

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

Work Session

7-28-2020

A work session with Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held via telephone conference due to the COVID-19 protocols on Tuesday July 28, 2020 with Mayor Gary Weber presiding. The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Gary Weber
Councilwoman Lisa Outten Harrison
Councilwoman Regina Blake
Councilwoman Melisa Weidner

STAFF PRESENT

Administrative Assistant Margot Resto
Public Works Director Randy Barfield
Public Works Supervisor Larry Lynch
Finance Manager Lounell Hamstead
Police Chief Andy McGee
Grants Administrator Ann Gibb

TOWN LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

Attorney Kevin Karpinski

The Mayor asked all to mute their phones to reduce background noise and interference.

MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2020 Town Hall Meeting minutes were presented for approval.
Motion to approve by Councilperson Harrison, seconded by Councilperson Weidner, all in favor, approved.

ADA Sidewalks

Public Works Director Randy Barfield update on what the Town can and cannot do with sidewalks, will be meeting with Kevin Brown; will bring that information into next meeting.

Street Sweeper

Mayor discussed condition of street sweeper, options for loan vs. lease. Grant money not going to be in the timeframe needed, may use grant money for other equipment. May be able to get a 3% loan from Taylor Bank. Mayor suggests go ahead and lease for first year free and budget it in to FY'22. Confirmation of understanding from Councilperson Harrison. Councilperson Weidner motion to approve lease for street sweeper, seconded by Councilperson Harrison, all in favor. Randy Barfield confirmed he will contact MD Industrial Trucks.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Council Announcement and Statement

Councilperson Weidner read the Announcement and Statement regarding the Town Manager position and Mayoral office. Mayor stated that the statement will be posted on our website. Stated that Kevin Karpinski is present for any questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen inquired when Mayor Weber applied for position, if ethical to apply while still serving as Mayor. Attorney referred to Chapter 16, in regard to ethics, nothing in Charter or Code prohibited him from applying as long as he played no role in deliberations or discussions. Referred to Chapter 79-9 town employee cannot be candidate for mayor, the inverse, not a violation of the Town's provisions through Chapter 16, process has been followed is proper and Council decision is following Section 19, Council process. Much like when Mayor Dorman resigned and Council appointed Mayor Mathews.

Citizen inquired as to recall process: Karpinski read from Charter section 107, only with cause.

Citizen asked if there were votes made in closed session, Karpinski said that it is his understanding that they will be voting in this meeting, Mayor will be selected first, then will need to make a recommendation to the Council regarding the appointment of the Town Manager.

reference to section 107 of the charter. Petition may be filed if Mayor is not properly fulfilling duties and responsibilities with not less than 20% of qualified registered voters of Town.

Citizen question about Mrs. Simpson not being elected by residents. Attorney responded with Charter does not contemplate that it's required to be a prior elected official, that in a vacancy this done by Council, if they meet requirements of candidate.

Citizen comment nothing unethical occurred, comment about whether Mayor Weber participated in Closed Session. Also comment on salary amount, Mayor's involvement in budget request for increase, relationship to experience. Attorney responded as to the Council making this decision, actually a decrease of salary amount, no benefits, no insurance.

Mayor and asked if anyone else had questions, hearing none, asked for motion. Councilperson Blake motioned to elect Mrs. Tammy Simpson as interim Mayor until next election in May 2021, seconded by Councilperson Harrison seconded, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT - A motion was made to adjourn by Councilperson Weidner and seconded by Councilperson Harrison, all in favor to adjourn. The time was 5:03pm.