

WORK SESSION – BUDGET RETREAT – January 31, 2012

Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II called this Work Session – Budget Retreat of the Mayor and City Council to order at 4:43 p.m., Tuesday, January 31, 2012, in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Present with the Mayor were Councilmembers W. M. Breichner, M. E. Brubaker, F. W. Easton, A. C. Haywood, L. C. Metzner; City Administrator Bruce Zimmerman, and D. K. Spickler, City Clerk.

Bruce Zimmerman, City Administrator, reported that after two very difficult years as a result of the economic recession, the City is beginning to see the budget stabilize. There are still some financial hurdles, but the forecasts are improving.

Michelle Burkner, Director of Finance, and Michelle Hepburn, Budget Officer, were also present and provided preliminary budget information.

The City's FY 11/12 General Fund Revenue of \$ 35,938,384 reflects a \$ 4,598,095 reduction from the FY 09/10 revenue. The City is operating with 11.3% less revenue than two years ago.

This year, the City is operating with 43 fewer positions in the General Fund and 13 fewer positions in other city operations. This is an 11.5% reduction in staffing from the 485 positions included in the City budget at the beginning of last year.

Hagerstown's current property tax rate of 78.8 cents per \$100 of assessed value has remained the same since FY 08/09.

The City has approved collective bargaining agreements in place for all four employee unions for the coming fiscal year. These contracts will expire in June, 2013.

The City's bond ratings were upheld by both Moody's and Standard & Poor's in July, 2011. The City received an aa-rating from S & P and an aa3 rating from Moody's. Both ratings are classified as excellent.

City employees are not scheduled to receive a cost of living wage adjustment in FY 12/13. This will be the fourth consecutive year that employees will not receive a COLA. City employees are not scheduled to receive a step increase in FY 12/13. This will be the third consecutive year that employees will not receive a pay step increase.

FY 12/13 will be second year of the current triennial assessment of property values in Hagerstown. The next triennial assessment will be December, 2013.

The unemployment rate in Hagerstown as of December, 2011 was 9.2% Based on the estimated 2010 census data, the median family income in Hagerstown is \$ 43,112.

Hagerstown continues to have very good experience with managing the cost of its employee and retiree health insurance program. Current projections assume these costs will remain flat in the coming year.

The State of Maryland has lowered the employer's contribution toward pension funding in the State's Retirement Program from 10.94% to 8.99% in the coming fiscal year. Employee contributions are anticipated to remain at 7%. This reflects the increase from 5% to 7% approved by the State Legislature beginning July 1, 2011. For the City's Police and Fire Pension Program the employer's contribution in the coming year is currently anticipated to be 11.29% with the participants contributing 7%.

Considerable uncertainty remains over the impact of the FY13 State Budget on local governments. Governor O'Malley's proposed budget as presented on January 19, 2012 continues (for the fourth straight year) 35% reductions in State Aid for Police Protection. Highway User Revenue was dropped from \$9.9 million for municipalities in the current year to \$6.5 million next year, a decrease of 34%.

Preliminary estimates for a new bond issuance to cover capital improvement needs for FY13 total approximately \$ 7.5 million for all funds. Finance would begin this bond issuance process in December 2012 to have the actual issuances completed by June 30, 2013. The areas that staff anticipates would be included in this issuance are: General Fund (\$622,000); Parking Fund (\$100,000); Wastewater Fund (\$1,700,000); and Water Fund (\$5,100,000).

Vehicle and equipment purchases have been deferred for three fiscal years due to budget constraints. Funds will need to be restored for these purchases to ensure the City's fleet remains in proper operating condition.

Hagerstown, along with other Maryland towns and counties, faces the potential of major costs associated with State mandates requiring local governments to meet water quality improvement goals aimed at reducing pollutants in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. As discussed with the Mayor and Council on January 10, 2012, Hagerstown's costs could range well into the millions of dollars depending on the ultimate requirements of the watershed implementation plan.

While a tax rate increase is not necessary for FY13, Hagerstown will need to give consideration to the likely need for a modest increase in the City's property tax rate in FY14 and beyond. During the past two years, the City has offset the loss of \$ 4,598,095 in General Fund revenues almost exclusively through expenditure reductions. The City has balanced its General Fund budget throughout the recession by lowering expenditures. However, it will take time for existing revenue sources to recover from the impact of the economic recession, and projections indicated they will not be strong enough to support the restoration of funding for vehicle equipment, future operating costs (including restoration of employee wage increase) and the Capital Improvement Program.

For FY13, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) assumes a 21% reduction in the Federal Government's funding of the annual entitlement received by the City of Hagerstown. In FY12, the City's annual entitlement was \$839,000 which was a 16.5% decrease from FY11. It is projected that program income will be reduced by 26%. In addition to funding requests for Public Services, the City has received requests for FY13 CDBG funding of an additional \$304,800 from outside agencies.

As of June 30, 2011, the Water Fund had \$80.9 million in net assets and total cash of \$7.3 million, of which \$3.4 million is in restricted cash and investments. Preliminary estimates for June 30, 2012 project a similar ending cash balance. The 2011 bond issuance contributed an additional \$3.4 million to the cash position for FY12 projections.

Effective November 4, 2009, the City implemented a five year rate fee schedule that was adopted in September, 2009. The rate schedule increases the water rates 5.0% within the City and 6.0% outside the City annually. The projections reflect this increase through FY14. A lower increase is anticipated after that.

Capital Improvement Projects include the completion of the second 6.4 million gallon West End Water Tank, and the nearly completed R.C. Willson Transmission Main Replacement/Electrical Upgrade Project. The City awarded the Phase IV Improvements for Stage 2 DPBR Project to Hazen and Sawyer.

As of June 30, 2011, the Wastewater Fund had \$53.0 million in net assets and total cash of \$ 263 thousand. Preliminary estimates for June 30, 2012 project an increased ending cash balance. The 2011 bond issuance contributed an additional \$2.6 million to the cash position for FY12 projections.

Effective November 4, 2009, Service Charge Revenue began to reflect annual increases approved September 2009 of 5.0% for inside and 3.5% for outside City customers. The projections reflect this increase through FY14. Future rate increases will be needed beyond the current five year rate schedule.

As of December 31, 2011, the Wastewater Treatment Plant has operated 45 consecutive months without a Discharge Monitoring Report Violation per the State Discharge Permit.

The Salem Avenue Inflow and Infiltration Project were completed in the third quarter of 2011. Work continues on the Citywide Inflow and Infiltration Project. Staff refined the processes as they relate to the Enhanced Nutrient Removal (ENR) initiatives at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

As of June 30, 2011, the Electric Fund had \$19.7 million in net assets. The Electric Fund expects to realize increases in Retained earnings for both FY12 and FY13. The Electric Fund ended FY11 with \$4.1 million in cash and expects to end both FY12 and FY13 with similar ending cash balances.

In future years, the Electric Fund will continue to monitor revenues due to the projected loss of 8% of total gross revenue that resulted from the relocation of the Washington County Hospital and the upcoming Unilever Ice Cream Plant relocation.

Negotiations between Allegheny Energy Supply d/b/a First Energy Solutions and the City have concluded with an accepted contract extension and a new price point for the term of the extension. The megawatt hour (MWh) charge for service during the one year extension period will be \$ 54.57. The extension price represents a reduction of approximately 15% of the existing \$ 64.85 per MWh charge.

The Electric Fund is anticipating that all capital improvements projects for FY13 will be funded entirely from Electric Fund net assets. Some of the higher dollar projects include vehicle replacements, telemetry equipment, substation improvements, and building and site improvements.

The new parking meter rates went into effect of July 1, 2011. The rate for parking meters increased from \$0.25 per hour to \$0.50 to offset losses from the relocation of the hospital and reduced use of downtown parking. Mayor and Council authorized the development of a Downtown Parking Plan with a projected budget of \$ 35,000. The project is underway with a projected completion date of May, 2012.

Future capital improvement projects in the North Potomac Deck include replacement of the joints between deck sections and numerous concrete repairs. The debt service on the North Potomac Deck expires at the end of the current fiscal year.

Civilian parking enforcement was transferred from HPD to the Parking System, effective July, 2011. Parking Enforcement Officers now utilize wireless handheld systems that enter data in real-time. This has saved approximately \$7,000-\$10,000 per year by eliminating the need for an office staff member to re-enter data into the financial system.

Revenue from parking deck fees do not cover the operating and debt service costs associated with both decks. Revenues from street and parking lot meters continue to support the operations of the decks.

Councilmember Brubaker emphasized that revenue is at the lowest it's been since FY07. Councilmember Metzner pointed out expenses have been substantially reduced since FY07 in response to the decrease in revenue.

Ms. Burkner stated a revenue decrease of \$ 312,000 is anticipated for FY13. Budget requests from departments will be manageable. Mr. Zimmerman stated most departments will be able to keep their budgets flat. A proposed budget will be presented to the Mayor and City Council, without a tax increase.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the City has to be respectful of the financial health of those in the community. The unemployment rate and median income does not indicate financial health.

Councilmember Brubaker asked if staff anticipates being able to maintain a strong fund balance through FY13. Ms. Burker indicated staff anticipates it will be maintained.

The City's debt ratio is within general benchmarks for measuring debt.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the purchase of vehicles has been deferred for several years. Vehicle purchases and computer purchases will be included in the FY 13 budget. He indicated the decrease in revenue from property taxes may be less than was anticipated.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the City needs to focus on strengthening revenues. Expenditures have been decreased significantly. Existing revenue sources are not expected to recover considerably in FY13.

Ms. Burker reviewed the Community Development Fund. John Lestitian, Department of Community and Economic Development Director, indicated staff will be discussing the loans offered through CDBG and making recommendations for changes, including micro lending and looking for visible impact projects to help neighborhoods. The City will face decisions of how to appropriate limited federal funds.

Councilmember Breichner asked how much of an impact the closing of the Unilever plant will have on the water fund. Mr. Zimmerman indicated there will be a greater impact on the Light Fund.

Councilmember Breichner asked why the Smithsburg water plant is not operating. Michael Spiker, Director of Utilities, stated the plant is expensive to run and capacity needs have decreased.

Mr. Zimmerman stated Donnie Barton, Wastewater Plant Operator, deserves a lot of credit for the discharge record at the plant. Mr. Barton stated Staff deserves the credit.

Ms. Hepburn pointed out there has not been a need to loan funds to the water fund. Mr. Zimmerman stated the bond rating agencies were not in favor of this plan. If possible, the loan will be eliminated.

Mr. Zimmerman stated the City has addressed the ENR regulations. The Wastewater plant is now rated at 10.5 mgd. This increase is a result of the improvements made at the plant.

Mayor Bruchey thanked staff for the information provided. He suggested holding another budget retreat before the budget is adopted.

The Budget Retreat was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

**62<sup>ND</sup> REGULAR SESSION – January 31, 2012**

**Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II called this 62<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the Mayor and City Council to order at 7:03 p.m., Tuesday, January 31, 2012, in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Present with the Mayor were Councilmembers W. M. Breichner, M. E. Brubaker, F. W. Easton, A. C. Haywood, L. C. Metzner; City Administrator Bruce Zimmerman, City Attorney William Nairn and D. K. Spickler, City Clerk.**

The invocation was offered by Councilmember William M. Breichner. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Mayor Bruchey announced the Rules of Procedure for this meeting will be followed as adopted June 23, 2009. It was announced that the use of cell phones and electronic devices during meetings is restricted and that all correspondence for distribution to elected officials should be provided to the City Clerk and should include a copy for the City Clerk for inclusion in the official record.

The next scheduled meetings are: Work Sessions beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, Tuesday, February 14, 2012, Tuesday, February 21, 2012 and the Regular Session on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

**APPOINTMENTS**

On a motion duly made by Councilmember L. C. Metzner and seconded by Councilmember F. W. Easton, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to appoint Brett Wilson to the Board of Zoning Appeals, with a term to expire January 31, 2016 and to appoint John Ryder to the Board of Traffic and Parking, with a term to expire January 31, 2016.

Councilmember M. E. Brubaker made a motion to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that Kate Rader be appointed to the Economic Development Commission. Councilmember W. M. Breichner seconded the motion.

Motion carried, 4-0 with Councilmember Haywood abstaining from the vote.

Mayor Bruchey administered the Oath of Office to John Ryder.

Mayor Bruchey welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 66 to the meeting.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

William L. Knode, 510 Lynnehaven Drive, Hagerstown, Maryland, was present representing the Winter Street School alumni. Members of his family attended Winter Street and they are all successful. He, and other alumni, want the school to stay open and

not be combined with Conococheague Elementary School. He does not believe combing the two schools will save money. The students who currently walk to school will not be able to do so. The teachers have made good progress with the children in the West End neighborhoods. The school has a family atmosphere. He urged the Mayor and City Council to make favorable decisions for the children in the West End.

Debbie Shrader is the parent of a Winter Street student. The children who attend Winter Street are proud of the school and they enjoy walking to the school. Her child is reading at higher levels. She wondered how families that don't drive will get their children to school if Winter Street school is closed.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **Land Management Code Text Amendments – Kennels and Conversion District Overlays**

Kathleen Maher, Planning Director, stated this Public Hearing is being held to receive testimony on proposed amendments to the Land Management Code for kennels and conversion district overlay zones.

As a result of prospect queries to economic development staff, text amendments were drafted to allow kennels (day- and night-boarding) in commercial districts and to modify the conversion district overlay zoning text to provide more flexibility for proposed users. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the proposed amendments at their meeting on December 14, 2011.

The Land Management Code (LMC) currently only allows kennels in the AT, IR and IG zoning districts. The LMC defines a kennel as “any building or structure and/or land used, designed, or arranged for housing, boarding, breeding or care of more than five adult dogs, over the age of four months, kept or bred for any purpose, including household pets.” Veterinary clinics without outdoor runs are allowed by right in C2 and C4 districts and with special exception in the C1 district. Veterinary clinics with outdoor runs, not kennels, are allowed with special exception in the C2 district.

As part of the comprehensive package of amendments to the LMC, the Planning Commission is considering also allowing veterinary clinics with outdoor runs in the IR and IG districts and veterinary clinics without outdoor runs in the POM, I-MU, and Conversion districts and as special exception in the N-MU and D-MU districts.

The proposed amendments would allow kennels in C2, C4, and POM, if the following three conditions are met:

1. Area housing dogs (indoor or outdoor) is at least 100 feet away from any nearby property containing a dwelling unit, church, school, residential care facility, hospital, assisted living facility, or nursing home.
2. Exterior play areas are enclosed with solid fencing at least 6 feet tall.

3. Total number of dogs does not exceed one dog per 100 sq. ft. of combined lease area.

Conversion District overlay zones are allowed in R1, R2, R3, R4, C1, C2, D-MU, IR and IG districts. As currently established in the Zoning Ordinance, a conversion district property must contain a multi-story, pre-1950 building and may be occupied by uses allowed in the underlying zone, multi-family housing, and C1 business types and/or offices, however no more than 50% of the floor area may be occupied by commercial uses. The buildings cannot be expanded in floor area, except for life safety purposes. Applications for the conversion district overlay must include a concept plan showing the proposed development layout, proposed site improvements, proposed building improvements, and detail on what types of uses and the square footage of each that will go into the building. As with a rezoning, the Planning Commission and the Mayor and City Council will hold public hearings to gain public input on the proposal. The Mayor and City Council may impose any conditions they feel pertinent as part of the approval of the conversion district overlay proposal.

Since this tool was first created in the early to mid 1990's, only four properties have received the designation. They are: 1) the apartment building in City Park (behind the tennis courts); 2) Crampton's mixed-use building on Pope Avenue; 3) a building at the triangle of Charles Street, Forest Drive, and Hamilton Lane; and 4) Crampton's mixed-use building on Frederick Street.

The proposed amendments:

1. Remove requirement for residential uses
2. Remove size limitation on retail (5K) and restaurants (3K), unless located in C1 or residential district
3. Allow additions to be made to such buildings
4. Increase list of permitted uses for more commercial uses, artist live-work space, light manufacturing
5. New definitions for "artist live-work space" and light manufacturing"

Ms. Maher entered the following exhibits:

- Exhibit 1: Notice of Publication  
Exhibit 2: Planning Commission File by reference

Councilmember Brubaker stated these proposed amendments are designed to protect neighboring property owners.

Councilmember Metzner expressed his concern that the proposed language and definition of a kennel would permit a "puppy mill" situation.

It was the general consensus to schedule a work session to discuss the language and the concerns expressed by Councilmember Metzner and to continue with the Public Hearing.

There was no testimony presented, either in favor of or against the proposed amendments.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:31 p.m. The record will remain open for 10 days for additional comments.

### **MINUTES**

On a motion duly made by Councilmember W. M. Breichner and seconded by Councilmember F. W. Easton, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve the minutes, as presented, for the Mayor and Council meetings held on December 6, 2011, December 13, 2011 and December 20, 2011.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion duly made by Councilmember F. W. Easton and seconded by Councilmember L. C. Metzner, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Department of Community and Economic Development:
  - 1. Open Container Exemption for Western Maryland BluesFest (May 31, June 1, and 2, 2012) and Augustoberfest (August 25 and 26, 2012)
  - 2. Façade Renovations 36-40 North Potomac Street – Modern Construction Services, Inc. (Street, MD) \$ 71,200.00
  
- B. Department of Parks and Engineering:
  - Engineering:
    - 1. 2012/2013 Pavement Preservation Program
    - 2. Demolition of Buildings at 101 East Avenue and 144 N. Locust Street – Allegany Wrecking & Salvage (Hagerstown, MD) \$ 29,600.00
  
- C. Parks:
  - 1. Mowing and Trimming in Various Parks for 2012 Mowing Season – J. R. Services (Smithsburg, MD) \$ 59,325.00
  - 2. Six year Lease of 20 Golf Carts – Golf Cart Services (New Oxford, PA) \$ 73,094.40
  
- D. Utilities: Wastewater Division: 6”Portable Pump – Godwin Pumps (Upper Marlboro, MD) \$ 39,219.16

Councilmember Haywood abstained from voting on the façade renovations at 36-40 North Potomac Street. She is in favor of the other consent agenda items.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of an Ordinance: Authorizing Speed Monitoring Systems in School Zones**

**Action:** Councilmember A. C. Haywood made a motion to approve an ordinance authorizing the addition of Section 60-17 to the City Code to authorize speed monitoring systems in school zones and establish fines for violation of speed limits within the zones. Councilmember W. M. Breichner seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Brubaker pointed out this program is being implemented to increase safety and productivity for police officers.

Councilmember Haywood pointed out the first 30 days will be a warning period.

Mayor Bruchey indicated he would not be signing this ordinance. He is not vetoing the ordinance, but will not sign it.

Motion carried, 4-1 with Councilmember F. W. Easton voting No.

**B. Approval of an Ordinance: Establishing School Zones**

**Action:** Councilmember A. C. Haywood made a motion to approve an ordinance establishing school zones for the purpose of regulating maximum speed limits in such areas. Signs will be placed in the appropriate areas designating the school zones. Councilmember L. C. Metzner seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Brubaker stated the State law allows these zones a half mile from a school. The final implementation may be less stringent.

Mayor Bruchey indicated he will not be signing this ordinance.

Motion carried, 4-1 with Councilmember Easton voting No.

**C. Approval of an Ordinance: Authorizing Entry into a Loan Financing the Purchase of Recycling Totes**

**Action:** Councilmember L. C. Metzner made a motion to approve an ordinance as introduced on January 24, 2012 authorizing the City of Hagerstown to enter into a loan to finance the purchase of recycling totes in the sum of \$600,000, subject to the terms and conditions as detailed in the ordinance. Appropriate City officials are hereby authorized to take the actions

necessary to proceed with the loan closing. Councilmember M. E. Brubaker seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rodney Tissue, City Engineer, indicated the recycling rates are up 28%, just since the beginning of this contract on January 1, 2012. It would be difficult to determine a percentage rate of participation.

Councilmember Metzner asked if the motion should state up to \$ 600,000 would be financed. Ms. Burkner indicated the closing documents must have a set amount. If the totes are not \$ 600,000 in total, the extra funding would be applied towards the principal.

Councilmember Easton stated he is a fan of recycling and he thanked staff for their hard work on this contract. He cannot support a 4% interest rate. He wondered if this was the appropriate time to take out a loan. He doesn't understand why there is a rush on the loan and why other options could not be explored.

Councilmember Haywood thanked the members of the Green Task Force and Trash and Recycling Task Force.

Councilmember Brubaker stated this loan is a creative way to save money and implement recycling.

Councilmember Metzner stated this decision has not been rushed. The Mayor and City Council spent a great deal of time reviewing the contracts and options.

Councilmember Easton does not believe purchasing a recycling tote for every household is the answer for more participation.

Councilmember Haywood pointed out the City's ability to follow through with the program is contingent upon purchasing the totes. This is the most conservative estimate that was presented.

Motion carried, 4-1 with Councilmember F. W. Easton voting No.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Introduction of an Ordinance: Sale of Three CDBG Homes to Habitat for Humanity of Washington County.**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember A. C. Haywood and seconded by Councilmember F. W. Easton, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to introduce an ordinance authorizing the sale of three CDBG Single Family Homeownership Homes to Habitat

for Humanity of Washington County. The City acquired these homes in 2006 and 2008 using CDBG funds. The homes were renovated and then listed for sale as part of the CDBG Homeownership Program. The homes will be sold as a package deal to Habitat for Humanity of Washington County for \$ 100,000.

**B. Approval of a Resolution: Non-Partisan Election Question for 2012 General Election Ballot**

**Action:** Councilmember L. C. Metzner made a motion to approve a resolution to direct that a non-binding question shall appear on the ballot for the General Election for the City of Hagerstown on November 6, 2012 asking voters whether future primary and general City elections should be changed to non-partisan elections. Councilmember W. M. Breichner seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Haywood stated studies have shown that non-partisan elections do not increase participation and the Mayor and City Council has not reviewed this data. She believes this is a hasty decision.

Councilmember Easton supports non-partisan elections; however, he does not think it should be a question on the ballot. He does not agree with the statements made previously that this is too important a decision for the Mayor and City Council to make without input from the voters. He used the example of deciding to spend \$ 600,000 for recycling totes.

Councilmember Breichner indicated this is a charter change and citizens should have the opportunity to indicate to the Mayor and City Council their wishes for this issue. Other decisions, such as purchases, are not charter amendments and fall under the responsibilities of the Council as listed in the Charter.

Councilmember Brubaker stated moving to non-partisan elections would be a constitutional change and voters should have the opportunity to make the Mayor and City Council aware of their feelings on this fundamental issue.

Motion carried 3-2, with Councilmember A. C. Haywood and Councilmember F. W. Easton voting No.

**C. Approval of a Resolution: 2012 Summer Playcamp Operations – Hagerstown YMCA**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember M. E. Brubaker and seconded by Councilmember F. W. Easton, the Mayor and City Council

unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a resolution to authorize the execution of a contract for the Hagerstown YMCA to operate two play camp programs at Hellane Park and Pangborn Park, each serving 60 children per day at a cost not to exceed \$ 35,000.00, for an eight week period during the summer 2012 season.

**D. Approval of a Resolution: 2012 Summer Playcamp Operations – Memorial Recreation Center, Inc.**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember F. W. Easton and seconded by Councilmember A. C. Haywood, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a resolution to authorize the execution of a contract for the Memorial Recreation Center to operate a play camp program at Wheaton Park, serving 60 children per day for a cost not to exceed \$ 17,000.00, for an eight week period during the summer 2012 season.

**E. Approval of a Resolution: 2012 Summer Playcamp Operations – Girls, Inc. of Washington County**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember M. E. Brubaker and seconded by Councilmember F. W. Easton, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a resolution to authorize the execution of a contract for the Girls, Inc. of Washington County to operate a play camp program at the Girls, Inc. center, serving an additional 45 girls per day at a cost of \$ 15,000.00, for an eight week period during the summer 2012 season.

**F. Approval of a Resolution: Authorizing the Designation of Alley #5-30 and #5-32 as “Lou Scally Alley.”**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember L. C. Metzner and seconded by Councilmember M. E. Brubaker, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a resolution to authorize the designation of Alley #5-30 and #5-32 as “Lou Scally Alley”. This alley runs parallel to the 1300 blocks of Oak Hill Avenue and Hamilton Boulevard, between Country Club Road and Magnolia Avenue. The alley is so named in honor of local TV and radio personality Lou Scally, for his years of service to the community.

Discussion: Councilmember Metzner stated this is a way to express honor to a good person. Councilmember Brubaker stated Mr. Scally is a gracious commentator and is very active in the community.

**G. Approval of a Grant Agreement for the Engineering and Design of Improvements to Hamilton Run and Pangborn Park Lane**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember M. E. Brubaker and Councilmember W. M. Breichner, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a “Grant Agreement” with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$ 30,000 for the design and acquisition of permits for the future reconstruction of Pangborn Park Lake and the section of Hamilton Run adjacent Pangborn Park. The City has budgeted a match of \$ 40,000 in CIP 812 for this project.

#### **H. Approval for the Acquisition and Delivery of Recycling Containers**

**Action:** Councilmember L. C. Metzner made a motion to approve a contract with Rehrig Pacific Company for the acquisition and delivery of recycling containers. The purchase shall not exceed \$ 600,000 and includes approximately 12,000 containers of various sizes. The City will notify residential property owners prior to purchase to confirm size and number of containers required. Councilmember W. M. Breichner seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rodney Tissue, City Engineer, stated containers are not being purchased for every resident. Residents will have the opportunity to request a different size container or to use the one they currently have. He noted a new container will be necessary in order to participate in the RecycleBank program.

Motion carried, 4-1 with Councilmember F. W. Easton voting No.

#### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS**

*Bruce Zimmerman, City Administrator*, had no additional comments.

#### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

*Councilmember W. M. Breichner* had no additional comments.

*Councilmember M. E. Brubaker* had no additional comments.

*Councilmember F. W. Easton* attended the ribbon cutting at Twin V Circle, a new, full service motorcycle shop in Hagerstown.

*Councilmember A. C. Haywood* met with Senator Christopher Shank and City staff for a brainstorming session recently. It was a good meeting.

*Councilmember L. C. Metzner* warned residents about the firm “Vacation Choices.” The offer they make is not what is delivered. He asked anyone who had experience with this firm to contact him. He would contact the Attorney General on behalf of citizens.

*Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II* attended the ribbon cutting for Twin V Circle. He congratulated the owners of the shop for opening a full service motorcycle shop. He attended the Relay for Life kick off on Sunday, January 29, 2012. This year's Relay for Life will be held at Fairgrounds Park on June 16, 2012. He attended the very successful Silent Auction to benefit the Community Free Clinic at the Gourmet Goat. The Clinic fills a need in the community. He thanked staff for the budget presentation.

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and City Council, on a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna K. Spickler, City Clerk

Approved: February 28, 2012