

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Workshop
February 7, 2024**

The Mayor and City Council Workshop was held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, February 7, 2024.

Present: Mayor Miller, Mayor Pro Tem McCarron and Council members Fuller, Foster, Chaney and Tillman. **Also Present:** City Manager Wieprecht and Clerk Kalman. Mayor Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Miller read the minutes from the January 8, 2024 closed Session

Review of Minutes: Review of the minutes of the January 3, 2024 and January 8, 2024 regular meetings and the January 8, 2024 closed session – there was discussion about a motion made during the January 8 closed session.

Certificate of Recognition: Rocky Herring – Mayor Miller presented the certificate for his generosity and support to the Taneytown community through his partnership with the Taneytown Police Department.

Certificate of Recognition: Anthony Richie – Mayor Miller presented the certificate for his initiative, leadership and community spirit through his partnership with the Taneytown Police Department.

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

Public comment pertaining to non-agenda items:

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Introduction:

Ordinance 04 – 2024 – Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024 – Budget Amendment – 3 – City Manager Wieprecht and Police Chief Baker responded to a concern from Council member Fuller about a subscription expense for Lexipol.

Adoption:

Resolution 2024 – 02 – Water allocation for February – no questions, or concerns were expressed.

City Manager Report:

- City Manager Wieprecht reviewed his monthly report, which included an update on the Roberts Mill Road project, Riffles Lane to York Street drain and the Fiscal Year 2024 Sewer Rehabilitation project.
- Wieprecht announced there is now an application called Taneytown Connect which can be downloaded to allow easy and mobile access to the City website and responded to questions and concerns from Council members. Council member Fuller extended

appreciation to Information Specialist Dan Dennis for his diligence in pursuing the implementation of the application.

Department Reports:

- There were no questions, or concerns expressed.

New Business:

1. Monthly Financial Report – no questions, or concerns were expressed.
2. Accounts Payables – Mayor Pro Tem McCarron asked for clarification about a mowing cost. City Manager Wieprecht will consult with the Treasurer and have an answer for the Monday, February 12, 2024 meeting.
3. Morton Building, Inc. – Memorial Park Proposal – Responding to Mayor Pro Tem McCarron, City Manager Wieprecht explained the company has pre-bid through a cooperative building service. The proposal does not obligate the City to use a Morton building. The proposal is to develop design and specifications for the structure.
4. Funding discussion for proposed Public Works facility - City Manager Wieprecht explained the anticipated cost is \$7,000,000.00. Council member Foster and City staff are investigating grant options to assist with funding, but other funding sources will be necessary which will include borrowing. A draft of the building will be distributed to Council members before the Monday meeting. Wieprecht responded to questions from Council.

City Manager Wieprecht advised a budget workshop is tentatively scheduled for February 28, 2024 at 7:30 PM.

5. Letter of Support discussion for Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church – Pastor Cris Frigm asked Council to consider issuing a letter of support they can submit with a grant application for building repairs. Consensus of Council was for City Manager Wieprecht to draft the letter.

Council member Tillman advised the Planning and Zoning Commission would like the input of City Council on various topics. The item will be on the agenda for the March 6, 2024 Mayor and council workshop.

Mayor Pro Tem McCarron made a motion to rehire the previous attorney. Mayor Miller explained an attorney will be present at the Monday, February 12, 2024 meeting to address concerns the previous attorney was terminated inappropriately. Council member Fuller made a second to the motion for the purpose of discussion. City Manager Wieprecht stated a path forward was laid out in a memoranda from the attorney retained to research the situation. With the approval of Mayor Pro Tem McCarron, Council member Fuller amended the motion to declare the removal of the City attorney in November 2023 was a ultra vires violation by Mayor Miller and the previous attorney should be reinstated. After further discussion Mayor Pro Tem McCarron withdrew his motion. Mayor and council decided a closed session will be held at the Monday, February 12, 2024 regular meeting and Council will reconvene in open session. This will allow the attorney researching the matter to be present.

Public comment pertaining to agenda items:

Adjournment – motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm by Tillman, 2nd by Foster – carried 5 - 0

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk