

City of Brunswick
Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 7:14 P.M.

The March 8, 2016 City of Brunswick Mayor and Council meeting was called to order at 7:14 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, and Walt Stull, Council Members; Bob McGrory, City Administrator; Milt Frech, Chief of Police; and Carrie Myers, Office Manager.

Mayor's Remarks

- Mayor Tome mentioned the passing of Sam Householder, City GIS contractor.
- Mayor Tome mentioned the Public Safety Awards held this morning. Brunswick Police Officer First Class Tom Jesson was honored.
- Mayor Tome administered the oath of office to Jacquelyn Druktenis as a result of her promotion to Police Corporal.
- Chris Vigliotti presented a slideshow about the Hacker Space program beginning in Brunswick. Hacker Space will teach kids how to write computer code.

Mayor Tome read the following statement:

The Brunswick City Council met in closed session on March 8, 2016 at 5:49 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. 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, and Stull, and City Administrator McGrory were present. All members present voted to close the meeting. The Council discussed the following items:

- Personnel matters – discussed employee transitions and specific personnel issues in the Police and Administration departments.
- Real Property Acquisition – discussed the possible acquisition of several parcels of real property for a public purpose and the means to facilitate such acquisition.

The Council voted unanimously that the City modify a job description by July 1, 2016. No other actions were taken.

Approval of Minutes

- Mayor & Council – February 9, 2016

Mr. Burruss made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. White seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Citizens' Forum (Petitions, Remonstrances, and Communications)

Comments were offered by Wayne Drozynski, 7th Avenue; Michelle Cotler, downtown Brunswick; Norman Cornelius, Jefferson Pike; and Eric Beasley, 27 East E Street.

Introduction and Adoption of Resolutions and Ordinances

- Special Ordinance Number 520 – Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Amendment

Mr. Burruss completed the first reading of the proposed ordinance. Mr. McGrory and Kim Miller, City Accountant, offered the background description of items in the budget amendment. Mr. McGrory said there will be more changes added to this amendment and a second reading and vote will be held at the next Council Meeting.

- Resolution 2016-01 – Application for the Establishment of the Brunswick, Maryland Enterprise Zone

A public hearing was held on this subject earlier this evening. Ms. White made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-01, authorizing an application for the establishment of the Brunswick, Maryland Enterprise Zone. Mr. Lashley seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

- Resolution 2016-02 – Purchase of 40-42 West Potomac Street

A public hearing was held on this subject earlier this evening. Mr. McGrory mentioned that Mr. Snoots, although unable to attend the meeting, voiced his support for this resolution. Mr. Lashley made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-02, authorizing the purchase of 40-42 West Potomac Street. Mr. Burruss seconded the motion.

Ms. White asked for this item to be tabled so that another public hearing could be held next month, allowing for more public input. Mr. Lashley and Mr. Burruss expressed their desire to move forward with a vote at tonight's meeting. Mr. Jones and Mr. Stull agreed the item should be tabled by one month. All Council Members expressed their support of the resolution.

Ms. White made a motion to table Resolution 2016-02 until next month. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones, and passed 3-2, with Mr. Burruss and Mr. Lashley voting against the motion.

Report of Officers – Council – Committees

Mr. McGrory offered comments regarding the Administrative Department.

Chief Frech offered comments regarding the Police Department.

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.

New Business

- Fiscal Year 2017 Budget – Revenue

Mr. McGrory discussed budget revenue sources known to date. He also discussed the constant yield rate, and the staff's intent to propose a reduced tax rate below the constant yield.

Mr. Jones asked for special Council meetings to discuss just the Fiscal Year 2017 budget, with no other agenda items included.

- Solar Power Purchase Agreement

Mr. McGrory discussed the background of this issue. Pricing options provided by Solar City are valid until the end of March, therefore Mr. McGrory felt the Council would probably want to schedule a second meeting later in the month.

Dan Roe offered additional comments on this issue. He discussed some missing pieces in the proposed Solar City contract, including the lack of offer for flat rate pricing. Mr. Roe's recommendation was to continue to negotiate the contract with Solar City and bring this item back to the Council later in March.

Adjournment

Mr. Stull moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. White seconded the motion, which passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Submitted by: Carrie Myers

Approved By: Kari Jose 4/15/2016
Mayor Date

Witnessed By: [Signature] 4/15/2016
City Administrator Date