

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Workshop
April 3, 2024**

The Mayor and City Council Workshop was held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

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

Review of Minutes: Review of the minutes of the March 8, 2024 and March 11, 2024 regular meetings and the February 12, 2024 closed session – no changes were requested.

Reception of Delegation: Main Street Update – Chairwoman Bollinger reviewed the progress and goals of the Main Street Board. Mayor and Council discussed the feasibility of accepting donations from the community.

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

Public comment pertaining to non-agenda items:

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Introduction:

Ordinance 01 – 2024 – Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 - Operating Budget – Council member Fuller expressed concerns about increases for specific employees and it was decided to hold a closed session at the Monday, April 8, 2024 Mayor and Council meeting to discuss the matter.

Ordinance 02 – 2024 – Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 – Water and Sewer Rate – Mayor Pro Tem McCarron stated he would like staff to explore a way to alleviate the fee associated with paying water and sewer bills by credit card. City Manager Wieprecht explained the fee is not a charge set by the City, nor does the City receive revenue from the fees. Wieprecht advised the fee is determined by the water billing software provider based on their agreement with the vendor they use. Wieprecht advised a three percent fee for credit card payments is very typical within other municipalities inside and outside of Carroll County. Wieprecht was instructed to obtain specific information for the Monday, April 8 Council meeting.

Ordinance 03 – 2024 – Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 – Tax Rate – No questions, or comments were expressed.

Adoption:

Resolution 2024 – 06 – Water allocation for April – City Manager Wieprecht responded to questions from Council members regarding the number of Equivalent Dwelling Units allocated for Recovery 180.

City Manager Report:

- City Manager Wieprecht reviewed his monthly report and asked for consideration to classify Information Technology as a department of the City and update City Code and Charter accordingly. This would move the Information Technology Specialist from an hourly position to a salary position.
- To dispel misperceptions about the amount of taxes individuals pay to the City, Wieprecht explained the tax rate is currently \$.37 per \$100 of assessment, however the City receives only a portion of the taxes and the remainder is paid to the County.
- Wieprecht shared a video to show the flooding which occurs at the wastewater treatment plant during periods of constant or heavy rain.

Department Reports:

- There was discussion about the Project ReStore 2.0 grant, removal of trees at Memorial Park and grading at Flickinger Park. Council member Chaney announced a student from Runnymede Elementary won the “If I Were Mayor” contest. She will be honored at the May Council meeting.

Legal Report:

- Attorney Gullo provided status of the Evapco expansion project and stated a Zoning Board of Appeals hearing is pending. Gullo reviewed a list of Public Information Act requests which have been received for January through March of 2024 and advised a policy for dealing with future requests will be developed.

New Business:

1. Monthly Financial Report – no questions or concerns were expressed.
2. Accounts Payables – no questions or concerns were expressed.
3. Department of Public Works building – Step 2 – Wieprecht explained staff will be seeking Council approval at the April 8, 2024 meeting to move forward with the creation of the construction and site plans, in the amount of \$331,708.00.
4. Approval of Contract Addendum No. 3 – Ecker’s Lawn Service, LLC – City Manager Wieprecht reviewed the areas which have been added. There were no questions, or concerns from Council.
5. Approval of Fence Installation Agreement – Bollinger Park and Perry Property – City Manager Wieprecht reviewed the project and responded to questions from Council.

6. Public Works Agreement for Evapco – 3rd Amended Site Plan – no questions or concerns were expressed.

Public comment pertaining to agenda items

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 9:37 PM by Tillman, 2nd by Foster – carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk