

April 12, 2017

Present

Commissioners Roy Myers, Michaels Bibb, Jaime Windon, and William Boos, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Legislative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, Zoning Officer Sarah Abel, and approximately 13 members of the public. Commissioner Joyce Harrod was absent.

Closed Executive Session – 5:00 p.m.

President Myers called for a motion to move into closed session, pursuant to Maryland Code, State Government Article Section 10-508(a)(3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, and matters directly related thereto. Commissioner Bibb made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Windon, and which passed on a roll call vote of 4-0 in favor.

Public Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Call To Order

President Myers convened the regular working session of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 6:00 p.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. President Myers noted that the Commissioners had met in closed session at 5:00 p.m. to discuss a real estate matter. President Myers said that the Commissioners had reached a decision in the closed session regarding the property at 800 S. Talbot Street, and were at this time bringing their motion and vote forward to the public meeting. President Myers then called for the motion. Commissioner Boos made a motion to approve the contract as proposed for 800 S. Talbot Street in the amount of \$200,000 plus costs, to be paid using funds from the Town's Utility Fund, and that settlement on the property would occur no later than July 12, 2017. Commissioner Windon seconded the motion, which then passed on a roll call vote of 4-0 in favor.

Public Announcements from COSM, Staff and Public

Town Manager Jean Weisman announced that the Commissioners met in closed session at 5:00 p.m., pursuant to Maryland Code, State Government Article Section 10-508(a)(3) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, and matters directly related thereto. Mrs. Weisman also announced that the Commissioners and staff would attend the 9th annual Talbot County Business Appreciation Breakfast on Friday April 21st in Easton, Maryland, hosted by the Talbot County Economic Development Commission and the Talbot County Department of Economic Development and Tourism. Mrs. Weisman said the keynote speaker for the event would be Lieutenant Governor Boyd Rutherford. Mrs. Weisman noted that Commissioners Bibb and Myers would be attending the Eastern Shore Association of Municipalities Spring meeting on Tuesday, April 18th. And finally, Mrs. Weisman provided an update on the sidewalk repair project on Talbot Street, noting that the project was moving forward but that it had been delayed by an unexpected repair of the sewer line by Talbot County. Mrs. Weisman said the repair had been made and the sidewalk repair was again underway. President Myers said he had attended a informational seminar on sea level rise sponsored by the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. Ann Hymes of Grace Street provided an update on the Nature Trail sculpture contest, noting that the winners had been chosen and the sculptures would be installed by May 1st between Boundary Lane and Chew Street. Ms. Hymes said there would be a reception at 5:00 p.m. following the installation at the end of Chew Street.

Public Hearing

- Public Hearing to consider the Town's budget for Fiscal Year 2018 and to set the Real Property, Personal Property and Utility Tax Rates for Fiscal Year 2018 as proposed: Real Property tax rate to be set at \$0.524 per \$100 of assessment; Personal Property to remain the same at \$0.00 per

\$100 of assessment for businesses; and Personal Property tax for Utilities to remain the same at \$1.60 per \$100 of assessment

President Myers called upon Mrs. Weisman who provided an overview and history of recent tax rates. Mrs. Weisman said that the State Assessment Office said the Eastern Shore has been slower to rebound economically, hence the lower assessments. Mrs. Weisman then reiterated the proposed tax rates for FY 2018 and provided budget highlights. The Commissioners then took public comments.

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
1	Copy of Draft Ordinance No. 482 dated as of April 12, 2017
2	Copy of Public Notice of Public Hearing to be held on April 12, 2017, which was posted on the bulletin board in the Town Office, Post Office and on the Town Website, and published in the Star Democrat and Chesapeake Internet on April 4, 2017
3	Affidavit of Publication from Star Democrat for Notice of Public Hearing

As there were no additional comments, President Myers called for the introduction of the FY 2018 budget, Ordinance No. 482. Mrs. Warnick then read the title of the ordinance and the exhibits into the record as noted above. Commissioners Bibb and Windon introduced it. Mrs. Weisman said that any changes that were necessary could be done without a re-introduction. President Myers then closed the Public Hearing on Ordinance 482, and noted that the ordinance would be eligible for a vote on April 26, 2017.

Consent Agenda

President Myers announced that a vote to approve the items on the consent agenda would include approval of reports for the month of March 2017; and approval of permit applications from Brown Box Theatre for two free public events – a musical theater event and a Shakespeare in the Park event; an application from Jon Mason for the St. Michaels Brew Fest; and an application from Francis Hopkinson, Jr. for the Antique and Classic Boat Festival. President Myers then noted expenditures for March 2017 of \$244,616.22, of which \$54,210.28 was directed to the Utility Service Corporation for water maintenance. As there were no questions about any of the consent agenda items, President Myers called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Bibb made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Windon, and which passed on a roll call vote of 4-0 in favor.

Comments from the Public

Ann Hymes of Grace Street had comments about reducing plastic water bottles, adding a gazebo to Hollis Park, and cleaning our streets and sidewalks using community service hours. Mike Estrella of E. Chew Avenue praised the Commissioners on the budget.

Comments from the Commissioners

President Myers thanked Town Manager Jean Weisman for her diligent work on preparing for the budget process.

Commissioners' Calendar

The Commissioners of St. Michaels
April 12, 2017

The Commissioners made changes and additions to their agendas for meetings in May and June 2017.

Announcement of Future Meetings/Events

- April 14, 2017 – Town Office closed for Good Friday
- April 26, 2017 – 6: 00 – Town Office – COSM Regular Legislative Session

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanna Warnick
Administrative Clerk

Public Handouts:
Public Agenda
Department Reports
Draft Budget