

**MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND**

**Town Meeting**

**April 13, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held at the Old Fire Hall on Green Street on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 with Mayor Simpson presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Tammy Simpson  
Councilperson Regina Blake  
Councilperson Melisa Weidner  
Fire Chief Trey Heiser

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Gary Weber, Town Manager  
Andy McGee, Police Chief  
Martin Sullivan, Code Official  
Russell Harrison, WWTP Superintendent  
Lounell Hamstead, Finance Manager  
Randy Barfield, Public Works Director  
Dr. Cynthia Byrd, Purnell Museum Director  
Jeré Johnson, Media, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator  
Margot Resto, Administrative Assistant

**SPECIAL GUESTS:**

Wendy Myers, CRICKET Center and pup, Josiah.

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**SALUTE TO THE FLAG/INVOCATION**

Mayor Tammy Simpson called the meeting to order. The pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Invocation was made by Rev. Chuck Hatfield.

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Open Session 4-6-2021:*

\* Presented for approval, Councilperson Weidner motioned, Councilperson Blake seconded, all in favor.

*Closed Session 4-6-2021:*

\* Presented for approval, Councilperson Weidner motioned, Councilperson Blake seconded, all in favor.

**MAYOR'S OPENING COMMENTS**

CRICKET Center introduction. Description of program and its importance. State-mandated, non-funded. Encourage giving to Cricket Center. Presented Proclamation – April is Snow Hill Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

Presented for March, 2021, no changes.

### **FINANCE REPORT**

The Finance Report for March, 2021 was presented, no changes. Councilperson Weidner motioned to approve, Councilperson Blake seconded, all in favor, approved.

### **MEDIA, MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR/Main Street Manager**

The Media, Marketing and Promotions Report and Main Street Manager Report for March, 2021 was presented verbally, no changes. Discussed upcoming events and website remodel.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

Code Enforcement Report was presented by Mayor for March, 2021. No changes.

### **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Public Works Report for March, 2021 was presented, no changes. Huntingfields beginning foundations and building, homes going up within next month.

PNC Bank renovation continuing. Black-Eyed Susan electrical at dock beginning phase complete, Boat expected end of month or mid-May.

### **WWTP REPORT**

Wastewater Report for March, 2021 was presented. No changes.

### **MUSEUM REPORT**

The Julia A. Purnell Museum Report was presented for March, 2021. Working on exhibit for PNC Bank Visitor's Center when it becomes available, working on grant with Town to maximize for Maryland Heritage Area. Working on group activities/safety focus for Museum.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

The Police Department Report for March, 2021 was presented. Working to have 2 full-time hires soon. pedestrian safety campaign in progress. Meeting with committee soon. Lowest increase in COVID cases since it began. Rabid animals – still 1 confirmed only.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

The Fire Department Report for March, 2021 was presented by Trey Heiser. Getting quotes for new engine. Sent specs to 3 companies, waiting.

### **OLD BUSINESS –**

- Live Streaming meetings – update.
- Water reconnect/disconnect fees – TM Gary Weber presented Connie Watson, Accounts Clerk recommendations, costs comparison to other Towns in the region. Most important is after-hours. Wouldn't cover cost of wage for Public Works staff. Add to next meeting agenda for decision.
- Tommy Mason dedication pavilion – Margot Resto discussed what was done, and unknown, with Gus Payne Way and Sturgis Park plaque – spoke with Kirby Payne and Ann Coates. Motion made to memorialize Sturgis Park Pavilion for Tommy Mason by Council Weidner, seconded by Council Blake. Town Hall staff will do logistics. Motion to make Britt Goff Way – Burroughs Street. Motion made to

memorialize Britt Goff by Council Weidner, seconded by Council Blake. Town staff will begin logistics, legwork.

### **NEW BUSINESS –**

- *Ordinance No. 2021-01 Mayor's Salary – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading by Council Melisa Weidner*
- *Ordinance No. 2021-02 Council Salary – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading by Administrative Assistant Margot Resto*
- *Ordinance No. 2021-03 Riverview Square - 1st Reading by Town Manager Gary Weber*
- *Ordinance No. 2021-04 Mayor's Proposed Budget – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – read by Mayor Tammy Simpson*
- *Ordinance No. 2021-05 Water Fees Increase FY'22-FY'24 - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading by Administrative Assistant Margot Resto*

### **COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

Councilperson Weidner – Thanks to all Department heads and all work being done, all who came to meeting.

Councilperson Blake – Agrees with Council Weidner, thanked everyone, encouraged all to take care of one another.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS**

Mayor Simpson thankful for Department Heads, Council and staff. Feels like we're coming out of the pandemic, keep safe, keep numbers decreasing. Excited about all the things getting done, happening in accordance with Strategic Plan, making progress.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Candidate Jenn Jewell: has Black-Eyed Susan been removed from budget? Finance Manager Lounell Hamstead, it's in expenses under BES.

Candidate Jenn Jewell: what would happen to funds if no RFP. Has there been one RFP? Yes. Does Community have input? Up to Council but can inhibit the smooth running of government. TM Gary Weber described current situation of RFP and negotiations. Overwhelming support of BES from County. Looking good that we will get the \$100K grant from one returned from cancelled Train project, heard from Tom Perlozza.

Candidate Jenn Jewell -concern is \$65K budgeted is low, fuel costs, etc... Mayor Simpson – revenues generated pay expenses. If operation falls to Town, that will need recalculated. How close is RFP decision? In negotiations. Citizen: who brought boat? Mayor Simpson explained that it would be a benefit to the Town to encourage visitors and residents of how many people boat holds. Parking availability explained. Was a feasibility plan done? RFP did a business plan. Citizen expressed that she felt Tourism is nice, but we need a business to bring jobs. TM described reasoning, that the world has changed, and business is done differently. Deboning factory had to close, Royal Plus facility moved in and was going to be cleaning, training center, but we are too rural. We don't have the population, older retiring population. Our Strategic Plan is tourism, dollars to our businesses. Do the best we can with fewer people, went from 2600 to 2000 pop. in 20 yrs – big hit. Boat is very good purchase, very small risk, can sell it any time and make a profit. If citizens decide that it's not working, then it can be sold.

Citizen: where will it be stored? End of Bank Street by Lower Shore Land Trust. 7 attractions connecting.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Council Weidner made motion to go into Closed Session, Council Blake seconded. All in favor, approved. Council Blake read closing statement. Discussing position of Gary Weber, Town Manager. Time was 8:22pm.

**RETURN INTO OPEN SESSION –** Council Weidner made motion to move into Open Session, Council Blake seconded. Time was 8:58pm. Personnel and legal matters discussed, need more information and want full Council attendance.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Councilperson Weidner, seconded by Councilperson Blake and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59pm.