

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Workshop
September 9, 2020**

The Mayor and City Council workshop was held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, September 9, 2020. **Present by teleconferencing:** Mayor Wantz, Mayor Pro Tem Foster and Councilmembers Fuller, Vigliotti, Hale and Haines **Also Present by teleconferencing:** City Manager Wieprecht, City Attorney Gullo, Chief Etzler and Clerk Kalman. Councilmember Haines led the Pledge of Allegiance.

- **Review of minutes** of the August 5, 2020 and August 10, 2020 regular meetings – no changes were requested
- **Councilmember statements regarding conflicts of interest on agenda items:** none

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Approval:

Introduction:

Adoption of:

Ordinance 06 – 2020 – Budget Amendment #3 – City Manager Wieprecht explained that the amendment is to adjust for unspent capital project funds and the delay of the delivery of two police vehicles.

Resolution 2020 – 10 – Water Allocation for September 2020 – Responding to a question from Mayor Wantz, City Manager Wieprecht advised that well levels are holding steady but continue to be slightly lower than the normal depth. He said the recommendation is to keep the Executive Order for voluntary water conservation in place. Mayor Wantz added that the wells are regularly monitored and that water restrictions will be lifted when appropriate.

City Manager Report:

- City Manager Wieprecht reviewed the highlights of his report

Department Reports:

- Mayor Wantz announced that Carroll County Commissioners issued a proclamation to honor the retirement of Director of Economic Development, Nancy McCormick and extended thanks to Mayor Pro Tem Foster for arranging a virtual farewell event.

Legal Report:

- Attorney Gullo explained that prior to the pandemic, the City was in a position to file an order with the court to grant ownership of the parcel of land on Trevanion Terrace that was purchased at a tax sale. Part of the reopening phase is to reopen the court responsible for property foreclosures and right of redemption on tax sales. The hope is that the request for the order will not be delayed much longer and will allow the storm water retrofit project to proceed.

- Taneytown Crossing is expected to begin construction soon and a 10 month construction period is expected.
- Meadowbrook development will need to return to the Planning Commission for a few technical items and legal documents will need to be filed before the final phase (phase 6) can be completed.
- Attorney Gullo provided several details from the sentencing of Mr. Davis and recognized several individuals for their support of the City and attendance at the sentencing, including staff member Jacob Gruentzel and Councilmember Vigliotti who both read victim impact statements to the court. At the request of Attorney Gullo, Councilmember Vigliotti read his statement. Mayor Wantz expressed the City's gratitude to Attorney Gullo for his guidance and support.

Old Business:

New Business:

Mayor Wantz changed the order of the items to begin with number 7.

1. Monthly Financial Report – There were no questions, or comments
2. Accounts Payables – There were no questions, or comments.
3. Award of Contract – Taneytown High School Park Playground – There were no concerns expressed about awarding the contract to Playground Specialists, in the amount of \$133,499.00. Councilmember Vigliotti stated that the park had not been updated in approximately 15 years and noted that the bid form Playground Specialists included the removal of old playground equipment.
4. Special Event approval – Halloween party at Memorial Park – October 24 – Responding to a concern from Councilmember Vigliotti, Mayor Wantz stated that the application meets the requirement that the consumption of alcohol takes place in an area where it is separated from the park by a fence.
5. Carroll County Board of Election ballot drop box placement – The proposed location is at the outside corner of the police station where it will be under constant surveillance. Attorney Gullo stated that if there are any issues with violating the no electioneering regulations, the Taneytown police department will respond. He also explained that the tentative plan is for bi-partisan teams from the county to empty the box twice per day.
6. Park Impact Fee – City Manager Wieprecht stated that a draft ordinance will be presented in the near future and explained that it will institute a fee collected for every unit and potentially for commercial and industrial areas, as well, which would implement a fee in lieu of open space that would be used for capital projects, park development and acquisitions.
7. Twelve hour shifts for Taneytown Police Department – Chief Etzler explained the benefits of moving the Police Department to twelve hour shifts, versus the current ten hour shifts and suggesting paying officers at time and a half for holidays instead of using the current system of a “floating holiday”. Etzler stated he would like Council to approve a buy-out of vacation time because officers were not able to be granted use of their leave during the pandemic and asked that officers be allowed to carry over ninety-six hours of vacation time versus the current eighty hours.

Adjournment: motion to adjourn at 8:54 PM by Hale, second by Fuller – carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk

