



City of Glenarden
Public Hearing
Tuesday, October 20, 2020 – 7:00PM
Virtual Meeting
Minutes

Attendees:

Council President – Robin Jones
Councilwoman – Angela D. Ferguson
Councilwoman – Deborah A. Eason
Councilwoman – James A. Herring
Councilwoman – Carolyn Smallwood
Councilman – Donjuan Williams
Councilwoman – Celestine E. Wilson
Mayor – Edward Estes
Chief of Police – Philip O'Donnell
Lt. - Darren Robinson
Treasurer - Alvin Bratton

- Call to Order at 7:00PM
- Invocation led by Council President Robin Jones
- Roll Call

Council President – Robin Jones
Council Vice President – Angela D. Ferguson
Councilwoman – Deborah A. Eason
Councilman – James A. Herring
Councilwoman – Carolyn Smallwood
Councilman – Donjuan Williams
Councilwoman – Celestine E. Wilson
We have a Quorum

- Motion to Adopt Agenda

Councilwoman Jones motion to adopt agenda – Seconded by Councilwoman Eason

Council President – Robin Jones - Yes
Council Vice President – Angela D. Ferguson - Yes
Councilwoman – Deborah A. Eason - Yes



Councilman – James A. Herring - Yes
Councilwoman – Carolyn Smallwood - Yes
Councilman – Donjuan Williams – Yes
Councilwoman – Celestine E. Wilson – Yes
7 Yes – Approved

Councilman Herring motion to vote to over-ride the Mayor's veto of O-01 2021 emergency budget – Seconded by Councilwoman Wilson

No Vote taken

- Citizens comments on Proposed Legislation (five minutes)

Richard Arorya-Montgomery speaks on the resolution to censure Mayor Estes and feels the legislation is petty and the legislation should not occur.

Leo Wilson speaks on the absence of the notice of change of the virtual platform; from Webex to Zoom. And he is in agreement for the censure of Mayor Estes regarding offering of monthly reports.

Council President Jones offered that the notice announcement of the new Zoom platform is being mailed out shortly.

Yolande Matthew agrees that the legislation regarding the censuring of Mayor Estes should not occur.

Christopher Beccles disagrees with the legislation to censure Mayor Estes and offers that the Council should focus on the business at hand.



Lonnie Scales request to hear from the Mayor on the legislation of censorship, for full clarity of the monthly reports.

Kathleen Guillaume Delmar feels that the censure should not occur and suggest that there should be mutual accountability.

Councilwoman Smallwood speaks to the censure as the sponsor of the legislation and explains that it is not about the Mayor's behavior, but towards him following the Charter, Article IV Section 404 (e), to provide monthly reports to the Council.

Erika Fareed offers that she is in disagreement on the legislation resolve to provide retro-active monthly reports.

Mayor Estes speaks on his behalf that he did not provide reports due to several administrative issue i.e., City Manager concerns, Executive Assistant absence and no Council meetings taking place.

Councilman Williams speaks toward the legislation "Authority to Employ Personnel" that the City had a strong Mayor at one time and that it was under the Administration to employ staff. However, currently the Charter has been changed to a Mayor that can only employ staff with the confirmation of the Council.

Leo Wilson speaks toward the history of why the Charter was changed as it stands to-date. When Dennis Smith was Mayor he did not step up to the plate



with various administrative issues and the Council had to step in to take control for the City.

Elaine Carter offers that she in agreement with the “Authority to Employ Personnel” and only to wants what is good for the City.

Leo Wilson offers the Chief of Police is the Acting City Manager.

Councilman Williams speaks on the legislations regarding the Ward Representation – needs to be looked at equitable. Once the census is completed then the Ward system can be reviewed. Conclusion the Ward system should go back to the At-Large system until the census is completed.

Vanessa Armstrong feels the Ward system is not working from the At-Large point of view. And that the economic and social differences should be acknowledged with the concern of the Ward system chosen for the City of Glenarden.

Leo Wilson suggest that the Ward system could be brought to a referendum and let the citizen vote their wishes.

Councilwoman Eason states she grew up in the City and it was then under the Wards system and supports the wards system. The popular vote chosen from the citizens was the Wards system.

Councilwoman Jones offers that demographics have changed and the need is for inclusivity.



Councilman Williams speaks toward the legislation “Procedures for Enactment of Resolutions and Ordinances” repeal to address the mundane administrative task that sometimes holds up administrative duties. For example, that the resolution to proclaim November 2020 to be Municipal Government Works Month can be voted on without having a Public Hearing.

Councilwoman Wilson offered that having a Public Hearing for all legislation was brought forth because citizens requested it to be in that manner. Also spoke on the Ordinances being brought forth due to the deficit the Treasurers has spoken on.

Christopher Beccles offered the Woodmore Towne Center is having great business and wants to see data that says otherwise.

Kathleen Guillaume Delmar offers that the ordinance for the raises for Mayor and Council does not go into effect until 2022 – so let’s not repeal for right now.

- Legislation (November)
- R-XX-2021 The Mayor and Council of the City of Glenarden, Proclaim November 2020 to be Municipal Government Works Month
- R-XX-2021 A Resolution to Establish Council Rules
- R-XX-2021 A Resolution to Censure Mayor Edward Estes



- CR-XX-2021 A Charter Resolution to Amend Article V “City Manager” Section 502 “Authority” to Amend the Line of Authority Respective to the City Manager
- CR-XX-2021 A Charter Resolution to Amend Article VII “Registration, Nomination, and Election Procedures” Section 707 “Ward Representation”
- CR-XX-2021 A Charter Resolution to Amend Article VII “Registration, Nomination, and Election Procedures” Section 707 “Ward Representation”
- CR-XX-2021 A Charter Resolution to amend Article VII “Registration, Nomination and Election Procedures” Section 704 “Absentee Voting” to Set Procedures for Absentee Voting
- CR-XX-2021 A Charter Resolution to Amend Section 308 “Procedures for Enactment of Resolutions and Ordinances” To Repeal Enactment of Resolutions
- CR-XX-2021 A Charter to Amend Article IX “Personnel”, Section 901, “Authority to Employ Personnel”
- O-XX-2021 An Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance O-03-2020 Increase Salary of the City Council of the City of Glenarden
- O-XX-2021 An Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance O-02-2020 Increase the Salary of the City Mayor of Glenarden, Maryland
- Adjourned at 9:36PM

Submitted by:

M. Toni Taylor

M. Toni Taylor, Clerk to the Council