

**CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON MINUTES  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP/SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021**

The Council Workshop/Special Legislative Meeting was held at 7:14 p.m., on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, as a virtual meeting. Attending were Chair Lincoln Lashley, Councilmembers, Stephen L. John, Sarah Potter Robbins, and Cynthia DB Mills, Mayor Phelecia Nembhard, City Administrative Officer Karen Ruff, Chief of Police David G. Rice, Director of Public Works Andre Triplett and City Clerk Doug Barber. Councilmember Allyne Hooks was absent.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Lashley welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Mr. Lashley requested a moment of silence to honor the memory of Mr. Ronald Seibert, a City employee who recently passed away.

**2. PUBLIC HEARING ON CHARTER AMENDMENT 21-01 VOTE BY MAIL**

The City Council convened the Public Hearing on Charter Amendment 21-01, a Charter Amendment amending Section C-7 "Elections" at 7:17 p.m. Chair Lashley verified with City Clerk Barber that the Public Hearing had been advertised as follows: Public Notice Board along with Flyers at the City Municipal Center posted on November 19, 2020; Official Publication in the Prince George's Post Newspaper November 26, 2020 edition; Announcements on Facebook and Twitter on November 19, 2020; City Website Announcement on November 19, 2020, and City Television Channel on December 4, 2020, and the City of New Carrollton eNewsletter on December 19, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

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

Chair Lashley closed the Public Hearing at 7:19 p.m.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 21-05 CODE CHAPTER 75 LICENSES/CREATION OF CHAPTER 90: SPECIAL EVENTS**

The City Council convened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 21-05, an ordinance amending Chapter 75: Licenses and the Creation of Chapter 90: Special Events at 7:20 p.m. Chair Lashley verified with City Clerk Barber that the Public Hearing had been advertised as follows: Public Notice Board along with Flyers at the City Municipal Center posted on December 16, 2020; Official Publication in the Prince George's Post Newspaper December 24, 2020 edition; Announcements on Facebook and Twitter on December 17, 2020; City Website Announcement on December 17, 2020, City Television Channel on December 21, 2020, and the City of New Carrollton eNewsletter on December 31, 2020.

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

Chair Lashley closed the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

**4. PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 21-06 CODE CHAPTER 110 VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC**

The City Council convened the Public Hearing on Ordinance 21-06, an ordinance amending Chapter 110: Vehicles and Traffic at 7:22 p.m. Chair Lashley verified with City Clerk Barber that the Public Hearing had been advertised as follows: Public Notice Board along with Flyers at the City Municipal Center posted on December 16, 2020; Official Publication in the Prince George's Post Newspaper December 24, 2020 edition; Announcements on Facebook and Twitter on December 17, 2020; City Website Announcement on December 17, 2020, City Television Channel on December 21, 2020, and the City of New Carrollton eNewsletter on December 31, 2020.

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

Chair Lashley closed the Public Hearing at 7:23 p.m.

**5. REPORT OF THE MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATION**

Mayor Nembhard opened by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. Mayor Nembhard noted the loss of Department of Public Works employee Mr. Ronald Seibert. Mayor Nembhard asked for everyone's thoughts and prayers for his family as well as his Department of Public Works family. Mayor Nembhard noted the scheduled food distributions and updated the Council on the status of each of the City's facilities. Mayor Nembhard closed her report by advising the Council that City Administrative Officer Ruff had submitted her resignation. Mayor Nembhard thanked Ms. Ruff for all her work for the City and wished her well in her future endeavors.

City Administrative Officer Ruff had no official report. Ms. Ruff advised the Council that the City had received the DLLR Certificate from the State of Maryland for the City's new boiler. Ms. Ruff also noted that the City of New Carrollton had received all the reimbursement funds from the Prince George's Cares Act, and thanked Director of Finance Williams for her work on the project.

City Clerk Barber advised the City Council that due to COVID-19 that the City of New Carrollton would not be scheduling a Spring Event for April 2021. Mr. Barber hopes that things will look better in the Fall to host the 2021 Annual Community Day Event.

Director of Public Works Triplett addressed the Council regarding the recent loss of Mr. Ronald Seibert, as he was an exceptional employee and will be greatly missed. Mr. Triplett provided the Council with an update on daily operations for the department. Mr. Triplett closed by advising he would have December 2020 stats to the Council prior to next meeting.

Chief Rice advised the Council that the department is monitoring the area for any proposed plans with intentions to disrupt the upcoming Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C. scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2021. Chief Rice closed his report by providing the December 2020 Police Department stats.

6. **COUNCIL QUESTIONS/COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ms. Robbins wished everyone a Happy New Year and hopes that 2021 is a better year for all. Ms. Robbins requested an updated on Clean Water Partner Project in the City. Director of Public Works Triplett updated the Council on the status of the project. Ms. Robbins closed by wishing Ms. Ruff well in her future endeavors and giving her deepest sympathies to the Seibert family and the Department of Public Works family on the loss of Mr. Seibert.

Mr. John had no questions or announcements. Mr. John asked for prayers of peace in Washington D.C. as they prepare for the Presidential Inauguration.

Ms. Mills wished everyone a Happy New Year. Ms. Mills wished Ms. Ruff good luck in her endeavors.

Mr. Lashley wished Ms. Ruff his best and thanked her for her work in the City of New Carrollton. Mr. Lashley gave his sympathies to the Seibert Family as well as Department of Public Works Family on the loss of Mr. Ronald Seibert.

7. **CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION 21-01 VOTE BY MAIL (SECOND READING)**

City Clerk Barber and City Administrative Officer Ruff presented the item to the City Council. **Motion:** Mr. John moved that the City Council adopt Charter Amendment Resolution 21-01, a Charter Amendment Resolution of the City Council of New Carrollton amending the Charter of the City of New Carrollton, § C-7 "Elections," Subsection A "Conduct and Procedure" to authorize the City to conduct vote by mail elections at any election and to remove the reference to annual elections (Second Reading). Ms. Robbins seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the item. Chair Lashley called for the vote. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

8. **ORDINANCE 21-07 BUDGET AMENDMENT RECONCILIATION NO. THREE: TO AMEND ORDINANCE 20-14 CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET FOR FY2021**

City Administrative Officer Ruff presented the proposed legislation to the Council for their consideration. **Motion:** Ms. Robbins moved that the City Council introduce Ordinance 21-07, an Ordinance of the City Council of New Carrollton amending the adopted budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, as embodied in Ordinance 20-14 and amended by Ordinances 21-02 and 21-04, to reflect money brought into the budget from City restricted/designated funds, to reflect the receipt of unanticipated revenues, and to adjust various expenditures (First Reading). Mr. John seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the item. Chair Lashley called for the vote. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

9. **ORDINANCE 21-05 CODE CHAPTER 75: LICENSES (SECOND READING)**

City Administrative Office Ruff presented the City Council with the proposed legislation to the Council for their consideration. **Motion:** Ms. Mills moved that the Council adopt Ordinance 21-05, an Ordinance of the City Council of New Carrollton amending City Code, Chapter 75 "Licenses" to repeal in its entirety § 75-10 "Special Events," and amending the

Code of the City of New Carrollton to add Chapter 90 “Special Events” (Second Reading). Ms. Robbins seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the item. Chair Lashley called for the vote. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

**10. ORDINANCE 21-06 CODE CHAPTER 110: VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC (SECOND READING)**

City Administrative Office Ruff presented the City Council with the proposed legislation to the Council for their consideration. **Motion:** Ms. Robbins moved that the Council introduce Ordinance 21-06, an Ordinance of the City Council of New Carrollton amending the City Code, Chapter 110 “Vehicles and Traffic, “to amend § 110-25 “Parking of Commercial Vehicles Prohibited on City Streets” to remove reference to City owned property and repeal in its entirety § 110-26 “Exception to Prohibition of Parking Commercial Vehicles on City Streets” (Second Reading). Mr. John seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the item. Chair Lashley called for the vote. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

**11. ADOPTION OF FY2022 BUDGET SCHEDULE**

City Administrative Office Ruff presented the proposed FY2022 Budget Schedule to the Council for their consideration. The City Council discussed all three proposed options on the FY2022 Budget Schedule for the City Council to consider. Mr. Lashley requested the item be moved to the Council Workshop Meeting scheduled for January 19, 2021. Motion: Mr. John moved to table the discussion of the FY 2022 Budget Schedule until the Council Workshop Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Ms. Mills seconded the motion. There was no discussion on the item. Chair Lashley called for the vote. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

**12. DISCUSSION OF CREATION OF A CITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

City Administrative Officer Ruff presented the City Council with options for the City Council to consider regarding the creation of a City Assistance Program. The Council discussed the provision outline in the program and noted the funds for the FY2021 Budget were included in the budget amendment adopted earlier in the meeting. The City Council noted their support of the program. City Clerk asked if an official motion would be required and Mayor Nembhard advised that it was an administrative function and did not require City Council action.

**13. DISCUSSION OF CITY POSITION REGARDING MAGLEV**

City Administrative Officer Ruff presented the City Council with an update on the proposed MAGLEV project. Mr. John expressed his concerns on the project and requested information be put in the City’s eNewsletter to inform the residents on the project. The City Council discussed the issue at length. There was no further action or direction given on the issue.

**14. MEETING MINUTES**

- a) Council Workshop Meeting Minutes (December 14, 2020)
- b) Council Legislative Meeting Minutes (December 16, 2020)

City Clerk Barber advised the Council that the minutes from December 2020 have been prepared and provided to the Council for their review and comments. Mr. Lashley requested the Council provide any corrections on the prepared minutes to City Clerk Barber.

**15. PUBLIC COMMENT - RESIDENTS' CONCERNS, AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION AND TELEPHONE CALLS**

There was no one wishing to address the City Council.

**16. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Robbins requested that Ms. Grace Fielder be placed on a future agenda to provide the City Council an update on her work with the City's Parks Plan.

Mr. John requested a discussion on the Prince George's County Clean Energy Schools Campaign be added to a future agenda.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Ms. Robbins moved to adjourn the City Council Workshop/Special Council Legislative Meeting of Wednesday, January 6, 2021, seconded by Ms. Mills. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

The meeting ended at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas A. Barber, MMC  
City Clerk

Adopted by the Council on February 17, 2021.

Note: The official recoding of the City of New Carrollton's Council Workshop Meeting/Special Legislative Meeting of Wednesday, January 6, 2021, has been posted to the City of New Carrollton's website.

