

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

Town Meeting

May 12, 2020

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held via telephone conference on Tuesday May 12, 2020 with Mayor Gary Weber presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Gary Weber  
Councilperson Melisa Weidner  
Councilperson Alison Gadoua  
Councilperson Regina Blake  
Pat Schrawder, Senator Carozza’s office

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Martin Sullivan, Code Enforcement Officer  
Lounell Hamstead, Finance Officer  
Andy McGee, Police Chief  
Margot Resto, Administrative Assistant  
Jeré Johnson, Media, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator  
Randy Barfield, Public Works Director  
Cynthia Byrd, Purnell Museum Director

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**SALUTE TO THE FLAG/INVOCATION**

Mayor Weber called the meeting to order. The pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by an invocation by Pastor Thomas.

**MAYOR’S OPENING COMMENTS**

Difficult to communicate in phone meeting, let’s be respectful and listen to each other.

**MEETING MINUTES**

Motion to approve March 10, 2020 minutes. Council motion to approve, seconded and approved.  
Motion to approve April 28, 2020 Work Session minutes. Council motion to approve, seconded and approved.

**FINANCE REPORT**

The Finance Report for April, 2020 was presented. Motion to approve, seconded and approved.

**MEDIA, MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR**

The Finance Report for April, 2020 was presented. Motion to approve, seconded and approved.  
Mayor expression of appreciation of hard work and keeping website and COVID info up to date.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

The Code Enforcement Report for April, 2020 was presented.

Mayor request for Mr. Sullivan to share info. on housing in town: condemned, slated for demo, will put on Work Session, background on properties in process with. Explanation on financing needs, difficulty in getting a hold of next of kin, possible town expense. Might need Council approval on demo on property from previous admin. House in Historic District, not something to demo, poss rehab on house, difficulty contacting next of kin, address in Work Session. Discussion working with attorney on how to move forward.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Public Works Report was presented for April, 2020 was presented. Re: 300 Purnell Street, needs help from town to finance tear down; have to work with Mayor and Council on this; other properties - can't get a hold of next of kin, landlord or property owner – have to pursue through court system and town's expense to demo those; one that Town owns that needs approval from Mayor and Council, was Habitat For Humanity project that previous administration never got off the ground, Public Works has cleared that lot. Public Works confirmed - property on Covington Street that Marty was talking about, bushes to remove, very overgrown then ready to be demo'd.; another house in Historic District on Martin – contributing house to Historic aspect of town, not something to demo, trying to rehab but difficult to make contact with owners, etc., talk about at Work Session, Town get money back on investment.

**WWTP REPORT**

Wastewater Report was presented for April, 2020 was presented. Russ not present. Randy offered help if needed. None requested.

**MUSEUM REPORT**

The Julia A. Purnell Museum Report was presented for April, 2020. Modifying grants working on, time frames, relating to COVID crisis to not lose opportunities or have to give any grant money back from being closed to public because of pandemic, was approved. Watching for other grant opportunities. Putting Museum back together, working on plans B C and D.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

The Police Department Report for April, 2020 was presented. 11 COVID cases in 21863 zip code as of 10am today, numbers staying steady, only one increase since Friday, hope for decline. Additional case possibly due to testing. Nuisance calls with pit bulls, given warnings, anything further will be citations and seizure of dogs. Calls up in domestic disturbance category, what was anticipated due to people being home together more.

**OLD BUSINESS** – Resolution 2020-02: Increase of Landlord Registration and Rental Permit Fee read into record. Question from Council whether it applies to short-term and long-term rentals. Mayor replied yes with description. Question when effective; immediately, billing in next fiscal year. Motion to approve, seconded, approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2020-01 – Second Reading read into record. Motion to approve second reading, passing and adoption, seconded, approved.

Ordinance 2020-02 – Second Reading read into record. Motion to approve second reading, passing and adoption, seconded, approved.

**COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL**

Councilperson Gadoua – this is final Town Hall meeting, thank all staff and citizens, been a joy to represent you, please call if you ever need anything

Mayor thanked Alison for her service.

Councilperson Weidner – thank you all for hard work, keeping informed, digging in, thanked Alison for service and insight with Charter and procedures, will be missed, wish you well

Councilperson Blake - Echo Melisa’s sentiments, during this pandemic, looking forward to normalcy; thanks to Alison for your service; ask for guidance from council to work together, thank you to Town Hall staff and Mayor

**COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

Senator Carozza’s number one right hand person Pat Schrawder was a surprise, was in presence early in meeting; if you have questions, available for help in COVID response and reopening; Mayor grateful for Governor’s response, never be too cautious; concerned about OC reopen of boardwalk and beaches and close contact with little mask wearing; please be patient so we can safely reopen.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Resident Fran comment: who is in charge of lawn at our parks? Grass getting high. Public Works response – rain has deterred cutting, river flooding, tried with weed eaters, too wet.

Is there another date for Bulk Trash pickup? In discussion. Safety first in COVID. Understand need and demand for this right now. Need to work with Council and Public Works.

Resident Carolyn Brown – thanked Alison for service.

Randy – thanked Alison for service.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn, seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margot Resto