

MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

Town Meeting

December 8, 2020

A regular meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held via Zoom on Green Street on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 with Councilperson Harrison presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:58 pm.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Town Manager Gary Weber
Councilperson Regina Blake
Councilperson Lisa Outten Harrison
Councilperson Melisa Weidner

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Andy McGee, Police Chief
Kevin Brown, Acting Code Official
Dr. Cynthia Byrd, Purnell Museum Director
Jeré Johnson, Media, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator
Margot Resto, Administrative Assistant
Reverend Chuck Hatfield

SALUTE TO THE FLAG/INVOCATION

Mayor Tammy Simpson called the meeting to order. The pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Invocation was made by Chuck Hatfield.

MEETING MINUTES

- Work Session 11-24-2020 presented for approval, Councilperson Weidner motioned, Councilperson Blake seconded, all in favor.

MAYOR’S OPENING COMMENTS

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Reported on current projects status: Black Eyed Susan traveled to Salisbury, docked for repairs. Huntingfields, thanks to Mayor for safety in difficult time during COVID; seamless staffing transition.

FINANCE REPORT

The Finance Report for November, 2020 was presented, no changes. Recommended to TM possible investment, Huntingfields reimbursement, Larry Lynch and Randy Barfield sold equipment and vehicles for a nice sum. Councilperson Blake motioned to approve, Councilperson Weidner seconded, approved.

MEDIA, MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS COORDINATOR/Main Street Manager

The Media, Marketing and Promotions Report and Main Street Manager Report for November, 2020 was presented, no changes. Reminder of upcoming holiday events. SHA & MDOT – reminded us of approval of parklets by end of year. Town offered PWKS resources to help move them. Supporting economic development for local businesses, advertisement. PPE availability for businesses and customers.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Code Enforcement Report was presented for November, 2020 Huntingfields moving smoothly, begin building in February, finish in 60-90 days. Many permits issued for small projects. Pleasant Manor renovations going well.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Public Works Report was presented for November, 2020 was presented. Working with Kevin, DBF, Huntingfields, all going as agreed. Handicap ramps – worked with Kevin to install at DBC, Bakery, Business Ctr – showed how they worked and left them with them. Hydrant status update. Sidewalk initiative – began at Town Hall parking lot entrance. No changes.

WWTP REPORT

Wastewater Report for November, 2020 was presented. Reported on status on minor violation by County Jail. Required report to public, letter to go out tomorrow. Read letter aloud to public. No changes. Mayor expounded on related details. Russ Harrison also talked in detail about testing and flushing plans in the coming weeks and months; only in one affected area by jail, not at other end by Powell Street. TTHM always a problem since began chlorinating in 1950's and for most municipalities. Mixer/aerator in water tower will refresh at times of inactivity. Old quote from Suez at \$30K, need new quote, as it could be done at the same time of repainting interior, reduce cost.

MUSEUM REPORT

Mayor expressed condolences for loss of Linda Duyer. The Julia A. Purnell Museum Report was presented for November, 2020. First Friday event held, with COVID protocols, successful event. Shifting toward online exhibits and education, Snow Hill has a large, impressive collection of artifacts related to epidemics and how they've shaped our culture over time, will create virtual exhibit. Thanks to Jere for PPE, able to remain open. Partnering with Library, Purnell Museum's "greatest hits."

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Police Department Report for November, 2020 was presented. COVID number 151, increased 10 cases in one month; thanks to Randy for painting of fire hydrants; keep an eye on neighbors, packages delivered late; compliance checks for COVID continue, social distancing and mask wearing.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

The Fire Department Report was presented for November, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS – CARES Act Funds

GoGov – Margot Resto discussed details of app for mass comm, citizen request mgmt., code enforcement module, costs; mass notification in COVID times – qualification for COVID funds. Couple years contract now with this funding, transition printed brochure funds to this. Discussion on what was approved, process with County approval, food pantry started their process.

NEW BUSINESS –

LSLT – Pollinator Sign – discussed draft design, funded through grant to have sign built, waiting on Council approval, signage will help to answer questions about what's there; location ideas; question about where boat will dock, end of Bank Street; discussion of possible funding for area, based on docking area, pathways, etc.: order sign and then decide where to go; Councilperson Weidner motioned to approve sign to be ordered and wait for placement; Councilperson Harrison seconded, all approved.

Willow Street MOU – 301 Willow Street property – need to create MOU in the image of the Purnell House MOU, lesser value to start, large investment needed; will then present it to CDBG Grant. Will be affordable housing, small building, 3 small 2 BR apartments. We purchased to put lift station in back. Comm Block Grant paid to us a long time ago, received money for property, we will ask if the use is allowed.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Councilperson Weidner – thanked all staff and employees, decorations, fire hydrants, appreciate patience for a long year.

Councilperson Harrison – concurred with Councilperson Weidner, great to work with kind people, looking forward to successes we can all share. Happy Holidays to everybody.

Councilperson Blake – beginning to look a lot like Christmas, looks beautiful, in spite of the pandemic, still have a spirit of love, will get through it together. Wear the damn mask, wash your hands, have a prosperous New Year.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Abundantly blessed. Gratitude for staff, Council, Town Manager, care about Town and persevered through a very difficult year. Wish all a peaceful holiday, hope to not lose any more townspeople to this disease. Wear the damn mask.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Citizen, President of NAACP: lots of wonderful things going on in Snow Hill; making rounds this time of year; asked about meeting with Mayor, will give number. Food pantry location and recent work done.

Citizen – wants a list of how Cares Act Funding allocated. Mayor will publish once complete. Discussion on what we applied for, Mayor expressed desire for citizen to provide suggestions on what to spend funds on.

Snow Hill Bagged Lunch program – looking at contributing funds to that.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilperson Harrison, seconded by Councilperson Blake and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margot Resto