

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
PUBLIC SESSION  
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021  
7:00P.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 8:34p.m.

**1.1. Roll Call**

Present: Eugene W. 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

**1.2 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

The Invocation was given by Councilmember Higgs.

**1.3 Approval of Agenda**

It was motioned by Councilmember Sistrunk and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Public Session Agenda with the removal of 8.6. The motion carried, and the agenda was unanimously approved by the Council.

Motion by Gloria L. Sistrunk, second by Gerald Raynor Sr

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**1.4 Approval of Regular Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 7, 2021**

Motion to Approve the Regular Work Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 7, 2021

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, Kizzie Scott

**1.5 Approval of Public Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 14, 2021**

Motion to Approve Public Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 14, 2021

Motion by Gloria L Sistrunk, second by Gerald Raynor Sr.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**1.6 Approval of Special Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 10, 2021**

Motion to Approve Closed Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 21, 2021

Motion by Gloria L. Sistrunk, second by Monica Higgs.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**1.7 Approval of Closed Session Meeting Minutes for Monday, June 21, 2021**

Approval of Closed Session Meeting Minutes on Monday, June 21, 2021

Motion by Shireka McCarthy, second by Monica Higgs.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

**2. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

The city did not receive any written or verbal comments from the citizens.

**3. PRESENTATION**

3.1. None.

**4. LEGISLATION**

- The City Council did not introduce any legislation at the Public Session held on Monday, July 12, 2021.

## **5. REPORTS:**

### **5.1 Council President Report**

- Council President stated that his report for the month of June has been uploaded in BoardDocs.

### **5.2. Mayor Eugene W. Grant**

- Mayor Grant was absent from the meeting and did not submit a written report for the month of July.

### **5.3. City Manager Report-Jeannelle B. Wallace, Interim City Manager**

- Mrs. Wallace stated that she neglected to mention or provide an update to the City Council on SPICE.
- The City Attorney has been in communication with the board chair regarding the dissolution forms being submitted to the state. The Board Chair has requested for the city to sign a release agreeing not to pursue the board after the documents are turned over to the city. The release is being drafted and it will take some time before she can provide the draft release to the City Council. The City Attorney stated that he will put some language in the release to protect the city.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she located the compliance officer for Merrill Lynch regarding the closing of the account. The account was not closed due to the board chair requesting additional time due to an internal audit. The Compliance Officer informed Mrs. Wallace that he will freeze the account, but he cannot speak any further with the city attorney as he has gone further than he could with the discussion regarding the account. The City Attorney has not heard from the board Chair.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that she forwarded the letter to the City Council from the State Attorney Office to provide additional training to the Police Department.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that the concerns was that the Prince George's Police Department takes a long time to close out the investigation.
- The States Attorney stated that Major McCleary can provide a report within sixty days. The Baltimore County and Charles County Police department is willing to assist and provide oversight of the police

department. The administration recommendation is to allow PG County to provide the oversight and investigation.

- The USDA close out date is August 7, 2021, and we are not confident that we can meet the date due to close out concerns.
- The FY19 Audit was completed and approved by the City Council on Monday, July 12, 2021, in the Regular Work Session.
- The staff is working to commence with FY20 Audit to include the bank reconciliation and payroll
- We had received a 1.4 million Dollar grant for the hiring of the police department, and she had directed the Financial Manager to transfer \$200,000 in our reserve account.

Mrs. Wallace stated we had several personnel matters that cannot be disclosed unless we receive a request due to litigation.

The Public Safety department has been involved with removing illegal drugs and confiscating guns due to violation of speeding or running the lights. The city is experiencing an increased in carjacking by juveniles and they have started in the district or other parts of Maryland.

- The city had received \$500,000 Grand from the Governor's office to rebuild two homes in the city and we are working with design companies for the rebuilding of the homes.
- The city had received a \$250,000 Bond Bill from the delegation and a group of citizens had contacted the delegation with concerns about the bond bill. The bond bill is to offset the cost of the cost overruns. The delays are due to COVID and the delays with construction materials.
- The city had provided the documentation to the Board of Public Works with receipts to show the cost of expenditures. Delegate Harrison will be looking into the information and will provide an update to Mrs. Wallace.
- The board of public works is waiting on 24th Delegation to provide a recommendation to add the item back on the agenda.
- The City Clerk had worked with the City Manager and City Attorney to pursue delinquent business owners for non-payment. The City Clerk has been working on PIA request for the city. The first and milestone in the City Clerk's Office was sworn in by Mayor Grant as the president of MMCA and the first African American to hold this title in the state.
- The Public Engagement department is working with cable station to provide the city with their own cable channel to broadcast the

meetings or event. This will provide more exposure and connection with the residents.

- Mrs. Wallace stated that she was contacted by PEPCO to remove or relocate the power station in seat pleasant. This will assist the city with getting development for a mixed used development. The Pepco representative was not aware of the power plant being in the city or if it was being used.
- The City Manger's department has been in contact the with the City Attorney and LGIT attorney on several issues for the city.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that We have received the draft MOU, which is under review by the city attorney that was submitted to CHP, and they made other changes that is being reviewed by the city attorney.
- Mrs. Wallace stated that We had several meetings with the SAO to address the misconduct issues.
- The HR had several meetings regarding personnel and established the interview committee to find the most qualified person of two the three persons to be interviewed by the City Council. The committee is comprised of appointed or elected officials with a background in municipal government. They will decide if it will be one or two interviews. Once the city council meet and vote to approve the candidate they will begin to work.

## **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **6.1. None**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

The City Council reconvened in the Public Session at 10:10pm

**7.1.** Motion to approve the recommendation of the City Manager to allow the PG County Police Department Internal Affairs Division to investigate the allegation of misconduct of the Seat Pleasant Department

Motion by Gloria L Sistrunk, second by Monica Higgs.

Final Resolution: Motion Carried

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

Abstain: Kizzie Scott

## 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.7 Regular Work Session, Monday, September 13, 2021, by Zoom Video at 6:00pm. Meeting link details will be on the city's website, Seat Pleasant, MD

8.8 Public Session, Monday, September 13, 2021, by Zoom Video at 8:00pm. Meeting link details will be on the city's website, Seat Pleasant, MD

## 9. ADJOURN:

9.1 Adjourn and Logout-Request Motion to go into Closed Session under Statutory Authority 3-305(b) (1) "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"

The meeting adjourned at 10:30pm

Submitted by,

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

APPROVED 09/13/2021