

43<sup>RD</sup> SPECIAL SESSION, WORK SESSION AND EXECUTIVE SESSION – June 3, 2014

EXEUCTIVE SESSION – June 3, 2014

Councilmember L. C. Metzner made a motion to meet in closed session to consult with Counsel to obtain legal advice, #7 (Section 10-508(a)) at 3:20 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, City Hall, Hagerstown, Maryland. Councilmember D. F. Munson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 4-1, with Councilmember K. B. Aleshire voting No.

Councilmember Aleshire stated he is strongly opposed to meeting in closed session to discuss city loans, as he had indicated in emails.

The following people were in attendance: Mayor D. S. Gysberts, Councilmember K. B. Aleshire, Councilmember M. E. Brubaker, Councilmember L. C. Metzner, Councilmember D. F. Munson, Councilmember P. M. Nigh, City Administrator Bruce Zimmerman, City Attorney William Nairn, John Lestitian, Director of the Department of Community and Economic Development, Jonathan Kerns, Community Development Manager, Stacey Pierre-Louis, Business/Community Development Finance Specialist, and Donna K. Spickler, City Clerk. The meeting was held to discuss options for several loans with outstanding financial obligations due the City of Hagerstown. No formal action was taken at the meeting. On a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

43<sup>RD</sup> SPECIAL SESSION – June 3, 2014

Mayor D. S. Gysberts called this 43<sup>rd</sup> Special Session and Work Session of the Mayor and City Council to order at 4:07 p.m., Tuesday, June 3, 2014, in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Present with the Mayor were Councilmembers K. B. Aleshire, M. E. Brubaker, L. C. Metzner, D. F. Munson, and P. M. Nigh; City Administrator Bruce Zimmerman, City Attorney William Nairn, and City Clerk D. K. Spickler.

On a motion duly made by Councilmember L. C. Metzner and seconded by Councilmember D. F. Munson, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to meet in Special Session at 4:08 p.m.

**Approval of IAFF 1605 Contract**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember P. M. Nigh and seconded by Councilmember D. F. Munson, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve of a collective bargaining agreement between the City of Hagerstown and the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1605. This agreement shall run for a period commencing on July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016. The terms of the agreement are

outlined in an attached memo.

Discussion: Councilmember Brubaker stated it seems some people think the City could do more for the contract, but in reality, the City may not be able to afford this contract.

Karen Paulson, Director of Human Resources, pointed out the following highlights:

1. Members will receive a 2% cost of living increase effective retroactively to January 1, 2014.
2. On July 1, 2014, members will receive a 2% cost of living increase. Additionally, eligible members will advance one longevity step on the wage scale from the longevity step they maintained as of June 30, 2014.
3. On July 1, 2015, members will receive a 2% cost of living increase. Additionally, eligible members will advance one longevity step from the step they maintained as of June 30, 2015.
4. The salary scale for Local 1605 will be revised to remove the existing step 24 of the scale. The new scale will have a maximum of 23 steps.
5. Healthcare language has been changed to allow retirees and dependents who were eligible for coverage at the time of retirement to opt out at time of retirement but be able to enroll in later years.
6. Prior language allowed an employee and/or eligible dependents to remain on the Level Plan for full medical coverage, at City cost. The new agreed-to language states the City will provide, at cost, the retiree medical plan.

Ms. Paulson mentioned there are several other non-financial agreements that can be found in the memo.

Councilmember Munson noted the projected cost of the three year contract is approximately \$ 558,000.00. Ms. Paulson stated the City of Hagerstown continues to absorb increases in pension, healthcare and workers compensation costs.

Councilmember Brubaker stated the only campaign promise he made was to try to find a balance for citizens, taxpayers and employees. He resents being accused of not negotiating in good faith.

**Approval of a Resolution: FY 2014/2015 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember L. C. Metzner and seconded by Councilmember D. F. Munson, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote to approve a resolution approving the FY 2014/2015 Annual Action Plan and budget detail for the Community

Development Block Grant program, authorizing the Mayor to file an application for financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development in the amount of \$ 646,183 for the Community Development Block Grant program, and further authorizing the Mayor to execute all other documents relating to the City's Community Development Block Grant program for FY 2014/2015.

The Special Session was closed at 4:13 p.m.

WORK SESSION – June 3, 2014

Mayor Gysberts welcomed members of Boy Scout Troop 103 who were present at the meeting.

Proclamation – Maryland Symphony Orchestra Week

Mayor Gysberts read a proclamation naming June 1-7, 2014 as Maryland Symphony Orchestra Week.

Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area Funding

Julie Rohm and Al Martin, Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, were present to discuss the City's participation in the local funding of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area.

This program, involving Carroll, Frederick, and Washington County has existed for nearly 10 years with the mission "to promote the stewardship of the historic, cultural, and natural Civil war resources; encourage superior visitor experiences, and stimulate tourism, economic prosperity, and educational development, thereby improving the quality of life of the community for the benefit of both residents and visitors. Since FY 07, the City of Hagerstown and local nonprofit organizations have received numerous grants through the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Program.

Mr. Martin stated Frederick County has been paying the local match since 2006. Beginning in 2015, the amount will be split between the three counties.

Councilmember Metzner stated he does not support Hagerstown being the only municipality out of all three counties to contribute to the annual match. If other municipalities in Washington County each contribute \$ 1,000, he will support the City contributing \$ 1,000.

Councilmember Munson stated the City of Hagerstown has benefited greatly from the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Program. He fully supports a contribution toward the match from Hagerstown.

Ms. Rohm stated the group is asking the City of Hagerstown and the Washington County Commissioners to each contribute \$ 5,000.

Councilmember Metzner pointed out the Town of Williamsport has received a significant amount in grants. He wondered why Williamsport and the Town of Sharpsburg are not being asked to contribute toward the local match. He knows the program is a good one but he is concerned that the City of Hagerstown is being asked to contribute when other recipients are not.

Mayor Gysberts thinks the way the hotel/motel tax is distributed is not appropriate. He thinks it would be a good faith effort to contribute the \$ 5,000, especially since the Urban Partners report includes a Heritage Center in the heart of Hagerstown as a catalyst project.

Ms. Rohm stated the deadline for a letter of support is June 15, 2014.

Councilmember Munson suggested the group approach all the municipalities for participation next year.

It was discussed that the logical source of Washington County's match would be the hotel/motel tax revenue. Mayor Gysberts suggested including a discussion about the distribution of hotel/motel tax on a future agenda.

Councilmember Aleshire pointed out that two of the three participating counties contribute \$ 25,000 from their hotel/motel tax.

Councilmember Metzner stated the funding request is being made to the poorest municipality in the county.

Ms. Rohm stated the request has not been considered by Washington County yet.

Councilmember Munson stated he thinks it is legitimate to expect the County to assist with funding for the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts and the Maryland Theatre.

Councilmember Metzner stated Hagerstown was the only municipality in Maryland in which the County requested money for a library project. He is concerned that the City is asked to provide funding for project after project.

Councilmember Brubaker thinks the entire match amount should be from the hotel/motel tax but he will support funding \$ 5,000 from the City of Hagerstown.

Mayor Gysberts stated a conversation has to be held with the County Commissioners about the calculation and the purpose of the hotel/motel tax and the use of the proceeds.

It was the general consensus to provide one-time funding support of \$ 5,000 to the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area toward the required local match.

Mr. Zimmerman acknowledged and thanked Ms. Rohm and Mr. Martin, who are volunteer board members of the HCWHA.

### Maryland Theatre Seating Project and Funding

Jessica Green, Executive Director, and Benito Vattelana, President, were present to provide details of the proposed Seating Replacement Project at the Maryland Theatre.

The projected timeline for the project will allow for completion by The Theatre's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2015. The proposal and design process was completed in May and seating will be on sale to the public from July 1, 2014 through September 22, 2014. Installation will take place by February 10, 2015. The total cost of the project is \$ 649,342. The new seating will enhance the fan experience, with more comfortable seating.

The Campaign provides an opportunity for supporters of the arts to become a part of the theatre by sponsoring a seat. All sponsored seats will have nameplate recognition on the back. Prices range from \$ 300 to \$ 950 per seat.

Ms. Green and Mr. Vattelana have made a request for \$ 200,000 in funding from the Washington County Commissioners. They hope the public will fully support this project. They would like to have some level of government support, which they hope will be minimal if the campaign is successful. The seating is not just a beautification effort; it is an accessibility and safety effort.

Councilmember Munson suggested discussing a bond bill with Delegate John Donoghue for this project.

Mr. Vattelana thanked the Mayor and Council for their previous generosity to the Theatre. He asked the Mayor and Council to consider making a funding commitment, with the hope that it would not be needed for the project.

If all the seats are sponsored, the revenue would be \$ 500,000. If a bond bill for \$ 125,000 is successful, the costs would be covered.

Councilmember Metzner pointed out the Mayor and Council members have expressed their commitment to the Theatre. He hopes the County will agree to the funding request. He believes the City will support additional funding if there is a gap in the funding.

Councilmember Brubaker suggested City funding be a match, which would provide an incentive to sponsors.

Councilmember Metzner suggested providing a match later in the campaign so more people are willing to participate, rather than depend on the government funding support.

Councilmember Brubaker suggested that promotional information mention support from the City and County. He hopes it would not be a deterrent to potential contributors.

Ms. Green and Mr. Vattelana will return in July for a status report on the seating campaign.

Graduations for the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts (BISFA) and Smithsburg High School are being held at the Maryland Theatre. Other coming events include ballet performances, two Bill Cosby shows, a private wedding and the Miss Maryland Pageant. During the last year, the Theatre was used by BISFA students during the school year and there were 175 unique performances. There are three staff members and 15 volunteer board members who manage the operations at the Maryland Theatre.

#### 2014 COPS Hiring Grant Program and 2014 Community Policing Development Program

Chief Holtzman Mark stated the police department was recently notified of two grants that are available from the U. S. Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Both grants offer assistance for new police positions or programs designed to improve the department's overall goals of Community Policing and Intelligence-Led Policing. In accordance with the City's policy on grant applications, Chief Holtzman is requesting permission to discuss these grant funding opportunities with Council for further direction.

**2014 COPS Hiring Grant** – The department is seeking approval to apply for five officer positions under the COPS Hiring Grant to staff a Directed Patrol Unit (DPU) to focus on the reduction of Homicide/Gun Violence and Gang issues. At least one of the officers will be a Post 9/11 Veteran. DPU officers will utilize the department's Intelligence-Led Policing programs such as Predictive Policing, CompStat and Safe-Streets Initiative to achieve their goal of reducing violent crime.

FY 2014 COPS grants will provide up to 75 % of the approved entry-level salaries and fringe benefits of full-time officers for a 36-month grant period, with a minimum 25 percent local cash match requirement and a maximum federal share of \$ 125,000 per officer position. One grant requires a one-year retention period. For five police officer positions, the total grant award will be \$ 625,000. During the first three years of the grant, the City's cost during the grant period will be \$ 239,000. The one year retention at the end of the grant will equal \$ 313,000.

**2014 Community Policing Development Program (CPDP)** – The department is seeking approval to apply for the CPDP Grant to strengthen the Neighborhood Policing program through the addition of one officer or civilian to serve as the Program Coordinator. The Coordinator will be charged with community engagement activities and internal coordination of Problem-Solving techniques designed to reduce crime, social disorder and the fear of crime. A technical evaluation component will also be a part of this grant application to measure for results. The program offers up to \$ 100,000 for this micro-grant initiative for a period of one-year with no retention requirements.

Chief Holtzman stated the department is seeking the hiring grant to help cover the costs for expanding police coverage for downtown to a 24/7 operation.

Councilmember Metzner supports the recommendations. He pointed out if people are fearful of coming downtown, the draw of the new library, the best restaurants or best shows won't make a difference. Police presence needs to be increased downtown.

Councilmember Munson agreed.

Councilmember Nigh stated the community has to assist with eliminating the negative activity in Hagerstown.

Mr. Zimmerman pointed out the number of sworn personnel will be 112, if the positions are approved, which is the highest level in decades.

Councilmember Brubaker stated statistics indicate the level of violent crime in Hagerstown is no higher than in some of the larger cities. Chief Holtzman stated some levels of crime are lower.

#### Agency Contributions

Michelle Hepburn, Director of Finance, was present to assist with a discussion of agency contributions in the FY 2014/2015 budget. There is a total of \$ 473,490 included in the General Fund in the approved FY 2014/2015 budget. This amount includes a one-time grant to The Maryland Theatre of \$ 200,000. A listing of the specific agencies can be found in Section 3: General Fund of the budget.

Typically, several of the agencies on this list receive all or a portion of funding from the City the first week of July.

Mayor Gysberts asked if all the receiving agencies submit an audit to the City. Ms. Hepburn indicated some are so small they only complete an audit every two years. A letter is sent to each agency in November providing the information for a request for funding.

Councilmember Metzner asked if each agency submits a budget. Ms. Hepburn stated they do.

Councilmember Metzner stated he would like to see the budgets submitted for all the agencies except for the library, the museum and the municipal band.

Ms. Hepburn stated the agency list in the budget book does not include the funding recently approved for the Maryland Theatre.

Mayor Gysberts asked if the Council wished to go through the list and review each agency request. Councilmember Brubaker and Councilmember Munson suggested

reviewing the list for next year's budget because the agencies did not receive notification that changes may be made during budget discussions.

Each agency contribution on the list in the budget was reviewed.

Councilmember Metzner asked for more information about CASA services, in particular their budget, services provided and to whom services are being provided. He is concerned the City of Hagerstown is subsidizing County services through the CASA program.

Councilmember Nigh requested an update of the Character Counts program.

Mayor Gysberts stated the Hagerstown Neighborhood Development Partnership provides services through the Home Store but he believes they have "mission creep". It was the general consensus to keep the \$ 50,000 for HNNDP in the budget for this year. Councilmember Brubaker would like to determine an alternate funding source for HNNDP.

It was mentioned that the Contemporary School of the Arts may be leaving its current location. There was discussion about whether or not the funding would be needed. Councilmember Metzner would like more information regarding the financial plans for the School.

There was a question raised about the amount of County funding provided to many of these agencies. Councilmember Metzner also wondered if other municipalities provide funding. If Hagerstown is the only municipality that contributes and the County provides funding, City taxpayers are being asked to contribute twice. Some of these organizations may be detrimental to the City of Hagerstown, especially with the services provided for people outside the City limits.

Councilmember Brubaker suggested looking at the list and determining which organizations provide core services to City residents.

Mayor Gysberts asked if there is another funding source for the USM-Hagerstown Scholarship. Councilmember Munson pointed out the City is asking USMH to have a greater presence in Hagerstown and he doesn't think it is appropriate to reduce the scholarship funding. The scholarship recipient must be a City resident.

Councilmember Metzner suggested looking at the contributions in two tiers. The first would be organizations that the Mayor and Council review before the July 1, 2014 budget year begins to determine if they will be funded in the coming budget year. The two he suggested are CASA and the Contemporary School of the Arts. The second would be all the other organizations on the list. These would be funded without further review; however, the required financial information for these agencies must be submitted. These agency contributions would be reviewed in the fall, prior to the preparation of the proposed budget.

Mayor Gysberts pointed out a similar discussion was held in August, 2013. He is concerned that agency funding will continue to be a push at budget time. Councilmember Metzner anticipates decisions would be made about agency funding during the discussions in the fall. He is interested in other funding sources for these agencies.

Councilmember Aleshire stated he posed a similar review process previously.

It was the general consensus to request additional information from CASA and the Contemporary School of the Arts. A Work Session will be held on June 24, 2014 to discuss the services and needs of these two agencies. No funding will be provided to either of these until the discussion takes place. Funding for the other agencies on the list will be provided during the first week of July, 2014. A future work session agenda item will include a discussion about the structure and review of agency contributions.

#### Mayor and Council iPad Purchases

Scott Nicewarner, Director of Technology and Support Services, and Donna Spickler, City Clerk, were present to discuss the purchase of tablet devices for the Mayor and Council.

The implementation of the NOVUS Agenda Management System in 2012 significantly improved the ability for City staff to submit agenda items and accompanying documentation to the City Clerk for Mayor and Council sessions. The system allows the City Clerk to electronically coordinate materials from all City departments, receiving electronic approval for agenda insertion, and distribute to the finished agenda materials to the City web page and other interested parties.

The final piece of the implementation is to provide meeting agendas/materials electronically to Mayor and Council for their use during work and regular sessions. This would be done through the use of the Apple iPad that would be City owned, but allocated to the elected official during their term of service. The elected body would be able to receive the agenda materials to the iPad, enter their own notes as they would on a paper agenda, and follow the meeting agenda in Council Chambers as they would utilizing a paper packet. The use of the City-owned iPad would also allow the elected official to discontinue use of their own personal devices to conduct City business, including access to emails and other City business distributed to them electronically.

The cost of the iPads would be \$ 2,700 total (6 units at \$ 449.00/each). This purchase would be made out of budgeted FY15 CIP funds.

Councilmember Aleshire stated public information requests have been received in the past two months which included requests for electronic communications. He does not want his public information kept on his personal devices.

Mayor Gysberts pointed out emails pertaining to City business would be subject to the public information requests, no matter what device they were viewed on.

Councilmember Aleshire is also concerned that draft documents on a personal device would be subject to public information requests. He would prefer to have all his City related documents kept on a City owned device.

Councilmember Metzner stated an elected official should not be required to purchase a device for City business. He suggested that the City Code be available on the device also.

Mayor Gysberts stated he would not choose to have two iPads. He uses his personal iPad currently.

Councilmember Munson also uses a personal device currently.

Councilmember Nigh stated she will not use an electronic device and wants to continue receiving a paper packet.

Mayor Gysberts asked if notes he makes on meeting topics in the paper packet are subject to the public information act. Ms. Spickler stated she believes they are.

Mr. Zimmerman indicated any elected officials interested in using a City-owned iPad should contact the City Clerk.

#### Petition Regarding Collective Bargaining and Binding Arbitration for Non-Management Employees of the Police and Fire Departments

On Tuesday, May 27, 2014, signed documents pertaining to a petition regarding collective bargaining and binding arbitration for non-management employees of the Police and Fire Departments were delivered to City Hall.

Mayor Gysberts stated the City's negotiating team has been negotiating with IAFF union representatives for the past 18 months to work on the new contract.

William Nairn, City Attorney, indicated State law states the petition must be signed by 20% of the registered voters, which is 4,814. The Washington County Board of Election Supervisors has indicated they will be unable to perform the verification of the signatures; noting State law says the legislative body will complete the verification and they are in the process of preparing for the gubernatorial primary election. The verification must be completed within 60 days from the date the petition was presented, which will be July 27, 2014. The verification should be completed in time to allow for a formal action by the Mayor and City Council. A resolution must be passed within the 60 days taking one of the following actions:

1. Adopt the Charter Amendment as presented in the petition.

2. Hold a special election, within a specific time frame, for a referendum question on the Charter Amendment to the voters.
3. Include a referendum question on the ballot in the next regular municipal election.

Mr. Nairn stated the Election Board also indicated they would not be able to conduct a special election due to the time constraints associated with the primary election.

Councilmember Brubaker pointed out the City does not have money budgeted for a special election, which could cost \$ 60,000.00.

Mr. Nairn stated the first step is to verify the signatures on the petition. He stated a process needs to be determined. Some concerns raised were a reluctance to have City employees do the verification because it might be perceived as being biased and may be challenged. The Election Board would provide the City with a list of registered voters. The law does not require that signatures be verified, only that a determination be made the person is a qualified voter.

Councilmember Munson asked if there was anything prohibiting the City from asking an outside group to verify the names, such as the League of Women Voters.

Mayor Gysberts stated a third party was used to collect names and signatures and they were asking people to sign the petition who are not City residents. He does not think the 20% threshold will be reached. He expressed his concern that potential signers were lied to. There was never a question if fire employees would be receiving a wage increase, it was more of a question of how much. Nothing could be completed until the effects of the triennial property assessment were known. A contract was approved earlier today, so there is no need for binding arbitration. The City did not negotiate in bad faith.

Councilmember Munson stated the Mayor is correct, but the names have to be verified and he doesn't think the City Clerk has the time to complete the verification and the usual work too.

Mayor Gysberts stated he has asked the City Attorney to find out what happens if the City does nothing. He also asked if someone can ask to have their name removed from the petition.

Councilmember Aleshire stated the circulators of the petition are not from an employee group, they are a third party group. The petition proposal specifically mentions two groups of employees the arbitration would apply to – police and fire. The circulator never mentioned police when they were discussing the petition with him. He is concerned that people who signed the petition were not aware of the implication in the fine print that the information could be used to change the voter's registration address. He wondered who the affidavit requirement on the petition page applies to.

Mr. Nairn stated State law specifies what language must be included in the petition. He believes the petitioners followed the State format. He pointed out the State law includes a disclaimer that it does not apply to municipal elections, which is confusing.

Councilmember Aleshire wondered who verifies the circulator.

Councilmember Metzner stated the affidavit becomes important because it verifies the person signed the petition. He suggested seeking an opinion from the Attorney General about the affidavit. He stated his recommendation would be to put the question on the ballot if there are enough verified names. He was insulted when a circulator told him the City has taken health care from the fire employees and only provided it for police employees.

Mayor Gysberts stated there is no basis for binding arbitration since the contract was approved.

Councilmember Metzner stated these employees are his friends and he was upset when he heard again that the City was taking away their health insurance. He felt as though one of his children grossly disappointed him. He hopes some of the firefighters apologize to him. He has always supported the unions and labor groups. He wonders how many untruths were stated while the signatures were being collected. It is personal for him because the untruths were said about him to thousands of citizens. He suggested dealing with the question of binding arbitration with a referendum question in November, 2016. He could draft an ordinance now to address binding arbitration that would not scare him. If there are not enough signatures, he suggests asking the attorney general for an opinion of the affidavit.

Mayor Gysberts stated it is perplexing that the fire union supported every council member so this is one of the friendliest councils. Since the contract was approved, it proves there is no need for binding arbitration. Binding arbitration will take the financial commitment out of the hands of the elected officials and place it into the hands of an independent organization.

Councilmember Munson asked if there is money to cover outsourcing the verification process.

Councilmember Brubaker addressed the audience and stated he was personally insulted by the petition efforts. All he ever promised was to do his best to meet the City's needs, the citizens' needs and the employees' needs. He stated the contract offered is fair. The Mayor and Council have struggled with how to keep the tax rate increase to 11 cents.

Councilmember Metzner thinks the City should request an Attorney General's opinion concerning the affidavit certification of the circulator. He wondered if the circulator's sheets are invalid if there are signatures from people who are not City voters.

Mayor Gysberts wants clarification if someone can remove their name from the petition. He also asked if a binding arbitration charter amendment is even legal.

Mr. Nairn stated the labor attorney indicated binding arbitration laws do not apply to municipal corporations.

Councilmember Metzner stated he is not afraid of binding arbitration and has some additional thoughts to share at a later date.

Councilmember Munson stated the petitions have to be verified but it should not tie up City staff.

Councilmember Nigh wondered what binding arbitration entails.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS**

*Bruce Zimmerman, City Administrator*, stated there is no Work Session scheduled for June 10, 2014. Representatives from Urban Partners will be presenting their final report on June 17, 2014.

### **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS**

*Councilmember P. M. Nigh* has started cleaning up around the Alms House. She would like someone associated with Civil War history be located there. There are still tenant problems at the property next to the Alms House. She suggested installing a camera at this location. She stated Wildwood, New Jersey, has an ordinance against people wearing their pants low and Ocean City, Maryland, is considering one.

*Councilmember L. C. Metzner* congratulated everyone involved with the annual Blues Fest for another successful event.

*Councilmember M. E. Brubaker* stated the Blues Fest is a great event to tell people about.

*Councilmember K. B. Aleshire* thanked staff and others who made the Blues Fest a great event. He would like information about how the shelter facilities work in the core of Hagerstown and in the more suburban areas of the city. The Mayor and Council shouldn't infringe on the rights of people to receive services; but they also have a duty to protect the quality of life of people in the community. There is a public hearing scheduled with the MDE to discuss the operations of the Schuster Cement plant.

*Councilmember D. F. Munson* stated Blues Fest was extraordinary. He complimented everyone involved. There were thousands of people in City Park for the Blues Fest activities on Sunday, June 1, 2014. He commended the Parks Department for their work at all the City's parks.

Councilmember Nigh asked that any remaining funds from the We Care Neighborhoods 1<sup>st</sup> group be allocated for maintenance at Fairgrounds Park. It was the general consensus of the Mayor and City Council to allow this.

*Mayor D. S. Gysberts* stated there are exciting things to do in Hagerstown. Three forums are taking place – one for Board of Education candidates, one for State Delegation candidates and one for County Commissioner candidates. The VELO Club Criterion will take place on June 13, 2014. The Community Free Clinic is collecting gently used shoes. The movie Frozen will be shown at City Park on Friday, June 6, 2014.

There being no further to come before the Mayor and City Council, on a motion duly made, seconded and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna K. Spickler  
City Clerk

Approved: August 26, 2014