

**TOWN OF COLMAR MANOR
GENERAL SESSION
TUESDAY, MAY 08, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Michael E. Hale called the meeting to order.

PRESENT AT THIS MEETING:

Michael E. Hale	Mayor
Lois Ann Blue	Council Member – Ward 1
Frances Smith	Council Member – Ward 2
Cynthia Bowden	Newly Elected Council Member – Ward 2
Vivian Jackson	Council Member – Ward 3
Sadara Barrow	Council Member – Ward 4
Doreatha Epps	Newly Elected Council Member – Ward 4
Brian Gibson	Chief of Police
John Barr	Town Attorney
Tracy Stone	Media Coordinator
Citizens	

Mayor Michael E. Hale announced that, in the interest of time, the entire new Council would be sworn into office at the same time. He asked that the new Council step forward.

Discussion:

Council Member Barrow suggested that minutes be approved by the current Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 13, 2012 – General Session

Mayor Michael E. Hale called for a motion to approve March 13, 2012 General Session minutes.

Motion made by Council Member Barrow to approve March 13, 2012 General Session minutes. Seconded by Council Member Jackson. The motion was approved with a vote of 5-0.

SWEARING-IN NEW COUNCIL

Mr. James Watson from the Office of the Clerk of the Court conducted the Swearing-In Ceremony for the new and re-elected Council Members for all Wards.

Special Award - Mayor Michael E. Hale gave special awards to former Council Members Smith and Barrow for their many years of service in Wards 2 and 4 respectively.

RAIN GARDEN GRANT

Emily Clinton gave an overview of Rain Garden grant for the Port Towns Communities. She stated that the project is in its first stages. The Rain Gardens are to depict 4 different themes. (See attachment for full description of project.)

There are two locations that are being considered for Rain Garden development in Colmar Manor, the first being the property by the town bulletin board and the second is refurbishment of the existing Rain Garden by the IHOP Restaurant. There is concern regarding this site because it was not maintained properly in the past. If chosen, the Neighborhood Design Center would work with this project. Just one site will be selected.

Ms. Clinton stated that any other updates will be given to Judy Myers, Office Manager. They will take care of procuring the contractor, permits, etc.

M-NCPPC FORMULA 2040

Alvin McNeal, Representative from M-NCPPC gave an overview of the M-NCPPC Formula 2040. Mr. McNeal stated that this formula will guide the future of parks, recreation and open spacing in Prince George's County in the next 30 years. (See attached brochure.)

He invited everyone to upcoming meetings which will identify recreational programs throughout the county to determine what M-NCPPC can afford and what changes they need to make to their programs in order to meet the constituents needs.

POLICE REPORT

Brain Gibson, Chief of Police gave an overview of the April 2012 Police Report. (See attached).

A new program regarding donations of used cell phones to be distributed for usage as 911 emergency cell phones only.

Chief Gibson stated the next Coffee Club meeting will be held at the Police Department on Wednesday, May 23rd at 7pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Barr, Town Attorney gave an overview of the April 2012 Treasurer's Report (See attached).

Mayor Michael E. Hale called for a motion to accept the April 2012 Treasurer's Report.

Motion made by Council Member Blue to accept the April 2012 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Council Member Jackson. Motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

Discussion

John Barr, Town Attorney informed Council Members to review the proposed budget for the upcoming 2013 Budget Worksession to be held on Tuesday, May 15th at 6pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senior Report – Mr. Mutchler stated that the next Seniors Club meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16th at 12pm.

Recreational Report – Council Member Blue stated that on Saturday, May 19th the town will be hosting its first annual Kids in the Park Day in the field in back of the Town Hall. Council Member Blue encouraged new members to join the Recreation Council.

Neighborhood Watch – Council Member Blue stated the last Neighborhood Watch meeting was held at Police Station on Wednesday, April 25th at 7pm. Residents stated their concerns about trash and rodents. Most problems were in regard to Code Enforcement issues. Council Member Blue stated the next meeting would be combined with the Chief's Coffee Club Meeting and would be held at the Police Department on May 23rd at 7pm.

ATHA – Former Council Member Barrow stated that the ATHA kickoff event for the War of 1812 was held at the Bostwick House in Bladensburg, on Sunday May 5th. They had a good turnout. They are still working on the Visitor's Center at the Waterfront Park and it should open in August.

PGCMA – No report given.

Port Towns Health Partnership- No report given.

PTCDC- Council Member Jackson stated that the CDC has issued a façade improvement grant to the Port Towns Shopping Center. A grant has also been issued to improve the facades at the 3 Brothers Restaurant Shopping Center. There are six other façade improvements to be made at other businesses.

Council Member Jackson stated that the PTCDC will be moving locations and will be housed in the Bladensburg shopping center with more room for the staff. With the assistance of Mayor Walter James, Adam Ortiz and Diana Fennell, the PTCDC received funding from the County and were able to pay back the towns of Bladensburg and Cottage City.

Council Member Jackson stated that there was a new developer for the Riverview project

in Colmar Manor on the waterfront and the project would be proceeding.

Discussion

Mayor Michael E. Hale invited everyone to attend the town's Cooking Class; he stated how successful they have been. The next Cooking Class will be Wednesday, May 16th from 6-8pm. This is a free class. Vegetables come from the Cottage City garden.

Mayor Michael E. Hale asked all to attend "Kids in the Park Day" to be held on May 19th from 12-4pm.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Former Council Member Sadara Barrow stated that the Cooking Classes and Community Garden are a part of the Port Towns Community Health Partnership Grant.

Ms. Barrow stated the HBO be producing a documentary titled "Weight of a Nation" which Colmar Manor has been selected to be screened in video. Ms. Barrow encouraged Town Council to attend. An official screening would be held on May 15th at Prince George's Community College.

Discussion

John Barr, Town Attorney gave overview of the status of the gym flooring damage and efforts to contain future damage. Mr. Barr stated that the Council will have to approve a contract for the drying of the concrete slab. The contractor's name is Belfor USA. It was requested that Dan Baden, Clerk Treasurer be given authority to sign the contract with Belfor USA.

Mayor Michael E. Hale called for a motion to accept the contract with Belfor Contracting. A permanent new floor has been ordered and will be installed when the moisture issue has been resolved.

Motion made by Council Member Blue to accept contract with Belfor USA. Seconded by Council Member Jackson. The motion was passed with a vote of 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Michael E. Hale called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made by Council Blue to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. . Seconded by Council Member Jackson.