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Description automatically generatedSNOW HILL MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**Town Hall Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, July 19, 2022**

**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, July 19, 2022, with Mayor Pruitt presiding.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Mike Pruitt

Councilperson Regina Blake

Councilperson Jenny Hall

Councilperson Janet Simpson

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Andy McGee, Police Chief

Fire Chief, Michael Creech

Dr. Cynthia Byrd, Julia A. Purnell Museum Director

Lounell Hamstead, Finance Manager

Lorissa McAllister, Director of Economic Development

Margot Resto, Deputy Town Manager

Randy Barfield, Public Works Director

Russ Harrison, Water & Wastewater Superintendent

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1. Mayor Pruitt called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
2. **Salute to the Flag and Moment of Silence**.
3. **Approval of Minutes** for:
   1. June 14, 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** |  |  |  |  | **X** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **2** |  |  |  |  |

* 1. July 8, 2022 Special Work Session/Closed Session: On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Simpson, minutes were 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. **Announcement of­ Newly Appointed Officer**
   * 1. Mayor Pruitt announced appointment of Central District Council Person Jenny Hall, who will serve Council person Melisa Weidner’s remaining term.
2. **Swearing in of Newly Appointed Committee Members**
   1. Ethics Committee: Rob Hall
   2. Planning & Zoning Commission: Fran Price
3. **Town Manager Report**
4. **Department Reports**
   1. Finance Report:On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Hall, Finance 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. Economic Development highlighted events; Mayor Pruitt requested list of those on the logo cmte-
  2. Code Enforcement – Mayor Pruitt asked Marty Sullivan to take care of Planning & Zoning – meeting scheduling, choose chair, meet for decisions needed
  3. Public Works
  4. Water & Wastewater – 9 million gallons per month? Normal? Russ H. – misprint; should be 350K-400K; Russ will correct report; lift station on Willow, possible use of this building, good to know this.
  5. Julia A. Purnell Museum – Dr. Byrd discussed recent activities and their attendance, upcoming activities; had approx. 14 kids, adults
  6. Police Department – Mayor Pruitt asked about animal compaints,; Chief said majority are loose dogs
  7. Fire Department - thank you for continued funds, ARPA additional; thank Randy and Chief for getting drafting site set up

1. **Old Business**
2. **New Business**
   1. **Ordinance No. 2022-04** Ordinance No. 2022-04: Repeal of Ordinance No. 2021-03, Riverview Square – First Reading
      1. Dep. TM Margot Resto read the ordinance into record.
      2. Comments from Public
      3. Approval of the Ordinance first reading: On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Hall, minutes were 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. Awarding DBF Procurement RFQ – Dual Projects
  2. Update
     1. Byrd Park Flood Evaluation – Nicholas Bradley reported on the study done; projects to improve the status of the Park, to mitigate effects of nature
        1. Drafts are based on geo-tech reports, will provide info for council to make choices
     2. Dr. Plack – Logo Wall
        1. Andrew Richards – keep scaffolding on site, lifts are very hard to come by, concern that we won’t be able to get one soon; logo been on building for 26 years, has put out 250K to get it to code, asking for help from Town; front of building almost complete, about 3 more weeks, scaffold removed from site or to the side; looking for yes or no; previously work done sealed in moisture and caused rejection of paint on top
           1. Mayor won’t ask new Council to decide on 25k; want to be diligent on decision; not budgeted for logo; can’t decide tonight, will decide as soon as we can, we all want to solve the issue, work with finance to decide where funding may be

1. **Comments from the Council**
   * 1. Councilperson Blake: moving forward, happy to have a full Council
     2. Councilperson Simpson: thank you for showing here tonight, thank you for departments and staff for being so helpful and accommodating
2. **Comments from the Mayor**
   * 1. Made way around departments and asking questions, take my time learning, not going to blow up current processes right off the bat, too much turnover and change; encourage to follow budget to the best we can, may have to adjust as situations dictate, BES is back, previous admin did stop the bleeding; suggested to form cmte, not opposed; but want to consult with steel hull owners and operators; not going to ask council to make decision until all facts are gathered, get citizen input; trip down river is quite spectacular, so that concept is wonderful but comes at cost; if you’re interested on being on a committee contact TM or Dep TM
3. **Comments from the Public**
   * 1. Can have closed meeting anytime, don’t have to start in open meeting
     2. Thank Lori and Town for Dancing under the Stars
     3. Live on Belt Street – what about this, is in terrible shape, flooding, weeds, ditch, extra critters, sewer releases; Mayor Pruitt responded that over time these situations have been kicked down the road, other priorities that are more demanding at the moment but thank you for bringing to our attention
     4. Kudos to Public Works
4. **Adjournment** 
   1. Adjournment –Motion for adjourn by Councilperson Blake, seconded by Councilperson Simpson for approval. The time was 7:48pm.

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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