

March 20th, 1962

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of Ocean City was held in the Municipal Building on Tuesday evening, March 20th, 1962, at 7:30 o'clock.

Mayor Cropper and Councilmen Harman, Jackson, Kelley, McCabe and Showell were present.

The meeting was called to order by the President of the Council, Harry W. Kelley.

Marcus J. William, Solicitor, and Jarrell Legg, City Engineer, were also present.

The minutes of the meeting of March 13th, 1962, were read and approved with one correction. That is as follows:

The Voucher covering payment to Harry V. Kellum for expenses in New York attending the Outdoor show was approved inasmuch as the clerk had talked with him with reference to a per diem payment and had stipulated that it would be \$30. per day per couple and Mr. Kellum had misunderstood and had rendered his statement for each of four at \$30.00 each per day.

The following building permits were approved:-

- Dr. Richard Eschenberg - Addition to existing building and a third floor to be added to two other existing buildings at his property known as the "French Quarter".
- Mrs. Eugenia Palmisano - Addition to existing building at 511 N. Atlantic Avenue.
- William J. Ahtes - Addition to Ship Cafe Building - to be used for Cocktail Lounge.

In discussing Dr. Eschenberg's permit it was suggested that the sidewalks be installed as had been requested sometime ago.

Also, the matter of delinquent accounts of Dr. Eschenberg was brought out. Mr. Williams stated that all of this would have to be cleared up before he would be permitted to borrow money from his bank.

Mr. Alfred Harman and Mr. Arthur Davis came to this meeting, representing the Fire Company, with reference to burning buildings that have been severely damaged in the recent storm at the request of the owners. Mr. Bernard Reier had requested that they burn two buildings at 20th street that were damaged beyond repair and Mr. Harman had told him that the decision would be with the members of the fire company. The Company had voted that they would not burn these buildings and others at the request of the property owners unless it was done for drill purposes in the fall. They asked the backing of the Mayor and Council in their decision. This action was approved by the Mayor and Council.

Mr. Harman stated that they would need additional fire hose and explained that quite a quantity of hose was now being used by various property owners in cleaning sand from their buildings and that some of the hose was old anyway and would need replacing in the near future. He stated that they had ordered hoses and wanted the Town to pay for it.

It was suggested that their request for hose be made prior to next year's budget so that it could be included in the proposed expenditures.

A motion was made by Jackson, seconded by Showell, that the Mayor and Council concur in the decision of the Fire Company in burning buildings at the request of property owners.

Chief of Police V. J. Phillips came to this meeting with reference to the police cars damaged by salt water during the storm and advised that the insurance company had declared each of them a total loss. He stated that prices on Chevrolets had been received from City Chevrolet of Baltimore and Barrett Chevrolet of Berlin and on Fords from Clifton Cannon of Berlin.

Mr. Phillips also stated that he had talked with Major Davidson of the Maryland State Police with reference to their experience with police cars and they advised that they believed that the Chevrolet was the better for police work.

Prices quoted by City Chevrolet of Baltimore was \$2,052.79; by Barrett Chevrolet of Berlin was \$2,075.00 and by Clifton Cannon was \$2200.00. It was Mr. Phillips' suggestion that the order be given to Barrett as the difference in price was very little and that the proximity of their shop would make service much easier and cheaper.

Mayor Cropper explained that the insurance company would take care of the major part of the cost and that the Federal Government would participate in the replacement of vehicles damaged during the storm inasmuch as the area had been declared to be a disaster area officially.

Mayor Cropper also suggested that perhaps the cars could be retained and gone over in our shop and put in usable condition.

Mr. Showell stated that he felt that the low bid should be accepted.

Mr. Harman suggested that vehicles be standardized and that he thought that the Ford Motor Company could match the specifications.

Mr. Phillips pointed out that the motor in the Chevrolet was larger than the one in the Ford.

Mr. Jackson stated that he concurred in the decision to purchase the Chevrolets from Barrett.

A motion was made by McCabe, seconded by Harman, that the bid of Barrett Chevrolet in the amount of \$2075.00 per car be accepted. Motion carried and passed.

Mr. J. Henry Wyatt came to this meeting with reference to a discrepancy in the survey of his lot and that of the property owner just south of his property. Mr. Harry Miller's property had been surveyed in 1946 and at that time Mr. George Bert. Cropper had established a line and he had also surveyed Mr. Wyatt's property and had also established a line that was not in conformity with the line originally established for Mr. Miller. The difference of 2' was found later when an error had been detected in the original survey of the Synepuxent Beach Co.

Mr. Wyatt was told that the Mayor and Council felt that the matter was between them.

Mr. Williams advised that Mr. Miller's lawyer had talked with Mr. George Bert. Cropper and that Mr. Cropper's explanation of the discrepancy had apparently satisfied him.

Mr. Wyatt explained that he intended to elevate his proposed building approximately nine blocks and that he intended to build a retaining wall on his south property line. In doing this he would build on a sidewalk that had been constructed by Mr. Miller on what he thought to be his land.

The matter was left for Mr. Wyatt and Mr. Miller to straighten out between themselves.

The following applications for renewal of retail alcoholic beverage licenses were approved:

City Lunch  
Rayside Inn  
Maryland Inn  
The Milou Company (The Lagoon)  
Beach Club  
Mario's

Numerous letters were passed to the members of the Council concerning the recent storm; some of the offering their sympathy and some offering their services.

Clerk told the Mayor and Council that two boys from the University of Maryland had been in the office today, one named Bob Moncure stated that he was President of the Fraternity System at the University and that they had donated \$100. to the Red Cross earmarked for Ocean City and that they had also agreed to come to Ocean City to offer their aid by helping the town and individuals by donating their services for one day. Clerk stated that he told them that he thought that their gesture was most magnanimous and thanked them for coming in. He suggested that they go to the Chamber of Commerce to make this offer so that their office could handle their arrival and distribution of their forces among the people.

Mr. Russell Cullen of the Chamber of Commerce had talked with Mr. Kelley regarding this and it was questionable whether or not to accept their offer. Freedom Riders had made such an offer and they were turned down due to the fact that it was felt that sufficient labor was being used from the Prisons.

Mr. Cullen was called and asked to come down to the meeting to discuss this. He arrived and the pros and cons were discussed. Mr. Williams suggested that their offer be accepted and that when they arrive each of them would be required to sign a statement exempting the town or individuals of any responsibility in case of accident, etc.

Mr. Showell stated that an article was in the current issue of McCall's Magazine concerning teen agers and that Ocean City is mentioned several times in connection with riots. Mr. Cullen stated that the publicity in this magazine is adverse and he thought that a play up of these fraternities offer would help to offset

the contents of the article in McCalls.

Mr. Showell made a motion that they be allowed to come to Ocean City if they would bring chaperones with them. He withdrew the motion, however.

A motion was made by Harman, seconded by McCabe, that the Mayor and Council not take any official action in connection with the invitation or activities of these fraternity men. Motion carried and passed.

Mr. Harman also made a motion, seconded by McCabe, that if the Chamber of Commerce wishes to accept their offer and will find places for them to go, it will be up to them.

Mr. Cullen asked if it would be all right if they were used to shovel the sand off the concrete walk between S. 1st street and N. Division St. This was approved.

Clerk stated that he had obtained prices on a 4-wheel drive Jeep Station Wagon from Stichberry in Easton and Willys-Jeep Sales and Service in Baltimore. The quotation from Stichberry was \$2,650. and from Willys-Jeep \$2900.

A motion was made by Harman, seconded by Jackson, that the price of Stichberry be accepted and the order placed.

It was stressed that the vehicle be undercoated.

Clerk stated that he would like to obtain a transit and other miscellaneous equipment for our Engineer and approval was given for its purchase. Mr. Harman stated that he had a drawing desk and other equipment that he would sell if we are interested.

Clerk asked the Mayor and Council if they deemed it necessary to require a building permit for buildings that are being repaired to their prior state as a result of storm damage. It was the opinion of the Mayor and Council that a permit will not be required.

Clerk stated that Mr. Robert Conner had contacted the Mayor with reference to inspection of electrical wiring after repairing their properties as a result of the storm damage. It was concluded that inasmuch as there is not any appreciable structural damages to buildings within the corporate limits, this requirement would not be demanded and that perhaps such a procedure could hamper the re-construction.

Mr. Williams brought up the matter of inspection of the buildings for safety after re-construction and the Mayor advised that the State Roads Commission was planning to send structural engineers here for a general inspection and release their findings so that the general public will be assured of the safety of the buildings.

Mr. Williams read a letter from a group that propose to construct a convention hall here. The letter stated that the proposed building was on the drawing board and that they were interested in a franchise on the land, ingress and egress, parking. Mr. Williams showed their architect's conception of the building.

Mr. Williams stated that he had been impressed by the people involved in this proposed convention hall and that he understood that they had the backing to proceed with it. Mr. Williams suggested that if the Mayor and Council are interested a meeting with them should be arranged to go into the various details.

Mr. Williams advised that he had talked with the Attorney's General's office with reference to the town's right to give a franchise for this beach land and they had expressed their willingness to give a quit-claim deed for whatever rights they might have and also that he had talked with Mr. Pittman, the County Commissioner's attorney and he had also expressed their willingness to give a quit-claim deed for whatever rights they may have in the land.

Mr. Harman asked what revenues the town would derive and Mr. Williams stated that the land would not be taxable but that the building and personal property would be.

Question as to the status of the proposed convention hall to be built with State aid was that there is nothing definite at this time and it was suggested that if the convention hall was built by private capital, it would relieve the town of operating it which might prove a costly item.

Mr. Williams was instructed to invite these gentlemen here for a luncheon meeting in the near future to discuss this proposed convention hall.

Mayor Cropper stated that he had attended a meeting of the Board of Public Works and they had approved the expenditures of the construction of the boardwalk and the cleaning of streets in Ocean City. He pointed out that the Federal government would not participate in the cost of cleaning side streets and sidewalks.

Mayor Cropper stated that he had received a check from the Ocean City Light Tackle Club in the amount of \$500. to be used at his discretion to someone who needs it who has suffered loss due to the storm. Mr. Cropper stated that he was going to

hold this check for a while until he could determine a deserving family or families.

Mr. Showell stated that he had inspected the school after the National Guard had left and they had left it in very good condition. Mr. Showell also stated that the pupils are to make up the time that they have lost by starting a few minutes earlier each day and eliminating their morning recess and that they would also go a few days past the regular schedule in June.

Mr. Showell stated that Everett Fisher had contacted him about the town replacing a tire on the duck that the Cambridge Rescue Company brought here. Mr. Jackson stated that he understood that they had received four new tires through the Pentagon. It was suggested that a spare tire be purchased for them if they want it.

Mr. Showell stated that there is a fire extinguisher missing from the school and its replacement was approved if it cannot be located.

Mr. Showell presented a copy of the County's code adopted for construction in areas subject to flooding and erosion by ocean waters. ~~McCabe/EXALED~~

Mr. McCabe Stated that the sewerage lift station would require some re-wiring due to damage by the storm and suggested that waterproof wire be used in the replacement. This was approved.

Mr. McCabe stated that Jack and Olin Mumford had been to the disposal plant to do some work after the storm and he knew the number of hours that they were there and he did not know the amount of their bill, however, he was amazed to see a bill from Miller Electric Company in the amount of \$847.47 and couldn't imagine what they had done to run up such a figure. Clerk stated that there were seven electric motors baked and repaired and other wiring had been done as a result of storm damage. He stated that he would be glad to go over the work that they had performed.

Mr. McCabe stated that the furnace had been damaged by water at the disposal plant and that it should be replaced. He suggested that it be replaced with a make furnace that could be serviced by local mechanics. Replacement of this furnace was approved.

Mr. McCabe asked that the old auxillary gasoline engine at the disposal plant be removed or sold for junk inasmuch as it is in the way and the place cannot be cleaned properly with it where it is. Clerk was asked to handle this.

It was decided to get Jack Mumford to do the re-wiring at the disposal plant.

Mr. Harman suggested that the Mayor and Council meet with the County Commissioners in an effort to get them to abate taxes for 1962 to those who have suffered severe storm damage. It was brought out that it was understood that they were planning to give some sort of relief and it was suggested that we wait until it was learned just what they plan to do.

Sunday

Mr. Jackson stated that he had been to Rehoboth this past ~~summer~~ and had noticed that they were doing a terrific business. He suggested that an advertisement be placed in newspapers and perhaps radio and television spots be purchased to advise that Ocean City is open for business to those who are interested and want to come here to view the storm damage. It was thought that inasmuch as there are such a few heated rooms and inasmuch as there will be a good number of visitors in any event, advertising at this time would not be particularly necessary.

on motion by Jackson, seconded by Harman, the following vouchers were approved for payment:

Checks written since last council meeting and signed by Treasurer or Mayor:

#31625 - Inland Construction Co. - Land Fill Operation	880.00
#31626 - Railway Express Agency - Express charges on mounted fish from New York	17.36
#31627 - Pay Roll week ending 3/8/62	2,631.43
#31628 - Pay Roll week ending 3/15/62	2,975.12
#31629 - Charles E. Clark - Carpentry work	70.88
#31630 - Leroy Cropper 1/2 Carpenter Work	72.00

Vouchers presented for approval at meeting of Mayor and Council 3/20/62:

#31631 - Inlet Marine Supplies - Boots and fire extinguishers	57.95
#31632 - Elliott's Esso Station - Gasoline for weasel	1.68
#31633 - All States Exposition Decorators - Carpenters, etc.	60.90
#31634 - J. T. Roberts & Bro., Inc. - 1" galv. pipe	103.56
#31635 - Radio Electric Co. of Penna. - Misc. radio tubes	16.45
#31636 - Kline's Heating Oil Service - Fuel oil	103.09
#31637 - Nick Jones - Repairs to generator damaged by storm	13.05
#31638 - Choptank Electric Coop. - Current - dump site	6.00
#31639 - Eastern Shore Public Service Co. - Current - sign near Seaford	1.25
#31640 - Allan S. Quillin - Misc. work performed 1/19/62 thru 3/3/62	249.64
#31641 - Eastern Shore Gas Co. - Gas consumed 2/1/62 to 3/1/62	261.92
#31642 - Parker Bros. - Mounting tires on fire truck	5.00
#31643 - Ocean City Real Estate & Insurance Agency - 1962 instalment on fire house bldg.	42.21
#31644 - Victor Adding Machine Co. - Rental adding machine	17.50
#31645 - Eastern Shore Gas Co. - 20# propane	2.50
#31646 - Miller Electric Co. - misc. labor and materials repring electric panels, wire, etc. and rewinding motros and repairs	847.47
#31647 - Hubert R. White Hdwe. Co. - Nails, etc.	269.98
#31648 - Artcraft Electric Supply Co. - 82 gal. Electric Hot Water Heater	96.88
#31649 - Standard Electronics Supply Co. - Radio parts	2.63
#31650 - T. L. Ruark & Co., Inc. - Towels and cleaners	26.35
#31651 - Eastern Shore Public Service Co. - Municipal light and power, street and traffic lights	1,471.32
#31652 - Board of County Comm. - 1/2 cost of aid to Trial Magis.	20.00
#31653 - Truck Equipment Corp. - new truck body	4,180.00
#31654 - W. Scott Wallace - Postage	99.00
#31655 - Truck Equipment Corp. - two new truck bodies mounted	8,900.00
#31656 - Britt's Market - Food delivered to firehouse for firemen during storm	37.85
#31657 - McClung-Logan Equip. Co. - Part for 2" pump	28.88

## Payroll W/E March 15, 1962

Less Social Security	109.62
Less Federal W/H	377.30
Less State W/H	37.23
Less Police Fund	8.00
	<u>2,975.12</u>

Wages on weekly basis  
Wages on Hourly basis

2,602.76

904.51

3,507.27

## DISTRIBUTION OF WEEKLY WAGES

10.141	Clerks	260.74
10.811	Municipal	115.00
11.111	Police	1,743.17
12.201	Streets	153.85
13.201	Sewers	110.00
20.201	Water	95.00
	Clean-up	<u>125.00</u>

2,602.76

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOURLY WAGES

10.811	Municipal bldgs	44.00
11.212	Fire Dept.	90.00
13.401	Water Collection	211.22
20.201	Water	40.80
	Clean-up	<u>518.49</u>

904.51

3,507.27

The meeting adjourned on motion at 10:00 P. M.