

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
CHARTER AMENDMENT PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023
7:30P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Councilmember President McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:33p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Councilmember Monica Higgs, Councilmember Hope Love, Councilmember Shireka McCarthy, Mayor Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald Raynor Sr. (Excused), Councilmember Kizzie Scott, Councilmember Gloria Sistrunk

Staff: Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Myneca Ojo, City Manager,

1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

- Mayor Porter gave the invocation.

2. Meeting Topics:

2.1 Charter Amendment Resolution-City Clerk Dashaun Lanham

- Council President McCarthy requested for the City Clerk to give a brief overview of the Charter Amendment Resolution
- City Clerk Lanham stated that the Charter Amendment Resolution was presented to the City Council in May and in September under Charter Amendment Resolution CA-22-05. The City Council had agreed to separate the sections into individual Charter Amendment Resolutions by each sections.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- Maurice Simpson stated that he would say for the record his disappointed in the City Attorney presence to provide a thorough neutral and informed summary of the legal matters that has huge implication to the city. He continues to be disappointed in his lack of attendance.
- Mr. Simpson stated that he does realize that the City Attorney represents other municipalities, and his presence is more frequent there.
- Mr. Simpson stated that he is not sure if the issue is Administration or council for his lack of attendance. He feels that it is important for the citizens to hear his comments as it relates to the legal matters.

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4. LEGISLATION

4.1 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-01 Amendment of the City Charter for Number, Selection and Term was introduced by the City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

- Council Vice President Scott stated that wanted the council to consider reducing the term from four-years to two years. The City Council had a lot of conversation regarding the job duties of the council, she feels that it will allow the council to engage more with the community. We had more engagement during the time trying to fill the vacancy for mayor and at-large. She feels that the council can get more done if the terms are shortened and the residents get lost in a four-year term, and this will allow the council to engage more.
- Councilmember Higgs inquired if his successors should be changed to their successors.

4.2 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-02 Amendment of the City Charter for Qualifications of a Councilpersons was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.3 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-03 Amendment of the City Charter for Filling of Vacancies was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.4 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-04 Amendment of the City Charter for Forfeiture of Office was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.5 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-05 Amendment of the City Charter for Qualification of Mayor was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.6 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-06 Amendment of the City Charter for Removal of Members was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.7 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-07 Amendment of the City Charter for Registration was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.8 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-08 Amendment of the City Charter for Special Election was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

- Councilmember Higgs inquired if at-Large needs to be added since the legislation list mayor and council.

4.9 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-09 Amendment of the City Charter for Preservation of Ballots was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.10 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-10 Amendment of the City Charter for Women was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.11 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-11 Amendment of the City Charter for a New Section Term Limits was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

4.12 Charter Amendment Resolution CA-23-12 Amendment of the City Charter for the City Manager was introduced by City Council and read by the City Clerk on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

- The City Council had requested for the City Attorney to attend the meeting on Monday, January 9, 2023.
- City Clerk Lanham stated that the City Attorney presence was requested for the meeting but he could not attend due a meeting at another municipality closed session meeting.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.1 Public Session, Monday, January 9, 2023, by Zoom Webinar at 7:00p.m., Meeting Link details are available on the city's website, Seat Pleasant, MD

5.2 445th General Assembly Session, Wednesday, January 11, 2023-April 10, 2023

5.3 Vision Board Party, Saturday, January 14, 2023, Seat Pleasant Activity Center, 5720 Addison Rd., Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 at 12:00pm.

Council President McCarthy stated that this is here annual event and if the city council had magazines, please let her know and she will come to pick them up.

6. ADJOURN

6.1 The meeting was adjourned at 8:10p.m.

Submitted by,

DocuSigned by:
Dashaun N. Lanham
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Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED 02/13/2023