CAMBRIDGE CITY GOVERNMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

JULY 2017-June 2018

**JULY 2017**

City Nonprofit Grants awarded - $25,000 to several nonprofits

City Manager starts Code Enforcement Management Study

Waterfront Survey and public meeting held by Campion and Hruby to help develop their report regarding Cambridge Waterfront

Residential trash pickup Privatization begins

**AUGUST**

City Council approves a state grant of $65,000 to renovate the bathhouse at the city marina for use by the boaters who visit Cambridge – Bathhouse remains for private boater usage.

City Council authorizes the release of an RFP for a survey and assessment of city streets to help prioritize repairs and replacements. Final report approved in June 2018.

MacLeod Law Group, LLC is hired as City Attorney through December 2018

**SEPTEMBER**

Effort to appoint members to the Citizens’ Advisory Committee fails 2-3

City Parks and Waterfront Committee to be formed – date uncertain – not yet formed as of July 1, 2018

City Resolution passed that establishes committee rules of procedure

City Appropriation of $1.8 Million approved to help complete Wharf at Sailwinds Park – work expected to be completed by end of year. Completed in June 2018.

City institutes law suit against Beazer Home Corp for completion of Riverwalk at Deep Harbour. Matter settled in 2018 by Beazer providing funds to City to complete Riverwalk.

City awarded $200,000 state funding for housing rehab with Habitat Choptank in Pine Street Area. Funding amount increased in 2018 at suggestion of state.

City uses Skype for first time for a City Council meeting

Beazer Corporation pays city taxes in arrears with interest that have been owed for several years – over $400,000

City announces FY 2017 surplus of approximately $350,000

**OCTOBER**

City establishes streaming of all city council meetings to allow citizens to view them when time permits. – See [www.townhallstreams.com](http://www.townhallstreams.com)

Contract awarded for Street Maintenance Study – to be completed in 4 months. Report finalized and presented to City Council in June 2018.

Habitat Choptank to lead Pine Street Rehab project – See September

City Council approves funding for repair of 300 Block of High Street (to be done in January 2019) and to reduce flooding issues at Housing Authority – funding set aside for park playground equipment and Maces Lane project with conditions

City Manager announces extension of her contract until June 30, 2018 and retirement effective that date

City Council considers possible changes to city charter at work session.

**NOVEMBER**

City Council at work session indicates majority of commissioners not interested in any changes to city charter

Search for City Manager to begin with Mayor as lead, search committee of 5 additional citizens each from a different Ward, possible head hunter to be hired, Odie Wheeler to support search – City Manager to focus on a number of projects identified as high priority

Vote by city council on funding city manager search – 3 yes and 2 abstentions – vote fails as it required 4 affirmative votes.

City Council holds 1st work session to prepare for FY 19 Budget

City housing project for Pine Street approved in September receives additional funding – totals are $500,000 from State - $130,000 from City - $70,000 in kind services from Habitat Choptank and other funding – Now over $1 million. Housing specialist and grants manager to be hired for project

City Manager attends Code Enforcement training

$20,000 approved for costs of city manager search – no funding for head hunter

Police Chief Mark Lewis retires after 30 years of service to the City of Cambridge effective 12-1-17. Wayne Bromwell appointed interim chief pending a search by City Manager for new Chief.

City employees allowed 15 hours of paid leave to volunteer in the community during working hours.

City Council approves referral of High Street Residents request for traffic calming on 100-200 block of high street. No report back as of July 1, 2018

**DECEMBER**

FY 2017 Audit approved – clean audit

Report on Seawall assessment for Choptank, Willis, West End, and Oakley received by City Council – City now able to seek grant funding from state for repairs

Special Events Policy redraft completed by Ordinance Committee

**JANUARY – 2018 - nothing of note**

**FEBRUARY –**

Mark Lewis hired as Chief of Police to resume duties March 1st

City Commissioners hold two work sessions on FY 2019 budget

Suggestion made that city look at ways to improve income from city marina and/or reduce its costs

**MARCH**

City Council allows Breweries in Commercial and Industrial zones in Cambridge – RAR to expand

City Council rejects Special Exception Legislation for Auction Houses and returns matter to Planning and Zoning Commission - allows Foxwell Auctions to offer auctions at the old Metro Building in Dorchester Square pending new legislation

**APRIL**

Street Survey completed and preliminary report provided to city council

FY 2019 Budget Proposed

From MML – Highway User Revenue increased funding for FY 2020-2024 for streets – Cambridge estimate is $567,000 some minor increase for FY 2019

**MAY**

City Council approves final draft of Historic Preservation Commission Guidelines for presentation to Maryland Historic Trust for final approval and return to city

Design of Cannery Park approved by City Council

Budget Process moves forward to adopt FY 2019 budget which is completed later in the month

City Manager authorized by City Council to negotiate an agreement with Oasis Marinas to manage the City Marina for 2 ½ years subject to approval of contract language by the City’s Bond Counsel.

Auctions allowed with conditions in Commercial and Industrial districts in the city

**JUNE**

Special Events and Street Closure Policy adopted by city council

City Council begins the process of developing an ordinance regulating Mobile Food Establishments (Food Trucks) in the City

Members of the Board of Cambridge Waterfront Development, Inc. are approved by City Council. They are Daryl Butcher, Richard Zeidman, Esq. for the city; Frank Narr for Sailwinds Park, Inc.; The City Manager of Cambridge; The Dorchester County Manager; and Jeff Powell, for the County. This board, with the assistance of professional staff, will represent the city’s interest in the development of Sailwinds Park.

Street Assessment and Survey approved by City Council and included in City’s 5 year Capital Improvement plan

Wharf at Sailwinds Park Completed

City Manager retires. Odie Wheeler appointed Interim City Administrator/city clerk/Director of DPW until no later than 8/31/18