

# TOWN OF SNOW HILL, MARYLAND

*Life on the River*

**TOWN MEETING**

**JANUARY 12, 2016**

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, January 12, 2016 with Mayor John C. Dorman presiding and was called to order at 7:00pm.

## **PUBLIC OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mayor John C. Dorman; Councilwoman Alison Cook; and Councilwoman Jenny Hall

## **STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Kelly Pruitt, Town Manager; Trish Goodsell, Asst. to the Town Manager; Karen Houtman, Town Planner; Randy Barfield, Public Works Director; John Holloway, EMS Captain; Cynthia Byrd, Executive Director, Julia Purnell Museum; and James Pilchard, Chief of Police

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## **SALUTE TO THE FLAG / INVOCATION**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by the invocation by Reverend Trish Goodsell.

## **MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was given to approve the Town Meeting minutes for December 2015 by Councilwoman Cook 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.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

A motion was given to approve the December 2015 Financial Report by Councilwoman Hall and was seconded by Councilwoman Cook. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was carried. The results of the vote were: 2 in favor; 0 opposed.

## **TOWN MANAGER REPORT**

No questions/comments.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

No questions. Michael Day was absent.

## **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Randy Barfield made a correction to his report, stating that Martin Street asphalt that will be completed by the end of the month is only the base coat. The rest will be finalized once the plant re-opens.

## **WWTP REPORT**

No questions/comments

## **PLANNING & ZONING REPORT**

No questions/comments

**MUSEUM REPORT**

No questions/comments

**FIRE / EMS REPORT**

John advised that they have re-applied for the heart monitor grant.

**POLICE REPORT**

No questions/comments

**OLD BUSINESS**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Library Funding Request**

The Library representatives presented their budget request at the last work session. They are requesting \$130,500 from the Beulah Riley account.

A motion was given to approve the funding request by Councilwoman Cook 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.

**2. Business Loan – Larissa McAllister**

A loan application was submitted for \$10,000 to open The Daily Brew coffee house in the old Emporium building. Ms. McAllister will use appraised jewelry as collateral. She has also applied for a VOLT loan.

A motion was given to approve the loan application for Larissa McAllister by Councilwoman Cook 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.

**3. Business Loan – Mark Schramek**

A loan application was submitted for \$20,000 to open Oldtown Candy Company in the building next to the Corner Shoppe. Mr. Schramek will use a 2004 boat and 2009 Volkswagen vehicle as collateral. He will be selling ice cream and candy.

A motion was given to approve the loan application for Mark Schramek by Councilwoman Cook 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.

**4. Ordinance No. 2016-02**

**Moratorium**

Karen Houtman, Town Planner read the Ordinance into record. This Ordinance issues a moratorium on all townhomes and multi-family dwellings until the approval of the Comprehensive Rezoning Plan. This Ordinance will be presented for adoption at the February town meeting, following a public hearing.

**5. Ordinance No. 2016-03**

**Moratorium – Emergency**

This Ordinance mirrors Ordinance No. 2016-02 but allows adoption immediately on an emergency basis and will remain in effect until the adoption of Ordinance No. 2016-02.

A motion was given to approve Ordinance by Councilwoman Cook 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.

**6. Ordinance No. 2016-01**

**Vacant Building Regulations**

This Ordinance adds a new Chapter to the Town Code, establishing regulations for vacant residential and commercial properties. It will require annual registration and maintenance; inspections; paying of fees; violations and penalties.

This Ordinance will be presented for adoption at the next town meeting. A Public Hearing on this matter is scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 6pm at the Train Station.

**COMMENTS FROM THE MAYOR**

1. Mayor Dorman, Councilman Pruitt and Michael Day visited Bryson City, NC to experience the scenic trains. Mayor Dorman reported that there were 13 cars running with 600 attendees per night. He hopes that the rail events company will select Snow Hill as their next location.
2. The Mayor's Prayer breakfast is being held on Friday, January 15, 2016 from 7am-9am in Ocean City. Mayor Dorman will be reading scripture at this event.

**COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL**

No comments/questions

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

1. Judi Menavich clarified that the trains Mayor Dorman spoke about was the same project being discussed that went from Snow Hill to Newark. Mayor Dorman confirmed this is the same project but they are considering Snow Hill to Berlin instead.

Carolyn Brown asked if the State would have a problem with the train crossing Route 113 and stopping traffic. Mayor Dorman responded that the State does not have a problem with it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, Mayor Dorman adjourned the meeting at 7:33pm.

Respectfully submitted: Trish Goodsell, Asst. to Town Manager