

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
REGULAR WORK SESSION
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021
6:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1 Call to Order

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 6:11p.m.

1.2 Roll Call

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

Staff: Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Jeannelle B. Wallace, Interim City Manager

1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Higgs.

1.4. Approval of Agenda

It was motioned by Councilmember Sistrunk and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the agenda.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Monica Higgs, Hope Love, Shireka McCarthy, Kelly Porter, Gerald Raynor Sr, Gloria L Sistrunk

No: Kizzie Scott,

2. PRESENTATIONS:

2.1 Seat Pleasant Bond Bill Status-24th Delegation

- Mrs. Wallace stated that an invitation was sent to the delegation to join the meeting.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she had received an e-mail from Delegate Harrison stated that she was unaware of any problems with the Bond Bill. Delegate Harrison stated that she will look into the situation and respond to the City via Mrs. Wallace.

- Mrs. Wallace stated that that someone contacted the Board of Public Works who issues the funding stating that the city was going to use the money for furniture.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the Bond Bill was to offset the cost overruns for the City Hall and Environmental Justice Building.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the delegation was contacted by the Board of Public Works to inquire of the status and the delegation was unaware of the bond bill request.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that due to COVID there was a delay in deliverables and construction staff contracted COVID, which caused a gap in financing.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that we are awaiting on the delegation to contact the Board of Public Works to move the Bond Bill along.
- Council President stated that he had requested for Mrs. Wallace to contact the authorities regarding this issue as the city has not been notified that this money was being withheld.
- Council President Porter inquired if the city council had any comments regarding this issue?
- Council President Porter stated that he is requesting that we continue to push forward on this matter.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she feels that the City Council should submit a letter with their signatures to the delegation.
- Council President suggested that the Council contact the delegation individually.
- Council President Porter requested for Mrs. Wallace to draft a letter and forward it to the City Council.
- Council President Porter suggested that the City Council put together talking points to ensure that each person is on the same page.
- It was the consensus of the Council to have talking points and the draft of the letter to the delegation.

3. REPORTS:

3.1. Mayor's Report

- Mayor Grant was absent from the meeting and no report was submitted for the month of July.

3.2 City Manager Report

- Mrs. Wallace stated that the city has been under scrutiny due to leak of videos. The Prince George's County Police Department has offered to oversee the police department until the investigation.

- Mrs. Wallace stated that she is recommending that Prince George's County conducts the investigation with the internal affairs under Major McCreary direction will be conducted under sixty days.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that SA Braveboy feels that the leaks of video may compromise some of the cases that they may ultimately lead to prosecute.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the Council option is select any of the three agencies to conduct the investigation.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the USDA close out project is at the end of the punch out list and the project is scheduled to close out on August 7, 2021. However, we do not feel that the project will be closed out on that date due to repairs that are ongoing.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the finance department submitted YTD expenditures and we just concluded the 2019 audit and in the process of the 2020 audit. The 2019 audit has been submitted to the state. They are reconciling all bank accounts and payroll for the 2020 audit.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that there were several disciplinary actions in two departments, police and EJD.
- The EJD department is awaiting on a response for an RFP for street repair.
- The City Manager Department decided to re-advertise for the RFP due some concerns.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the EJD department will be fully staffed as of July 18, 2021.
- The waste management division and the Public Works are both working five days a week.
- The Public Safety department is working on enforcing the traffic concerns on Central Avenue and the removal of weapons from the street while passing through the city. They have had increased in carjacking in the city by juveniles passing through the city from other parts of Maryland or the District.
- The grants division was awarded \$500,000 to renovate two homes in Seat Pleasant.
- Mrs. Wallace stated when information is received from citizens or council, please contact the Council or officials of the city. It is unconscionable that people continue to put misinformation out about the city.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the City Clerk has continued to collect business personal property taxes, PIA request and pursuing delinquent businesses and not allowing them to renew their license. The City Clerk department has coordinated with other departments to ensure that the audio and visual

equipment is set-up in Council Chambers. The City Clerk department is working to transfer ninety years of records to the state archives.

- Mrs. Wallace stated that the public engagement department is working to have a cable channel for seat pleasant. This will allow the residents to go back and look at prior meetings of the city.
 - Mrs. Wallace stated that her office has been in communication to request for PEPCO to relocate the power plant within the city. She had received an e-mail response from the staff person at PEPCO who had no idea that the power plant was located within the city.
 - Mrs. Wallace stated that she had numerous communications with the legal team with the City Attorney and LGIT attorney on various issues. The Community Housing Partners has drafted the MOU, which under review by the City Attorney. CHP had a concern with one of the revisions by the City Attorney and it has been addressed. They are very anxious to move forward with developing a mixed-use building.
 - The HR department has been working with the City Manager to address the personnel concerns. They had worked on selecting an interview panel for each of the open positions for CFO, City Manager and Director of Environmental Justice. The interviews will incur virtually and in person in the next two weeks. They will meet with the candidate of their choice; follow-up and two or three candidates will be submitted to the City Council to conduct an interview.
 - Mrs. Wallace stated that the Quarterly Reports are included in Board Docs and will be on the city's website.
 - Council President Porter regarding a city sign that was destroyed on MLK and Eastern Avenue. It was discussion of the sunken roadway on central avenue before Cindy Lane near cabin branch that may be a sink hole in the middle lane.
 - Mrs. Wallace stated that she is sending an e-mail to Director Mosley to contact SHA.
- Council President Porter inquired if there were any collaborations with other departments on the gun removal from the street.
- Council President Porter inquired of the status of the sign.
 - Mrs. Wallace stated that the cost to install and permitting will be approximately \$20,000 and if we have the sign installed in the area of the development the sign will need to be removed.
 - Mrs. Wallace stated that the council will need to consider a place to permanently install the sign.

- Council President Porter stated that the development will take some time and the developer can pay for the cost of the sign to removed.

3.3. City Council Committee Reports

3.4 Economic, Planning, Development & Housing Committee

- Councilmember Raynor stated that we met to review the draft MOU and it was requested for the City Attorney for review and to be presented to the City Council.

3.5 Finance & Budget Committee

- The Finance and Budget Committee did not have report for the month of July.

3.6 Government Affairs & Technology Committee

- The Government Affairs & Technology Committee did not have report for the month of July.

3.7 Human Services, Health and Education Committee

- The Human Services Health and education Committee did not have a report for the month of July.

3.8 Public Safety Committee

- The Public Safety Committee did not have a report for the month of July.

3.9 Environmental Justice & Transportation Committee-

- The Environmental Justice & Transportation Committee did not have report for the month of July.

4. LEGISLATION

4.1. Resolution R-22-01 Declaration and Consent for Council Recess

Motion to Approve Resolution R-22-01 Declaration and Consent for Council Recess

Motion by Shireka McCarthy second by Gerald Raynor Sr

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Monica Higgs, Hope Love, Shireka McCarthy, Kelly Porter, Gerald Raynor Sr, Gloria L Sistrunk, Kizzie Scott

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. 90th Anniversary Community Event

It was motioned whether to have the 90th Anniversary Event

Motion by Shireka McCarthy, second by Gloria L Sistrunk.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

Yes: Kelly Porter, Gerald Raynor Sr

No: Monica Higgs, Hope Love, Shireka McCarthy, Gloria L Sistrunk

Abstain: Kizzie Scott

Amend the motion to approve the budget 90th anniversary event

Motion by Shireka McCarthy, second by Gloria L Sistrunk.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

Yes: Kelly Porter, Gerald Raynor Sr, Gloria L Sistrunk

No: Monica Higgs, Hope Love, Shireka McCarthy, Kizzie Scott

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Approval of Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Final Audit

Motion to Approve the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Audit Report

Motion by Gerald Raynor Sr, second by Shireka McCarthy.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

Yes: Monica Higgs, Hope Love, Shireka McCarthy, Kelly Porter, Gerald Raynor Sr, Gloria L Sistrunk

Abstain: Kizzie Scott

6.2. City Hall Building Operation

- It was the consensus of the Council that City Hall will be opened Monday-Friday 7:00am-7:00pm closed holidays and weekends with the approval for weekends and late meetings.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.1 Regular Work Session, Monday, September 13, 2021, Seat Pleasant City Council by Zoom Video at 6:00p.m. Meeting link details will be on the city's website

7.2 Public Session, Monday, September 13, 2021, by Zoom Video at 8:00p.m. Meeting link details will be on the city's website

8. ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 8:22p.m.

Submitted by,

DocuSigned by:

Dashaun N. Lanham

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Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVED 09/13/2021