



Hello and welcome to my monthly newsletter.

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In June we passed the \$98.4 million dollar Operating Budget and \$8.8 million Capital Budget, introduced the city's renewable energy park, honored businesses and local organizations, and celebrated the 5000 year old practice of yoga. So let's get started:



annual fee by 15%.

FY 2016 Budget

On June 8th, City Council passed the FY 2016 Operating Budget by a 7 to 1 vote. The \$98.4 million Operating Budget is a level service budget and one we can all be proud of. We will use this budget as we formulate our long-term financial plan for the city. I want to thank the Finance Department, City Council, and our Finance Committee, chaired by Ian Pfeiffer, for their due diligence and thoughtful process, making this budget a success.

Along with a number of mandates in this budget, including Police and Fire pensions and health benefits, we were able to focus on Public Safety, the environment, and infrastructure. We were also able to cut your solid waste

Highlights in the \$8.8 million Capital Budget include:

- \$3.2 million in Street and Sidewalk Improvements
- \$100,000 in Stormwater Improvements
- \$5 million in Water and sewer Improvements

Annapolis Renewable Energy Park

The City recently announced the selection of Annapolis Solar Park, LLC for development of the solar segment of the planned Annapolis Renewable Energy Park. The Energy Park will be constructed at the site of the closed and capped Annapolis Landfill.

Annapolis Solar Park, LLC was one of five companies bidding for the project and they will build, own, and operate the 16.8 megawatt solar project, which will convert sunlight into direct current electricity. The corporation has a 20-year lease and when the project is completed, it will be the largest solar project identified by the Environmental Protection Agency exclusively installed on a closed landfill. The project is expected to be operational by the end of 2016 and is anticipated to generate more than \$5 million dollars in revenue to the city over the course of the 20-year lease. For more information on the project, go to Annapolis.Gov

Celebrations and Awards

This month, we celebrated businesses and organizations for their contributions to our city.



I was proud to be at the grand opening of Dazzling Florist, located at 909 West Street, in Annapolis. Dazzling Florist offers flower delivery throughout the area, as well as nationwide delivery through their network of reliable florists. For more information, go to <http://www.dazzlingflorist.net> or call, 443-509-5993.

Leeward Market reopened under new owner's in June of 2014 and on June 17, 2015 the owners celebrated their one year

anniversary. Located in the heart of Eastport at 601 Second Street, the new Leeward Market offers local favorites and several new menu items with a Greek flair. For more information, go to www.leewardmarketcafe.com or call 443-837-6122.



On Saturday, June 20, I enjoyed celebrating the first annual International Day of Yoga. Yoga is a 5,000-year-old physical, mental and spiritual practice having its origin in India, and while the actual day is celebrated



on June 21st, the Art of Living Foundation and the Embassy of India partnered to celebrate the event in Annapolis a day early, because 21st is Father's Day.

Utility Payments

I am happy to report that residents now have the option to pay their utility bills by electronic withdrawal from their checking or savings account. We are trying to offer alternatives to our residents and ensure an easy process that allows options.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Enrollment Application can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/1Nbu6qW>. After you download the document, enter the required information, print it, sign it, attach a voided check and mail to Department of Finance at City Hall, 160 Duke of Gloucester Street, Annapolis, MD 21401.

Finally, I just wanted to pause and ask you all to keep Governor Larry Hogan and his family in your thoughts. I know the citizens of Annapolis share the Governor's optimism in having a full recovery from his cancer diagnosis. I, along with the Governor, have the utmost confidence in the team of medical professionals at the Anne Arundel Medical Center and Johns Hopkins Hospital, and we commend the Governor for continuing to serve the citizens of Maryland while going through this difficult and challenging time.

If you have a question or concern, please contact me at mayor@annapolis.gov, calling me at 410-263-7997 or on social media.