

MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

Work Session

2-12-2020

A work session with Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held at the Train Station at 200 Belt Street on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 with Mayor Weber presiding. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

- Mayor Gary Weber
- Councilwoman Alison Gadoua
- Councilwoman LaToya Purnell
- Councilwoman Melisa Weidner
- Chief Andy McGee
- Cynthia Byrd
- Randy Barfield
- Larry Lynch
- Margot Resto
- Lounell Hamstead

Don Giancoli

DON GIANCOLI

County Preliminary Budget by March & April, gives us time to do 3rd reading by end of June, move our dates ahead, no firm dates yet, we can set hearings early to mid-April, have workshop with Dept Heads and Council, question and answer

Have had 3 readings – do we need to? April, May, approve in June – check with charter/attny?

Don’s experience is that a reading has to be voted on each time it’s read. April, may, June sched is good.

Council has had 3 workshops, said it’s been done before. Heads presented budget to Council. Then work session with fire dept. Then draft budget from mayor and town manager.

Discussion on how it’s been done in the past. Procedure in charter is different than it’s been done. Mayor discussion on process with council.

Much of work is same year to year, few line items garner most of the discussion. Don G. wants to propose an open roundtable, more structured. Discuss priorities, but these can change. Maybe do workshop in March. Mayor brings in initial proposal from depts, come back in April. Recommends not to do separate meeting with Fire Department. Affects rest of budget.

Concern from Council. Needs to come together to work on budget, want to hear from Dept Heads first. Discussion about salary shifts.

Don G. discussion on distinction between executive and legislative branch roles and process. Up to Executive branch to distill numbers into a format for legislative.

Council discussion on how it has been done, how they got feedback from Dept Heads, then Mayor and TM distilled budget and brought back to Council.

Don G could send info in advance for Council review, then have workshops to go over info. Open to questions, contact anytime, will provide as much info as needed.

FORMS

Account #s – difficult to post items, so many items, creates a lot of extra work and room for errors, wants to consolidate (salary types); easier to see totals when all in one place

Resident – wants to explain – didn't think it was fair for town to pay for all, so TM allocated to depts budgets

Don – do separate spdsht to total all expenses, assign dollar amount to each, then journal entry

Recommend combine water and sewer funds, Lou talk to CPA

Dept heads – use forms; Don will send dept heads their info on one page

Dept head asked about Steps – salary has reached ceiling – put this on form? No, discussion with Mayor and Council. Mayor said bring it to Mayor and he will bring it to Council.

CAPITAL BUDGET

Prioritize what you want to spend money on over next 5 years and where money comes from.

Capital funds should be seen as investments, pay for themselves over time.

Recommend to issue bond and give residents benefit now

Software

Council discussion: sidewalks, Christmas lights, Byrd Park flooding study needed; dept head – engineer sent to Byrd Park, didn't work out, but is a project for discussion

Mayor – sidewalks on business 113 is state – they can pay; have had meetings with them, is a priority for state for people to have sidewalks, etc..., ongoing thing

Code says property owner is responsible for sidewalk; Don says this is a capital project

Mayor and PWks looking at which streets, sidewalks need fixed, added, who does work

Council: Paving, butterfly house, need to talk about Campion Rhuby, bike path/safer path from Kaddy mart to Dollar General; Sturgis park facelift; software; lighting for downtown – for Worcester goes Purple Opioid crisis

Table game money supposed to come to town – Mayor will talk to Josh about how to proceed

Don recomm talk to county commissioners before budget meeting ask

Byrd Park and Purnell St – resident thanked council, important to her, very close to her heart

COMMENTS

When dept heads find out when they have to have budget ready, Feb bring priorities/ideas to council, THEN prepare budgets after council input

Recycling truck

New Christmas lights in budget? Blue lights, no; get all alike; talk to Ann in April when she purchases decorations

Resident – reason for cameras? Missed meeting. Chief explained.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn, the motion received a Second. All in favor to adjourn. The time was 5:27 pm.