

March 21, 2017

Present

Commissioners Roy Myers, Michael Bibb, William Boos, Joyce Harrod, and Jaime Windon, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Finance Clerk Katherine Eglseder, Administrative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, and no members of the public.

Call to Order

President Myers called to order the special public working session on the FY 18 budget at 10:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the Edgar M. Bosley, Jr. Municipal Building, 300 Mill Street, St. Michaels, Maryland, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Special Working Session on the Budget-Fiscal Year 2018

President Myers called upon Town Manager Jean Weisman to provide an overview of the budget process. President Myers noted the Commissioners would have a Closed Session at the end of this meeting to discuss personnel issues as they relate to the budget. Mrs. Weisman outlined the general budget requirements of the Town's administration, and the Commissioners then discussed possible cost cutting ideas, and COLA, Pension and payroll obligations.

- **Tourism**

Communications Manager Kimberly Weller made a presentation on Tourism, followed by a discussion among the Commissioners regarding advertising and tracking visitors to the Town.

Closed Session

The Commissioners then took a ten minute break, after which President Myers called for a motion to move into Closed Session. Commissioner Boos made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Windon, and which passed on a roll call vote of 5-0 in favor.

Open Session

The Commissioners re-convened the public meeting at 1:30 p.m. and generally discussed personnel, and the possibility of increasing taxes to cover increased costs in policing, public works projects, and the potential for replacement buildings for the town office and police station.

- **Community Requests**

President Myers introduced Mary Lou McAlister and Beverly Pratt, who made a funding request on behalf of SMASH, the after school reading program. Their presentation was followed by a funding request from the Talbot County Arts Council.

- **Public Works**

Public Works Director Jeff Richardson then outlined two projects that would need budgetary attention – a deterioration of the bulkhead on Mulberry Street and mill and overlay work for a section of Mitchell Street in front of the Riverwoods apartments. The Commissioners asked about the timeline for repair of Grace and Thompson Streets. Mrs. Weisman said she would contact the County regarding their plans for advance sewer work on those two streets. The Commissioners had few questions about the water department budget as it appeared to be on target with estimates.

The Commissioners of St. Michaels
March 21, 2017

- Zoning and Codes Enforcement

Zoning Officer Sarah Abel outlined her plans to conduct a Historic Inventory Study and to update maps and guidelines for the Historic District to use in determining contributing and non-contributing structures. Ms. Abel said the Planning Commission should begin working on a comprehensive zoning code update, including clearing up ambiguous sections, and that an expert in zoning re-writes should be hired to oversee it. Ms. Abel recommended funding half the project this year and half next year to meet a 2019 deadline. Ms. Abel noted that grant opportunities for such a project were few, if any.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanna Warnick
Administrative Clerk

Public Handouts:
Public Agenda
Draft Budget 3/17/2017