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**SNOW HILL MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**Work Session Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, September 5th, 2023**

**5:00pm – Regular Session**

A regular Work Session of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held at The Old Fire Hall on Green Street on Tuesday, September 5th, 2023, with Mayor Pruitt presiding.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Mike Pruitt

Councilmember Janet Simpson

Councilmember Diana Walsh

Councilmember Margaret Ann Fletcher

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Rick Pollitt, Town Manager

Carol Sullivan, Executive Administrator

Jerry Jeffra, Clerk

Maureen Howarth, Esq. Town Attorney

Andy McGee, Police Department Chief

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1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Mike Pruitt called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

1. **Report on MML Cannabis Symposium by Town Manager & Town Attorney**

Town Manager Rick Pollitt described what he had learned during the symposium, what the Town can and cannot do, and explained that this is now the time for the Town to decide how friendly or unfriendly it wants to be on the legalization of cannabis.

Town Attorney Maureen Howarth spoke about the conversion of licenses, taxation and what percentage the Town would get from legal sales. She also discussed land use and zoning, suggestions of distances away from specific locations such as churches and schools, and tolerances towards cannabis-focused lounges or bars. Councilmember Walsh said she would like to see a moratorium to allow the Town time for informed decision-making.

1. **Update on Door-hanger project for water & sewer payment relief by Clerk Jerry Jeffra**

Clerk Jerry Jeffra delivered a presentation on the door hanger project. Councilmember Walsh commented she would like to see additional wordage on the Town’s position regarding the increase of the water/wastewater rates.

1. **Mayor & Council Comments**:

Mayor & Council discussed about future ordinances such as the vacant building ordinances and how to best complete them.

Councilmember Walsh made a motion to have a Special Work Session for Monday, September 11th at 5:00pm, to the update the vacant building ordinances. Seconded by Councilmember Simpson and passed unanimously.

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Margaret Ann Fletcher** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Diana Walsh** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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1. **Public Comment**

Rita Williams commented about the legalization of cannabis.

Sue Pruitt made a suggestion about how meetings are announced.

Rob Hall suggested to upgrade the large message boards to electronic ones.

Fran Price wants to see mailing sent out about the topic of cannabis.

Diana Nolte commented about the churches’ involvement on the door knockers.

1. **Discussion of potential appointments to Town boards & commission: possible closed session**

Mayor Pruitt stated that we would be going into closed session “to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals.” Councilmember Walsh made a motion to go into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. Seconded by Councilmember Fletcher and passed unanimously. The time was 6:27pm.

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Margaret Ann Fletcher** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Diana Walsh** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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1. **Adjournment**

Councilmember Simpson made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Fletcher and passed unanimously. The time was 7:20pm.

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Margaret Ann Fletcher** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Diana Walsh** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **3** |  |  |  |  |

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Jeffra

Clerk I