

WORK SESSION AND REGULAR SESSION (67<sup>TH</sup> VOTING SESSION) – APRIL 25, 2023

WORK SESSION – April 25, 2023

Mayor T. Martinez called this Work Session of the Mayor and City Council to order at 6:01 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Participating with the Mayor were Councilmember K. B. Aleshire, Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, Councilmember T. Burnett, and Councilmember M. J. Schindler, City Administrator Scott A. Nicewarner, and D. K. Spickler, City Clerk. Councilmember S. McIntire was not present.

FY24 Budget Review

Michelle Hepburn, Chief Financial Officer, and Brooke Garver, Accounting and Budget Manager, were present to continue review of the FY25 Proposed Budget.

Ms. Hepburn indicated staff will be meeting with Kevin Simmers of Brooke's House to review his request for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

During last week's presentation about the Ending Violence in our Youth (ENVY) the possibility of ARPA funding was mentioned. Ms. Hepburn noted ENVY is an initiative and coalition of multiple partners. ENVY itself is not an organization and cannot receive or write grants. Each of the partners can do things within their organizations to forward this initiative. One of the things the City may be able to provide is additional staff to administer the initiative.

Traffic signal upgrades are needed and would be eligible for ARPA funds. For two signals, the estimated cost of the upgrades is \$ 1,000,000. Funding could be \$ 700,000 from ARPA funds and the remainder would come from other funds. It will take about 6 months to complete the bidding process. If the Mayor and City Council wish to add signal upgrades to the ARPA project list, staff would begin the process in the next 2 months.

Councilmember Aleshire stated it seems the Council is being asked to choose between providing funding to the ENVY initiative or the signal upgrade. Ms. Hepburn stated the projects are classified under different categories and there is funding allocated separately in both.

The costs and responsibilities of the ENVY initiative are being reviewed. Staff is looking at ways to segregate the costs and will be discussing this with the Mayor and City Council later this year. There is \$ 25,000 allocated for a program to address youth violence in the ARPA charts, which was an estimate since ENVY did not have a strategic plan in place at the time.

Councilmember Aleshire asked if \$ 25,000 is enough funding. Ms. Hepburn stated the partners will have the ability to apply for other grants that fall within their functions. The City would not be providing the only funding.

Councilmember Aleshire noted the importance of having representation of the Board of Education in the ENVY group.

Mayor Martinez and Chief Kifer had discussed a violence interrupter/mentor being on the street. She asked if that action can be part of ENVY. Chief Kifer stated it can be and is used in other jurisdictions. Formulating the ENVY partnership provides more leverage with programs and funding.

Councilmember Schindler realizes the traffic signal improvements are important, he would prefer to utilize ARPA funds for community improvement projects.

Ms. Hepburn pointed out there is \$ 500,000 under the behavioral and mental health categories and \$ 425,000 under the educational, childcare, transportation category in the ARPA charts.

Councilmember Burnett stated based on recent Hagerstown Police Department posts and social media posts, this program would have been able help some of the kids involved in violence. She does not think \$ 25,000 is enough funding for the program.

The FY24 Proposed Budget includes changes to rates already adopted by the Mayor and City Council and rate changes that will take effect upon adoption of the FY24 Proposed Budget. During the April 4, 2023 Work Session, increases to some Parks and Golf rates were discussed. There are two other proposed rate changes. Public Works is increasing State Highway Administration (SHA) inspection fees from \$ 1,500 to \$ 2,000 and the Code Department is adding a \$ 150 vacant structure reinspection fee. A detailed listing of all citywide rates and fees are found in Section 8 of the Proposed Budget.

The Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) are divided into categories that fit within the strategic plan. Complete information for all projects can be found in Section 6 of the Budget Book.

Two large projects are the Hagerstown Field House and the third parking deck.

The Field House (page 51) includes information about the total cost and anticipated funding. The anticipated cost is \$ 20 million. Councilmember Aleshire has watched the estimated cost increase to \$ 20 million. There is \$ 2.5 million in funding from the State of Maryland in the funding outline. He asked if this includes the \$ 2 million secured during last year's session and not new funding from this year's session. If it is, he wants to be sure the public is aware most of the funding will be borrowed.

Ms. Hepburn noted various grant funding sources are also listed. The City has not been successful in receiving grant funding from several sources. The City is anticipating \$ 1.5 million in debt service each year. It may come to the point the Mayor and City Council need to decide whether or not to move forward if grant funding is not awarded or other funding sources are not identified. She indicated a funding feasibility study has been discussed. Things look differently than they did in January and February

Councilmember Aleshire stated the City needs to remain cognizant of the funding sources and the City does not have the unlimited resources that the Maryland Stadium Authority does for the stadium.

The City's portion of the Professional Court Extension is budgeted for \$ 1 million in FY23 and \$ 2.3 million in FY 24. Funding sources include ARPA, Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding, and Appalachian Regional Council (ARC).

Ms. Hepburn stated Washington County has indicated the project is ready to go and everyone should anticipate seeing traffic disruptions on Eastern Boulevard soon. The City has agreed to take ownership of the road after it is complete and certain occurrences are completed. Jim Bender, Interim City Engineer, noted the agreement also includes the statement that the County will provide funding for any major rehabilitation improvements to the bridge in the future. Councilmember Aleshire clarified the bridge is being built to City standards.

The largest project in the Parking Fund is the third parking deck. Acquisition of the land was finalized on April 3, 2023. The final cost of the land was \$ 1.2 million. Construction of the deck is anticipated to begin in May, 2023.

Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$ 12.5 million, with \$ 10.6 million being bond financed. A Request for Proposal (RFP) for a bond participation note was released last week.

The new parking deck will impact the Parking Fund for several years and will have a direct and immediate impact on the cash balance. Some of the spaces in the new deck will be designation for those already with a permit. Anticipating that 40% of new parkers will be due to the 60 games at the new stadium, projections show an additional \$ 350,000 in annual revenue.

Councilmember Bruchey pointed out there will be other events at the stadium as well.

Ms. Hepburn noted no changes in the assumptions for rates was included. In reality, the City charges minimal parking fees for events.

Review of the FY24 Proposed Budget will continue in May. Public Hearings for the tax rate and the budget are scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

The Work Session was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

**REGULAR SESSION (67<sup>TH</sup> VOTING SESSION) – April 25, 2023**

**Mayor T. Martinez called this Regular Session (67<sup>th</sup> voting session) of the Mayor and City Council to order at 7:08 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, 2023, in the Council Chamber at City Hall. Participating with the Mayor were Councilmembers K. B. Aleshire, R. E. Bruchey, II, T. Burnett, and M. J. Schindler, City Administrator Scott A. Nicewarner, City Attorney Ann Rotz, and City Clerk D. K. Spickler. Councilmember S. McIntire was not present.**

The invocation was offered by Pastor Craig, Central Maryland Youth Executive Director. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and led by Mayor Tekesha Martinez.

Mayor Martinez announced the Rules of Procedure for this meeting will be followed as adopted December 15, 2020. It was announced that the use of cell phones 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, May 2, 2023, Tuesday, May 9, 2023, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, and the Regular Session on Tuesday, May 23, 2023. Public Hearings for the Tax Rate and FY24 Budget will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. No meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 30, 2023.

## **PROCLAMATIONS**

### **Second Chance Month**

Mayor Martinez read a proclamation naming April, 2023 as Second Chance Month in Hagerstown, Maryland. The designation of April as Second Chance Month contributes to increased public awareness about the re-entry needs of returning citizens and opportunities for individuals, employers, congregations and communities to extend second chances. Karen Hayes, State of Maryland, accepted the proclamation.

### **Re-Entry Week**

Mayor Martinez read a proclamation naming April 23-29, 2023 as Re-Entry Week in Hagerstown, Maryland. The designation of Re-Entry Week contributes to increased public awareness about the re-entry needs of returning citizens. Bill Gartner, Gatekeepers, and Jennifer Collier accepted the proclamation.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Citizen Comments were accepted by email at [councilcomments@hagerstownmd.org](mailto:councilcomments@hagerstownmd.org) prior to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. Citizen Comments were also accepted during the meeting.

Michelle Rosner, 207 N. Cannon Avenue, Hagerstown, suggested the Community Action Council use their emergency funds to assist home owner to install solar panels on their homes. She would like to see more promotion of the Washington County Soil Conservation's water barrel program. She is concerned about the number of dirt bike and bicycle riders who are riding in an unsafe manner. She understands legislation protects youth under 13 from being charged for incidents. She wants to know how the city is redirecting youth. Residents are feeling unsafe. She noted Baltimore is creating a dirt bike park for recreation and additional revenue.

Amanda Park, 669 Westwood Street, Hagerstown, Maryland, stated something has to be done about the dirt bike and ATV riders. Her family was violently assaulted on April 4, 2023 by a group of riders. The group totaled her car and her daughter is now terrified to leave the house.

Steve Hummel, 1029 Potomac Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, initially thought nothing was being done about the problem with the dirt bike and ATV riders. He realizes the police department has been increasing their efforts to address the issues with the addition of drone tracking. The activity has decreased recently. He hopes its due to the drones and the results being posted on social media. The riders go through red lights, drive on sidewalks and ride dangerously. He is concerned someone is going to be seriously hurt.

Mary Waters, 602 Sunset Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, is concerned about the dirt bikes as well. She stated City Park and Virginia Avenue is used like a raceway. She has asked neighbors to share their experiences with this problem. She compiled a list of the comments and presented them to the Mayor and City Council for the record. Citizens are very concerned.

Mark Brugh, 952 Mulberry Avenue, Hagerstown, Maryland, is concerned about the dirt bike and ATV issues. Two years ago, the police department asked for photos of the riders. Mr. Brugh took photos and a group of riders surrounded him and harassed him. The City has known about this problem for years and finally last week something meaningful was done. The City needs to tell residents how to help end this situation. He suggested creating a task force to address the problem.

Councilmember Bruchey had previously asked Chief Kifer to attend this meeting and provide information of how this is being addressed.

Mayor Martinez noted even if state law does not permit youth to be detained, other creative actions can be implemented. She stated using drones to track the riders has been discussed for several months.

Chief Kifer stated he realizes many residents are frustrated by the actions of the riders and the cause of some tragic things. The police department is frustrated too. The police can chase the riders but it's a futile attempt because the riders will do things that make it impossible to catch them. There is no policy that says the police can't chase the riders. The bottom line is they do not chase them because it is unsafe – for the riders, for pedestrians, and the police officer. There will soon be 12 certified drone operators using drones to watch the riders. During the last 18 months, the police department has seized over 60 bikes and 23 of those were stolen. They have rented storage units to store the confiscated bikes. ENVY is the lead initiative the City can support for addressing some of the youth issues in Hagerstown. The police will continue to take tips from residents about the dirt bikes. For parents and guardians that are allowing the kids to ride like this and purchasing the bikes, Chief Kifer pointed out there are criminal charges that can be filed against them. The police department is taking every step possible to stop this activity.

Councilmember Bruchey was out on a detail on this issue with the police department. He was astonished there was a man and young woman on a bike. When the young woman was dropped off at her house, her mother berated the police for chasing them.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **ZT-2023-01 Land Management Code Text Amendment Recommendations**

A Public Hearing was held to receive testimony regarding Case Number ZT-2023-01 Land Management Code Text Amendments.

Donna K. Spickler, City Clerk, provided the Oath to Joanna Wu and Kathleen Maher at the beginning of the Public Hearing.

Joanna Wu, Planner, and Kathleen Maher, Director of Planning and Code Administration, were present and stated the Planning Commission held a public review meeting on March 29, 2023 and received no comment. In the 10-day open record period, one comment was received from Dr. Eklund, owner of 4 Cypress Street, expressing his support of the proposed amendments and recommending them to the Mayor and City Council. After hearing public input, the Planning Commission moved to forward the following amendments to the Mayor and City Council during their April 12, 2023 meeting.

This package of amendments is being presented earlier in the year than usual because of proposals that should not wait until the end of the year. Staff received input from the public earlier in the year to amend specific text in the Code and other proposals followed soon after. This package contains four proposals:

1. Issue 2023-01 – Modify restrictions to building additions in the Local Conversion District. This issue was submitted at the request of Dr. Eklund, who desires to put an addition on the front of his facility. Currently, the Code states that additions can only be built in the space least visible to the general public in a Local Conversion District. However, there is no space to build in the back or sides, so the addition must go in the front for that property. Planning Commission and Staff support the requested amendment to remove the “least visible” requirement.
2. Issue 2023-02 – Permit Dog Day Care Facilities in the CC-MU and N-MU Districts. The City’s Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) is receiving inquiries about potential dog day care businesses in the downtown area. This would be a desirable service to increase the revitalization that is anticipated. This proposal also amends current language regarding kennels, to draw a distinction between the two facilities. The proposed conditions on the use are intended to minimize impacts on nearby dwelling units.
3. Issue 2023-03 – Tighten and clarify provisions related to cannabis uses in advance of pending State legislation, effective July 1, 2023. The proposed amendments are intended to clarify what the City already permits, limit non-cannabis users to what they were originally intended for, and place limits on growing operations in the

mixed-use downtown area. The current proposal is set up so current cannabis-related businesses are not adversely affected with this provision. It is proposed to limit cannabis sales enterprises to the same zones as tobacco enterprises. The changes would also make it clear that on-site cannabis consumption facilities are not permitted.

4. Issue 2023-04 – Correct simplified plat process and a minor adjustment to the appendix containing signature blocks. This proposal will correct minor clerical mistakes to allow for simplified plats to be approved by Staff, rather than requiring Planning Commission sign off and potential review.

Ms. Wu entered the following as Exhibits:

Exhibit A – Certificate of Publication

Exhibit B – Planning Commission file by reference

No testimony was presented, either in favor or against the proposed amendments.

Staff anticipate introduction of an ordinance to implement the changes on May 16, 2023, with approval on May 23, 2023.

The record will remain open for 10 days for additional comments.

## **MINUTES**

On a motion duly made by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II and seconded by Councilmember M. J. Schindler, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve the minutes as presented for March 7, 2023, March 14, 2023, March 21, 2023, and March 28, 2023.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion duly made by Councilmember T. Burnett and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

### A. Engineering:

1. Replacement of Secondary Elevator at City Hall – Callas Contractors, LLC (Hagerstown, MD) \$ 557,000.00
2. Replacement of Alley Pavement – CDBG – SFMS, LLC (Bethesda, MD) \$ 84,000.00
3. Installation of Storm Drain System – MJ Double K Farms, LLC (Frederick, MD) \$ 203,000.00

### B. Finance:

1. Utility Bill Processing and Mailing – Arista Information Systems (Duluth, GA) \$ 192,000.00

- C. Information Technology:
- 1.. Payment Kiosk for Utility Billing Payments – DynaTouch Interactive Technologies (San Antonio, TX) \$ 70,791.73
  2. INFOSEC IQ Standard Software Renewal (3 years) – Infosec Institute, Inc. (Madison, WI) \$ 10,005.00
- D. Police Department:
1. Monthly Red Light Camera Charges – American Traffic Solutions (Mesa, AZ) \$ 165,000.00
  2. Monthly Speed Camera Charges – Rekor (Columbia, MD) \$ 463,200.00
  3. Annual MARGIN Conference Co-sponsorship – Mid-Atlantic Regional Gang Investigators Network (Fairplay, MD) \$ 20,000.00
- E. Public Works:
1. Signal Controller Upgrades – Econolite (Glen Burnie, MD) \$ 18,891.72
  2. Open Container Exemption – BISFA Chili Cookoff
  3. Open Container Exemption/Application Permit and Street Closure – Gordon’s Grocery 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Block Party – Saturday, April 29, 2023
  4. Replacement of Water and Sanitary Waste Lines at Mansion House – Beaver Mechanical Contractors, Inc. (Hagerstown, MD) \$ 17,933.65
- F. Utilities:
1. Water – Engineering Services for Chlorine Scrubber Study – L. S. Grim (Hagerstown, MD) \$ 36,950.00
  2. Water – 8’ x 2’ Protectus Meters – Core & Main (Martinsburg, WV) \$ 40,000.00
  3. Water and Wastewater – Engineering Service – Black and Veatch (Gaithersburg, MD) \$ 200,000.00
  4. Water and Wastewater – Engineering Service – Buchart Horn (Baltimore, MD) \$ 45,000.00
  5. Wastewater – 2023 F-550 Service Truck – Keystone Ford (Chambersburg, PA) \$ 104,628.00
  6. Wastewater – 2023 F-250 Supervisor Truck – Keystone Ford (Chambersburg, PA) \$ 66,508.00
  7. Wastewater – Bar Screen Repair Parts – Sherwood Logan & Associates, Inc. (Annapolis, MD) \$ 10,918.81
  8. Wastewater – Flow Meters – Miller Energy, Inc. (South Plainfield, NJ) \$ 150,472.34
  9. Wastewater – Line Wet Well of Pump Station 8 – Pleasant’s Construction, Inc. (Clarksburg, MD) \$ 41,067.78
  10. Wastewater – FY23&FY24 Liquid Oxygen – Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. (Allentown, PA) \$ 32,000.00

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Approval of an Ordinance: Accept an Easement from the Hagerstown Housing Authority**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember M. J. Schindler and seconded by Councilmember T. Burnett, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve an ordinance to accept an easement from the Hagerstown Housing Authority for outdoor exercise equipment. Funded and installed by Bester Community of Hope. When completed to the satisfaction of the Public Works Department, the City will accept the donation of the equipment and maintain the equipment in the easement area for 20 years.

**B. Approval of an Ordinance: Accept an Easement from Bowman 2000, LLC – Artist Alley**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember T. Burnett and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve an ordinance to accept an easement from Bowman 2000, LLC to clarify ownership and document maintenance responsibilities for lighting, art, and signs in Artist Alley.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Introduction of an Ordinance: Deed of Easement Agreement with Columbia Gas for Storm Drain Maintenance and Pedestrian Access on Sycamore Street**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to introduce an ordinance to accept two easements from Columbia Gas of Maryland for access and maintenance of an existing storm drain, and the installation of a public sidewalk along Sycamore Street.

**B. Introduction of an Ordinance: Deed of Easement Agreement with Columbia Gas for Installation of Gas Main Adjacent to Frederick Street**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II and seconded by Councilmember M. J. Schindler, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to introduce an ordinance to grant an easement for the installation of a gas main on lands of the City adjacent to Frederick Street near Funkstown.

**C. Approval of a Resolution: Permanent and Perpetual Easement with Perini Industrial Land, LLC**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a permanent easement between the City of Hagerstown and Perini Industrial Land, LLC for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, operating, repairing, and replacing a water line on land stated on the western side of Crayton Boulevard and northern side of Perini Avenue in Hagerstown, Maryland.

**D. Approval of a Resolution: Temporary Construction Easement Perini Industrial Land, LLC**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II and seconded by Councilmember M. J. Schindler, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of a temporary construction easement between the City of Hagerstown and Perini Industrial Land, LLC for the purpose of constructing a water line on land situated on the western side of Crayton Boulevard and northern side of Perini Avenue in Hagerstown, Maryland.

**E. Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Hagerstown and the U. S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II and seconded by Councilmember M. J. Schindler, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to authorize entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the U. S. Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force.

This program carries no cost to the City and overtime and other expenses will be reimbursed by the federal government of the United States.

**F. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding: Federal Bureau of Investigation Prince Georges Cross Border Safe Streets Task Force**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember M. J. Schindler and seconded by Councilmember T. Burnett, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to authorize entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Federal Bureau of Investigation Prince Georges Cross Border Safe Streets Task Force.

This program carries no cost to the City and overtime and other expenses will be reimbursed by the federal government of the United States.

**G. Approval to Accept Grant Agreement from the Maryland Energy Administration – Upgrade Lights in Central Parking Lot**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to authorize the City to accept a Maryland Smart Energy Communities grant from the Maryland Energy Administration in the amount of \$ 33,375.00. This grant will be matched with \$ 5,891.00 of City funds, and will be used to replace the existing lights in the Central Parking Lot with new energy-efficient fixtures.

**H. Approval of an Exemption from City Code Chapter 155, Noise – City Chapel**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II and seconded by Councilmember T. Burnett, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve an exemption from the City Code, Chapter 155, Noise. This exemption is being granted in accordance with Section 155-5, M. to the City Chapel and Pastor Zachary Camp for events on April 20-21, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., June 10, 2023 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sundays from April 23, 2023 to November 5, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The services will be held at 227 E. Washington Street (corner of E. Washington Street and Cannon Avenue).

In addition to the exemption, permits for an assembly and erecting a tent are required.

**I. Approval of Discontinuation of BuroBox Operation Services**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember T. Burnett and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to authorize staff to discontinue operations of the BuroBox services effective June 20, 2023. This would allow resources to be shifted to where they are more required in the current market, as well as open the prior space for other options/ventures.

**J. Approval of a Resolution: Authorizing an Application for a Main Street Improvement Program Grant**

**Action:** On a motion duly made by Councilmember K. B. Aleshire and seconded by Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II, the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed by voice vote of all members present to approve a resolution to authorize an application for a Main Street improvement Program Grant through the Department of Housing and Community Development in the amount of \$ 25,000, with no match required. The

funding will be used for beatification of city streets and getting more feet on the streets in downtown.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS**

*Scott Nicewarner, City Administrator*, thanked all City departments involved for the nice Earth Day celebration, downtown clean up and activities at the Hager House. He thanked Councilmember Burnett and Councilmember Schindler for attending the events.

He thanked the Hagerstown Police Department for their efforts to use drones to address the dirt bike issue. Drones will be useful in other crime investigations as well.

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

*Councilmember M. J. Schindler* echoed Mr. Nicewarner's thanks to City staff. He also thanked the citizens who spoke during this meeting and voicing their frustration with the dirt bike issue. The Mayor and City Council are frustrated as well. He appreciates the efforts made to address this issue.

*Councilmember T. Burnett* thanked the police department for their efforts to address the dirt bike issue. This is happening in all neighborhoods. She congratulated all the participants of the Hub City 100 Miler Challenge.

*Councilmember R. E. Bruchey, II* thanked the police department for what they are trying to accomplish. He is thankful no one has had a serious accident in recent years. He thanked the citizens for speaking at the meeting.

*Councilmember K. B. Aleshire* appreciates the additional information from Chief Kifer and officers provided during this meeting. It is good the public knows about the drones from posts on social media. The problem won't be solved overnight but he agrees with Mr. Nicewarner that in time the issue will be resolved. He reports riders he sees because he doesn't want anyone to get hurt.

Councilmember Bruchey reminded everyone there is a joint meeting with the County Commissioners on April 27, 2023 at the R. C. Willson Water Plant. He is hopeful the conversation and information will be helpful in moving forward with water service requests.

*Mayor T. Martinez* thanked Councilmember Burnett and Councilmember Schindler for attending the events last weekend. The Hagerstown Area Religious Council (HARC) met at City Hall today to discuss ways to partner with the City to provide information to citizens. One suggestion was to provide a synopsis of each meeting that can be shared with congregational members.

The monthly Spit Your Peace will be held this weekend.

Mayor Martinez met Ms. Hayes (Second Chance) at the prison when she was a mediator. It touches her heart that they continue their work of helping people.

Mayor Martinez stated she is not the type of person who posts on social media. She likes to talk to people face to face and thinks you can't effectively develop without investing in people. She will not participate in divisive activities or conversations.

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 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Original signed by D. K. Spickler*

Donna K. Spickler  
City Clerk

Approved: May 23, 2023