

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Workshop
December 6, 2023**

The Mayor and City Council Workshop was held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, December 6, 2023.

Present: Mayor Miller, Mayor Pro Tem McCarron and Council members Fuller, Foster and Tillman.

Not Present: Council member Chaney was excused from the meeting. **Also Present:** City Manager Wieprecht and Clerk Kalman. Mayor Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Miller explained Council member Chaney is dealing with family health issues. Motion from Council member Tillman to excuse Council member Chaney from future council meetings during the healing process, 2nd by McCarron – carried 4 – 0.

Review of Minutes: Review of the minutes of the November 8, 2023 and November 13, 2023 regular minutes and the corrected minutes from the November 8, 2023 Closed Session – no changes were requested

Public Hearing: Ordinance 09 – 2023 – Backyard Chickens – Mayor Miller opened the hearing at 7:32 PM

Certificate of Recognition: Parks and Recreation Director, Lorena Vaccare – Mayor Miller presented the Certificate to Mrs. Vaccare for her dedication and service to the City of Taneytown.

Council member statement regarding conflicts of interest on agenda items: none

Public comment pertaining to non-agenda items:

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Approval:

CDM Smith 2024 Rate Schedule – City Manager Wieprecht advised the rate increase for 2023 is approximately 3%.

Adoption:

Ordinance 09 – 2023 – Backyard Chickens – There were no questions from council. Council member Tillman stated the Planning and Zoning Commission is satisfied with the final draft.

Ordinance 10 – 2023 – Amendment to Officers and Employees Section of the City Code – City Manager Wieprecht advised the ordinance is to change language as it relates to the appointment of a City Attorney and explained a Charter Amendment would be required to avoid any inconsistencies. After discussion, City Manager Wieprecht was instructed to create the Charter Amendment.

Resolution 2023 – 19 – Water allocation for December – City Manager Wieprecht responded to questions from Council member Tillman regarding increasing the allocation amount.

Resolution 2023 – 20 – Fee Schedule for 2024 – Council member Tillman suggested the addition of a separate fee for site plans for smaller businesses. City Manager Wieprecht will create a draft for council review.

City Manager Report:

- City Manager Wieprecht reviewed his monthly report which included an update on Capital Equipment, Roberts Mill Road and Broad Street project and Riffles Lane to York Street Drain.
- Wieprecht stated the Planning and Zoning Commission made a motion in support of the Backyard Chicken ordinance.
- Wieprecht advised a recent study by State Highway Administration found the volume of traffic at the intersection of 140 and 194 is not substantial enough to allow for a left turning lane, but the consultant indicated the turn arrow for west bound traffic could reduce the cueing distance. The SHA district office will forward the study to the traffic and safety department for review.
- Wieprecht stated the Police Department has been short staffed and a few officers have not been able to use annual leave, which may result in a request to either allow more hours to be carried over or for officers to be paid for hours they were unable to use.
- Wieprecht announced the City was successful in purchasing a property which will allow the Department of Public Works to relocate their building.
- Responding to Council member Fuller, Wieprecht advised documents for Attorney approval will accumulate until an Attorney is hired.

Department Reports:

- There were no questions or concerns about the department reports.
- Taneytown Police Chief Adrian Baker announced the “Pack the Police Car” Event is scheduled for Saturday, December 9 between the hours of 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Kennies Market, advised he recently met with Local Government Insurance Trust regarding a renewal policy and cautioned residents to be aware of thefts during the holiday season.
- City Manager Wieprecht advised Information Technology Specialist, Dan Dennis, has added links to the website to allow viewers to quickly scroll through council meetings to a direct point in discussions.

New Business:

1. Monthly Financial Report – no questions, or concerns were expressed.
2. Accounts Payables – no questions, or concerns were expressed.
3. Approval of Special Event Permit Application – Alyssa Richards Memorial Car Show – October 5, 2024 – no questions or concerns were expressed.
4. Nomination to main Street Advisory Board – Keith Reed, Jr. – no concerns were expressed.

5. Charter discussion – section C – 519 – Removal from Office – recall – Mayor and council discussed potential changes, including the number of required signatures for petitions.

Responding to Mayor Miller, Council members decided by consensus they will consider Mayor Miller's recommendations to fill the position of City Attorney.

Public comment pertaining to agenda items:

Mayor Miller closed the public hearing at 8:56 PM

Adjournment – motion to adjourn at 8:56 PM by McCarron, 2nd by Tillman – carried 4 - 0

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk