

**City of Harrington
MINUTES
City Council Meeting
December 19, 2016**

Open Forum

Barbara Bullock asked if there is going to be a new table in the City Council Chambers. The City Manager replied that the City Council saw the cost estimates and decided not to get a new table.

The City Chaplain stated that the Price Center looks nice with the new handicap ramp and steps and asked about the new business, American Finance.

A meeting of the Harrington City Council was held at Harrington City Hall, 106 Dorman Street, on December 19, 2016 and was attended by the following: Mayor Anthony R. Moyer; Vice Mayor Duane E. Bivans; Council Member Charles W. Baugher, Jr.; Council Member Robert Dean Helsel; Council Member Eric Marquis; Council Member Amy Minner; Norman Barlow, Chief of Police; William Pepper, City Solicitor; Teresa Tieman, City Manager; Dean Gary, Accountant; and Kelly Blanchies, Clerk of Council.

Also present: Aubrey Brown, City Chaplin; Max Walton, Connolly Gallagher; Chris Fazio and June Andres of Remington, Vernick, and Beach, City Engineers; Albert Biddle, Kent County; Barbara Bullock; and Jenn Antonik, The (Harrington) Journal.

Council Member Micah Parker was absent.

Mayor Moyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Invocation was given by the City Chaplain.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Roll was called.

Executive Session

Pending litigation with the Delaware State Fair

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to go to Executive Session to discuss pending litigation with the Delaware State Fair. The MOTION passed unanimously.

The City Council Meeting recessed at 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Moyer called the City Council Meeting back to order at 7:27 p.m. All still present.

Delaware State Fair litigation settlement

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to approve the settlement agreement for the Delaware State Fair case as presented. Roll was called: 3 Yes, 2 No, 1 Absent (Bivans – No, Baugher – Yes, Helsel – No, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Parker – Absent). The MOTION passed by majority.

Harrington Fire Company

Council Member Helsel stated that the Santa run went well, and the Police Department joined the fire trucks.

Public Hearing on the City of Harrington's request to apply for funds under the Community Development Block Grant for 2017

Mayor Moyer asked how many outstanding applications there are for the City of Harrington. Albert Biddle stated that there is always a waiting list to establish a need. There is always work being done over multiple fiscal years. Fiscal Year 2015 is being closed out, and five projects were able to be completed. The City of Harrington did not receive any funding for Fiscal Year 2016. Housing rehabilitation is still a need and common to receive funding. Projects under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) are for low to moderate income residents and can include repair of substandard housing conditions, demolition of condemned properties, or infrastructure work such as sidewalks, drainage, and streets.

Minutes

No minutes were presented for approval.

Chris Fazio introduced June Andres who will be working on engineering services for the City. Mr. Andres has twenty (20) years of experience in civil engineering and a background in water and sewer engineering. The City Manager stated that he has been working well with the staff.

Financial Report

Council Member Marquis asked about a specific expenditure. The Account stated that it is an expenditure of funds from a grant.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Helsel, seconded by Council Member Marquis, to file the Financial Report for audit. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Old Business

Ordinance on authorized expenditures

Mayor Moyer stated that a policy for purchasing flowers was included in the meeting packets. Council Member Marquis stated that a spending limit should be set.

Discussion occurred on the amount of the spending limit.

Council Member Marquis stated that the policy should not apply to previous employees and that he does not agree with the policy in general.

Vice Mayor Bivans stated that it is important to recognize the people that are included in the policy.

Council Member Helsel asked if other life change incidents like births should be included.

Mayor Moyer stated that he appreciated when he received flowers from the City when his parents passed away, and it is important to continue the practice. It does not cost the City a lot of money.

A MOTION was made by Vice Mayor Bivans, seconded by Council Member Helsel, to adopt the funeral flower policy with an amendment to add a spending limit not to exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75). Roll was called: 5 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Bivans – Yes, Baugher – Yes, Helsel – Yes, Marquis – Yes, Minner – Yes, Parker – Absent). The MOTION passed by majority.

New Business

Resolution 16-R-21 – Authorizing the Mayor to submit the FY 2017 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application and the Levy Court of Kent County to act as the official representatives

Mayor Moyer read Resolution 16-R-21.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Baugher, to accept Resolution 16-R-21. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-22 – Supporting the goals of the Federal Fair Housing Law

Mayor Moyer read Resolution 16-R-22.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Minner, seconded by Council Member Helsel, to accept Resolution 16-R-22. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Resolution 16-R-23 – Charter change to allow borrowing without voter approval if the full principal amount will be forgiven

Mayor Moyer read Resolution 16-R-23.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Marquis, seconded by Council Member Helsel, to accept Resolution 16-R-23. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Hiring approval for City Planner

The City Manager stated that she would like approval to hire Jeremy Rothwell. He has previous experience with planning, is interested in economic development, and is familiar with the Harrington area. Three people were interviewed for the position.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Baugher, seconded by Vice Mayor Bivans, to accept the candidate for the City Planner position. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Hiring approval for police officer

The Chief of Police stated that the last two candidates did not finish the police academy, and he has received permission to send a new candidate, Dalton Willey, to the police academy in New Castle County.

A MOTION was made by Council Member Marquis, seconded by Council Member Helsel, to accept the candidate for the police officer position. The MOTION passed unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

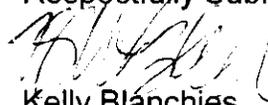
City Council Comments

Council Member Minner stated that she appreciated receiving flowers for the recent death in her family.

Mayor Moyer wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Council Member Helsel, seconded by Council Member Baugher, to adjourn the City Council Meeting. The MOTION passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Blanchies
Clerk of Council