

**SNOW HILL MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**TOWN HALL MEETING**

**Tuesday, November 9, 2022**

**Old Fire Hall, 212 W. Green Street, Snow Hill**

**Minutes**

**Masks are optional.**

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held at The Old Fire Hall on Green Street on

Wednesday, November 9, 2022, with Mayor Pruitt presiding.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Mike Pruitt

Councilperson Regina Blake

Councilperson Jenny Hall (ABSENT)

Councilperson Janet Simpson

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Rick Pollitt, Jr., Town Manager

Andy McGee, Police Chief

John Rankin, Grants Administrator

Margot Resto, Deputy Town Manager

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1. Following a **Salute to the Flag and Prayer by Atty. Michael Farlow**, Mayor Pruitt called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes** for:
   1. October 11, 2022 Town Hall Meeting: On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Simpson, minutes were approved by the following vote:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

* 1. November 1, 2022 Work Session: On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Blake, minutes were approved by the following vote:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** |  |  |  |  | **X** |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

* 1. November 1, 2022 Closed Session: On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Hall, minutes were approved by the following vote:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** |  |  |  |  | **X** |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

* 1. November 7, 2022 Closed Session: On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Hall, minutes were approved by the following vote:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** |  |  |  |  | **X** |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

1. **Treasurer’s Report** 
   1. On the motion of Councilperson Simpson and seconded by Councilperson Blake, Treasurer’s Report was approved by the following vote:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** |  |  |  |  | **X** |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

1. **New Business**
   1. **Grants Update – Grants Administrator, John Rankin**
      1. Gave update, explanation
      2. 3-6 months, small dollar grants pursuit
      3. My wish would be to go for large dollar grants, looking for guidance
      4. Mayor Pruitt stated it would be something to flesh out in Work Session, commented that Mr. Rankin has good ideas; asked about status of CL grant and committee’s progress; need to advertise grant availability
      5. John mentioned design work being done for infrastructure (Purnell and Market Streets)
      6. Council Simpson –
         1. asked if both Market and Purnell would be done simultaneously (yes, goal it to have construction the same way)
         2. is there a committee? Small, of staff
      7. Mayor – encouraged larger committee to round out fairness/level playing field, add one or two citizens
   2. **Charter Review Committee Update – Assistant State’s Attorney Michael Farlow, Chair (joined by cmte members former Council Rob Hall and Eddie Simpson)**
      1. Meeting since April, three phases
         1. Point by point review, almost wrapped up
         2. Tabled sections – need Council input
         3. After 1st of year, hold Town Hall-like forum, committee input
         4. Drafting of Resolutions to present to Mayor & Council
            1. Include amendments to Charter, few months’ process
      2. Mayor asked about Charter Amendment process
         1. Farlow explained process
         2. Former Council Hall added info of cmte process so far
2. **Town Manager Report** 
   1. No additions.
   2. Mayor:
      1. mayor added kudos to Rick to negotiations with Dr Plack
      2. talked about MD Coastal Bays recent inquiry
      3. Jean Holloway water rates study – rate changes discussions will be included in budget year preparation
      4. Council Simpson commented on Margot Resto’s service to Town and wished her well in her career; Margot Resto gave thanks for opportunity to work for the Town
      5. Board of Zoning Appeals scheduled to meet on November 30th; we might want to consider having a lawyer present, or at least a structured agenda; Rick Pollitt commented that he can help with that and will be present for it
      6. Annual Snow Hill Christmas tree lighting – requires payroll overtime spending, in future reduce this spending by adjusting the day of turning on the lights outside of Thanksgiving holiday time
3. **Department Reports**
   1. Economic Development – Mayor commented on thoroughness of report & Council Simpson excited about all things happening, busy time, good to see
   2. Code Enforcement Council Simpson – would like more of a descriptive summary in this report
   3. Public Works – question about street sweeper, process, leaves, storm drain, etc…
   4. Water & Wastewater – spills have been reported, haven’t heard any penalties or major concern from state
   5. Julia A. Purnell Museum – Council Simpson glad that Sturgis and Purnell are working together; Mayor would like to see Furnace Town connect
   6. Police Department – Council Blake – Collins Street issue: Chief said they painted and will put signs up, should help; will have Washington Street survey by next mtg; movable speed camera usage; Council Simpson thanked Chief for addressing retail theft concerns
   7. Fire Dept – Sunday Nov 13, 10am-2pm holding 125th Anniversary Celebration at Fire Dept.; invite candidates to tour; thanked TM and Randy for use of comfort station
4. **Old Business**
5. **Comments from the Council**
   * 1. Councilperson Simpson: thanked Town for helping out for Halloween Parade and Block Party, great time, Chief said all went well, make town exciting place to be
     2. Councilperson Blake: thank you for coming, keep coming every month, holiday season coming, thank you all for great work and dedication; lots of people coming out and seeing what Town of Snow Hill is all about
6. **Comments from the Mayor**
   1. Have a few more meetings before end of year; plan to share information gathered about Black-Eyed Susan, goal is to vote by end of year
   2. Scheduled meeting with Tyson regarding issues/complaints; how we can make sure town is safe, pedestrian-friendly
   3. Meeting with Weston Young next week, working together with County
   4. Meetings with Matt Odachowski, Bret Davis
7. **Comments from the Public**
   * 1. Rob Hall – Sturgis & Purnell Museum, Furnace Town – has permanent loan objects from Purnell Museum, more cooperation would be beneficial to both
     2. Diana Nolte and Dickens Weekend – carriage rides, players, stage, possibly period costume contest
     3. Fran Jones – what happened to Town clock?
        1. Rick said Robinson’s waiting for a part
        2. Mayor commented it may be time to rethink and take it down if we can’t get it fixed
8. **Adjournment** 
   1. Adjournment –Motion for adjourn by Councilperson Blake, seconded by Councilperson Simpson for approval. The time was 7:47pm.

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** |  |  |  |  | **X** |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

Respectfully Submitted,

Margot Resto

Deputy Town Manager