



April 19, 2021  
Public Hearing Proceedings

**Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1050, Amending City Code Chapter 169 Stormwater Management, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 19, 2021, with Mayor Martin presiding. Council Members present: CP Glenn, CM Robertson, CM Martin, CM Ringsaker, CM Boyer and CM Zinner.**

**Comments from Citizens: No comments from citizens.**

**With no further comments from citizens, the public hearing was closed at 7:01 p.m.**

**The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on April 19, 2021, at 7:01 p.m. with Council Members present: CP Glenn, CM Robertson, CM Martin, CM Ringsaker, CM Boyer and CM Zinner.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the opening prayer given by Pastor Mary M. Whitehead of The Healing House Church of God.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

City Council Minutes – CM Martin moved to approve the Council Meeting minutes of April 5, 2021. Second by CM Robertson. Motion carried 5-0. CM Boyer abstained; she was not present at the April 5th meeting. Closed Session Minutes – CM Zinner moved to approve the Closed Session minutes of April 5, 2021. Second by CM Ringsaker. Motion carried 5-0. CM Boyer abstained; she was not present at the April 5th meeting.

**Comments from Citizens on Agenda items:**

Vickie O' Keefe - No address given. Letter of support for Lock House event.  
Bambi Johnson - 710 Market Street. Letter of Support for the Waterfront Festival.  
Bambi Johnson – 710 Market Street. Letter of Support for the Spirit of America Festival.

**Appointments:**

Tourism Advisory Board appointment of Stephanie Giordano.  
Motion to approve by CM Martin. Second by CM Robertson. Motion carried 6-0.

**Oath of Office:** The Tourism Advisory Board oath of office will be administered by Mayor Martin to Stephanie Giordano at a later date.

**Presentation:** - Al Peteraf made a presentation on behalf of the C.A.T. Club (Citizens Against Trash).

**Recognition:** – The Andreen Family was recognized by Mayor Martin and City Council, for their active role in the City of Havre de Grace C.A.T Club.

**Resolution: Calendar Resolution 2021 - 09 concerning License Agreement for Fence and Deck at 226 S. Union Ave. (CM Ringsaker)** A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND AND SECTIONS 33 AND 34 OF THE CITY CHARTER FOR A PERMIT FOR A FENCE AND DECK IN THE CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY AT FOUNTAIN STREET ADJACENT TO PROPERTY ADDRESS 226 S. UNION AVENUE

A motion to introduce by CM Ringsaker. Second by CM Boyer. Carried 6-0.

A motion to adopt by CM Martin. Second by CM Ringsaker. After a roll call vote, the motion carried 6-0.

**Ordinances:**

Ordinance 1051 concerning a Moratorium on the Issuance of Permits and Other Administrative Action during the Pendency of Litigation: First Reading (CP Glenn)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AND SECTIONS 33 AND 34 OF THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING A MORATORIUM ON THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION DURING THE PENDENCY OF LITIGATION

A motion to introduce on first reading was made by CP Glenn. Second by CM Ringsaker. Carried 6-0.

A motion to adopt on first reading was made by CP Glenn. Second by CM Robertson. After a roll call vote the motion carried 6-0.

CP Glenn’s comments were as follows: The purpose of this legislation is to provide a viable mechanism which allows the City to pause any further action, such as granting of permits of City approvals on temporary basis with respect to the party who is in current litigation with the City, until such time that the matter can be resolved, either by the courts, or an agreed upon settlement. This litigation is designed to ensure that premature actions are not taken until the litigation has been resolved.

A Public Hearing was set for May 3, 2021, at 7:00 P.M.

**New Business:**

**Special Events were presented by Patrick Sypolt as follows:**

Mother’s Day Waterfront Picnic, May 8, 2021

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Lock House Museum Grounds

A motion to approve by CM Boyer. Second by CM Robertson. Carried 6-0.

Havre de Grace Jazz & Blues Fest – Amendment, June 4-5, 2021

Amendment to expand Downtown location on June 5

A motion to approve by CM Robertson. Second by CM Ringsaker. Carried 6-0.

Father’s Day Waterfront Celebration, June 20, 2021

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Lock House Museum Grounds

A motion to approve by CM Robertson. Second by CM Zinner. Carried 6-0.

Havre de Grace “Spirit of America” Festival, July 3, 2021 (Rain Date – 7/5/2021)

12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Downtown Havre de Grace

A motion to approve by CM Ringsaker. Second by CM Robertson. Carried 6-0.

The Waterfront Festival in Havre de Grace, August 21-22, 2021

1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (8/21/21), 12:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. (8/22/21)

Concord Point Park, Hutchins Memorial Park, Moore Family Homestead

A motion to approve by CP Glenn. Second by CM Martin. Carried 6-0.

Susquehanna Wine & Seafood Fest, September 25-26, 2021

11:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. (9/25/21), 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. (9/26/21), Concord Point Park

A motion to approve by CM Ringsaker. Second by CM Boyer. Carried 6-0.

Lock House Craft Beer & Wine Festival, November 6, 2021

1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., Lock House Grounds

A motion to approve by CM Robertson. Second by CM Boyer. Carried 6-0.

**Directors Report:**

**Mr. Patrick Sypolt, Director of Administration:** The calendar for the upcoming public work sessions for the FY22 budget review, as well as the FY22 tax rate and water/sewer rate, will be posted onto the City web page following this evening’s meeting. The candidates forum, Sponsored by OPAC (Ontario-Otsego Positive Action Committee), will be on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at City Hall, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The event will be closed to attendance, however, you are encouraged to follow it live on our Havre de Grace City

website <https://havredegracemd.gov> . Also, immediately after the session has been recorded, it will be available on the City's YouTube channel, which can also be found on the City website. Additionally, the event will be aired on Harford Cable Network the evening of April 28<sup>th</sup>. Check the HCN channel for air time. That information will also be made available on the City website. On Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Havre de Grace Arts Collective presents Eclipse, the Ultimate Journey Tribute, at the State Theater of Havre de Grace. Show time is 8:00 p.m. To purchase tickets, or for more information, please visit the websites: [hdgoperahouse.org](http://hdgoperahouse.org) or [explorehavredegrace.com](http://explorehavredegrace.com). On Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, the City Council will hold a public work session to review and discuss the upcoming FY22 City budget. The work session will begin at 6:00 p.m., and will also be live streamed. Physical attendance to the work session is limited due to constraints associated with proper COVID-19 protocol. On Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, the City is sponsoring Defender's Day Food Truck & Music Festival at Concord Point Park. In addition to plenty of assorted foods, craft beer, and other assorted condiments; the HdG Arts Collective will be presenting "Dawn's Early Light," true stories from the 1813 British attack on Havre de Grace, at 2:00 p.m. Live music, beginning at 2:30 p.m., will be provided by No Boundaries and The New Romance. Rain date is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Also on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, our Farmer's Market returns to Hutchins Park. The Farmer's Market begins at 8:30 a.m., runs until noon, and is open every Saturday from May until the last Saturday before Christmas, rain or shine. Yet again, on May 1<sup>st</sup>, it's the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Decoy & Wildlife Art Festival sponsored by the Havre de Grace Decoy Museum. This prestigious event, located at the Decoy Museum and surrounding property, begins at 10:00 a.m. and continues until 4:00 p.m. On Sunday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, you are cordially invited to join the Havre de Grace Independence Commission, for a Bridgerton inspired tea, as they promenade on the beautiful Havre de Grace Promenade. Upon arrival, each guest will receive a personalized dance card that will guide them to themed stations. From period dance classes to themed photo stations, this event will have it all. Following the promenade, each guest will receive a personal tea box complete with a commemorative gift containing everything one needs for an afternoon tea, which tea will be catered by Bella's Tea Room. After you have had your fill, stroll through our historic town where select shops will be offering themed items and specials. For guests who were lucky enough to purchase a VIP ticket, you may make your way to the newly renovated State Theater for an evening of cocktails and entertainment. Costumes are not mandatory, but are recommended. A prize will be awarded to the best dressed, or, Diamond of the Season. All proceeds benefit the Havre de Grace Independence Day Commission and will help fund the 2021 July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and concert. Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, is Election Day for Havre de Grace. This year, the City will be holding elections for one Mayor and three City Council members. The election polls open at 7:00 a.m., and close at 8:00 p.m., here at City Hall. If you missed any of the information I just listed, or, for a complete calendar of events for our city, please visit our web sites at: [havredegrace.com](http://havredegrace.com), [explorehavredegrace.com](http://explorehavredegrace.com), and [hdgoperahouse.org](http://hdgoperahouse.org).

**Shane Grimm, Director of Planning:** Absent at this evening's meeting.

**Erika Quesenbery Sturgill, Director of Economic Development:** The U.S. Small Business Administration will hold free webinars next week that will be of interest to many of our businesses. On Thursday, April 22, from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., there will be a free webinar on the 8 A Business Development Program that helps small, disadvantaged businesses compete in the marketplace. On Thursday, April 29, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., there will be a free webinar on Federal Contracting Certification programs, specifically on the WOSB, or Women Owned Small Business Federal Program. This is a program designed to provide greater contracting opportunities for woman-owned small businesses. The program will be offered online, and you may register by visiting [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov). It is crucial for our businesses to be aware of these programs, because of Havre de Grace possessing such a large HUBZone – or Historically Underutilized Business Zone, a federal designation making small businesses much more competitive in securing prime contracts. The HUBZone designation was authorized in 1996, and the first certifications for HUBZone small business went out in 1999. To learn more on this program, or about acquiring certification within a HUBZone, visit [www.sba.gov/hubzone](http://www.sba.gov/hubzone). Harford County Economic Development is also distributing additional funds to local restaurants through the new State Restaurant Assistance grant, the amount to be determined by the total number of applications received. These applications are due by April 28, at 5 p.m. Visit [harfordcountymd.gov](http://harfordcountymd.gov) under Covid 19 Business Relief Grants for the simplified application for this

round 3. There is also an April 21<sup>st</sup> deadline for the Hotel Relief Grant Program Round 2, available at the same address, which is a grant program that includes B&B facilities. The final and third program through Harford County with an approaching deadline is the Nonprofit Relief grant program, due June 4.

**George DeHority, Director of Finance:** The current financial condition of General Fund 1, Water/Sewer Fund 9 and Marina Fund 8 was presented. The General Fund 1 balance is \$5,135,200, which is \$2,031,500 ahead of budget. The Water/Sewer Fund 9 is deficient of \$120,100, which is a \$428,600 decrease year-to-date. The Marina Fund 8 balance is \$1,040,900, which is a \$215,200 increase year-to-date.

**Tim Whittie, Director of Public Works:** The paving for BG&E at this phase will end this week. The next phase will start later this summer. Regarding Green, Wilson and Old Bay Lane Water Line Project, we are waiting on construction bids. Regarding Francis Street and Commerce Street Sewer Projects, we are waiting on contractor bids. Regarding Aberdeen and Havre de Grace Water Line, we are looking at a May 3<sup>rd</sup> start date, pending supplies. Contract for inspection of 20-inch force main from main pump station has been awarded to JMT. Kickoff meeting this Friday. Intake pipe replacement out for bid today. Ten contractors have placed bids. Tank replacement out for bid at the Marina. Solids handling moving towards 100 percent design. Lewis Lane going through SHA process to release funds.

**Chief Teresa Walter, Havre de Grace Police Department:** NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO) is celebrated on the first Tuesday in August (August 3, 2021). This promotes police-community partnerships in neighborhoods across the city. The event focuses on the community and raising awareness through camaraderie. By improving area relationships, the hope is to make our neighborhoods safer. It is also a great way to meet your neighbors as well as our police officers. Shining a spotlight on community & police programs, such as: Neighborhood Watch, Community Clean Up, The Housing Authority Success Project, Drug Prevention Education and Dog Walker Watch. NNO is another opportunity to speak with our police officers and other community members about safety within their neighborhoods. How to observe NNO is as easy as backyard barbecues, porch parties, or neighborhood walks, or even full festivals. If a neighborhood would prefer to wait until cooler months, that is fine. The PD will work with any community to organize their NNO. If a neighborhood is interested in being a part of NNO, they can contact Cpl. Ken Terry at 410-939-2121, and we will work with folks to help them organize their NNO event. National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, April 24, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. clean out the medicines you no longer need or use. We don't want those medicines to be lost, stolen or misused. Drop-off locations are located at Harford County Office Building, Bel Air Police Department, Havre de Grace Police Department, Wegmans, and various drug stores in the pharmacy.

**Business from Mayor Martin:** Defenders Day celebration will be coming up May 1, 2021. Redistricting is an issue to be concerned about. This is a beginning to the process in which a firm will be looking at numbers to make preliminary suggestions. As parents, we are concerned about this and need to be involved in the process taking place. This is very early in the process, and this won't be voted on until 2022. We will fight to keep our kids in Havre de Grace schools and to make certain the Board of Education is aware that this is our wish. We have time, because this has just started. Let your Board of Education Representative hear from you. Don't panic. Be concerned, and stay informed. Mayor Martin submitted the Preliminary Budget to City Council and read into record the budget memorandum. The budget will be available on the City website April 20, 2021. The first public work session is scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021, with a second one to follow on May 10, 2021.

#### **Business from Council:**

**Council Member Robertson:** The Youth Commission has partnered with Doctor Silberstein's Office to help with a COVID Vaccine Clinic on April 21<sup>st</sup>, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dr. Silberstein's office is located at 805 S. Union Ave., and if you would like to make an appointment, please call 443-502-0622. The EDAB will meet virtually Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, at 4:00 p.m. The Budget & Finance Committee will meet April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m., here in council chambers.

**Council Member Martin:** Happy to see all the events that will be taking place on this evening's agenda. The American Legion is hosting a yard sale this Saturday, April the 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Member Ringsaker:** The Wage and Benefit Committee will meet Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., here at City Hall. Thank you to Al Peteraf and the Andreen family for all they do for the City of Havre de Grace. Keep HDG kids in HDG schools, stay involved in the issue. OPAC forum is tomorrow night. Bears are back. Keep your trash covered. Simple steps can be taken to prevent any problems. Watch along the Joe K Trail.

**Council Member Boyer:** Happy to be back from my honeymoon in Puerto Rico. They take wearing mask seriously there, and I'd like to encourage all too also be respectful to everyone, and please be committed to wearing your mask. The Cultural Exchange Committee will meet virtually on Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. The Green Team will be holding a board meeting tomorrow night, and we will be discussing candidates for the Green Team. Projects for the Green Team were shared. CM Boyer has significant concerns about the rezoning of the schools.

**CM Zinner:** The Arts Commission will be meeting next week in the PD conference room. Thank you to Al Peteraf for his suggestions that he shared in this evening's meeting on what will help the C.A.T. Club. As far as the school rezoning issue, I'd like to encourage everyone to complete the survey online.

**Business from Council President Glenn:** The proposed balancing enrollment process for elementary school students is concerning to all of us. In the recent forum, it was communicated that future enrollment for Havre de Grace Elementary and Meadowvale is forecast to increase over the next six years. When I championed renovation efforts for Meadowvale, I shared with the key stakeholders that was going to happen. I showed them the development plans that were on the books and encouraged them to build a school that would accommodate anticipated growth. Unfortunately, my concerns were not addressed, so here we sit. Havre de Grace is a community school. A prime example was Harris Field (the high school football field). When we needed a new stadium, we came up with the plans to give our kids a field they could be proud of. We were told that we wanted a Cadillac, but they only had money for a Chevy. We told the Board of Education, give us the money for a Chevy, and we will build the Cadillac. That field was built by residents and local businesses within this community. That is what "community" schools do. So naturally, we "do not" want our students to be redistricted to other schools. They want to attend school with their neighbors and friends, and they should be given that opportunity to do so. When I was elected back in 2012, my platform was a new replacement school for the Havre de Grace Community. I was told by then County Council President Billy Boniface that a replacement school was not on anyone's radar screen. My response was, "Hold that thought," because, it soon will be. Through a community effort, we were able to convince the key stakeholders that a replacement school was long overdue, and it got built. It is time, once again, to have our voices heard, and it has to be a team effort. CP Glenn said, without a doubt, you all have my full support, because I want our kids to attend school here within our community. As a proud graduate of Havre de Grace High School, let's all show our Warrior Pride and go to bat for our kids. Why? Because it is the right thing to do. WARRIOR PROUD!!!!

**Comments from Citizens:**

James Miller of 320 Lewis Street. On Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Harford County is holding a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day. More information is available on their website.

CP Glenn made a motion to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. Second by CM Zinner. Motion carried 6-0.

**Video recording of the City Council Meeting may be viewed online through the City of Havre de Grace YouTube channel.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Resa Laird**