that Mayor Grant has said. He stated that he can compliment Mayor Grant on one thing, that he cares for the City.
- Mr. Page stated that he is asking the Council to reconsider their decision.
- Mr. Page stated that as elected officials you are in office to have a voice for the residents and those that don't have a voice such as the children.
- Mr. Page stated that your personal decision should not influence your decision.

Ms. Dorothy Pope-402 70th Pl.

- Ms. Pope stated that she would like to say that the present Mayor Eugene Grant loves this City, and she's not saying that other Mayors did not love the City, but he shows it.
- Ms. Pope stated that he walks the community and assist when a tree is down and you will not know he is the Mayor because he is dressed just like the residents.
- Ms. Pope stated that this particular setting reminds her of the setting in Ephesus. She stated that where there is difference there will be friction.
- Ms. Pope stated that they need to keep the spirit of the bond of peace. Confusion will not bring anything out of it, but peace will bring it forward.

Kenneth Green, Sr-517 68th Pl

- Mr. Green stated that he has had a conversation with Michael Graham and in their discussion, it was stated that the Council walked away from the discussion.
- Mr. Green stated that the Council voted for the project and walked away from it without any knowledge to the people or to Mr. Graham.
- Mr. Green stated that what the Council walked away from was the City's future and the senior housing.
- Mr. Green stated that he has resided in the City under Arrington, Kennedy and Mayor Grant.
- Mr. Green asked the Council President to ask the Council to be willing to move forward with the City Center Project. If they are not willing to move forward can they step down.
- Mr. Green asked the Council President to rescind the motion on the City Center Project.
- Mr. Green stated that he is a product of Seat Pleasant, as he was raised in the City and was educated in the City.

- Mr. Green stated that he is a business owner and retired from Pepco early and he has dealt with politics and he worked on Clinton transition team, and the Obama team.
- Mr. Green stated that the residents are not ignorant, as the Council think they are.
- Mr. Green stated that he is asking the Council President to ask the Council to rescind their motion.

Mr. Germaine Rally-309 70th Pl

- Mr. Rally stated that he will be brief, as the comments had summed up his concerns.
- Mr. Rally stated that he has resided in the City all his life and his parents had grown up in the City.
- Mr. Rally stated that he does not understand how the project could have been cancelled.
- Mr. Rally stated that when he looks outside he does not see what he use to see.
- Mr. Rally stated that he is asking that they at least continue the negotiations and talk to the youth.

Mr. Brandon Water-305 69th Pl

- Mr. Water stated that he is a resident of the City and he been here his entire life.
- Mr. Water stated that that they spent their summer in the Greendale Center and it kept them out of trouble.
- Mr. Water stated that the courts are run down and the field is muddy.
- Mr. Water stated that it will be good to see something new in that area.
- Mr. Water stated that the project will create more jobs, activities for the senior and the youth.
- Mr. Water stated the last meeting he attended is when they laid the project out to the community.
- Mr. Water stated that he does not understand why it was cancelled and he sees nothing but benefits from the development of the project.
- Mr. Water stated that if you don't do it for yourself, do it for the residents.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1. None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1. None

8 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8.1. AARP Tax Preparation, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers, Every Wednesday, February 5, 2014-Wednesday, April 9, 2014 from 10:00a.m.-3:00p.m. Appointment Required**
- 8.2. Black History Month Activity, Black Wax Museum, Friday, February 14, 2014. Must register to attend!!! Seats are first come first serve basis. Bus will leave City Hall at 8:30a.m.**
- 8.3. PGCMA Meeting, Thursday, February 20, 2014 from 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m. North Brentwood Town Hall, 4009 Wallace Rd. North Brentwood, MD 20722**
- 8.4. Black History Month Activity, Movie Night, Friday, February 21, 2014, Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department, 6305 Addison Rd, Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 "FREE" and Open to the Public at 7:00p.m. Showing the Movie "42"**
- 8.5. District 24 Night, Monday, February 24, 2014 from 6:00pm-8:00pm, Lowe House Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401 Room 170 & 180 Please call City Hall to register to attend by Thursday, February 20, 2014.**
- 8.6. Ward II Community Meeting, Thursday, February 27, 2014, Pleasant Homes Community Center, 6810 Greig St., Seat Pleasant, MD from 6:00p.m.-8:00p.m.**
- 8.7. Black History Month Activity, Movie Night, Friday, February 28, 2014, Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department, 6305 Addison Rd, Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 "FREE" and Open to the Public at 7:00p.m. Showing the Movie "The Great Debaters"**
- 8.8. Regular Work Session, Monday, March 3, 2014 Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.**
- 8.9. Public Session, Monday, March 10, 2014 Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 7:00p.m.**

9 ADJOURN

ADJOURN-The meeting adjourned at 8:04p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham
City Clerk