

EXECUTIVE SESSION – January 14, 2020

Councilmember L. C. Metzner made a motion to meet in closed session to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State, #4 (Section 3-305(b)), and to conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations; #9 (Section 3-305(b)), on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 407, 4th floor, City Hall, Hagerstown, Maryland. Councilmember S. McIntire seconded the motion.

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

The following people were in attendance: Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II, Councilmember K. B. Aleshire, Councilmember A. Heffernan, Councilmember E. Keller, Councilmember L. C. Metzner, Councilmember S. McIntire, City Administrator Scott Nicewarner, Jill Thompson, Director of Community and Economic Development, Jonathan Kerns, Community Development Manager, Kaitlin Bell, Economic Development Specialist, Doug Reaser, Business Development Specialist, Police Chief Paul Kifer, Mark Chaney, Support Services Administrator, and Donna K. Spickler, City Clerk.

The meeting was held to discuss two offers for properties on the Competitive Negotiated Sale list and union negotiations. No formal action was taken at the meeting. On a motion duly made, seconded, and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:24 p.m.

WORK SESSION – January 14, 2020

Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II called this Work Session of the Mayor and City Council to order at 4:32 p.m., Tuesday, January 14, 2020 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Present with the Mayor were Councilmembers K. B. Aleshire, A. Heffernan, E. Keller, L. C. Metzner, and S. McIntire, City Administrator Scott A. Nicewarner, and City Clerk D. K. Spickler.

Fairgrounds Park Entrance Building and Gatekeepers House

Rodney Tissue, City Engineer, and Doug Reed, Maryland Historical Trust Board Member, were present to provide information regarding the Fairgrounds Park Entrance Building and Gatekeepers House.

In September, 2018, Council directed staff to apply for a Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) Capital Historic Preservation Grant to address the numerous issues with this unused structure. Staff was successful in obtaining a \$ 60,000 grant and the City's FY20 budget provides for \$ 75,000 in City general funds to meet the required match. To learn more about the options and the requirements of the 2002 easement that the MHT holds on the structures, staff arranged for Dr. Charlotte Lake, the Capital Grant and Loan Program

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Administrator for MHT to meet with Mayor and City Council members, staff and others on October 8, 2019 at the entrance building. At the work session (the same day after the onsite meeting), Council asked staff to contact Kate Bolasky, the Easement Administrator for MHT with regards to possibilities for the buildings.

The two questions asked and Ms. Bolasky's responses are as follows:

1. Could the front elevation be retained and a new structure be built behind it in place of the wooden structure that is there?

Response: The easement protects the entire exterior of the Fairgrounds Entrance Building and Keeper's Residence. The Easement Committee related that retention of only the front façade of the building would not meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Per Standard #2, the historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided. The history of the building is lost when its physical evidence is destroyed, not only in terms of its architectural and social history, but the building technology itself as well. While an addition to the existing building may be an option to research, per Standard #9, its construction must not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. MHT would need to review and approve any new construction at the site prior to any work being undertaken.

2. Is it acceptable to make major structural improvements to the building to meet current building codes that may impact the interior look of the building? It is City staff's understanding the easement is only regarding the exterior. Is this correct?

Response: The easement does not protect the interior of the building. Interior alterations may be made without MHT review and approval, provided that the proposed interior work does not impact the exterior, i.e. if a renovation might require a new vent to the exterior of the building, then a review would be required, if a renovation of a bathroom might include roof penetrations, then a review would be required, etc.

In addition, staff received a letter from Elizabeth Hughes, the Director of MHT that further defines their position. Ms. Hughes indicates the structure is an excellent candidate for rehabilitation and that MHT staff is available and eager to assist the City in prioritizing work items so as to best leverage use of these available funds. Under the easement, the City is obligated to keep and maintain the Fairgrounds Building and its surrounding property in a proper state of repair so as to preserve the historic, aesthetic, and cultural character and appearance of the structure. In this regard, the Easement prohibits both demolition of the Fairgrounds Building, which includes demolition by neglect, and removal of the building to another location.

Since actions taken back in 2002 to accept MHT grants committed the City to the long-term care of this structure, there are essentially no legal options. Therefore, based on the MHT staff feedback mentioned above, staff is recommending the following next steps:

1. Phase 1: Re-Stabilize the Structure: With the \$ 60,000 MHT grant and \$ 75,000 in matching funds, the City will attempt to meet its obligation to keep the structure, maintain an acceptable appearance and address the MHT easement inspection concerns. Plans will need to be prepared and the work bid out but staff estimate these limited funds could be spent on these priority items: reconstruct roof and wall between buildings, Entrance Building siding repairs, repaint exterior of both structures, replace rotted/broken windows, repair rotten cornice, replace siding that doesn't match the rest of the structure, repair crumbling concrete.
2. Phase 2: To lay the ground work for Phase 3, staff suggest contracting an experienced building engineer to assess the structure and provide structural requirements of reusing the buildings. Staff would then assemble the engineer's analysis, existing drawings, hazardous material assessment, and potential development tax credits for Phase 3.
3. Phase 3: Including all of the Phase 2 information, issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) from potential developers with successful redevelopment history. Staff would suggest they offer potential reuses. The developer would then lease the structure and seek the tax credits for his investment. That investment could easily be up to \$ 500,000. If there is no developer interest, then at least the building is mothballed for another 20 years or so.

Mr. Reed stated the City has done a beautiful job turning the former racetrack into Fairgrounds Park. The most significant part of the park is the entrance building. He remembers wonderful experiences at the Hagerstown Fair. He has been asking people if they would attend concerts at Fairgrounds Park and they have said yes. He also talked to Jessica Green, Executive Director of the Maryland Theatre, about the Theatre holding events there as well. He stated she is willing to discuss this. He helped work on saving the Footer Dye building in Cumberland. It is now on the national historic register and houses high end apartments, retail and restaurants.

Mr. Reed stated the City agreed they would take care of the building when the first grant was accepted from the Maryland Historical Trust. Not doing anything to the building is not an acceptable form of taking care of it. He stated the building has good bones. It could be a place for wood shops or other similar uses. The second floor is wide open. There are many possibilities for reuse of the building. He stated the City needs to be its own first contractor and should put out a request for proposals for an engineer who specializes in rehabilitating older buildings.

There are many possibilities for the building, including using it as a small event center.

Mr. Reed recommended the City accept the most recent grant from the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and make the building look good. In the meantime, he suggested soliciting the services of an engineer to review the feasibility of an event center at this location.

Councilmember Heffernan asked if there is a time limit for using the funding. Mr. Tissue indicated the timeline is usually two years. He stated the first question to answer is whether or not the City will accept the grant.

Councilmember Aleshire pointed out identifying an end user was not a requirement of the 2002 grant, so the City did not fail to meet the requirements.

Mayor Bruchey clarified the MHT will not allow the City to retain three sides of the building and create an amphitheater behind it. Mr. Reed stated this, known as a facadectomy, would not be acceptable.

Councilmember Keller pointed out she and Councilmember McIntire proposed a venue that is larger than the Maryland Theatre to attract different artists.

Councilmember Metzner wondered where history will be in a few years. Very few young people express an interest in the community's history. Since there really isn't a choice for accepting the grant, this will be an easy decision.

Mr. Reed agreed it doesn't seem the younger generation appreciates history. He has been involved in many activities promoting the history of the area. He noted that taking care of the building will result in lower annual maintenance costs and a use in the building will make it easier to maintain.

Councilmember McIntire stated it may seem like young people are not interested in history but they are, especially in repurposing.

Mr. Reed stated he is available to help the City meet its obligation to MHT, and there would be no fee.

Councilmember Heffernan would like to see the work spread out as much as possible. Mr. Reed stated the City won't be able to attract a developer if the work is not completed. There are many grants available for this type of work. The building has to be stabilized before a viable request for proposals is issued.

Councilmember Keller stated she understands the history of the building is important but she is concerned about serious funding needs that the City will be considering very soon.

It was the general consensus of the Mayor and City Council to move forward with accepting the grant from the Maryland Historical Trust.

2019 Proposed Package of Amendments to the Land Management Code

Kathleen Maher, Director of Planning and Code Administration, and Stephen Bockmiller, Development Planner/Zoning Administrator, were present to discuss revisions and updates offered as part of the Planning Commission's annual update of the Land Management Code (LMC). The LMC includes the Zoning Ordinance, the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, the Floodplain Management Ordinance, and the Forest Conservation Ordinance. Staff accumulates proposals and issues throughout the year and the Commission addresses them annually. There are 29 proposed corrections, revisions, and updates. A listing of all the updates is available in the meeting packet information. Mr. Bockmiller provided an overview of each of the 29 amendments.

Some of the significant/hot topic items are:

1. Allowing two story accessory building on larger properties
2. Add mixed use (com/.res.) buildings as permitted uses in the CG and CR Districts with design standards
3. Adjust Local Conversion District requirements to address expired nonconformities containing three or more dwelling units
4. Revise minimum floor area for residential units
5. Prohibit Temporary Signs as permanent signs
6. Comprehensive overhaul of the section of the Zoning Ordinance regarding PUD districts
7. Update the section of the Zoning Ordinance regarding Wireless Communications Facilities for compliance with FCC regulations

Time will be included on the January 21, 2020 Work Session agenda for further discussion of the proposed amendments.

A Public Hearing before the Mayor and City Council is scheduled for January 28, 2020.

Hagerstown Police Department Update

Police Chief Paul (Joey) Kifer provided an update to the group regarding crime and gun related incidents.

During the last two months of 2019, HPD took 20 reports of shootings with 14 of these reports being confirmed shooting incidents. Four of these shootings resulted in subjects being shot. Calls for service coded as weapons discharging/shots fired were analyzed along with crime reports. The crime types examined were aggravated assaults with firearms, homicides with firearms, robberies with firearms, rapes with firearms, and general weapons offenses with firearms. The weapons offenses include carrying concealed, discharging/shots fired, possession of a firearm and confiscated firearms.

For all of 2019, there were 136 calls for service for weapons discharging/shots fired with a total of 51 confirmed shooting incidents. In total, there were 12 incidents throughout the year that resulted in subjects being struck by gunfire, including two homicides. Additionally, HPD recovered a total of 68 firearms from the community. This number does not include firearms submitted into evidence from suicides, domestics, or surrenders.

There was a 65% increase in confirmed shooting incidents from 2018 to 2019. In 2018, there were only 94 calls for service for weapons discharging/shots fired with 31 confirmed incidents and nine incidents with gunshot victims.

While this change from 2018 to 2019 is significant, it is also important to note that 2018 was an abnormally low year for shots fired calls for service and firearm incidents. When looking at the bigger picture of the past five years and gun violence trends, 2019 is only slightly higher than weighted averages.

Over the last 5 years, firearm incidents have not significantly increased or decreased. The weighted average over the 5 year period is 127, which is only slightly lower than the 134 incidents reported in 2019. Even when these incidents were broken down by crime type, there were no major changes in distribution.

Chief Kifer noted HPD is aware much of the increase in shooting incidents is due to youth and gang membership. In response to this, a Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN) case was opened and partners include the Washington County Sheriff's Office, Narcotics Task Force, Maryland State Police Gang Unit and Firearms Unit, Washington County State's Attorney, and the ATF. HPD saturated areas they knew presented the issues they are dealing with. To date, this has yielded the recovery of 4 handguns and 5 arrests have been made. 12 Special Operations, utilizing MCIN Grant Overtime funds, have been conducted by the HPD in an effort to saturate those areas affected to increase police presence, and obtain intelligence and information related to firearms and gang activity. These operations have yielded 21 traffic stops with numerous citations issued, 2 on-scene arrests – 1 for drug related offenses and 1 for possession of a handgun, 4 warrant services, and 7 field interviews. The handgun recovered was obtained from a validated Boss Gang Member. Officers working the detail on December 8, 2019 were able to identify the suspect vehicle from a December 3, 2019 shots fired event.

MSP Gang Unit placed charges against a subject that lead to this individual cooperating in an investigation from Dale Street. This subject initially was uncooperative with HPD Detectives. The charges in conjunction with the second shooting incident lead to this subject contacting officers and requesting an interview. Beneficial gang intelligence was learned during this interview; however, all the information in the shooting incidents was hearsay and could not further the investigation.

Phone systems from the DPSS Correctional Facilities and the Washington County Detention Center as well as social media sites are monitored on persons of interest related to the shots fired/shootings.

Meetings and communications with the MCIN Partners for investigative and prosecutorial strategies have increased in an effort to identify those parties involved in firearms and gang activity in order to obtain search warrants, bring forth charges and prosecute those involved individuals utilizing the various Maryland Gang Statutes. This includes communication with other MCIN sites of Cumberland, Frederick and Montgomery County.

HPD MCIN is currently working with the ATF on a potential firearms case based off of social media posts. The goal of this collaboration is to recover several firearms, charge the parties involved and track the source of the firearms in an effort to sever the supply chain.

HPD has created a Watch Center at police headquarters to handle calls over the phone when possible. District Commanders have been assigned to specific geographical areas. They will be able to isolate and identify issues within their respective areas. These initiatives are part of an aggressive plan to address the recent shootings.

Chief Kifer stated they can't predict when the next crime will occur. HPD will always be reactionary. Twenty years ago, there were pockets of evil doers, now they are more widespread. Demographics are changing in that much younger people are carrying firearms and are much more apt to shoot at each other. Officers are finding people are less cooperative - no one volunteers information and witnesses say they didn't see anything. They seem to wait until they are in jail and then they decide they want to cooperate.

Chief Kifer assured the Mayor and City Council and the citizens that they are still making arrests and taking firearms off the street. It does not occur as quickly as in the past because of the changes he mentioned. Officers are more able to fight the crime if they are better informed. The See Something, Say Something app is important. Someone can report something and remain anonymous.

Chief Kifer noted firearms incidents have not increased overall. There was a peak this past weekend. He worries about someone being struck by a stray bullet. Last week, someone pulled a gun on an officer. If the HPD broadcasts this information, they scare people. If they don't share it, people think they are trying to hide something.

Councilmember Keller stated it is important for everyone to know that the Mayor and City Council recognize there is a crime problem and they trust that HPD is working on it. She doesn't want criminals to know what HPD is doing. She wishes the public would have faith in HPD.

Chief Kifer stated that lack of information is a problem. He urged anyone with any information to contact the HPD. He and Councilmember McIntire are working on a youth initiative, along with the Boys and Girls Club, to address violence on the prevention side. He is tired of talking about the problem and wants to talk about solutions and moving forward. They need people who are willing to assist the police department.

Councilmember Heffernan keeps hearing about reported gunshots and then people complain because there is no feedback about whether it was really gunshots.

Chief Kifer stated they respond to the calls but evidence is not often found. If something was hit, it will make the media.

Councilmember Aleshire stated the elected officials see press releases for shootings. He noted the police department is not following the neighborhood Facebook groups. The public shouldn't expect the police to respond in that way. The police officers may not even be aware of the conversations taking place on Facebook.

Councilmember Metzner pointed out the crime rates in 2010 were higher than they were in 2019. HPD has done an excellent job in reducing crime.

Councilmember McIntire asked if Chief Kifer thought having the See Something, Say Something app on school iPads that students use would be helpful. He indicated it would be very helpful. The app was designed to address the growing number of school shootings. He will discuss this with Superintendent Boyd Michael. HPD needs the community to help them with information.

Councilmember Heffernan asked how long someone stays off the street after being through the court system. Chief Kifer indicated it depends on the crime. The local judicial system takes violent crimes seriously.

Hagerstown Youth Advisory Council Update

Jonathan Kerns, Community Development Manager, and Lauren Metz, Planning and Outreach Coordinator, and members of the Hagerstown Youth Advisory Council, were present to provide an update on the progress of the HYAC.

During the December 18, 2019 Regular Session, the Mayor and City Council approved a resolution to establish the Hagerstown Youth Advisory Council as an ad-hoc committee. The goal of this council was to facilitate communication and participation by City youth regarding government decision-making and planning.

The City received 24 applications from interested youths during this application cycle and thirteen students were selected to be on the council (nine permanent members and four alternate members).

The Council began meeting in October, 2019 and have identified the following three areas of focus for potential community projects:

1. Environmental Issues
2. Financial Literacy
3. Wellness – physical and mental

Lauren Asbury, Chairman, reported the group has been meeting since October. During the first meetings, they focused on creating bylaws and are now focusing on initiatives. They want to make Hagerstown better for everyone.

Zachary Brooks stated they are getting to the action stage of the initiatives and they are all excited to make positive changes in the community.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S COMMENTS

Scott A. Nicewarner, City Administrator, reminded everyone that the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday is on Monday, January 20, 2020. The trash collection schedule will not change.

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Councilmember S. McIntire reminded everyone Washington County Recovers will be held tomorrow at the Washington County Library.

Councilmember L. C. Metzner had no additional comments.

Councilmember A. Heffernan had no additional comments.

Councilmember K. B. Aleshire stated he is very concerned that developers seem to have the idea the best Hagerstown can do is workforce housing. The City of Hagerstown has disproportionate types of housing. The ratio is 60% rental and 40% owner-occupied. The Housing Authority is warehousing individuals in pockets of socio-economic status and that does not help stabilize the community. He stated the City could send a letter opposing this type of housing for the community, as it is unhealthy and that a mixture would be more appropriate.

Councilmember E. Keller had no additional comments.

Mayor R. E. Bruchey, II had no additional comments.

The Work Session portion of the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Councilmember E. Keller and seconded by Councilmember A. Heffernan, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to meet in Special Sesion at 6:41 p.m. Councilmember K. B. Aleshire was not present.

Public Hearings

A-2019-01, Annexation of I-81/CSX/Halfway Boulevard Right-of-Ways

Kathleen Maher, Director of Planning and Code Administration, announced this is a Public Hearing to hear testimony regarding A-2019-01, Annexation of I-81/CSX/Halfway Boulevard Right-of-Ways. The Annexation Plan was adopted on November 26, 2019. The Annexation Plan was also adopted at that time.

The properties proposed for annexation consist of I-81/CSX/Halfway Boulevard transportation right-of-ways totaling approximately 95.64 acres. Currently, the properties are zoned HI (Highway Interchange), PB (Planned Business), BG (Business General), IG (Industrial General), and RU (Residential Urban). Because they are transportation right-of-ways, the properties contain no buildings or residents nor do they receive City water or wastewater services.

The properties zoned HI, PB, and BG in the County are proposed to be zoned CR (Commercial Regional) in the City; the property zoned IG in the County is proposed to be zoned IG (Industrial General) in the City; the property zoned RU in the County is proposed to be zoned RMED (Medium Density Residential) in the City. A small piece of property which is zoned BG in the County is proposed to be zoned CG (Commercial General) in the City due to adjacent City property that is zoned CG.

The zoning classifications are consistent with one another, and therefore no express approval of a zoning change is required from the County Commissioners. Furthermore, the property is designated as Commercial General, Business-Employment, Industrial General, and High Density Residential on the City's Future Land Use Map which is also consistent with the proposed zoning.

As required by State Law, there were four published notices advertising the hearing and the Annexation Plan was provided to the appropriate County, Reginal, and State Planning Agencies at least 30 days prior to the Public Hearing.

Staff have received feedback from the County and Maryland Department of Planning, both of which are comments of a routine nature.

The following Exhibits were entered into the record:

- Exhibit A – Certificate of Advertisement
- Exhibit B – Planning file by reference

The following testimony was presented:

Jason Divelbiss, 11125 Bemisderfer Road, Greencastle, Pennsylvania, stated it is clear the justification for this annexation is to extend the City limits to the Hopewell area and make it contiguous to many properties in the Hopewell Valley. That is not what many of the businesses located in that area anticipated. He entered into the record his opposition of the annexation. He stated it is not consistent to the statute that the area be contiguous and adjoining areas to be annexed are in a unified sense with the corporate boundaries. He believes this annexation area does not meet those requirements.

Doug Wright, Chairman of the Hagerstown Planning Commission, Hagerstown, Maryland, commended staff and the Mayor and City Council for their efforts in increasing the tax base. He believes this will be significant in 20 years.

There was no further testimony presented.

After the Public Hearing, the Mayor and Council may pass or reject the annexation resolution. The resolution if approved, the annexation becomes effective in 45 days.

The record will be held open for 10 days for additional comments. This portion of the public hearing was closed at 6:47 p.m.

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Kathleen Maher, Director of Planning and Code Administration, reported this Public Hearing is being held to receive testimony regarding proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

The City of Hagerstown Planning Commission has recommended the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan vision Hagerstown 2035. The proposed amendments include changes in Future Land Use designations and incorporation of the newly created Institutional zoning district into the Growth Management and Land Use text.

The amendments to the Future Land Use Plan are as follows:

- YMCA Property: from Business Employment to Commercial General
- Linwood Property (southern half): from Medium Density Residential to Industrial
- Doub Farm Property (eastern parcel): from Business Employment to Commercial General
- South End Shopping Center (southern portion); from Commercial General to Industrial
- Hebb Road Property (south side): from Medium Density Residential to High Density Residential

Copy Quik and Old Potomac Liquor: from Mixed Use to Commercial General
Hagerstown Water Department: from Industrial to Institutional

As a result of these changes in Future Land Use designations, the acreage of each land use designation and proportion of land use in the Medium Range Growth Area (MRGA) have also been updated.

The amendments to the Growth Management and Land Use text are as follows:

Identify Institutional (NS) zoning district as a compatible zoning district for Institutional Future Land Use designation

Identify Institutional (INS) zoning district as a compatible zoning district for Parks, Recreation, Open Space Future Land Use designation

Additional information in the meeting packet include public input received at the Planning Commission's public review meeting, which includes Landis Road residents against the change to Commercial General future land use of the Doub Farm property, support for the YMCA change in future land use to Commercial General, and opposition to the implementation of the Institutional zoning district in the Comprehensive Rezoning.

The Maryland Department of Planning's comments are also included. Staff recommendations include holding off on changes to the residential development capacity described in Figure 2-4 until the MRGA boundary is amended. This way, staff can create a more accurate picture of development potential within the amended MRGA boundary. Furthermore, staff would like to point out that the lack of acreage changes in Mixed Use and Institutional future land use categories are due to the changing properties being less than 1 acre in size. The future land use chart does not show these changes in acreage because they are decimals of acres. The last staff recommendation is once again to wait until the MRGA boundary amendment until the water and wastewater demand and capacity is calculated. The transportation comments are guidelines that the City already follows when presented with development plans.

The following Exhibits were entered into the record:

Exhibit A – Certificate of Advertisement

Exhibit B – Planning file by reference

Exhibit C – Correspondence opposing the amendment from Virginia Screibener

The following testimony was presented:

Tom Screibener, 33 Hebb Road, Hagerstown, Maryland, was speaking on behalf of his daughter who lives on Hebb Road. She previously submitted a letter in opposition of the proposed amendment. This is a rural area and she is concerned it could potentially be developed with a high density use. The roads are not adequate for a high density use. She understands it will be developed at some point but she protests the high density use.

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Mayor Bruchey asked when the property was annexed. Ms. Maher stated it was annexed in 1978 and was zoned high density residential at the owner's request. Councilmember Metzner pointed out this property has been zoned for a high density use for 42 years and this amendment would not change the current zoning. He does not see this as a significant concern.

Lisa Seifarth, 18 Emmert Road, Hagerstown, Maryland, stated her property fronts Hebb Road and Emmert Road. When the zoning notice was placed on the property it was set back off the road. She stated these signs should be placed in a prominent location. She has lived at this home for many years and she would support a medium density use. She stated traffic will be an issue if it is developed with a high density use.

Jason Divelbiss, 11125 Bemisderfer Road, Greencastle, Pennsylvania, spoke on behalf of the South End owner and owner of Hebb Road. He reiterated what has been noted – that the property is currently zoned for a high density use, and has been since 1978. Clarifying this in the Comprehensive Plan will correct errors that were made during the last Comprehensive Plan update. The owner of the property has no plans for it at this time or plans to sell it. There are many issues to resolve, such as water, wastewater, and others. In the last few years there has been some interest in the property but nothing is imminent.

Mark Bishop, Hebb Road, Hagerstown, Maryland, stated he understands the original zoning was for high density, but things change. Funkstown has plans for development at Emmert Road. He is concerned how this will affect water drainage. The road is narrow and not built to handle heavy traffic. He asked the Mayor and City Council to consider keeping high density uses out of this area.

The record will be held open for 10 days for additional comments.

A follow up discussion on both public hearings will be scheduled for the Work Session on January 21, 2020.

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 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by D. K. Spickler

Donna K. Spickler
City Clerk

Approved: February 25, 2020