



Mayor and Town Council
Tuesday, December 3, 2024
Old Fire Hall, 212 W. Green Street, Snow Hill
Work Session

ZOOM Meeting ID: 953 699 8590
4:30 pm

AGENDA
(times approximate)

- 4:30 pm:** Call to order by Mayor Simpson
- a. Motion to move to closed session to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation. **Action item**
- 5:00 pm:** Reconvene in Open Session
- b. Consideration of recommended Charter Amendments submitted by the Charter Review Committee (carried over from Nov. 18th)
 - c. Update on the Willow Street surplus property disposition (carried over from Nov. 18th)
 - d. Consideration relating to public docking at Town facilities
- 6:30 pm:** Public Comment: members of the public may register to speak for up to three minutes on any municipal question or matter under established protocols.
- 6:40 pm:** Announcements from the Mayor & Council
- 6:45 pm:** Adjournment

PLEASE NOTE:

Meetings will be recorded and available to the public on the website.

Portions of meetings may be closed under the terms of the State Open Meetings Act as necessary.

If you would like to receive a meeting packet sent to you prior to the meeting, please email Kandice Ringenary at adminco@snowhillmd.com.

This agenda may be subject to change.

**PRESIDING OFFICER'S WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING ("CLOSING STATEMENT")
UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (General Provisions Article § 3-305)**

This form has two sides. *Complete items 1 – 4 before closing the meeting.*

1. Recorded vote to close the meeting: Date: **12/03/24**; Time: **1630**; Location: **212 W Green St. Snow Hill, Maryland 21863**;

Motion to close meeting made by: _____ Seconded by _____;
Members in favor: _____; Opposed: _____;
Abstaining: _____; Absent: _____.

2. Statutory authority to close session (check all provisions that apply).

This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b) only:

(1)___ "To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals"; (2)___ "To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business"; (3)___ "To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto"; (4)___ "To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State"; (5)___ "To consider the investment of public funds"; (6)___ "To consider the marketing of public securities"; (7)___ "To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice"; (8)___ "To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation"; (9)___ "To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations"; (10)___ "To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans"; (11)___ "To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination"; (12) X "To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct"; (13)___ "To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter"; (14)___ "Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process." (15)___ "To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information . . . or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices."

Continued →

3. For each provision checked above, disclosure of the topic to be discussed and the public body's reason for discussing that topic in closed session.

Citation (insert # from above)	Topic	Reason for closed-session discussion of topic
§3-305(b) (12)	Update related to an ongoing investigation	To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct

4. This statement is made by Mayor Janet Simpson, Presiding Officer.

WORKSHEET FOR OPTIONAL USE IN CLOSED SESSION: INFORMATION FOR SUMMARY TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE MINUTES OF THE NEXT OPEN MEETING. (See also template for summary.)

➤ For a meeting closed under the statutory authority cited above:

Time of closed session: _____

Place: _____

Purpose(s): _____

Members who voted to meet in closed session: _____

Persons attending closed session: _____

Authority under § 3-305 for the closed session: _____

Topics actually discussed: _____

Actions taken: _____

Each recorded vote: _____

➤ For a meeting recessed to perform an administrative function (§ 3-104):

Time: _____

Place: _____

Persons present: _____

Subjects discussed: _____

**TOWN OF SNOW HILL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION
ORDINANCE NO.**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapters Section 8 of the Town Charter of Snow Hill, to clarify quorum requirements

SECTION 1: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 8 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 8. Quorum.

A majority of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but no ordinance shall be approved nor any other action taken without the favorable votes of a majority of the whole number of members elected, **INCLUDING THOSE MEMBERS ELECTED PURSUANT TO § 10 OF THIS CHARTER,** to the Council.

**TOWN OF SNOW HILL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION
ORDINANCE NO.**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapters Sections 5 and 16 of the Town Charter of Snow Hill, to clarify eligibility requirements for the Mayor and Council

SECTION 1: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 5 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 5. Qualifications of Councilmembers. [Amended 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14]

- A. Candidates for the Council must have resided in the Town for at least one (1) year prior to their election, and must be a qualified voter of the Town. They shall maintain a permanent residence in the Town during their term of office. Candidates must reside in the voting district in which they are elected to.**
- B. Candidates shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.**
- C. Candidates must not have been convicted at any time [[of a common law felony or]] of any of the following offenses or wrongful acts:**
 - 1 Embezzlement**
 - 2 Bribery**
 - 3 Extortion**
 - 4 Subornation of Perjury**
 - 5 Treason**
 - 6 Perjury**
 - 7 HOMICIDE**
 - 8 RAPE**
 - 9 ROBBERY**
 - 10 BURGLARY**

11 THEFT

12 ARSON

13 A CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF THE SNOW HILL ELECTION CODE

14 OR A CONSPIRACY OR ATTEMPT TO COMMIT ANY OF THE ABOVE UNLAWFUL ACTS

- D. For the purpose of this subsection a conviction shall mean and include a finding of guilt and/or a sentence by the Court of probation before judgment. CONVICTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN EXPUNGED, OR THAT HAVE BEEN PARDONED BY THE GOVERNOR OF ANY STATE, OR BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SHALL NO LONGER BE CONSIDERED CONVICTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. Conviction of one or more of the foregoing offenses after election and/or during a Councilmember's term shall result in disqualification to serve or continue serving as a Councilmember.**

SECTION 2: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 165 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 16. Qualifications of Mayor. [Amended 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14]

- A. Candidates must have resided in the Town for at least one year prior to their election, and must be a qualified voter of the Town. They shall maintain a permanent residence in the Town during their term of office.
- B. Candidates shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- C. Must not have been convicted [[of a common law felony or]] of any of the following offenses or wrongful acts:
 - 1 Embezzlement
 - 2 Bribery
 - 3 Extortion
 - 4 Subornation of Perjury
 - 5 Treason
 - 6 Perjury
 - 7 HOMICIDE
 - 8 RAPE
 - 9 ROBBERY
 - 10 BURGLARY
 - 11 THEFT
 - 12 ARSON
 - 13 A CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF THE SNOW HILL ELECTION CODE
 - 14 OR A CONSPIRACY OR ATTEMPT TO COMMIT ANY OF THE ABOVE UNLAWFUL ACTS
- D. For the purpose of this subsection a conviction shall mean and include a finding of guilt and/or a sentence by the Court of probation before judgment. CONVICTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN EXPUNGED, OR THAT HAVE BEEN PARDONED BY THE GOVERNOR OF ANY STATE, OR BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA SHALL NO

LONGER BE CONSIDERED CONVICTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. Conviction of one or more of the foregoing offenses after election and/or during a Mayor's term shall result in disqualification to serve or continue serving as Mayor.

**TOWN OF SNOW HILL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION
ORDINANCE NO.**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapters Sections 4, 7, 15, 30, 31 and 34 of the Town Charter of Snow Hill, to provide that the Mayor and Council shall set forth the conduct of elections by ordinance

SECTION 1: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 4 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 4. Number, Selection, Term. [Amended 11-9-1999 by Res. No. 1999-6; 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14]

All legislative powers of the Town are vested in a Council consisting of three Councilmembers who shall each be elected as hereinafter provided and who shall each hold office for a term of two (2) years or until the succeeding Councilmember(s) take(s) office. The regular term of a Councilmember shall expire at the regular Council meeting ~~[[in June]]~~ following the CERTIFICATION OF THE election of such Councilmember's successor. Each Councilmember holding office at the time this Charter revision becomes effective shall continue to hold office for the term for which such Councilmember was elected and until a succeeding Councilmember takes office under the provisions of the Charter, as revised.

SECTION 2: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 7 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 7. Meeting of Council. [Amended 8-11-1998 by Res. No. 1998-2; 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14]

Newly elected Council shall meet at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of ~~[[June]]~~ THE MONTH following its election for the purpose of organization, after which the Council shall meet regularly at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month. At the organizational meeting the Mayor shall appoint the Secretary and Treasurer of the Council. Additional meetings may be called by the Mayor, or by the majority of the Council as often as necessary for the transaction of business, provided the proceedings of such meeting are presented at the next regular meeting. All meetings of council shall be open to the public, subject to the provisions of the State Code Open Meetings Act allowing for certain matters to be addressed and discussed during closed sessions of the Mayor and Council. The residents of the Town shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard at any open meeting of the Council in regard to any municipal question or matter.

SECTION 3: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 15 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 15. Selection and Term. [Amended 11-9-1999 by Res. No. 1999-7; 12-13-2011 by Res.

No. 2011-14]

The Mayor shall be elected as hereinafter provided and shall hold office for term of two (2) years or until his successor is elected and qualified. The newly elected Mayor shall take office [[at the June Council meeting]] AT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MONTH following his/her election. The Mayor holding office at the time this Charter revision becomes effective shall continue to hold office for the term for which he was elected and until his successor takes office under the provisions of this Charter.

SECTION 4: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 30 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 30. Filing certification of candidacy. [Amended 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14]

Each person seeking elective office in a Town election must be a qualified candidate and shall file a certificate of candidacy signed by the candidate. Such certificate shall state the following:

- a) The office for which the candidate is seeking election;
- b) The name of the candidate as he or she wishes it to appear on the ballot (to include at least one given name, the initial letter of all other given names, the surname of the candidate, and any applicable nicknames);
- c) The principal residential address of the candidate;
- d) A statement that, as of the date the certificate is submitted, the candidate is a registered voter of the Town and that, as of the date of the election, the candidate will meet all the qualifications required by this Chapter for the elective office for which he or she is a candidate; and
- e) Disclosure of any action involving conflict of interest between candidate and the Town.

A certificate of candidacy shall be received by the Board of Elections Supervisors NO LATER THAN 4:30 PM ON THE 45TH DAY [(before 4:30pm on the last business day-of March)] prior to Town election to which the certificate applies. IF THIS DEADLINE SHALL FALL ON A WEEKEND, HOLIDAY, OR SHOULD THE TOWN OFFICE OTHERWISE BE CLOSED, THEN THE CERTIFICATION OF CANDIDACY SHALL BE DUE BY 4:30 PM ON THE NEXT DAY IN WHICH THE TOWN OFFICE IS OPEN. Any filing fees required by the Code must be presented with the certificate of candidacy. No person shall file for candidacy to more than one elective Town public office or hold more than one elective Town public office at any one time.

Any person seeking candidacy for elected offices with the Town must provide the name and address of their selected Treasurer when submitting their certificate of candidacy. Any certificates presented without this information will not be accepted.

Town employees are disqualified from being candidates, unless they take an unpaid leave of absence upon the filing of the certificate for Town elective office. The unpaid leave of absence shall be terminated upon withdrawal of the candidate's certificate or loss in the election for Town office, whichever event shall first occur. Any Town employee who gains Town elective office shall be terminated as a Town employee upon the assumption of office.

SECTION 5: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 31 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 31. Conduct of Elections. [Amended 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14; 11-12-2014 by Res. No. 2014-03; 5-10-2016 by Res. No. 2016-03]

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL, BY ORDINANCE ADOPTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS CHARTER, SHALL SET FORTH THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE DAY, WEEK, AND MONTH OF ELECTIONS, THE TIME OF ELECTIONS, THE MANNER FOR SELECTING SUITABLE PLACES FOR VOTING AND SUITABLE BALLOTING DEVICES AND PROCEDURES, THE MANNER OF HANDLING AND COUNTING ABSENTEE BALLOTS, AND THE MANNER OF CERTIFYING ELECTIONS, EXCEPT THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL SHALL NOT CHANGE THE DATE OF ELECTIONS MORE THAN ONCE IN ANY FIVE YEAR PERIOD.

ELECTION RESULTS SHALL BE CERTIFIED ON OR BEFORE THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL IN THE MONTH IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING AN ELECTION.

In the event that only one individual file for candidacy for the office of Mayor or the Councilmember of a specific district, that individual shall be considered to be the successful candidate for the applicable office and the scheduled election for that office shall be cancelled. If the election for one office is cancelled under this Provision, the remainder of the ballot, if applicable, shall not be affected and the election for the office remaining on the ballot shall not be cancelled.

SECTION 6: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 7 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 34. Vote Count. [Amended 12-13-2011 by Res. No. 2011-14]

All regular ballots, absentee ballots, and provisional ballots shall be reviewed and counted by the Board of Supervisors of Elections, for each candidate, office, or question, and the results of each election shall be certified by the Board of Supervisors of Elections to the Town Manager and caused to be published and recorded at the regular town meeting in [[June]] THE MONTH following the election.

The candidate for Mayor with the highest number of votes in the general election shall be declared elected as Mayor. The candidate or candidates for Council with the highest number of votes in each general election shall be declared elected as Council members. Each candidate may designate a representative to be present during the entire vote counting process.

**TOWN OF SNOW HILL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION
ORDINANCE NO.**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapters Sections 6 and 17 of the Town Charter of Snow Hill, to establish a salary review commission

SECTION 1: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 6 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 6. Salary of Council members.

- A) Each Councilman shall receive an annual salary which shall be equal for all Councilmen and shall be as specified from time to time by an ordinance passed by the Council and approved by the Electorate at the next general election;**
- B) [[provided, however, that t]] The salary specified at the time any Council takes office shall not be changed during the period for which that Council was elected[[. The ordinance making any change in the salary paid to the several Councilmen, either by way of increase or decrease,]] AND shall take effect only as to the members of the next succeeding Council.**
- C) IF THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE TO THE SALARY OF EITHER THE MAYOR OR COUNCIL WITHIN THE PRIOR TEN (10) YEARS, THEN THE MAYOR SHALL ESTABLISH A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE SALARIES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGARDING THE SAME. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MAY ONLY ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH A) OF THIS SECTION.**

SECTION 2: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 17 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 17. Salary.

- A) The Mayor shall receive an annual salary which shall be as specified from time to time by an ordinance passed by the Council and approved by the Electorate at the**

next general election.

- B) [[: provided, however, that t]] The salary specified at the time any Mayor takes office shall not be changed during the period for which that Mayor was elected[[:. The ordinance making any change in the salary paid to the Mayor, either by way of increase or decrease,]] AND shall take effect only as to the next succeeding Mayor.**

- C) IF THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE TO THE SALARY OF EITHER THE MAYOR OR COUNCIL WITHIN THE PRIOR TEN (10) YEARS, THEN THE MAYOR SHALL ESTABLISH A COMMISSION TO STUDY THE SALARIES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL REGARDING THE SAME. THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL MAY ONLY ADOPT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH A) OF THIS SECTION.**

- D) NOTHING HEREIN SHALL PRECLUDE THE MAYOR FROM ESTABLISHING A SALARY REVIEW COMMISSION EARLIER THAN THE TEN (10) YEARS SET FORTH IN SECTION C.**

**TOWN OF SNOW HILL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION
ORDINANCE NO.**

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapters Section 10 of the Town Charter of Snow Hill, to clarify quorum requirements

SECTION 1: NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND, IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION, that Chapter 8 of the Town Charter shall be amended as follows:

§ 10. Vacancies on the Council.

If a vacancy occurs on the Council because of death, removal, resignation, failure to qualify, or otherwise, the Mayor and remaining Council, EACH OF WHOM SHALL BE ENTITLED TO VOTE, shall, without delay, but within forty-five (45) days, elect a suitable, qualified person to serve until the next regular election. At the next regular election the qualified voters shall elect a person to fill any unexpired term.



African American Heritage Society of Snow Hill and Surrounding Areas
103 N. Bay Street
Snow Hill, MD. 21863
(443) 513 - 6361
snowhillaahs@gmail.com
President, Maria Blake, Ed.D.

Snow Hill Mayor and Town Council

Willow Street Property

Proposal
Heritage Park and Visitor Center

April 30, 2024

Property Information

The property is at 301 Willow Street in Snow Hill, MD. The property owners were Vergie Wilkerson who sold the property on 3/17/1972. Howard Showell purchased the property on 4/30/1985. J.F.D. Rentals, Inc. sold the property on 1/7/2002. The property is currently owned by The Mayor and Town Council. The exact date of when the property was built is unknown at this time. There are no known alterations completed in the past. The property consists of three vacant apartment buildings. The apartments have been unoccupied for about 40 years and have deteriorated significantly.

Historical Significance

The attraction of the Pocomoke River flows nearby. A bustling port of Schooners and later Steamboats sailed up and down the royal port carrying passengers, goods, and freight services. The boats made local stops as well as traveled to far-away destinations. A line of steamers was established connecting Baltimore with several routes to Newtown (Pocomoke), Onancock, and Crisfield. The steamer *EUREKA* was launched in 1864, which made weekly trips from the terminal in Snow Hill. Other steamers, such as the steamer *POCOMOKE* also made weekly stops in Snow Hill. (Worcester County, Maryland's Arcadia by Truitt, Reginald V., 1891; Les Callette, Millard G., joint authors; Worcester County Historical Society).

Union soldiers sailed along the Pocomoke River to Snow Hill. The steamboat "John Tracey, with a troupe of African American soldiers in full uniform paraded through the streets of Snow Hill in fine order with gleaming bayonets fixed (Bob Jones's Worcester Chronicles, Worcester County, MD. Inside Kirk Mariner "Slave and Free in Virginia", 2014). African American freedmen and the enslaved left the plantations of Snow Hill, Girdletree, Stockton, Berlin, and Pocomoke to join the Union Army to fight in the Civil War.

There were notable industries on the riverfront that grew and prospered. Richardson, Smith, Moore, and Lumber Company dominated the waterfronts as the County's largest employer (Julia A. Purnell Museum.org). There was a Brickyard which was a production of bricks in the vicinity. In 1908, the Farmers Fertilizer Company convened to build a fertilizer factory by the river. The company manufactured first-grade fertilizer adapted to the soil and crops of Worcester County and other counties in Maryland (Democratic Messenger, Saturday, December 12, 1908). In 1913, the Fertilizer factory was in operation. It was a period in history when the traffic on the river lasted for several decades. A three-masted schooner transported raw materials for the plant. The company operated until World War II afterward its business declined until 1974 when it ceased to operate (Worcester County, Maryland's Arcadia by Truitt, Reginald V., 1891; Les Callette, Millard G., joint authors; Worcester County Historical Society).

Willow Street apartments were in the center of the African American community, which was considered uptown. Families who lived in the apartments were descendants of enslaved or freed African Americans in Snow Hill and surrounding areas. They were raised with extended families, such as grandmothers, or were of nuclear families as well as senior residents. At one time, African Americans represented about 90% of the close-knit community. They were homeowners as well as renters. Some worked at the nearby industries.

The area was in the hub of cultural events. Around the corner was Masonic Hall. Masonic Hall was the gathering place for African Americans. It was the center of social attraction. Masonic Hall was once a movie theatre for African Americans. In 1946, Clemon Outten was granted a permit by the Snow Hill City Council to build the Outten "Colored" Theatre in Snow Hill on Commerce Street (which was formerly known as Strawberry Alley). It was established during a time of segregation and discrimination. The theatre was closed in 1950. The Theatre was purchased by Howard Showell a notable figure in the community around 1955 and attracted famous or upcoming African American singers to Masonic Hall as part of the Chitlin Circuit. In addition, Masonic Hall became a safe place for youth to participate in a physical fitness program. Over 100 youth who resided in Snow Hill and elsewhere participated in the fitness program. In 1965, The Prince Hall Masonic Lodge #105 purchased the building. During that time, the building was used to host the Masonic Lodge monthly meetings according to their ceremonies and rituals. The Masonic Lodge sponsored community and cultural events that were held at Masonic Hall.

The site was in a vibrant commercial vicinity. African American restaurants, barber shops, or hair salons were within walking distance. Evelyn's restaurant was regularly visited by all. It was called Village Inn. There were mom-and-pop shops and grocery stores. For example, Jack Dill, Harrison, and Goodman's clothing store.

Proposed Property Description

Heritage Park and Visitor Center

The development of a Heritage Park and Visitor Center will be planned for the property of 301 Willow Street. The Heritage Park will be in an area of cultural and historical significance. The purpose is to preserve the area and revitalize or rejuvenate the community. Heritage Park will be nestled in an open space with flowers, trees, and bushes where the community can enjoy a quiet scenic atmosphere. In addition, children will be able to observe and learn about plants and species. Also, the Park will include a pavilion, benches, and a mural along with African American heritage signs of notable people or events.

A Visitor's Center will be constructed to allow people to learn more about African American Heritage in Worcester County, Maryland, and the Nation. The Visitor's Center will offer books, brochures, and pamphlets. Walking tour guides will be available to uncover the history of Snow Hill and surrounding areas. A variety of merchandise will be available for tourists. Also, there will be office spaces or rooms allocated for community meetings, cultural and environmental programs, youth activities, and a venue for community speakers, exhibits, and the fine arts.

Landscape and Design

The actual landscape and design of Heritage Park are not available currently. The planning process will entail consulting with an architect, environmental agencies, and other experts in the field. The landscape will include Native Herbaceous Plantings. Moreover, the

landscape will incorporate the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for Maryland Coastal Bays goals that will include, but not limited to the following:

WQ 1. 3 Decrease nutrient loading throughout the watershed.

WQ Improve understanding and protection of groundwater resources.

FW 3.2 Conserve and enhance forestry areas with multiple ecosystem benefits.

FW 3.3 Characterize, monitor, and protect birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, insects and plant communities indigenous to the watershed & Coastal Bays.

Construction

The construction start date has not been determined. The development phase will start pending the funding of awards/grants. An awarded construction firm will provide an analysis of the process. The construction process will be completed in phases.

Funding Sources

A variety of funding sources will be considered for the development of a Heritage Park and Visitor Center that will include the following:

- Local Grants
- Maryland's Community Parks and Playground
- African American Heritage Preservation Grant
- Environmental Grants
- USDA Grants

The approximate Budget is not available currently.

Public Benefit

The mission of the project is to preserve the heritage and culture of African Americans in Snow Hill and surrounding areas, Worcester County, Maryland, and the Nation. The Heritage Park and Visitor Center will be open to the public and made accessible to people with disabilities. Information about the site will be shared in many ways, for example, tourist offices and heritage centers, libraries, social media, churches, businesses, newsletters, etc. The site will offer heritage signs about notable African Americans and events. Additionally, the site will provide guest speakers and lectures about African Americans' history and culture. Also, the site will offer educational activities for children and youth, such as Griot storytelling, Kwanzaa Celebration, and guest appearances. The site will be a model for other communities who wish to promote the heritage and culture of African Americans in their community.

African American Heritage Society of Snow Hill and Surrounding Areas has started to get thoughts and input from former and current residents in the neighborhood of Willow Street. Community input will be on-going, and feedback will be gathered via surveys and resident conversations.

Partners

University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES)

USDA Land Trust

Department of Natural Resources

Town of Snow Hill

Beach to Bays

Maryland Coastal Bays Program

Main Street

Pending Timeline

Preliminary Interest Meeting – April 30, 2024

Phase I

Apply for Grants – Spring 2024 – 2025

Construction Planning – Spring 2024

Landscape and Design Planning – Spring 2024

Phase II:

Construction Company Bid 2024 – 2025

Landscape and Design Planning – 2024 – 2025

Meetings with Consultants– 2024 -2025



LIBER 3217 FOLIO 117

This Deed, made this 7th day of JANUARY, 2002 from JFD RENTALS, INC., hereinafter called Grantor, to MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF SNOW HILL, a Maryland Corporation, hereinafter called Grantee, WITNESSETH:

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), the said JFD RENTALS, INC does hereby grant and convey unto MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF SNOW HILL, a Maryland Corporation, its successors and assigns, all of the following described property:

ALL that lot or parcel of land situate, lying and being situate in the Town of Snow Hill, Second Election District, of Worcester County, Maryland designated as 301, 303 and 305 Willow Street, Snow Hill, Maryland, being more particularly described as follows: BEGINNING for the same at a cement boulder set in the ground five feet southeasterly of the curb line on the southeasterly side of Willow Street aforesaid and at the west corner of Lot No. 2 as indicated on the plat entitled "Plat of Mill and Adjacent Property - Horace G. Payne estate, Snow Hill, Maryland" made and surveyed by William D. Pitts, Registered Surveyor, June 2, 1959, and recorded among the land records of Worcester County, Maryland, in Liber F.W.H. No. 124, at folio 44, with a deed unto said Vergie A. Wilkerson and Dorsey E. Wilkerson, her late husband, as tenants by the entireties, from Nellie B. Payne, widow, et al, dated July 14, 1959, and recorded among the aforesaid land records in Liber F.W.H. No. 124, folios 27 et. seq., and running thence from said point of beginning by and with the southwesterly lines of lots Nos. 2, 3, and 4 on said plat South 26 degrees 57' East the distance of 108.80 feet to another cement boulder set in the ground on the northwesterly line of the property now or formerly of Fred W. Seiling and wife, and at the south corner of lot no. 4 on the aforesaid plat; thence running by and with a fence and the lots of said Fred W. Seiling and wife and of a certain Paul Joyner, South 64 degrees 15' West the distance of 103.10 feet to a post located on the line of the property now or formerly of Francis M. and Alice T. Truitt; thence running by and with said Truitt property and by and with a fence line for part of the way North 23 degrees 24' West the distance of 107.60 feet to another cement boulder set in the ground five feet southwesterly of the curb line of Willow Street aforesaid; thence running by and with the southeasterly side of said Willow Street North 63 degrees 40' East 96.50 feet to the place of beginning, and

BEING all and the same property conveyed unto the said JFD Rentals, Inc., a

MAIL TO: Mayor & Council of Snow Hill
P.O. Box 348
Snow Hill, MD. 21863

2002 JAN -7 PM 2:19
STEPHEN V. HALES
CLK. CT. CT
KDR. CO

FILED

Maryland Corporation, from Howard Showell by deed dated April 30, 1985 and recorded among the aforesaid land records in Liber 1082, folio 601; and

BEING also Lot 1 on a plat recorded among the said land records in Liber F.W.H. No. 124, folio 44.

TOGETHER WITH the buildings and improvements thereon being and erected and all rights, ways, waters, privileges, appurtenances and advantages thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining.

TO HAVE TO HOLD the above granted and conveyed property unto the said MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF SNOW HILL, a Maryland Corporation, its successors and assigns.

AND the grantor does hereby covenant that they will warrant specially the property hereby conveyed; and that they will execute such other and further assurances of the same as may be requisite or necessary.

AS WITNESS, the hand and seal of said grantor as of the day and year first above written.

WITNESS:

JFD RENTALS, INC.

John E. King

By: Candice M. Dine (SEAL)
PRESIDENT

STATE OF MARYLAND, COUNTY OF WORCESTER, TO WIT:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 7th day of JANUARY, 2002 before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared PRESIDENT-CANDICE M. DINE of JFD Rentals, Inc. as an act of the Corporation and further acknowledged that this transaction is not a sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the said Corporation.

AS WITNESS, my hand and Notarial Seal.

John E. King
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 7-1-2005

TAXES FOR WHICH ASSESSMENTS
HAVE BEEN RECEIVED HAVE BEEN
PAID AS OF THIS DATE 1/7/02
WORCESTER COUNTY FINANCE OFFICER
BY: [Signature]
EXCEPT PERSONAL PROPERTY

TRANSFER TAX NOT REQUIRED
FINANCE OFFICER
WORCESTER COUNTY MARYLAND
By: [Signature]
Date: 1/7/02

State of Maryland Land Instrument Intake Sheet

Baltimore City County: WORCESTER

Information provided is for the use of the Clerk's Office, State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and County Finance Office only

Form with sections 1-11 including Type of Instruments, Conveyance Type, Tax Exemptions, Consideration and Tax Calculations, Fees, Description of Property, Transferred From/To, Other Names to Be Indexed, Contact/Mail Information, and Assessment Information.

WORCESTER COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT (Land Records) SVH 3217, p. 0120 MSA_CE31_3384 Date available 07/29/2003 Printed 11/15/2023

Space Reserved for Circuit Court Clerk Recording

Space Reserved for County Validators

Distribution: White - Clerk's Office, Canary - SDAT, Pink - Office of Finance, Goldwood - Preparer, AOC-CC-300 (8/84)

based upon the square footage delineated in Subsection D(3) above.

- (7) In the event that a dwelling, multifamily dwelling, nondwelling or restaurant and fast-food establishment as defined above is modified to a greater use, then the hookup charge will be computed as stated above with a credit given for the preexisting condition of the building.
- (8) The cost for sewer hookup fees will remain at the reduced rate of 50% charge for a period not exceed one year, beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022. The fee reduction shall expire on its own terms ending June 30, 2022 and the water and sewer hookup fee in effect as of the passage of this resolution will become effective.

[Added 4-9-2019 by Res. No. 2019-03; amended 7-13-2021 by Res. No. 2021-04]

- C. Late payment charges. Sewer bills not paid within 30 days shall be assessed a penalty of 1.5% of balance due and 1.5% each 30 days thereafter.

§ 131-6. Municipal infractions.

- A. Abandoned vehicles: \$100. (See Chapter 182, Vehicles, Abandoned.)
- B. Illegal lawn watering: \$25 (first offense); \$50 (second offense). (See Chapter 193, Water and Sewers.)
- C. Dog control: \$25 (first offense); \$50 (second offense). (See Chapter 48, Animals, Article I.)
- D. Tractor-trailer: \$100.
- E. Housing Code: \$400. (See Chapter 101, Housing Standards.)
- F. Cutting of grass: costs, plus \$25. (See Chapter 53, Brush, Grass and Weeds.)
- G. No-parking violations: \$25. (See Resolution No. 101.)

§ 131-7. Miscellaneous licenses and fees.

- A. Candidate filing fee: \$25.
- B. Solicitation permit: \$25.
- C. Circus license: \$50.
- D. License for other shows and public events: \$50.
- E. Sediment control permit: \$25.
- F. Copies of official audit: \$10.
- G. Copying, per page: \$0.25.
- H. Landlord registration and rental permit fee: \$100.
[Amended 5-12-2020 by Res. No. 2020-02]

§ 131-8. Docking fees.

- A. Each boat, vessel, yacht or ship which docks at any waterfront property owned by the Town of Snow Hill shall be subject to the following fees:
 - (1) Per day: \$10.
 - (2) Per month: \$150.

- (3) Per year: \$350.

§ 131-9. Lot assessment rates.

A. Buildable lot:

- (1) Improved/unimproved: \$180.
- (2) More than one building: \$180 each building which is inhabited by human beings or is used as a commercial or industrial workplace.

B. Multifamily dwelling:

- (1) One building up to 10 apartments: \$180.
- (2) Each apartment thereafter: \$18.

C. Out-of-Town customers:

- (1) With water and sewer: \$180.
- (2) With water only: \$90.

D. The following lots are exempted from the lot assessment:

- (1) Parking lot: a permanently surfaced area of one or more parking spaces designated or used for the parking of self-propelled vehicles and available to the public, whether for a fee or as an accommodation to clients or occupants, and used in conjunction with a business or industry.

§ 131-10. Rental fees.

[Added 11-14-2000 by Res. No. 2000-7; amended 6-8-2004 by Ord. No. 2004-3; 4-12-2011 by Ord. No. 2011-01; 4-9-2019 by Res. No. 2019-04]

Each person or group who desires to rent a park, park facility, or Town facility shall be subject to the following fees:

A. Train station.

Rental	Fee	Deposit
Religious service	Free	None
Religious event	\$75	\$50
Nonprofit	\$75	\$50
General public M-TH	\$75	\$50
General public F-SU	\$150	\$50

B. Parks.

Rental	Fee	Deposit
Religious service	Free	None
Religious event	\$75	\$50
Nonprofit	\$75	\$50
General public M-TH	\$100	\$50
General public F-SU	\$175	\$50

C. Band stand.