

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
TANEYTOWN, MARYLAND
Mayor and Council Workshop
May 8, 2024**

The Mayor and City Council Workshop was held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, May 8, 2024.

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

Mayor Miller read the minutes from the closed session held on April 8, 2024

Review of Minutes: Review of the minutes of the April 3, 2024 and April 8, 2024 regular meeting and the April 8, 2024 closed session – no changes were requested

Reception of Delegation: “If I were Mayor” essay winner – Yodit Willet – Ms. Willet read her essay and Mayor Miller presented her with a Certificate of Recognition.

Reception of Delegation: Taneytown Community Partners – Kenyatta Brooks and Dr. VoShaun Wilkerson – Mrs. Brooks and Dr. Wilkerson announced the establishment of a resource center at 52 East Baltimore Street and announced the soft opening will be June 1, 2024 from 11:00 – 2:00 with the official opening scheduled for August 24. The time for the opening will be determined at a later date.

Mayor Miller stated a life saving award and certificate was presented to the following individuals for their response to an incident on February 12, 2024:
Firefighter/Paramedic Kevin Swain, David Breitman, Louis Stiffer, Brandi Lookingbill and Medical Director Doctor Kemp.

Public Hearing: Fiscal year 2024 – 2025 Budget and Constand Yield tax rate – the hearing was opened at 7:48 PM. City Manager Weprech advised the tax rate of .37 per \$100 of assessed value has not changed. The water and sewer rates will also remain the same. Water will remain at \$7.25 per 1,000 gallons and the sewer rate will remain at \$14.24 per 1000 gallons. The General Fund total budget is \$8,052,296.00 and the Utility Fund is \$6,068,806.00. The Budget Workshop was held on March 27, 2024 and the Budget was officially introduced by the Mayor and Council at the April 8, 2024 meeting. The budget is listed on the website.

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

City Council minutes 5/08/2024

Public comment pertaining to non-agenda items:

Resolutions, Ordinances and Agreements:

Adoption:

Ordinance 01 – 2024 – Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 - Operating Budget – Council member Fuller indicated she feels it may be appropriate to postpone passage of the budget until June to allow for a Closed Session at the Monday, May 13, 2024 meeting. City Manager Wiprecht stated he will obtain the advice of Attorney Gullo. City Manager Wiprecht responded to questions from Council which included conversation about a new building for the Department of Public Works.

Ordinance 02 – 2024 – Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 – Water and Sewer Rate – No questions, or concerns were expressed.

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

Resolution 2024 – 07 – Water allocation for May – City Manager Wiprecht responded to questions from Council about the allocation of Equivalent Dwelling Units.

City Manager Report:

- There was discussion about the potential for street sweeping to be performed by the Department of Public Works and the costs associated with it.
- The consensus of Council is to update City Charter and Code to classify Information Technology as an official department of the City and reclassify the IT Specialist position to a salary position.
- Wiprecht provided an update on current construction projects.
- To dispel misperceptions about the amount of taxes the City receives, Wiprecht explained the tax rate is \$.37 per \$100 of assessed value, so the calculation for a home appraised at \$300,00.00 is an estimated \$1,110.00 in City tax.
- Due to interference with Independence Day festivities and the July Mayor and Council Workshop, it was decided by consensus to hold a combined Mayor and Council meeting on July 8, 2024.

There was discussion about the focus, accountability, and funding of the Main Street committee.

Department Reports:

- No concerns were expressed.

New Business:

1. Monthly Financial Report – no questions or concerns were expressed.
2. Accounts Payables – no questions or concerns were expressed.
3. Approval of lead and copper rule proposal – Wieprecht explained the proposal is from ARRO Consulting, Inc. and is to provide services to assist the City in creating an inventory list to ensure compliance with the service line requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency.

4. Approval of Contract – Cunningham Recreation for Memorial Park tot lot playground replacement – Wieprecht advised the contract amount for Cunningham Recreation is \$110,412.46 and is the recommendation of Parks and Recreation Director Vaccare.
5. Contract Award – THS Park athletic field lighting installation – Wieprecht advised two bids were received and the recommendation is to award the contract to Fern Rodkey in the amount of \$83,499.00.
6. Approval of Special Event Permit – Good News Club – July 1 through 5th, 2024 – no questions or concerns were expressed.
7. FY 23 – FY 30 Capital Improvement Program – Wieprecht reviewed several changes to the program and responded to questions from Council members.
8. Approval of Comprehensive plan consulting proposal – Wieprecht advised the recommendation is to accept the proposal from Arro Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$98,845.00.
9. Approval of Proposal for Westview Drive water line replacement design – Wieprecht stated this will likely be the last American Rescue Plan Act funded project. The proposal from CDM Smith is for \$168,800.00.
10. Nomination to Board of Zoning Appeals – Stephen “Nick” Kalinock – no questions, or concerns were expressed.

Public comment pertaining to agenda items

Mayor Miller closed the Budget Public hearing at 9:06 PM with no comments from the public.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 9:07 PM by McCarron, 2nd by Tillman – carried 5 - 0

Respectfully Submitted by: Clara Kalman, City Clerk