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Description automatically generatedSNOW HILL MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**Town Hall Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, August 9th, 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, August 9th, 2021, with Mayor Pruitt presiding.

**PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor Mike Pruitt

Councilperson Regina Blake

Councilperson Janet Simpson

Councilperson Jenny Hall

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Andy McGee, Police Chief

Jerry Jeffra, Communications Officer

Lorissa McAllister, Director of Economic Development

Randy Barfield, Public Works Director

Rick Pollitt, Town Manager

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1. Following a **Salute to the Flag and an Invocation** by Randy Barfield, Mayor Pruitt called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes** for:
   1. July 19th, 2022 Town Hall Meeting: 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** |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **3** |  |  |  |  |

* 1. August 2nd, 2022 Work Session: A draft of the previous minutes of August 2nd’s Work Session was entered into the packet, but a new version of the minutes was submitted alongside the packet separately (Cleared up vague wording from draft). Councilperson Simpson had a correction on the new minutes to change each instance of Councilperson Hall to Councilperson Simpson. On the motion of Councilperson Simpson and seconded by Councilperson Hall, the new minutes to be edited with Simpson’s corrections were approved by the following vote:

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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1. **Swearing-in of Council Member Jenny Hall by Mayor Pruitt**
   1. Mayor Pruitt moved this to the beginning of the meeting, before the approval of minutes, in order to efficiently vote on subjects. Mayor Pruitt then swore in Jenny Hall as Central District Councilperson.
2. Treasurer’s Report
   1. The Financial Report has been adopted and included into the Treasurer’s Report. Councilperson Simpson: Announced that the report is in the packets, including accounts receivable, county taxes and total accounts payable. Prepared by Lounell Hamstead. Councilperson Hall had a question about the sweeper leaks. Mayor: Do we lease the sweeper? Rick: Yes. Mayor: How long have we had it? Randy: 2 years. Another question from Hall was about the money involved with the Black-Eyed Susan. Mayor: An upcoming work session will address concerns about the Black-Eyed Susan.
   2. On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Simpson, the financial report was approved by the following vote:

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| **NAME** | **AYE** | **NO** | **ABSTAIN** | **RECUSED** | **ABSENT** |
| **Regina Blake** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Janet Simpson** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **Jenny Hall** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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1. **Town Manager Report**
   1. Rick Pollitt: The Bike Commission met last night (August 8th, 2022) and have elected Mark Nixon as the new Planning & Election Chair. Mayor Pruitt was the previous chair and had to give up his seat upon being elected as Mayor of Snow Hill. Mayor: The clock at Town was displaying the wrong time, and despite it being fixed recently, it started to display the incorrect time again. Will request Robinson (the fixer) to come back.
2. **Department Reports:**
   1. Economic Development Report
      1. Lorissa McAllister: No comment. Councilperson Hall thanked Lorissa for her details in the report and work over the past weeks.
   2. Grants Office Report
      1. John Rankin: Absent, Mayor announced he is doing well keeping up with grants and making the deadlines; no late reports.
   3. Code Enforcement Report
      1. Marty Sullivan: Absent, Mayor asked Rick to share what happened during the meeting of commissions: There was an annual report submitted, Burley Oaks proposal was submitted in interest of purchasing the Old Fire Hall. Wanted a study on the impact of water & sewer usage as well. Emphasized importance of having a community input and theme attached to the business prospect. Additionally, there’s to be a review of the Town’s vacant buildings and what incentives there can be for property owners and future prospecting property owners.
   4. Public Works Report
      1. Randy Barfield: Nothing to add.
   5. Water & Wastewater Report
      1. Russ Harrison: Absent, Rick: 9 million gallons of water usage was previously reported. After following up with Russ on checking the amount of usage to determine accuracy, the figure of 9 million gallons was confirmed correct.
   6. Museum Report
      1. Dr. Cynthia Byrd: Absent, Mayor met with Dr. Byrd last Friday and the head departments, nothing else to add.
   7. Police Department Report
      1. Chief Andy McGee: Thanked everyone for attending National Night Out. Councilperson Hall: Anything new on the shooting? Chief: 2 arrests, anticipates more, forensics will take more time to arrive.
   8. Fire Department Report
      1. Report: No report, Mayor plans to meet with the chief soon.
3. **Old Business**
   1. Ordinance No. 2022-04: Repeal of Ordinance No. 2021-03, Riverview Square-Second Reading/adoption
      1. Mayor: Stops the ordinance of closing the street, but it does not stop the discussions of it. Wants to continue exploring the street revival of Riverview Square with the committee headed by Diana Nolte. May explore to close it temporarily to add features. Will host a meeting with the committee in the future.
      2. After the Mayor’s comments, Rick Pollitt read the ordinance aloud.
      3. On the motion of Councilperson Blake and seconded by Councilperson Simpson, the ordinance was approved by the following vote:

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| **Jenny Hall** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
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* 1. Dr. Plack-Logo Wall
     1. Mayor: Dedicated a work session to this topic some time ago. No decisions have been made yet, and all comments about this topic can be found in the minutes.
  2. Other
     1. Mayor: Streetscape plan will be addressed soon. Rumors are around that Snow Hill could get money for the bike pathways from County Council. Black-Eyed Susan is still to be decided, organizing a committee for the purpose of managing the boat. Is getting 3 expert’s opinions on what it would cost to fix/run a boat like the Black-Eyed Susan. The mayor wants to get all the facts and details on the boat before any major decision is reached.

1. **New Business**
   1. None tonight, but in the coming weeks will have the Old Firehall discussed. Vacant Building Ordinance discussion to come soon. Charter Committee review also to be coming.
2. **Comments from the Council**
   1. Councilperson Blake: No comment. Councilperson Hall: Honored to be back serving as Councilperson. Councilperson Simpson: Thanked the chief and his department, and the committee members in the audience. Also thanked everyone for the work poured into making the Blessing of the Combines event work. News for Eastern District people: Designated flag stop for Shore Transit. The director of Shore Transit is willing to meet with citizens to help change the pick-up spot to a more convenient location. Also, the director has extended to help pick up disabled persons through para-transit. Additional news for Eastern District: Repaving the train tracks is in discussion. State highway and Delaware Railroad Company will be providing the funds.
3. **Comments from the Mayor**
   1. Appreciated all the events and hard work everything in the recent weeks. Mayor promises to address parking, accessibility, signage, ice and insurance questions and concerns.
4. **Comments from the Public**
   1. Attendee 1: To Randy: Thanked Randy for his hard work. To Chief: If someone wants to make a welfare check call, who would they call? Chief: Call them (his department, non-emergency line, 244-2445) and request. Attendee 2 (Rob Hall): Talked to Diana and wanted to speak on her behalf; Diana wanted to thank everyone for their hard work on Blessing of the Combines. Is a part of the design committee (Streetscape) and will be happy to plan with the Mayor & Council. Was also asked by Dr. Byrd to remind everyone about the children’s event every Wednesday, 1-3pm, next week is last Wednesday for the summer for this event. Coming soon is the annual Town-wide Yard Sale (near end of September). Iron Furnace Fifty happening on August 27th, with hundreds of people already signed up. Attendee 3: 90-year-old mother, needs a ramp to her home, wants to see what number to call or what resource she could use. Councilperson Blake: Will meet with the attendee at a time to share the contacts to help with the concern.
5. **Adjournment** 
   1. Adjournment –Motion for adjourn by Councilperson Hall, seconded by Councilperson Simpson for approval. The time was 7:37pm.

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| **Jenny Hall** | **X** |  |  |  |  |
| **TALLY** | **3** |  |  |  |  |

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Jeffra

Communications Officer