

City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Meeting
November 17, 2014

Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

A meeting of the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on November 17, 2014 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Cheryl J. Lahman; Council Member Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Fonda Coleman; Council Member Amy L. Minner; Council Member Charles W. Porter; Council Member Kenneth W. Stubbs; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; William Pepper, City Solicitor; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Mary Trice; Barbara Bullock; Charles Carr; and Jennifer Antonik.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Mary Trice.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll was called.

Consent Agenda

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Lahman, seconded by Council Member Porter, to approve the consent agenda.

Council Member Bivans requested that the Police Chief's Report be removed from the consent agenda.

Roll was called on the motion to approve the consent agenda: 6 Yes, 0 No (Lahman – Yes, Bivans – Yes, Coleman – Yes, Minner – Yes, Porter – Yes, Stubbs – Yes). The MOTION passed unanimously.

The following agenda items were approved with the consent agenda:

October 6, 2014 City Council Workshop Minutes
October 6, 2014 City Council Special Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2014 City Council Meeting Minutes

City Manager's Report
Financial Report
Public Works Departmental Report
Library Departmental Report
Parks and Recreation Departmental Report
Fire and Ambulance Departmental Report
City Planner's Report
City Engineer's Report

Police Chief's Report

The Chief of Police thanked Harold Brode for all he has done for Harrington and the Police Department and appointed him as Honorary Lieutenant. Mayor Moyer administered the law enforcement oath of honor to Mr. Brode.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to approve the Police Chief's Report as presented. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Old Business

Public Hearing on Ordinance 14-16 – Amending Chapter 314, Rental Properties, to add an exemption from the crime-free housing seminar for professional real estate managers

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Vice Mayor Lahman, to dispense with the reading of Ordinance 14-16. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Mayor Moyer read the synopsis of Ordinance 14-16:

This Ordinance amends Chapter 314, Rental Properties, to allow certified property managers, licensed real estate agents, State of Delaware agencies, and professional property management companies an exemption from attending a crime-free housing seminar unless a suspended license or criminal activity exists and adds a section noting that the Article does not supersede federal regulations in federally-subsidized housing.

There were no comments from the public.

Second Reading of Ordinance 14-16 – Amending Chapter 314, Rental Properties, to add an exemption from the crime-free housing seminar for professional real estate managers

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Vice Mayor Lahman, to adopt Ordinance 14-16. The MOTION passed by majority. Council Member Bivans voted against the motion.

New Business

First Reading of Ordinance 14-15 – Adding Chapter 255, Manufactured Homes and Trailers

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Vice Mayor Lahman, to dispense with the reading of Ordinance 14-15.

Council Member Bivans stated that multiple copies of the ordinance were presented and asked for clarification. Mayor Moyer stated that the copy of ordinance that was in the packet is what is being presented for discussion.

Council Member Porter withdrew his motion.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Council Member Stubbs, to dispense with the reading of the version of Ordinance 14-15 that was included in City Council packets.

Vice Mayor Lahman asked if changes to the ordinance could still be discussed. The City Solicitor replied yes.

A vote was called for on the motion to dispense with the reading of the version of Ordinance 14-15 that was included in City Council packets. The MOTION passed by majority. Council Member Bivans voted against the motion.

Council Member Minner stated that she would like to add some additional definitions and information about installing manufactured homes to the ordinance. Vice Mayor Lahman asked where the additional language came from. Council Member Minner stated that it is from Kent County's Zoning Code.

Council Member Porter stated that the City Council and the City Solicitor need time to review the changes and thanked Council Member Minner for her efforts.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Vice Mayor Lahman, to table ordinance 14-15 to a Workshop after the City Solicitor has time to review it. The MOTION passed unanimously.

2015 holiday schedule

The City Manager stated that this has been discussed at a workshop and the schedule presented includes exchanging Columbus Day for Christmas Eve next year. The employees are in favor of it.

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Lahman, seconded by Council Member Porter, to accept the 2015 holiday schedule as presented. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution 14-R-06 – Thanking State and County Officials for supporting the City of Harrington

Mayor Moyer read Resolution 14-R-06.

Council Member Porter stated that it would be nice to make a presentation of the resolution at a future meeting.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Porter, seconded by Vice Mayor Lahman, to adopt Resolution 14-R-06. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Public Comments

Barbara Bullock asked if there was a decision on the speed bumps in Harrington Manor. The City Manager stated that it only went to a workshop and was not voted on and that more investigating is being done. Ms. Bullock stated that the City should use its own realtor for the library property.

City Council Comments

Council Member Porter asked if there is an ordinance about cleaning up leaves; they can clog the storm drains. The City Manager stated that she will check. The City Solicitor stated that it may be covered under the property maintenance regulations.

Council Member Minner asked if the Dorman Street sewer work will accommodate the new Library if a site near the schools is selected. The City Manager replied that it should.

Vice Mayor Lahman stated that the sewer charges from the County are down by sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) from October of last year. Other municipalities are dealing with water supply issues.

The City Solicitor stated that the City does not currently have any regulations for cleaning up leaves in yards.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Lahman, seconded by Council Member Porter, to adjourn the City Council Meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council