



Mayor and Council Town Meeting

Snow Hill Train Station, Belt Street, Snow Hill, Maryland

Tuesday, January 12, 2009 7:00pm

Town Officials Present: Mayor Stephen Mathews, Council President Eric Mullins,
Council Person Gerald Shockley, Council Person Rebecca Bowman

Opening Comments:

- Mayor Mathews thanked everyone for attending.

Commendations:

Dick DeAngelis:

- The Mayor and Council presented a Commendation to Dick DeAngelis for his years of service to the Snow Hill Historic District Commission. Commission President Bob Fisher and Karen Houtman, Town Planner presented Mr. DeAngelis with the 2009 Snow Hill Preservation Award (tray) for his dedication.

Karen Houtman:

- The Mayor and Council presented Karen Houtman with a Commendation for her design and construction of the 2010 US Census parade float. Town Hall and Public Works staff was recognized for their assistance with this project.

Proclamations:

Mayor Mathews read a Proclamation announcing that February 2010 is Black History Month and will be recognized in the Town of Snow Hill.

SHOP LOCAL-SHOP SNOW HILL Drawing:

The winner of the \$100 in Snow Hill "Bucks" for December was **Will Smith**. Due to the tremendous response, five drawings were done for \$20 each in Snow Hill "Bucks". The winners of those drawings were:

- **Linda Shockley of Snow Hill, Maryland**
- **Beverly Mason of Snow Hill, Maryland**
- **C.W. Pilchard of Snow Hill, Maryland**
- **Lola Bradford of Snow Hill, Maryland**
- **Laurie Kucinski of Willards, Maryland**

Fire Department Report: *Presented by Ray Wooten, Fire Chief*

Chief Wooten apologized for not attending the recent town meetings and thanked Councilman Eric Mullins for presenting the report in his absence. The Fire Department has been involved with finalizing the Eastern Shore Gas trial.

- 13 Fire Alarm responses: 7 MVA, 2 automatic fire alarms, and 3 structure fires
- 72 EMS Calls
- All fire hoses were tested, resulting in only 300 feet not working adequately of the 7000 feet tested. The 300 feet of hose in question was donated to the Snow Hill Public Works Department.
- Chief Wooten will be recovering from back surgery over the next three months. Billy Heiser will be assisting him with every activity except for administrative work.

Approval of Minutes:

- There were no questions or corrections.

MOTION: A motion to approve the December 2009 minutes as written was given by Rebecca Bowman. Erin Mullins seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Financial Report: *Presented by Erin Morton, Finance Manager*

- Rebecca Bowman questioned which business was over 90 days past due for septage billing
 - Erin advised Council that this figure was more than one company and they anticipate collection very soon.

MOTION: A motion to approve the financial report as written was given by Rebecca Bowman. Gerald Shockley seconded the motion and the report was unanimously approved.

Town Manager Report: *Kelly Brewington, Town Manager, was absent.*

- Resident Kathy Fisher requested typographical error correction under Byrd Park Bandstand; states “We are currently waiting to see if the area will dry enough to proceed”. A change from “if” to “when” will be made to the file copy.

Public Works Report: *Presented by Charlie Dorman, Public Works Supervisor*

- Mayor Mathews complimented Public Works on their work during the snow and ice.

Wastewater/Water Report: *Presented by Frank Daniels, Superintendent of Water/Wastewater*

- Mayor Mathews commended Frank Daniels for doing an excellent job.

Planning and Zoning Report: *Presented by Karen Houtman, Planner*

- Karen Houtman highlighted that the Snow Hill Comprehensive Plan is moving forward, with a required completion date of April 1, 2010 based on the extension provided by the Maryland Department of Planning.
 - Draft copies will be online hopefully tomorrow; copies are available at the Library and Town Hall.
 - Public Hearing will be held on January 26th at the Train Station at 7pm
- Resident Edward Lee read a letter into record that he e-mailed to the Mayor and Council regarding his concerns over aspects of the Comprehensive Plan.
 - Mr. Lee is concerned that Joe Ingolia, when at the last work session, stated the Comprehensive Plan will be “vague”.
 - Mayor Mathews advised Mr. Lee that Council Member Bowman had responded to his e-mail and that a letter had been mailed to his residence in response to his complaint regarding the Planning Commission.

Museum Report: *Presented by Claire Otterbein, Director of the Julia A. Purnell Museum.*

- Charlie Dorman advised that Public Works installed a new thermostat at the Museum today.

Public Safety Report: *Presented Chief Kirk Daugherty*

- Chief Daugherty reported that Snow Hill Police were involved in a chase of a 16 year old female driver, resulting in the arrest of the 15 year old male passenger for CDS possession.
- Due to the recent Sarah Foxwell incident, awareness has increased regarding the safety of children.
 - Chief Daugherty provided crime tips, copies of registered sex offender pictures, and a map showing their locations.
 - The Chief thanked Council Woman Rebecca Bowman, Officer Shae Waters, and Trish Greene for their assistance.
- The Police Department is working with Gerald Shockley to generate a bike rodeo for children in the spring 2010.

- David Catrino has been selected for the position of Police Officer and should be on shift within the next ten days.
- Rebecca Bowman thanked Mayor Mathews for his involvement with the “Bless Our Children” program on WBOC.

Old Business:

- None discussed.

New Business:

- Resolution No. 2010-01 Personnel Regulations – Drivers Licenses
 - This resolution is to amend the Snow Hill Personnel Regulations to include a requirement that all Town employees have a minimum of a Class C driver’s license
 - Resident Carolyn Brown suggested adding “valid” for required drivers licensing. This wording was added to the document.
 - Resident Mike Pruitt asked if this violated any ACLU issues; this is a standard requirement in most personnel regulations.
 - Resident Edward Lee asked if the employees that are grandfathered in will be affected by their lack of licensing when a personnel matter arises; Mayor Mathews replied that they would not be affected.

MOTION: A motion to approve the Resolution was given by Rebecca Bowman. Gerald Shockley seconded the motion and the vote to approve the Resolution was unanimous.

- Karen Houtman announced that a Landowners Conference is scheduled for March 6, 2010, sponsored by Worcester County. The fee to attend is \$6.

Open Discussion:

- Resident Clinton Creasy received a mailing regarding storm drains affecting fishing. He will make sure to provide Frank Daniels with a copy to review.
- Resident Carolyn Brown asked if an Ethics Committee has been appointed. Mayor Mathews responded that yes, a committee has been appointed.
- Resident Kathy Fisher questioned the new fishing regulations and how that will affect shore fishing, etc.
 - Mayor Mathews asked Trish Greene to research and report back to Mrs. Fisher
- Resident Edward Lee asked for the date of the court matter with David Suznavick and the Election Board
 - The court date has been moved forward to January 26, 2010 for an oral argument.
 - Mr. Lee requested this matter be discussed at the January 19th work session. This will be put on the agenda.
- Councilman Gerald Shockley informed everyone that he will be opening his schedule for one day per week to be at Town Hall to obtain factual information, etc.
 - He is planning for every Tuesday but it may fluctuate

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

The minutes for January 12, 2009 were completed by Trish Greene, Assistant to the Town Manager.