



City of Glenarden  
Work Session  
March 10, 2014 - 7:30PM  
Minutes

Council President – Carolyn Smallwood  
Council Vice President - Elaine Carter  
Councilwoman – Judy Diggs  
Councilwoman – Deborah Eason  
Councilman – James Herring  
Councilwoman - Jennifer Jenkins  
Councilwoman – Maxine Phifer  
Mayor Dennis C. Smith  
Treasurer – Christopher Wood

- ✓ Call to Order at 7:30PM
- ✓ Invocation led by Rev. Gray
- ✓ Roll Call

Councilwoman Diggs - Present  
Councilwoman Eason – Present  
Councilman Herring – Present  
Councilwoman Jenkins – Present  
Councilwoman Phifer – Present  
Councilwoman Smallwood – Present  
Councilwoman Carter- Present

**We have a Quorum**

- ✓ Motion to Adopt Agenda

Motion by Councilwoman Eason to adopt agenda - Seconded by  
Councilwoman Diggs

Councilwoman Carter is asking for R-36-2014 be added to the agenda which is Press and Dozier Legislation, and also a consideration for R-28-2014 to be added to the agenda for Maiden & Associates. Accept the negotiated contract that the Mayor has presented (R-37-2014).

Councilwoman Jenkins asks for clarification for the authority on the contract for Maiden & Assoc. that failed and the Mayor negotiated regardless.

Mayor Dennis Smith states that he has the right to negotiate a contract on behalf of the City. And states he addressed the questions that were initiated by the Council. Which were, what are their rates, and if the contractor was licensed in the state of Maryland. Both questions have now been resolved. Now the Mayor has rates and a contractual agreement.

Councilwoman Smallwood asked the Mayor, how do you negotiate a contract with a failed legislation.

Councilwoman Smallwood decided not to allow R-28-2014 and R-36-2014 to be added to the agenda.

Councilman Herring states that the information for Press and Dozier was offered at the time of the work session meeting but was not discussed, and was not added to the agenda in the proper protocol.

Councilwoman Carter notes that she has the right to bring legislation to the floor.

Vote to add Press and Dozier legislation to the agenda:

Councilwoman Diggs - No  
Councilwoman Eason – No  
Councilman Herring – No  
Councilwoman Jenkins – Yes  
Councilwoman Phifer – Yes  
Councilwoman Smallwood – No  
Councilwoman Carter- Yes  
3 Yes 4 No's  
**Failed**

This vote was to adopt the agenda as it stands.

Councilwoman Diggs - Yes  
Councilwoman Eason – Yes  
Councilman Herring – Yes  
Councilwoman Jenkins – No  
Councilwoman Phifer – No  
Councilwoman Smallwood – Yes  
Councilwoman Carter- No (Sec. 308 B - Read from the Charter)  
And ask for Point of Order – that allows her resolution to be put on the agenda.  
Councilwoman Smallwood states the Council Rules and denies the resolution to come to the floor.  
4 Yes 3 No's  
**Passed**  
**Agenda Adopted**

✓ Presentation

Sherriff Melvin C. High, Prince George's County Sherriff Office

Provides an overview and update on the work done by the Sheriff's Office. Sheriff High also notes that City of Glenarden has a good police department that serves the community very well.

- Darrel Palmer, Chief Assistant Sherriff
- Orlando Barnes – Chief Assistant Sherriff
- Regina Taylor – Chief Assistant Sherriff
- Sharon Taylor – Director of Communication & Legislative Affairs
- Mark Spensor – Inspector General
- Annual report dated from July 1 – June 30
- Illustrate strategy and execution in the last few years
- Key areas regarding public safety
  - Resource issues with the tough economy
  - Sheriff's office Budget has been flat since 2009
- Security concern is the court room itself
- Another side is the safety and transport of the prisoners to and from various jurisdictions

- Core Warrant Strategy
- Child Support Enforcement – Maryland is #1 in collection of Child Support
- Domestic Violence Intervention – Serving Protective Order
- Landlord & Tenant
- Brief overview for the Sheriff's office

## Questions & Answers

Councilwoman Eason – Citizen to get an annual report can go to:  
[www.princegeorgescounty.gov](http://www.princegeorgescounty.gov)

- (301) 780-8600
  - Leo Wilson – eviction question, property set on the curb any way to protect the property?
  - Sheriff High - notice to individual pending eviction 30 -60 days prior to eviction. Then it's only a small number that an eviction has occurred – notify police and the city's Public Works Department and is very sensitive to that situation.
  - There is a process on doing an eviction in the extreme cold or extreme hot, where they will not evict a person. Often the social services are brought in to assist in acquiring accommodations.
  - Councilman Herring notes the budget cut of \$1.6 million dollars, and the Sheriff office is still doing a great job for the services.
- Neighborhood Design – Briony Hynson, Deputy Director
    - Open space (exterior of the property) funding from and received from Maryland Department of Natural Resources for the MLK Community Park \$214K.
    - Can work with a project lead or team for the Conceptual plan for that park and scope of work.
    - Passed out Project summary (**see hand-out**)

- City does not have project manager or stamp drawings
  - Lighting for the Park – need stamp drawings
  - Can offer assistance for a playground specialist - Equipment source and maintenance.
- Barbara Armstrong – questions whether there are plans in place for protecting the playground – money invested before and was not maintained.
    - Gated and closed after dark – police to monitor the area to safeguard
    - Multiple use of the space for various age groups
    - Construction Drawings –Neighborhood Design will not provide
    - Work with the City of Glenarden to have ideas - Working from basic drawings
    - See handout for the scope based process
    - Grant covers, playgrounds and play space
    - Building will stand as is only for the exterior

✓ Review of Minutes

- 01-13-2014 Regular Meeting
- 01-30-2014 Special Work Session
- 02-03-2014 Work Session

Motion by Councilwoman Herring to approve agenda - Seconded by Councilwoman Diggs

Councilwoman Diggs - Yes

Councilwoman Eason – Yes

Councilman Herring – Yes

Councilwoman Jenkins – walked away

Councilwoman Phifer – Yes with any corrections

Councilwoman Smallwood – Yes

Councilwoman Carter- left the dicesis

**5 Yes**

**Approved**

✓ Citizens Comments on Legislation (two minutes)

Mr. Leo Wilson, Sr., R-35-2014 wants the letter offered to the Council regarding the trash pick-up from Goode Trash to be explained to the citizens.

Councilwoman Smallwood offers a summary of the letter. That a citizen went to Goode Trash and spoke to Mr. Goode, that the City of Glenarden will not pay for the pick-up of trash.

Councilwoman Smallwood directed this question to the Mayor Smith on the RFP for the trash and where the advertisement was placed. Mayor Smith indicated the advertisement was placed on the city website and on the email of Maryland Market Place.

Ms. Robin Jones, express concern on the pick up trash from the City.

Ms. Barbara Armstrong, concern with the trash and asked the question “is it legal to keep getting an extension” and why can’t we get this settled. Councilwoman Smallwood responds to the question that it is not appropriate for the continual extension, based on the Charter. Then directs the question to the Mayor, due to, the Council continues asking for the trash contract to be completed.

Mayor Smith indicates that the interim City Manager was unable to put out an RFP for the trash contract – And now to-date has put out an RFP, it is late and he accepts the responsibility of the lateness. Councilwoman Jenkins put out an extension in August and that expired on Feb 28, 2014.

✓ Legislation

- O-01-2014 An Ordinance Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Prince George’s County for Mutual Aid Police Services **(Second Reading)**

Motion by Councilwoman Herring to approve - Seconded by

Councilwoman Diggs

Councilwoman Diggs - Yes  
Councilwoman Eason – Yes  
Councilman Herring – Yes  
Councilwoman Jenkins – Yes  
Councilwoman Phifer – Yes  
Councilwoman Carter- Yes  
Councilwoman Smallwood – Yes  
7 Yes  
**Passed**

- R-34-2014 A Resolution To Approve A Contract For Legal Services With Council, Baradel, Kosmerl & Nolan, P.A.

Motion by Councilman Herring to adopt agenda - Seconded by Councilwoman Diggs

Councilwoman Phifer questions what line item will be used to pay for the legal services - attorney fees – 10-30-10-7300 (Professional Services)

Councilwoman Diggs - Yes  
Councilwoman Eason – Yes  
Councilman Herring – Yes  
Councilwoman Jenkins – No  
Councilwoman Phifer – No  
Councilwoman Carter- Abstain  
Councilwoman Smallwood – Yes  
4 Yes 2 No's 1 Abstain  
**Passed**

- R-35-2014 A Resolution to Approve the Extension of the Trash Contract with Goode Trash Removal, Inc., for a Period of 90 Days  
Motion by Councilwoman Carter to adopt agenda - Seconded by Councilwoman Jenkins with amendments.

Councilwoman Diggs - Yes  
Councilwoman Eason – Abstain  
Councilman Herring – Yes  
Councilwoman Jenkins – Yes  
Councilwoman Phifer – Yes  
Councilwoman Carter- Yes  
Councilwoman Smallwood – Abstain  
5 Yes 2 Abstain

Councilwoman Eason offer background comments for this resolution. August 28, 2013 council voted unanimously for R-74-2013, to extend the trash contract that expired on August 31, 2013, on a month-to - month bases, not to exceed 6 months. Allowing Mayor Smith and his Interim City Manager to move though the bidding process, and should have taken no more than 6 weeks, not 6 months to incorporate a new trash contract. After R-74-2014 was passed a legal opinion was requested from the City Attorney. Legal opinion was offered to Council and Administration.

Summary of the email of the legal opinion from Suellen Ferguson: Request for bid information sent to Mayor Smith on July 31, 2013 – which would allow enough time for a waste management company to go through the process to have a service vendor on board by September.

Councilwoman Eason states that the several members of the Council repeatedly asked for the status of the trash contract and the response was noted, that they are working on the project, and now two deadlines have been missed - August 31st and February 28<sup>th</sup> deadline. Now another deadline for 90 days and does not have the confidence that deadline will be captured.

Councilwoman Diggs offers comments that state a nuisance could be a part of the City of Glenarden. Being that the bid process was negligent on the behalf of the Administration's negligence. Also states that Ward III residence have an added element to be

considered, which is the wild life in the area and needs keep the waste management under full control. And that this situation was not necessary to occur since the current Trash Company is doing good services.

Councilman Herring adds that the Interim City Manager could have simple communicated with the City Attorney to have an RFP be processed. And states, why has everything come to a standstill? Councilman Herring ask the question to the residents, is this the representation you want?

Mayor Smith reply to the comments. That the City Attorney had left off items from the RFP that were administrative sufficiency. His hope was to have a City Manager on board, but the Council voted down the company that was recommended to Council to have the expertise to handle such projects. Solicitation was not met administrative items. Liability issues, amount, workers compensation issues.

Councilwoman Eason states that the City Attorney stated that after she offered the RFP, she tried to communicate with the Administration but no communication was every rendered from the Interim City Manager or Mayor Smith.

Councilwoman Jenkins concern is that she hearing there could be an issue of not having the legislation being a yes vote for a Trash contract. And offers to address the issues and concerns now and not wait further for an addition 90/120 days in the future, and offers a happy median for all concerned.

Mayor Smith offers that he will have an attorney to review the RFP.

Councilman Herring request that the Council's Attorney review the RFP.

- ✓ Mayor's Report (Combined with the Mayor's Report with City Manager's Report) (see report)
  - Elevator Status is that we need an Engineering Firm and the same for the VA Memorial Project
- ✓ City Manager's Report (see report)
- ✓ Chief of Police Report (see report) Lt. Jackson offered the Chief's Report
- ✓ City Treasurer's Report (see report)
  - Councilman Herring request the net surplus be fixed, stating it's off by \$70K.
  - Mr. Wood will review the program for a possible error
  - Expense account should be a \$0 balance
  - A request for no more "Draft" versions of the financial reports
- ✓ Citizen's Comments/Questions (five minutes)

Ms. Marian White – general question new updated system in our finance office – Can we look to consider a simpler finance software package.

Ms. Barbara Armstrong – residents in Glenarden pay a good amount of taxes, and deserve better. Request that the city manager position is taken care of within the next 60 days.

Ms. Diane Thomas – Request that the arguing at the meetings cease - 90% of discussion should have be discussed behind closed doors.

Mr. Leo Wilson – was in attendance to the last work session –his impression is that Mayor Smith is not working with Council as a whole. And insist that the Mayor work with the Council as a whole.

Mrs. Celestine Wilson – No regard for the health and welfare of the city regarding the trash contract – Council had reminded the Mayor of the RFP to be done prior to the expiration of the deadline. What’s the point of having a Mayor if he does not serve the citizens? She urges the Mayor do what is expected and in a timely fashion.

Ms. Robin Jones – clarification from the comments at the February 10<sup>th</sup> and that the Ms. Jones has proven that Councilwoman Jenkins does not live in the City. Ms. Jones asked Councilwoman Jenkins to resign her position as Councilwoman.

Councilwoman Smallwood makes a rebuttal to two statements:

- 1) That under Council President Jenkins that meeting were called and four councilmembers did not attend a called meeting, however, when the email was announced for the meeting the four Councilmembers all had prior engagements and would not be able to attend. (August 18), and no follow-up date was offered to Council.

General rule is to poll council for date availability for majority availability for a meeting.

- 2). Councilwoman Cater made a statement that she received an e-mail concerning, why the city attorney was fired. And I had not received that email from the Mayor. And Councilwoman Carter said she would forward the email, once located. As of today Councilwoman Smallwood has not received the email. And asking Councilwoman Carter to apologize for the statement.

Councilwoman Carter offers to continue to locate the email from the Mayor. And if she cannot locate the email she would apologize.

Carter has repeatedly worked with the Council President and Mayor trying to move legislation forward.

Councilwoman Smallwood confirms that Council Vice President and she do work together. However, on this legislation that Councilwoman Carter is requesting to be placed on the agenda, she cannot honor that request because it was not discussed and agreed upon to bring to the floor, at the work session. Councilwoman Smallwood also states that she is going by the Charter and Council Rules.

Councilman Herring reads from the Charter, Section 306.

✓ Adjourn at 10:50PM

**Submitted By:**  
**Toni Taylor, Council Clerk**