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Description automatically generatedSNOW HILL MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**Town Hall Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 14, 2021**

**7:00pm – Regular Session**

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, September 14, 2021 with Mayor Jewell presiding.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Jennifer R. Jewell, Ph. D.

Councilperson Regina Blake

Councilperson Melisa Weidner

Councilperson Lisa Outten Harrison

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Andy McGee, Police Chief

Lounell Hamstead, Finance Manager

Martin Sullivan, Code Official

Randy Barfield, Public Works Director

Jeré Johnson, Media, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator

Rick Pollitt, Town Manager

Dave Burt, Grants Administrator

Margot Resto, Administrative Assistant

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1. Following a **Salute to the Flag and an Invocation** by Pastor Marry, Mayor Jewell called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes** for: Work Session August 31, 2021: On the motion of Councilperson Harrison and seconded by Councilperson Weidner, minutes were approved by the following vote:

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Melisa Weidner** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Lisa Outten Harrison** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **3** |  |  |  |  |

1. **Town Manager Report** -
   1. Mayor Jewell introduced Rick Pollitt as the new Town Manager. Rick Pollitt expressed his gratitude to the Town and the public.
   2. Rick will be meeting Mr. Washington on the Black-Eyed Susan.
2. **Department Reports:**
3. **Approval of Finance Reports**: On the motion of Councilperson Weidner and seconded by Councilperson Harrison, minutes were approved by the following vote:

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Melisa Weidner** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Lisa Outten Harrison** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **3** |  |  |  |  |
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* + 1. Provided by Lounell Hamstead
  1. Media, Marketing and Promotions
     1. Last day for Jere Johnson.
  2. Code Enforcement
     1. Waiting on Blueprint for Washington St.
  3. Public Works
     1. New pavement.
  4. Water & Wastewater
     1. Waiting on for quotes from TK for new valves of Water Tower. Getting parts/quotes is difficult.
     2. Replacing the pumps at Evergreen.
     3. Mayor’s comments: Water tower is being painted and is currently offline.
  5. Museum
     1. Presented by Mayor: Linda’s memorial is on September 15th.
     2. October 16th is Fiber Fest.
  6. Police Dept
     1. Two new programs: October 1st, checking on veterans, people of age 60 or older who cannot access medicines at Apple Drugs, the department will get them for them.
     2. Cross Walks: Painted in for the school season.
     3. 396 cases in our zip code for COVID
  7. Fire Dept – Presented by Mayor:
     1. Additional funds will be given to Fire Dept through ARPA

1. **Old Business**
   1. **4th of July Fireworks**
   2. Last year no Fireworks, Chamber of Commerce had asked Town to help pay/fund for Fireworks this year and the future. Town has budgeted $3k last year but did not follow up due to COVID. Lounell Hamstead reported that it’s possible to find $3k from Jere’s budget and other, and then budget $5k for the future years.
   3. Fireworks –Motion for approval by Council person Harrison, seconded by Councilperson Blake and approval:

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| **Melisa Weidner** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Lisa Outten Harrison** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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1. **New Business**
   1. **Snow Hill Fall Seafood Festival**
      1. Asking to use Fire Hall, asking for support of an office and 2 people of public works. Will be overtime for the public works employees. Will have plain-clothes officer, which will be paid by department.
      2. Additional people will be budgeted for 6 hours.
      3. Concerns about moving carpet/other obstacles for Oyster Fest.
      4. Audience member concerned about economic impact.
      5. Charging possibly $55 to enter Oyster Roast.
      6. Tickets go on sale a month before the event.
   2. **Stevens Electric Work Estimate – Sturgis Park Christmas Lights**
      1. Work estimate: $21k. Significant flooding in Byrd Park. Moved the majority/more expensive lights to Sturgis Park.
      2. Ice skate rink under the pavilion, will have it for three weeks.
      3. Lights will be going up in October.
      4. $2 a foot for the wire/cords, will be used for all lights for all events.
   3. **Community Legacy Grant – New Process**
      1. New process, presented by Dave Burt.
      2. Presented the New Grant Process to audience: Takeaways
      3. Has up to $60k (new fiscal year) to reward as grants as of this year, for business owners, first come first serve, but considers a scoring criteria, multiple requirements, and considerations to accept and award various amounts of money through the grant.
      4. Goal is to spread awareness and inform the community of the opportunity available.
      5. Will present comments and feedback from the community to the Mayor.
   4. **Community Development Block Grant – Market Street Sewer Lining Project**
      1. Going to be used to help repair.
      2. Multiple infrastructure projects.
      3. Sewer pipe badly damaged.
2. **Announcements**
   1. **Board & Commissions Vacancies**
      1. Mayor encouraging public to submit letters of interest to fulfill vacancies by October 1st.
   2. **Water/Wastewater Full-Time Position Opening**
      1. Mayor encouraging anyone interested in position to contact Town Hall.
   3. **Media Position Opening/Interim Staffing**
      1. Announces interim: Lorissa McAllister.
   4. **Eastern District Council Seat Vacancy**
      1. Looking to fill the upcoming of Councilperson Harrison
3. **Comments from the Council**
   1. Councilpersons Blake, Weidner, and Harrison grateful for the service of Jere Johnson and the new addition of Rick Pollitt.
4. **Comments from the Mayor**
   1. Proud of the community for its outspoken feedback and commitments. Searching for new participants in upcoming and current vacancies, and new voices for feedback.
5. **Comments from the Public (Attendees will be allotted a maximum of 3 minutes each.)**
   1. **Margot Resto expressed gratitude towards Jere Johnson.**
   2. **Audience member: Marketplace: Issue with the brick sidewalks (Lynch property/lack of sidewalk) and asking who owns the sidewalks in front of property. Randy explained that it is the property’s owner responsibility for fixing sidewalk.**
      1. **Majority of public supports more help/assistance/use of grants/solutions for sidewalk issues.**
   3. **Jere Johnson: Expressed gratitude to Town and community.**
6. **Adjournment:** 
   1. Adjournment –Motion for adjourn by Council person Blake, seconded by Council person Harrison and approval. The time was 8:30pm.

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Melisa Weidner** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Lisa Outten Harrison** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **3** |  |  |  |  |

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Jeffra