

TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND
Life on the River

TOWN MEETING

MARCH 12, 2019

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held at the Train Station at 200 Belt Street on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 with Mayor Steve Mathews presiding and was called to order at 7:00pm.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Steve Mathews
Councilwoman LaToya Purnell
Councilwoman Jenny Hall

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Kelly Pruitt, Town Manager
Trish Goodsell, Assistant Town Manager
Lounell Hamstead, Finance Manager
Jon Hill, Code Enforcement Officer
Jordy Kuczak, Economic Development/Events Coordinator
Randy Barfield, Public Works Director
Cindy Byrd, Museum Director
Edward Schreier, Interim Chief of Police

SALUTE TO THE FLAG / INVOCATION

Mayor Mathews called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by an invocation led by Sylvester Bratten.

OPENING COMMENTS

Mayor Mathews welcomed everyone to the meeting. He advised that Councilwoman Gadoua was absent with a sick child. He also stated that he would not be entertaining any discussion on matters with Toy Town and a court date has been scheduled for April 5th.

ATLANTIC GENERAL HOSPITAL – ANNUAL REPORT

AGH President Michael Franklin presented the hospital’s annual report to the Mayor and Council. Some questions and topics discussed from the audience were:

- The cancer center – they are seeing more patients now that they have better access and treatment and anticipate growth over time
- Cancer doctors from other areas can be utilized with Tele-Medicine

MEETING MINUTES

A motion was given to approve the Town Meeting minutes for February 2019 by Councilwoman Hall and was seconded by Councilwoman Purnell. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was carried. The results of the vote were: 1 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Resident Carolyn Brown questioned why the receivables were now lumped into miscellaneous, when before they were detailed. Mrs. Hamstead explained they were trying to keep the report to one page and after adding accounts payable they made a miscellaneous receivables line item. Mrs. Brown stated she felt the revenue from the speed cameras was interesting and Mrs. Hamstead advised the town received \$2500 in February from camera citations.

A motion was given to approve the Finance Report for February 2019 by Councilwoman Purnell and was seconded by Councilwoman Hall. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was carried. The results of the vote were: 2 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

No questions or comments.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mrs. Kuczak advised that a rebranding meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2019 at 5:30pm, where On Point Marketing will present 4 concept logo and slogan ideas for public feedback.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Mayor Mathews advised that the scaffolding for in front of Toy Town will be installed tomorrow. Resident Cindy Pritchard questioned the cost of the scaffolding, which was \$1800 plus cost of lumber. She then questioned if tax payers could use the scaffolding since they are essentially who paid for it. Mayor Mathews responded that she had an interesting point and staff would need to check with the town's insurance company regarding liability.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Mr. Barfield advised that residents are seeing flags in their yards due to Miss Utility locate requests. Sandpiper Energy is inspecting gas lines and the town has to locate the water/sewer lines prior to their work. Resident Fran Price questioned when the town would get natural gas installed. Mr. Barfield responded they are working their way toward Snow Hill but it will be a while.

Mt. Barfield reminded residents of the Spring Town Clean Up Day scheduled for April 1, 2019.

WWTP REPORT

No questions or comments.

MUSEUM REPORT

No questions or comments.

POLICE REPORT

Mayor Mathews complimented Lt. Schreier on doing a great job. The Town is in the process of post-employment requirements for a new Chief and hope to have everything completed with the new candidate within a month.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Resident Carolyn Brown asked Trish Goodsell if any other residents had an issue with their income survey results being returned to them. Mrs. Goodsell responded there had been no other incidents and went on to explain that the survey was no longer needed, as DHCD has refigured Snow Hill and returned the town to a low-to-moderate income status. This status allows the town to apply for grant funding for water and sewer projects that include paving.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Ordinance No. 2019-01** **Mayor's Salary** **Introduction**

This Ordinance would amend Chapter 27-4, Section A, regarding Mayor's salary. It would change the salary from \$2400 to \$7000. If adopted, it would be added to the ballot at the May election and if a majority of votes cast were in favor it would be adopted.

2. **Ordinance No. 2019-02** **Council's Salary** **Introduction**

This Ordinance would amend Chapter 27-4, Section A, regarding Council's salary. It would change the salary from \$1800 to \$4000. Central and Western District Council would be effective in June 2019 and Eastern District Council would be effective in June 2020. If adopted, it would be added to the ballot at the May election and if a majority of votes cast were in favor it would be adopted.

3. Resident Fran Price questioned if the Mayor and Council were covered by insurance if they were sued. Mayor Mathews advised that the town insurance policy covers them.

4. **Snow Hill Library Committee – Funding Request**

Betsy Gravenor- Stacy was present from the Snow Hill Library and advised the committee approved the requests being submitted today.

Resident Dick Thompson asked that Mrs. Stacy explain the Riley fund. Mrs. Stacy advised that Beulah Riley left instructions in her Will that monies be given to the Snow Hill Library and managed by the Town. The money was invested and the library committee requests funding each year.

Resident Edward Lee stated there had been strong controversy in the past with the committee members and feels it should be reverted to the intent of the Will.

Resident Richard Mitchell questioned if these funds cause reduction in County monies. Mrs. Stacy advised it does not, as the money from the Will is to be used on what the County will not pay for.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

No comments or questions.

COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR

The audio recordings of the meetings will now be on the town website. Staff is researching cameras for the future.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

1. Edward Lee wanted two points on the record:
 - Can a business owner who lives in the zip code of 21863 but not in the town limits run for elected office? The answer is no.
 - Can a person run for elected office if they do not live in the district they file for? The answer is no for Council members; those running for Mayor must live in the corporate limits of Snow Hill.
2. Cindy Pritchard questioned if persons can serve on committees if elected to office. The response was that once elected, the person would resign from the committee they serve.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was given to adjourn the meeting by Councilwoman Hall.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Trish Goodsell, Assistant Town Manager