

CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON MINUTES
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING/SPECIAL COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020

The Council Workshop Meeting/Special Council Legislative Meeting was held at 7:02 p.m., on Monday, May 18, 2020, as a virtual meeting. Attending were Chair Phelecia Nembhard, Councilmembers Roy A. Peterson, Lincoln Lashley, Stephen L. John, Sarah Potter Robbins, Mayor Duane Rosenberg, City Administrative Officer Tim George, Assistant City Administrative Officer Karen Ruff, Interim Director of Public Works Joseph Nagro, Chief of Police David Rice, Human Resources Administrator Alayna Rowlett, Director of Finance Maisha Williams and City Clerk Doug Barber.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nembhard welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

2. ORDINANCE 20-14 FY 2021 BUDGET (FIRST READING)

Motion: Ms. Robbins moved that the Council introduce Ordinance 20-14, an Ordinance of the City Council of New Carrollton adopting an annual operation and capital budget for the City of New Carrollton for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021; Establishing the tax rate to be levied upon the taxable property within the City; Authorizing the collection of such taxes; Specifying a rate of interest to be charged upon overdue personal property taxes, liens and unpaid fees; Adopting annual budgets for the Commercial and/or Industrial Properties Special Public Safety Taxing District and the Multifamily Properties Special Public Safety Taxing District; Establishing the Annual Tax Rate to be levied upon the Special Public Safety Taxing Districts; and all things generally relating to the adoption of an annual budget for the City (First Reading). Mr. Lashley seconded the motion. City Administrative Officer George and Director of Finance Williams responded to questions of clarification given by the Council on proposed Ordinance 20-14. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

3. PUBLIC HEARING FY2021 CONSTANT YIELD TAX RATE

The City Council convened the Public Hearing on the Constant Yield Tax Rate for FY 2021 at 7:14 p.m. Chair Nembhard verified with City Clerk Barber that the Public Hearing had been advertised as follows: Public Notice at the City Municipal Center posted on April 26, 2020; Official Publication in the Prince George's Post Newspaper April 30, 2020 edition; Announcements on Twitter on May 11, 2020; and City Website Announcement on May 11, 2020.

Ms. Rebecca Frye, 5617 83rd Place, addressed the Council regarding the increase to the constant yield tax rate.

No written testimony had been received by the City.

Chair Nembhard noted that copies of the proposed FY 2021 Budget are available for inspection upon request, and to contact City Clerk Doug Barber for information. Chair Nembhard noted that seeing no one else wanted to speak, she closed the Public Hearing at 7:39 p.m.

4. PUBLIC HEARING FY2021 ANNUAL BUDGET

The City Council convened the Public Hearing on the proposed FY 2021 Current Expense Budget and the FY 2021 Fee Schedule at 7:40 p.m. Chair Nembhard verified with City Clerk Barber that the Public Hearing had been advertised as follows: Public Notice at the City Municipal Center posted on April 26, 2020; Official Publication in the Prince George's Post Newspaper May 7, 2020 edition; Announcements on Twitter on May 11, 2020; and City Website Announcement on May 11, 2020.

No one wished to address the Council. No written testimony had been received by the City.

Chair Nembhard noted that copies of proposed FY 2021 Budget are available for inspection upon request. Chair Nembhard noted that seeing no one else wanted to speak, she closed the Public Hearing at 7:44 p.m.

5. CHARTER AMENDMENT – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Mayor and Council received a presentation from Special Counsel Attorney Stephen M. Silvestri with Jackson Lewis, PC regarding a draft of proposed legislation Article 24 – Labor Code for the City of New Carrollton. Mr. Silvestri outlined the sections and process for moving forward with allowing for Collective Bargaining. Mr. Silvestri responded to questions given by the Council on Maryland Annotated Code Article 24 (Labor Code).

6. REPORT OF THE MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATION

Mayor Rosenberg reported the dates and times of the Ebenezer Food Bank at the City Municipal Center during the pandemic. Mayor Rosenberg updated the Council on an upcoming blood drive scheduled for May 26, 2020, at the City Municipal Center.

Interim Director of Public Works Nagro had previously submitted a written report to the Council. Mr. Nagro advised that the Department of Public Work was still working under the City's Phase III plan during COVID-19. Mr. Nagro also advised that trash collection remains the same with collections being done on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday and no bulk collection or senior van transportation.

City Administrative Officer George provided a formal written report; but advised the Council that he was working with all the City staff in response to the CARES Act Funding provided by Prince George's County. Mr. George provided the Council with an updated overview of what the City included in their CARES Acts submittal.

Chief Rice had no written report. Chief Rice provided the crime stats for April 2020.

7. COUNCIL QUESTIONS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Peterson thanked Chief Rice for the report provided to the Council regarding citations.

Ms. Robbins had no questions.

Mr. Lashley requested clarification regarding the PAMC memorandum mentioned in City Administrative Officer George's report. Mr. George advised the Council he is working with PAMC on creating a rebranding for the City, and the Council would be included in the process.

Mr. John wanted to make sure the City was getting the information out to the residents regarding the continued change to trash collection especially regarding the bulk trash collection.

Ms. Nembhard thanked all the volunteers and all the supporters who have donated food for distribution. Ms. Nembhard closed by noting the numerous food bank distributions in the City of New Carrollton along with their dates and times of operation.

8. DISCUSSION OF SALARY OF CHIEF OF POLICE

The Council discussed the need to increase the salary of the Chief of Police. **Motion:** Ms. Robbins moved that the Council increase the Chief of Police Salary by \$1,500 effective in the FY2021 Budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lashley. The Council discussed with staff how it would be included in the FY2021 Budget. Chair Nembhard called for the vote. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

9. STIMULUS COVID-19 TO RESIDENTS

Ms. Ruff presented an overview of her research from what other area municipalities have done for their residents in response to COVID-19. The Council discussed at length several scenarios along with funding for the City of New Carrollton's response to our residents regarding COVID-19. Council requested that the staff continue to work on options for the Council to consider. Mr. George and Ms. Ruff will take input received from Council and continue to work on a proposed plan to present at a future meeting to the Council.

10. DISCUSSION OF CDBG AGREEMENT

Mr. George presented the proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Agreement to the Council. Mr. George advised that it is a three year funding cycle, but we do not have to apply each year if we do not have a project. The Council supported the proposed agreement. Ms. Nembhard advised that an official motion to authorize the agreement will be placed on the Council Legislative Meeting agenda scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2020.

11. MEETING MINUTES

- a) Council Workshop Meeting/Special Council Legislative Minutes (April 1, 2020)
- b) Special Council Workshop Meeting Minutes (April 9, 2020)
- c) Council Workshop Meeting Minutes (April 13, 2020)
- d) Council Legislative Meeting Minutes (April 15, 2020)
- e) Council Closed Session (March 16, 2020)

City Clerk Barber requested that the April 2020 Minutes and the Closed Session Minutes of March 16, 2020, be placed on the Council Legislative Meeting scheduled for June 17, 2020, for approval. Ms. Nembhard noted Mr. Barber's requests as his primary focus has been the Vote by Mail election process.

12. REVIEW OF BILLS

Batch # 1 (April 16, 2020; and Batch # 2 (April 30, 2020)

City Staff responded to questions given by the Council on bills.

13. RESIDENTS' CONCERNS, AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION AND TELEPHONE CALLS

Ms. Rebecca Frye, 5716 83rd Place, requested clarification on the costs regarding Fraternal Order of Police request moving forward in future budgets.

Ms. Cynthia D. Mills, 6119 86th Avenue, addressed her concern with the delay in receiving the 2020 Election Newsletter. City Clerk Barber addressed her concerns.

14. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

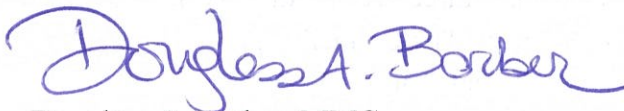
Mr. Lashley requested an update on the Harland Street Project at the Council Workshop Meeting scheduled for June 3, 2020.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Ms. Robbins moved to adjourn the City Council Workshop Meeting/Special Council Legislative Meeting of Monday, May 18, 2020, seconded by Mr. John. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglass A. Barber, MMC
City Clerk

Adopted by the Council on June 17, 2020.