

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
PUBLIC SESSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2014  
7:00P.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Councilmember Yeargin called the meeting to order at 7:05p.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. (Late), 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 Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Porter 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 Kennedy to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, February 3, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
  
- It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the Public Session meeting minutes for

Monday, February 10, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Kennedy to approve the Closed Session meeting minutes for Thursday, March 6, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Porter and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Thursday, March 6, 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 Wednesday, March 12, 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 Thursday, March 31, 2014. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

## **2. PRESENTATIONS:**

### **2.1. Cecelia King, Adjuster-Metro Public Adjustment, Inc.**

- Ms. King stated that when a person purchase a home the insurance company may not inform them of the opportunities to add or delete things from the home.
- Ms. King stated that when a situation occurs in the home the home owner usually call the insurance company.
- Ms. King stated that she would like to schedule an appointment with the homeowners to review their policy and any past claims.
- Ms. King stated that she would recommend that the home owner have someone to work with them on their behalf.

- Ms. King stated that they have positions open with their company to become a Public Adjuster. You will be required to pass a test.
- Ms. King stated that the public adjuster fights on behalf of the home owner.
- Ms. King stated that she has a flyer for any person that is interested.
- Council President Yeargin inquired of the fee for the Public Adjuster.
- Ms. King stated that the fee for the Public Adjuster is a minimum of 10%.
- Ms. King stated that for the review of the policy it is free.
- Ms. King stated that the Adjuster can get you more money from your insurance company.
- Councilmember Porter inquired of the Field Adjuster.
- Ms. King stated that the Metro Public Adjuster will send a field adjuster out after the form is completed. They will take pictures and complete drawings.
- Councilmember Higgs inquired if she can come to his home to conduct an assessment of his policy.
- Mrs. Kennedy stated that it was suggested by Councilmember Porter to have a meeting or seminar where residents can come out for you to meet with them.
- Ms. King stated that she can provide you with a great rate sheet and you can refer a friend to the company.
- Mayor Grant stated that what Mrs. Kennedy is asking if your company have a seminar that individuals can attend to find out more information on the company.
- Ms. King stated they do not provide seminars, but you can contact them for additional information.

### **3. LEGISLATION**

#### **3.1. None**

### **4. REPORTS:**

#### **4.1. Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Grant stated that he had no report for the month of April.

#### **4.3. Dave McGill, Fire Chief**

- Chief McGill stated that they are in the process of installing smoke detectors in the homes.
- Chief McGill stated that if you know anyone that is interested in volunteering for the Fire Department, please have them to log into [www.seatpleasaantfiredepartment.com](http://www.seatpleasaantfiredepartment.com)

- Mrs. Kennedy inquired if the smoke detectors provide a replacement date.
- Chief McGill stated that they do not and it is best to change the batteries during daylight savings time or every six months.

#### **4.4. City Administrator Report:**

- Ms. Gatling stated that she will very brief tonight with her report.
- Ms. Gatling reported that the properties on Foote St., G St and 68th will be demolished.
- Ms. Gatling stated that we had new windows installed in City Hall today using grant funding.

#### **4.6. Police Department Report**

- Chief Cotillo stated that the City of Seat Pleasant was awarded a grant to have officers work at the school and the bus stops. We had reports of the people running between the school buses.
- Chief Cotillo stated the Police Department will be doing foot patrol in each Wards

### **5. CITIZEN COMMENT**

#### **Carla Hart, 303 68th Pl**

- Ms. Hart stated that she had spoken about the cars speeding on Crown St.
- Chief Cotillo stated that they have the officers patrolling the area.
- Ms. Hart stated that there has been gun shots and activity in Goodwin Park at night.
- Ms. Hart stated that the Council are residents in Seat Pleasant and they represent the City.
- Ms. Hart stated that she would like to see the Council in the neighborhood reporting incidents.
- Ms. Hart stated that she would like to hear reports from the Council in the meetings.
- Ms. Hart stated that she's not satisfied with the work of the Council and she do not see the Council being cohesive with the Mayor.
- Council President Yeargin stated that Ms. Hart has four representative that she can address her concerns too, which is Councilmember Kennedy, Councilmember Porter, Councilmember Higgs and Mayor Grant.

#### **Mary Barber-609 70th Pl**

- Ms Barber stated that she has seen cars going down to the park at night.

- Ms. Barber stated that if the City's has money to pay someone \$20,000 more that has not been working for less than a year, they can afford to put lights in the park.
- Ms. Barber stated that she is concerned with the activity in the park and she does not feel safe.
- Ms. Barber stated that she would like to see speed humps on her street.

**Mr. James Epperson-514 68th Pl**

- Mr. Epperson stated that he is coming to address some concerns that he has shared with Councilmember Simms over the years.
- Mr. Epperson stated that the property that had burned down on 510 68th Street needs to be torn down.
- Mayor Grant stated that the property listed in the report is not correct. The property that will be demolished is 510 68th St.
- Mr. Epperson stated that you have some people riding on motorcycles at night with no lights.
- Mr. Epperson stated that he is sick of the profanity coming out of the mouths of the residents.
- Mr. Epperson stated that how can the Council provide a person with a \$20,000 raise.
- Council President Yeargin stated that the budget is a proposed budget.
- Mr. Epperson stated that about two years ago the Council fought against the Police Department and the staff who wanted a raise.
- Mr. Epperson stated that he is for people getting a salary increase, but it should be fair.
- **Mr. Roosevelt Cox-60 Crown St.**
- Mr. Cox stated that he is concerned about the speeding on the street.
- Mr. Cox wanted to know what is being done with the building at the park.
- Council President Yeargin stated that the Feggans Center will be demolished.
- Mr. Cox inquired when will the building be demolished.
- Ms. Gatling stated that before a building can be demolished you must have letters from the all the utilities company.
- Ms. Gatling stated that we are waiting on Washington Gas and they need to send someone out to remove the meter.
- Mr. Cox inquired on activities for the youth in the City.
- Ms. Gatling stated that we had several activities in the month of February and no one participated.

- Ms. Gatling stated that she has the grant writer specifically looking for grants to provide activities in the City.
- Ms. Gatling stated that we are posting information on the City's Face book page, twitter, marquee and flyers in the Community.
- Ms. Gatling stated that flyers are being put in the Community and residents are not showing up for activities.
- Mr. Cox stated that we need the Councilmember's to get out in the community and share the information with the residents.
- Mr. Cox stated that we need to do something more positive for the community, such as a Summer Camp for the youth who parents are involved.
- Mr. Cox stated that he has a Face book page, but the City is not a friend of his on Face book, as they are not doing anything for the community.
- Mr. Cox stated that the City is going backwards.
- Ms. Hart stated that she has not seen anything happening in the community.
- Ms. Hart stated that the residents do not take any of the Councilmember's seriously and they are not doing anything.
- Mrs. Kennedy stated that she and Councilmember Kennedy has gone door to door to inform the residents of what is going on and asked if they had any concerns.

**Ms. Jacqui Battle-500-504 70th St.**

- Ms. Battle stated that one of the concerns is to have more police presence in the community.
- Ms. Battle stated years ago the Council had set up for the Police Department to sit up by the community park on 70th St.
- Ms. Battle stated that the Police Department could sit there to clock the speeding on her street.
- Ms. Battle stated that her Councilmember has not done anything for the ward in about a year.
- Ms. Battle stated that she does not know when they have ward meetings.
- Ms. Battle stated that when Councilmember Simms first became the representative she had one or two meetings.
- Chief Cotillo stated that the Police Department is working, as they had written 148 citation, crime is down in Seat Pleasant by 3%, but it is up in District 3 by 10%.
- Chief stated that they have speed camera's, which is generating revenue for the City.

- Chief stated that the officers are working they are dealing with lock ups, transporting to the County and we may have two officers on the street, which means this will put one officer on the street.
- Chief stated that they are trying and we had loss two officers.

**Mr. James Wright-500 70th St.**

- Mr. Wright stated that he has been out of pocket for about 5-6 months.
- Mr. Wright thanked Mayor Grant about the Health initiative
- Mr. Wright stated that he wanted to speak in reference to the Gala for the Police Department in September.
- Mr. Wright stated that he will be sending an e-mail to Ms. Gatling to find out if the City wanted to provide any support for the banquet.
- Mr. Wright stated that he is working with an organization that will be working on the Gala.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**6.1. None**

**7. NEW BUSINESS:**

**7.1. None**

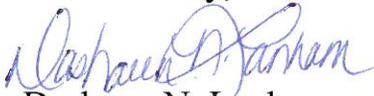
**8 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1. FY2015 Budget Hearing, Monday, April 21, 2014, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.**
- 8.2. Ward II Community Meeting, Thursday, April 24, 2014, Pleasant Homes Community Center, 6810 Greig St., Seat Pleasant, MD from 6:00p.m.-8:00p.m.**
- 8.3. FY2015 Budget Hearing, Saturday, April 26, 2014, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 10:00a.m.**
- 8.4. Regular Work Session, Monday, May 5, 2014, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.**
- 8.5. Ward II Mother & Daughter Tea, Saturday, May 10, 2014, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD from 1:30p.m.-5:00p.m.**
- 8.6. Public Session, Monday, May 12, 2014, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers at 7:00p.m.**
- 8.7. Annual Seat Pleasant Day, Saturday, May 17, 2014, Ceremony at 9:30a.m., Parade at 10:00a.m., Park Activities begin at Noon.**

**9 ADJOURN**

**ADJOURN**-The meeting adjourned at 8:08p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham

City Clerk

APPROVED 05/12/14