The regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council was called to order on October 1, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Wayne H. Dougherty presiding and the following members present: Council President Stephen Gamatoria, Council Members Garrett Lyttle, James Miller, Randolph Craig, and Joe Kochenderfer. Councilmember Ferguson was not in attendance due to illness.

Mayor Dougherty led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening prayer was led by Pastor Blake Ward (Great Commission Church of Nazarene).

On motion by Councilman Miller, seconded by Council President Gamatoria and, on five affirmative votes, the Minutes of September 17, 2007 were approved.

At this point, Council President Gamatoria asked to Amend the Agenda to include Budget Transfer #2008-07 to be placed as Item B under Unfinished Business.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS
A. Acknowledgement of Presentation Received by the Havre de Grace Police Department: The 2007 Maryland Chiefs’ Challenge Award was presented to the Police Department in recognition of their accomplishment and success with their “Border to Border Campaign”. This program was organized by Corporal Neil Crouch and conducted for the purpose of encouraging citizens to use seat belts.

APPOINTMENTS

On motion by Councilmember Miller, seconded by Council President Gamatoria and, on five affirmative votes, the appointment of Robert E. Greene to the Landlord/Tenant Commission was approved.

Following this appointment, Mayor Dougherty, assisted by Councilman Kochenderfer, administered the oath of office to Carole Andrews and Tom Vorac, both individuals that had been appointed to the Tree Commission at the prior Council meeting. With the assistance of Council President Gamatoria, the Mayor then administered the oath of office to four new police officers, those being Officer Nickolas Hawkins, Officer Brandon Stec, Officer Billy Thompson and Officer Thomas Delucca.

COMMENTs FROM CITIZENS ON AGENDA ITEMS

- None –
RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution #2007-16: Resolution # 2007-16 was read in support of the passage of the transfer of Conquest Point, from Harford County, Maryland to the City of Havre de Grace, Maryland. After the reading of the Resolution, Councilman Craig made a motion to introduce which was seconded by Councilman Lyttle, voted on and passed 5-0. Councilman Lyttle then made a motion to adopt Resolution #2007-16, seconded by Councilman Miller, voted on and passed 5-0. It was noted that tomorrow evening, the Mayor, Council President Gamatoria and Councilman Kochenderfer will be attending the County Council meeting where a Public Hearing will be held to actually transfer this piece of property to the City.

ORDINANCES:
- None-

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Tipping Fee: (Presented by Councilman Miller)
Councilman Miller explained the reason an increase in the Tipping Fee is needed. Following discussion, Councilman Miller made a motion to Increase the $10.00 per quarter per dwelling unit tipping fee for non-commercial establishments to $12.25 per quarter effective August 1, 2007 and to that end all tipping fee bills issued on or after November 1, 2007 shall be calculated according thereto. This was seconded by Councilman Lyttle, voted on and passed 5-0.

B. Budget Amendment #2008-7: (Presented by Council President Gamatoria):
Council President Gamatoria explained that this Budget Amendment is for the purpose of providing for the creation of a new capital project to repair Bradford Green sidewalks totaling $55,000, such project to be funded through an equal increase in CDBG Grants. Account numbers affected are: Account # 01-4-0001-4897 – CDBG Grants ($55,000) to Account # 01-7-1251-7048 Bradford Green Sidewalk Repairs ($55,000). Council President Gamatoria made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2008-7, which was seconded by Councilman Miller and on five affirmative votes was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- None -

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. James D. Sellman (456 Majestic Prince Circle):
As a rather new resident of Havre de Grace (located in Bulle Rock) asked exactly what services he receives from the City taxes he pays. Finance Director George DeHority gave a brief synopsis of the benefits they received. The Mayor told Mr. Sellman that he and the two neighbors that were with him would be more than welcome to set up a meeting in the Mayor’s office to discuss in detail their request.
Mr. Mitch Shank (603 Market Street): Mr. Shank noted he had two (2) issues he wanted to discuss:
1. Noted he has been working in possibly developing a Havre de Grace Arts District – he feels things are moving along very well on this and hopes to have another meeting in November with updates. He thanked the Mayor, and Councilmen Kochenderfer and Miller for their support in this effort.
2. Spoke to those present on behalf of Ms. Charlie Barker a long time very active resident of Havre de Grace. He is asking the citizens of Havre de Grace to “rally round her” as she is currently in the throes of dealing with cancer. The cost for a much needed bone marrow transplant is phenomenal and he asks for support of her friends and neighbors here in Havre de Grace. Mayor Dougherty agreed that it is time for the community to come together and support her and her family during this time.

BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR
The Mayor reported on the many meetings and events he has been attending during the last two weeks as well as the many projects he is currently involved in.

BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL
Council President Gamatoria and Councilmen Craig, Kochenderfer, Lyttle and Miller also each reported on the many meeting and events they have recently attended as well as progress being made on the various committees they serve on.

On motion by Councilmember Miller, Mayor Dougherty adjourned the Council Meeting at 8:07 p.m.