

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRISTOL, VIRGINIA, CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MARCH 22, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 300 LEE STREET, BRISTOL, VIRGINIA WITH MAYOR ARCHIE HUBBARD, III PRESIDING. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE VICE MAYOR WILLIAM HARTLEY, CATHERINE BRILLHART, GUY ODUM, AND JIM STEELE. CITY MANAGER, TABITHA CROWDER, AND CITY ATTORNEY, PETE CURCIO WERE ALSO PRESENT.

Mayor Hubbard called for a moment of silence followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

A. Matters to be Presented by Members of the Public – Non-Agenda Items

There were no matters to be presented by members of the public.

B. Mayor's Minute and Council Comments

Council Member Brillhart announced that nominations were now being accepted for the 2016 Historic District Preservation Award.

C. Presentation of Accreditation Certificate to the Bristol, Virginia Police Department

Mr. Derrick Mayes from the Department of Criminal Justice Services presented a certificate of accreditation to Chief John Austin of the Police Department.

Chief Austin commented on receiving the certificate of accreditation, thanking the men and women of the police department for their hard work. He also commended the police department accreditation manager, Lieutenant Clay Robinette for a job well done. Chief Austin thanked the City Manager and City Council for their support.

City Manager, Ms. Tabitha Crowder, expressed her pride in the police department.

Mayor Hubbard thanked the Police Department for all they do for the City.

D. Recognition of City Driver Training Achievement

City Manager, Ms. Tabitha Crowder, reported that the City had participated in the Virginia Municipal League (VML) insurance defensive driver training program, "Where the Rubber Meets the Road". She stated that four (4) City employees were trained by VML to serve as trainers of other City drivers as part of risk management, adding that ninety percent (90%) or more of all City drivers received defensive driving training.

1. Presentation of Capital Improvement Program

City Manager, Ms. Tabitha Crowder, gave a presentation of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). She explained that Capital Improvement Programming was a planning method consisting of the capital plan and the capital budget. Ms. Crowder described the process and benefits of the CIP, which ranks projects submitted by department heads and spreads them out over five (5) years.

Vice Mayor Hartley commented on the hard work that went into developing the plan.

Ms. Nancy Marney stated that there was a vast difference between wants and needs.

Mr. Michael Pollard commented on equipment that has an expected useful life and the importance of being prepared to replace expensive equipment.

2. Consider an Application to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) for Survey and Planning Cost-Share Program for Proposed Boundary Amendment to the Bristol Downtown Commercial Historic District

Assistant City Manager, Mr. Andrew Trivette, explained that the City received a request to expand the downtown historic district. He asked for permission to apply for a grant to offset the costs of a study to begin the process of adding property to the historic district.

President of the Bristol Historical Association, Mr. Tim Buchanan, advised that the association supported this request.

Mr. Michael Pollard inquired about the section of property that was not included in the proposed district, the current yoga studio. Mr. Trivette stated his assumption that the building did not meet the Virginia Department of Historic Resources criteria to be included.

Ms. Christina Blevins, Director of Believe in Bristol, spoke in support of the expanded historic district.

Mayor Hubbard entertained a motion to authorize City staff to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) for survey and planning cost-share program for proposed boundary amendment to the Bristol Downtown Commercial Historic District.

Council Member Brillhart made the motion to authorize City staff to submit an application to the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) for survey and planning cost-share program for proposed boundary amendment to the Bristol Downtown Commercial Historic District. Motion was seconded by Council Member Odum.

Council Member Brillhart commented on the work performed by City staff to include these properties in the Historic District.

Vice Mayor Hartley inquired about the timeline for the survey and study process.

Assistant City Manager, Mr. Andrew Trivette, explained that it would be a slow process.

The votes were as follows:

AYES: Brillhart, Hartley, Odum, Steele, and Hubbard

3. Ordinance

1st Reading

- 1) Consider First Reading of an Ordinance to Repeal and Reenact Article V. Retirement Health Insurance Benefit Program, § 66-123 – Conditions

City Attorney, Pete Curcio, advised that the city had a supplement to the Retirement Health Insurance Benefit Program. He explained that the Ordinance clarified the condition that qualified retirees would be required to show proof of payment of their health insurance premium to receive the supplement.

Mayor Hubbard entertained a motion for the first reading of an Ordinance to Repeal and Reenact Article V. Retirement Health Insurance Benefit Program, § 66-133 – Conditions.

Council Member Odum made the motion for the first reading of an Ordinance to Repeal and Reenact Article V. Retirement Health Insurance Benefit Program, § 66-133 – Conditions. Motion was seconded by Council Member Steele and carried by the following votes:

AYES: Brillhart, Hartley, Odum, Steele, and Hubbard

City Attorney, Pete Curcio, read the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REENACT Article V. Retirement Health Insurance Benefit Program, § 66-123 - Conditions

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council for the City of Bristol, Virginia that **Article V. Retirement Health Insurance Benefit Program, § 66-123 - Conditions** of the City Code should be and is hereby repealed and re-enacted as follows:

66-123. - Conditions.

- (a) No eligible retiree shall be paid more than the actual monthly cost of their health insurance.
- (b) This benefit shall end on the date of an eligible retiree's qualification for Medicare eligibility or his or her death, whichever shall first occur.

- (c) A mid term employee who retires and receives this benefit will not be entitled to the higher \$200.00 per month coverage thereafter nor shall a long term employee who retires and receives this benefit be entitled to the higher \$300.00 benefit thereafter.
- (d) Only work experience for the city, the school board, or the constitutional office shall count toward the 25, 30, or 35 years of service.
- (e) There will be no benefit paid to any employee who leaves service with less than 25 years of service.
- (f) For eligible retirees who are insured under the city or school board health insurance policy, the city shall pay this benefit directly on their premium bill. For those eligible retirees insured with another company, the city shall pay their benefit to them as a monthly check.
- (g) This benefit is in addition to any other health insurance credit an eligible retiree may receive from VRS or any other source.
- (h) This benefit shall not be paid to any eligible retiree unless the retiree provides to the City proof of payment of their health insurance premium on at least an annual basis and more frequently if directed by the City Manager.

First Reading: March 22, 2016

Second Reading: _____

Adopted: _____

4. Consider Budget Appropriations

Consider appropriating \$132,358 to the FY16 budget per the items listed below:

Fire Department **\$97,166.00**

Appropriate recovered cost for Hazmat Expenses

Expense	4-001-32010-1238	Fire Dept-Overtime	3,239.00
Expense	4-001-35050-6014	Hazmat-Operating Supplies	912.00
Revenue	3-001-19010-0024	Fire Dept-Recovered Costs	4,151.00

Appropriate FY15 State Homeland Security Program Grant for Heavy Tactical Rescue

Expense	4-001-32030-5871	SHSP FY15-Heavy Tactical Rescue	75,000.00
Revenue	3-001-33020-0045	SHSP FY15-Heavy Tactical Rescue	75,000.00

Appropriate FY15 State Homeland Security Program Grant for Hazmat Team

Expense	4-001-32030-5870	SHSP FY15- Hazmat Team	18,015.00
Revenue	3-001-33020-0044	SHSP FY15-Hazmat Team	18,015.00

Clear Creek Golf Course **\$35,192.00**

Appropriate insurance recovery funds received by the Golf Course.

Expense	4-001-71040-8101	Other Equipment	30,975.00
Revenue	3-001-19010-0043	Recovered Costs	30,975.00

Appropriate insurance recovery funds received by the Golf Course.

Expense	4-001-71040-6007	Materials-Building	4,217.00
Revenue	3-001-19010-0043	Recovered Costs	4,217.00

Mayor Hubbard entertained a motion to approve appropriating one hundred thirty-two thousand, three hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$132,358) to the FY16 budget per the line items as requested.

Vice Mayor Hartley made the motion to approve appropriating one hundred thirty-two thousand, three hundred fifty-eight dollars (\$132,358) to the FY16 budget per the line items as requested. Motion was seconded by Council Member Odum and carried by the following votes:

AYES: Brillhart, Hartley, Odum, Steele, and Hubbard

5. Consider Street Closure Request for Believe in Bristol's Border Bash – May 20, June 3, June 17, July 15, and August 5, 2016

Ms. Christian Blevins, Executive Director of Believe in Bristol, advised that this was the seventeenth (17th) year of the Border Bash summer concert series. She advised that changes had been made to meet requests of merchants surveyed.

Mayor Hubbard entertained a motion to approve the street closure request for the Believe in Bristol's Border Bash for May 20, June 3, June 17, July 15, and August 5, 2016.

Council Member Brillhart made the motion to approve the street closure request for the Believe in Bristol's Border Bash for May 20, June 3, June 17, July 15, and August 5, 2016. Motion was seconded by Council Member Odum and carried by the following votes:

AYES: Brillhart, Hartley, Odum, Steele, and Hubbard

Mayor Hubbard entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda items 6.1 through 6.4 as presented.

6.1 Consider Street Closure Request for Concert in Cumberland Square Park – May 7, 2016

6.2 Consider Street Closure Request for Creative Learning Center Carnival – May 12, 2016 (rain date: May 16, 2016)

6.3 Consider Street Closure Request for Concert in Cumberland Square Park – June 17, 2016

6.4 Consider Street Closure Request for Quaker Steak and Lube Bike Night – May 12, June 2, and July 7, 2016

Council Member Steele made the motion to approve consent agenda items 6.1 through 6.4 as presented. Motion was seconded by Council Member Odum and carried by the following votes:

AYES: Brillhart, Hartley, Odum, Steele, and Hubbard

E. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**
*

City Clerk

Mayor