



**City of Mount Rainier Maryland
Mayor and Council Work-Session**

Date: 10-4-2012

Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier MD 20712

Presiding officer: Vice Mayor William Updike

Councilmember's present: Brent Bolin, Ivy Thompson, and Jimmy Tarlau

Staff present: City Manager Jeannelle Wallace and Assistant City Manager Michael Jackson.

Gerry Maldonado: Department of Environmental Resources

House bill 987 became effective July 1, 2012. This bill requires a program that will allow the county to collect fees to pay for the restoration. These fees come with requirements as to what type of expenditures they would apply to. They are under a deadline of implementation. The county will submit a plan of implementation by July 17th, 2013. MPDS phase I is a full blown permit that issued through from EPA that apply to populations that are larger than 100,000 (One Hundred Thousand). So, PG County applies.

Phase II permits apply to populations greater than one thousand. This program has eight elements.

Councilwoman Thompson:

Is there going to be funding to those municipalities to make those changes?

Gerry Maldonado: They created with the house a system of charges. The system of charges is based on restoration efforts. The county is offering to participate with municipalities to collect those fees. The money will be used only for restoration projects and inspection and maintenance of the projects. The bill doesn't say the municipalities should participate. MDE will issue a permit that will have that requirement in it. We have received responses from the larger municipalities saying they will participate.

Councilman Tarlau:

If we don't respond?

Gerry:

If you want to participate you have to respond.

Councilman Bolin:

How much of the money from fees collected will come back to our city? Our residential streets are our responsibility and we have 16.5 miles of roads that we maintain and we have inadequate drainage in some places. We are working with the center for watershed protection to do a plan to make it green.

Councilman Updike:

We have a grant to do a green infrastructure plan for the city and we will communicate with you when we are going through that process.

Gerry:

At this time there is only a gentleman's agreement between the municipality and us to provide support or four items.

Gerry:

The percentage of investment being returned to municipalities is unknown but it is opportunity driven. Most municipalities that are further ahead in their planning will get through the work quicker. The majority of untreated areas are in the municipalities so the whole emphasis will go to the municipality.

Councilman Tarlau:

What's it going to cost the residents?

Gerry:

We are hoping to have some analogs by the end of the month. The county has to decide on three types of options for the fees. A flat fee, a graduated fee or other fee. The fee will be broken down into three groups residential, commercial and industrial. The county will put in place a hardship component for people that cannot pay.

The fees will be put in place July 13th, 2013.

Councilwoman Thompson:

This is an update on redevelopment. The team met with county to find out what they could offer in terms of each of the proposals.

Councilman Bolin:

The first time we met with the county was August 17th, 2012 and gave the proposals and asks what they could do in terms of help.

Assistant City Manager Michael Jackson:

The Mayor made it clear that we are moving forward with or without information the county was supposed to submit.

Councilman Tarlau:

We know about other proposals but will there be a 4th proposal that we can vote on.

Councilwoman Thompson:

We should evaluate and move forward with what we have. We can move forward with awarding the contract to one of the developers.

Councilman Bolin agrees with Councilwoman Thompson and says that we should stop wasting time and move forward.

I would be more comfortable voting for a joint proposal or a combination joint proposal.

Asst. City Manager Michael Jackson:

The city received an award on Sustainable Maryland. Everyone there are excited about the projects we have going on in the city.

Motion to adjourn

Councilman Bolin

Second Councilwoman Thompson

Vote 3-0