

**City of Brunswick**  
**Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 7:00 P.M.

The December 8, 2015 City of Brunswick Mayor and Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Karin Tome at Brunswick City Hall. The following members and staff were present: Karin Tome, Mayor; Angel White, Mayor Pro Tem; Ellis Burruss, Carroll Jones, Harry Lashley, Jeff Snoots, and Walt Stull, Council Members; Bob McGrory, City Administrator; Milt Frech, Chief of Police; John Gerstner, Director of Public Works; and Carrie Myers, Office Manager.

Mayor's Remarks

- Mayor Tome swore in Jordan Atha as a Police Officer with the Brunswick Police Department.
- Mayor Tome thanked Charlie Smith for replicating a 1950s-style wreath and placing it at the Veterans Park.

Approval of Minutes

- Closed Meetings – August 25, September 8, October 13, November 10, 2015
- Public Hearing – November 10, 2015
- Mayor & Council – November 10, 2015

Mr. Burruss made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. White seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

Citizens' Forum (Petitions, Remonstrances, and Communications)

No comments were offered.

Report of Officers – Council – Committees

Council Members provided updates on their Committee activities, including announcements related to the City of Brunswick Economic Development Commission, Brunswick Family Campground, Brunswick Senior Center, Fire Department, Ambulance Department, Greater Brunswick Area Chamber of Commerce, Brunswick Heritage Museum, Canal Towns, Brunswick Main Street, Park Heights Cemetery, and Sustainable Brunswick.

Mr. Lashley presented the Mayor and Council with a shadow box from the Paris, France Police Department, in appreciation for Brunswick's letter of support sent following the recent shooting event in Paris.

Mayor Pro Tem White read the following statement: The Brunswick City Council met in closed session on December 8, 2015 at 5:30 P.M. at City Hall to discuss personnel matters, and to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters related directly thereto, consult with staff about pending or potential litigation, and, before a contract is awarded, discuss a negotiating strategy. The authority to close this meeting is found in Article 10-508 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Mayor Tome, Mayor Pro Tem White, Council Members Burruss, Jones, Lashley, Snoots, and Stull, and City Administrator McGrory were present. All members present voted to close the meeting. Chief Milt Frech joined the meeting for a portion on Police Department staffing. The Council discussed the following items:

- Before a Contract is Awarded, Discuss a Negotiating Strategy – received input from staff on a potential negotiating strategy with regard to the timing of a contract for goods or services.
- Personnel matters – discussed employee transitions and specific personnel issues in all four City departments, including a prospective Police Officer hire in the Police Department.
- Consult with Staff about Pending or Potential litigation – discussed an issue of potential litigation.
- Real Property Acquisition – discussed the possible acquisition of a piece of real property for a public purpose and the means to facilitate such acquisition.

No actions were taken.

#### Consent Agenda

- Purchase of Police Vehicles
- Verizon Wireless Telecommunications Small Cell Antenna Facility

Ms. White made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Lashley seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

#### Unfinished Business

- Parking Proposal – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue between A and Potomac Streets

Mr. McGrory stated that Council Members met with representatives of Grace Episcopal Church, the applicants of this traffic control request, and staff was presented with an amended request subsequent to that meeting. Mr. McGrory stated that request #4 on the attached letter was not in keeping with traditional City practices, since most of the area in question is located on private property.

Anjel Scarborough, Rector of Grace Episcopal stated that the church members would like to make more parking available to elderly members of their congregation. They were not interested in designating more handicapped parking.

A general discussion regarding enforcement and the process for marking spaces ensued.

Mr. Snoots made a motion to approve items # 1 and 3 of the attached letter. Mr. Lashley seconded the motion. Upon further discussion, the Council decided item #2 was also acceptable. Mr. Snoots amended his motion to approve items # 1, 2, and 3. Mr. Lashley seconded that motion, which passed 6-0.

New Business

- City of Brunswick Economic Development Commission Recommendation – Tax Relief  
Mr. McGrory stated this item was briefly discussed at the last Council meeting. The Council was presented with additional documentation provided by staff, which Mr. McGrory proposed having staff draft into ordinance format for the January 2016 Council meeting, with a possible vote at the February meeting.

Ms. White discussed holding an upcoming meeting with representatives from the Council, the Economic Development Commission, and Main Street present to discuss all options detailed in the recent study funded by Main Street. Ms. White also asked staff to present the Council with a current map of the Brunswick historic district.

- Solar Installation Discussion

Dan Roe, a member of Sustainable Brunswick, presented a power point presentation discussing solar installation options at the Sports Complex. Mr. Roe answered questions from the Council including possible solar vendors, possible alternative locations, and contract terms.

Mr. McGrory discussed the current option of piggy-backing on the Montgomery County contract with SolarCity to build a solar array at the Sports Complex.

Expiring tax credits and other deadlines mean the City would need to enter into a contract by the end of December, before another Council meeting. Mr. Burriss made a motion to proceed with allowing the Mayor to execute a contract with SolarCity prior to year end. Mr. Lashley seconded the motion.

Mr. McGrory discussed an option to build into the contract a 45-day withdrawal clause allowing the Council to discuss the contract at their January meeting. Mr. Burriss amended his motion to include the 45-day withdrawal clause option. Mr. Lashley seconded that motion, which passed 6-0.

Adjournment

Mr. Stull moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Snoots seconded the motion, which passed 6-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Submitted by: Carrie Myers

Approved By: Karin Jones                      1/15/2016  
Mayor    Date

Witnessed By: [Signature]                      1/15/2016  
City Administrator                                      Date