

TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND
Life on the River

WORK SESSION

May 28, 2019

A Work Session of the Mayor and Town Council of Snow Hill, Maryland was held at the Train Station on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 with Mayor Steve Mathews presiding and called to order at 4:30pm.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mayor Steve Mathews; Councilwoman Alison Gadoua, Councilwoman LaToya Purnell; and Councilwoman Jenny Hall

STAFF PRESENT

Trish Goodsell, Assistant Town Manager

TOM AYD – DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Ayd was not present at the meeting. Mayor Mathews advised that Mr. Ayd is asking for the town's support for a development he is proposing on Belt Street. Mayor Mathews provided the income brackets for rentals and the maximum rent which will be charged. Councilwoman Gadoua added they plan to rehab Heritage Court.

Trish Goodsell, Assistant to the Town Manager informed the Council of notes she took when she met with the developer. She explained that during the rehab of Heritage Court, the developer will provide temporary housing or a stipend if they find housing. He plans to add a community center and connection from Belt Street to Purnell Street. Mrs. Goodsell explained they discussed the traffic issues on Purnell Street and the stormwater ditch issues.

Gary Weber said there is a lot of unsatisfactory housing in town and questioned if they should address them by seeing if the developer will first offer opportunities to tenants that currently live in bad rental units. Mayor Mathews responded they can speak with the developer to see but there may be state mandated procedure that dictates how rentals are handled.

Councilwoman Gadoua was able to locate a phone number for Mr. Ayd. He will be at the next work session to discuss his plans.

Mayor Mathews advised that the Mayor and Council will need to decide on approving the letter of support at the next town meeting.

Melisa Weidner commented that the way things are marketed is important, stating there should be stipulations on how properties are maintained. She added that the income isn't as much a factor as maintenance. She questioned if the town can put in stipulations on upkeep. Councilwoman Gadoua responded yes and added they visited other properties and know they have managers who ensure property management. Ms. Weidner added she would like to see his other properties to see how they are maintained.

TRASH TRUCK

Staff applied for a grant from USDA to be used toward the purchase of a trash truck and was denied. Mayor Mathews added we might not get approval for police cars anymore moving forward. He stated that monthly payments have been included for financing in this coming year's budget. He suggested the town pay for half and finance the remainder.

Mrs. Goodsell added that USDA advised the town has too much money in surplus. She added that the trash truck needed to be replaced, which is why it was ordered before grant approval.

Ms. Weidner questioned who is responsible for finding financing. Mayor Mathews responded it is the Town Manager.

TOWN MEETING

Mayor Mathews advised he would swear in the new elected officials, but Mrs. Goodsell advised that the Clerk of Court will be present to do the swearing in.

Business cards for the new officials will be ordered. Mr. Weber and Ms. Weidner elected not to take the town-issued phones but Ms. Weidner questioned if the town will pay toward her phone. Mrs. Goodsell told Council we pay \$50 stipend to some staff members and the Council agreed to pay the stipend to both of them.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mathews adjourned the work session at 5:05pm.

Respectfully submitted: Trish Goodsell, Asst. to Town Manager