

MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

Work Session

April 27, 2021

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, April 27, 2021 with Mayor Simpson presiding. The meeting was called to order at 4:32pm.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Tammy Simpson
Councilperson Regina Blake
Councilperson Melisa Weidner
Councilperson Lisa Outten Harrison

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Andy McGee, Police Chief
Lounell Hamstead, Finance Manager
Dr. Cynthia Byrd, Purnell Museum Director
Jeré Johnson, Media, Marketing and Promotions Coordinator
Margot Resto, Administrative Assistant

Mayor Tammy Simpson called the meeting to order.

MEETING MINUTES

Open Session 4-13-2021:

* Presented for approval, Councilperson Weidner motioned, Councilperson Blake seconded, all in favor, with edits.

MAYOR’S OPENING COMMENTS

Town Manager not feeling well, not attending tonight. Board of Elections needs another member, especially with demands of upcoming Election. Presented Margie Labesky for approval, Council Weidner made motion to appoint Margie Labesky to the BOE, Seconded by Council Blake, all in favor.

SWEARING IN BOARD OF ELECTIONS SUPERVISOR MEMBER: Mayor swore in Margie Labesky.

10-MONTH BUDGET AMENDMENT, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UPDATES – Council Harrison – asked question about amendment – current FY? Finance manager confirmed. Hamstead commented on changes being majority based on Cares Act Funding that came in, as well as new format instituted after Don Giancoli’s revamping of format last year.

MEETING MINUTES: Closed Session 4-13-2021:

Presented for approval. Jenn Jewell asked for subject of Closed Session to be reworded to match the provision that authorized Closed Session. Mayor agreed, Councilperson Weidner motioned, Councilperson Blake seconded, all in favor.

WATER FEES – Mayor expressed opinion on water fees, cutoffs, timeframes, other towns; until CDC changes protocols, citizens are more able to recover. Will revisit with Town Manager at a later time.

COMMENTS FROM DEPT HEADS:

Dr. Byrd shared support, keeping in contact and informed and current events, managing through COVID, First Friday plans. Display for Visitor's Center, waiting for it to be finished, will put together exhibit.

Chief McGee: first meeting of Chief's Commission coming, Bike handout, community bike ride, rec & parks handout of bikes, 2 new hires full staff first time in a long time. Council Harrison asked how we can support them, Chief McGee said we're already doing that, community supports as well.

Jere Johnson: Website updates with events, food drive, bulk trash, election day, farmer's market next week, Tom Fidler – main street grants, market research analysis complete, will have another meeting downtown; volunteer database being developed with link on website; getting events slowly back on track; no limit to gatherings, just masked when close; Zion Reggae Band May 7.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Candidate Jon Myers:

- Signage for election at Train Station and Fire Hall.
- Suggestion to wait to make decision on RFP until new administration comes in.

Communication, honesty best policy.

Water hookups extension.

Jenn Jewell: Snow Hill United – bikes requested, mostly adults. Put them in a bin, because we got a lot of bikes for kids; Mayor suggested Jere post on FB that we're looking for women's bikes.

ARF – Jewell asked about where money will go, should be here in a few weeks. Plan?

Mayor – will review guidelines once received. Large part of funds will go to infrastructure – highest priority, essential to Town's future. Explained issues, sleeve solution, 500K. Expenditure for Council to approve. Also Fire Dept SCBA units funding, 120K.

Jewell – clarify not part of discussions, privy to process from meeting with County re: Black-Eyed Susan.

Council Harrison – County has placed restrictions that we must act.

Jewell – County is in support and wants Town to act.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Councilperson Harrison responded to Candidate Myers' comment re: RFP.

Councilperson Weidner – Thanks to all Department heads and all work being done, all who came to meeting.

Councilperson Blake – Agrees with Council Weidner, take care of one another.

CLOSED SESSION: Council Blake made motion to go into Closed Session, Council Weidner seconded. All in favor, approved. Council Harrison read closing statement. Discussing RFP. Time was 5:14pm.

RETURN INTO OPEN SESSION – Council Blake made motion to move into Open Session, Council Harrison seconded. Time was 5:35pm.

Mayor described discussion on RFP operating Contract and lease, decision made to accept Jim & Kathy Washington's contract and lease. Motion to accept the contract and lease made by Council Weidner, seconded by Council Harrison. Signed by Council. Will be signed by RFP applicants at Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilperson Weidner, seconded by Councilperson Blake and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:39pm.