

Mayor and Council Work Session and Executive Session November 10, 2015 Agenda

*"A diverse, business-friendly, and sustainable community with clean, safe and strong neighborhoods."
"Providing the most efficient and highest-quality services as the municipal location of choice for all
customers."*

"While only one day of the year is dedicated solely to honoring our veterans, Americans must never forget the sacrifices that many of our fellow countrymen have made to defend our country and protect our freedoms." - *Randy Neugebauer*

4:00 PM WORK SESSION

- 4:00 PM** 1. Special Recognition - Pam Harris Code Certification
- 4:10 PM** 2. Recognition of Hagerstown's Sustainable Maryland Certification
- 4:15 PM** 3. New City Website Design and engageHagerstown Update
- 4:45 PM** 4. 2015 COPS Hiring Grant

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

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**REQUIRED MOTION
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND**

Topic:

Special Recognition - Pam Harris Code Certification

Mayor and City Council Action Required:

Discussion:

Financial Impact:

Recommendation:

Motion:

Action Dates:

**REQUIRED MOTION
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND**

Topic:

Recognition of Hagerstown's Sustainable Maryland Certification

Mayor and City Council Action Required:

Discussion:

Financial Impact:

Recommendation:

Motion:

Action Dates:

REQUIRED MOTION MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

Topic:

New City Website Design and engageHagerstown Update

Mayor and City Council Action Required:

Staff seek an opportunity to update the Mayor & City Council on the progress of the new city website design and the engageHagerstown website transition to a new platform.

Discussion:

New City Website Design Update

This Mayor & Council have an established priority to enhance access to the City website for users on a mobile platform. Communications staff have been working with our website vendor, CivicPlus, to re-design and refresh the appearance of the site while making it mobile-friendly. In completing this process, staff also noted opportunities where the organization and functionality of the site could be enhanced to increase ease of use and provide more convenient access to City services and information.

The re-design of the site is nearly complete, and staff are beginning to re-organize global navigations and other site functions. We will be coordinating with representatives from each department to fine-tune their respective site content and identify more effective ways to present information to users. We hope to make the new site live in the New Year.

engageHagerstown Update

Over the last year and a half, the City has expanded opportunities for community engagement under the “engageHagerstown” brand. These initiatives are developed in coordination with an online tool, our engageHagerstown website (see: www.engagehagerstown.mysidewalk.com). Through the site, the city has had over 500 users participating in discussions, and 675 ideas have been submitted. These ideas have been used by staff in planning and community building processes. The following are some of the ideas that have been implemented throughout the last year:

- Little Free Library
- Pop-up Shops
- Public pianos in City Center
- Outdoor Movies in the park
- Artist studios
- “Before I die...” Wall (What are your dreams for downtown? Wall)
- Hagerstown Bucket List
- Additional Bike Lanes
- Planting Trees
- Yoga/Tai Chi in City Park
- Community Garden
- More frequent, multi demographic events

- Investing in USMH
- Student Housing

MindMixer, the organization that hosts the site, re-branded itself, and at the end of August the City transitioned to a new platform called MySidewalk. Staff have soft launched the new platform with topics related to community engagement, the search for the new police chief and public art along the A&E Trail. Outreach and engagement efforts related to updates to the Comprehensive Plan are also hosted on the site under the “visionHagerstown2035” initiative. Staff continue to strategize how to use this new tool to enhance engagement efforts. The new MySidewalk platform does not include some of the features of the previous MindMixer site, but it offers a more user-friendly and streamlined way of interacting in community discussion. This transition in platforms offers an opportunity to more deeply embed engagement in our long-term planning efforts and general community involvement throughout our local government.

Financial Impact:

Recommendation:

Motion:

Action Dates:

ATTACHMENTS:

File Name

Memo_website_and_engageHagerstown_updates.pdf

Description

New City Website Design
and engageHagerstown
Update



CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

Department of Community & Economic Development

TO: Valerie Means, City Administrator

FROM: Erin Wolfe, Communications Manager
Sarah Nelson, Planning & Outreach Coordinator

DATE: November 5, 2015

SUBJECT: **New City Website Design and engageHagerstown Update**

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New City Website Design Update

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14 North Potomac Street, Suite 200A
Hagerstown, MD 21740

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- Community Garden
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- c. Jill Frick, Director of Community& Economic Development
 Scott Nicewarner, Director of Information Technology & Support Services
 Jonathan Kerns, Community Development Manager

**REQUIRED MOTION
MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND**

Topic:

2015 COPS Hiring Grant

Mayor and City Council Action Required:

Discussion:

Financial Impact:

Recommendation:

Motion:

Action Dates:

ATTACHMENTS:

File Name

COPS_Hiring_Grant.pdf

Description

Memo



CITY OF HAGERSTOWN MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
50 N. Burhans Blvd.

Non-Emergency 301-790-3700
Emergency 301-739-6000
Fax 301-733-5513

November 6, 2015

To: Valerie Means
City Administrator

From: Acting Chief Paul Kifer *POC*

Re: 2015 COPS Hiring Grant

The Police Department has recently received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). The grant offers assistance for new police positions or programs designed to improve the department's overall goals of Community Policing and Intelligence-Led Policing.

Purpose:

This grant will fund four (4) police officer positions to staff a Neighborhood Guardianship Program that would create initiatives that focus on crime prevention in designated neighborhoods. At least one of the officers will be a Post 9/11 Veteran. These officers will utilize the Department's Intelligence-Led Policing programs such as Predictive Policing, CompStat and Safe-Streets Initiative to achieve their goal of reducing violent crime and to establish city-wide legitimacy in areas containing disparate amount of crime in low income and diverse communities.

Financial Obligations:

The City's portion of the matching grant is estimated to be \$239,461.51, spread over a three (3) year period, along with a one year retention requirement of an estimated \$258,536.91 for the fourth year. It is estimated that the four year cost to the City for four officers will be \$497,998.42.

The grant allows for the increase of four (4) police officers raising the sworn strength of the police department from 108 to 112.

