

May 24, 2017

Present

Commissioners Jaime Windon, Roy Myers, Michael Bibb, and William Boos, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Administrative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, and six members of the public. Commissioner Joyce Harrod was absent.

Call To Order

President Myers convened the regular Legislative 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.

Public Announcements

President Myers said he and Chief Smith had an informative visit and session this week in Suitland, Maryland, on their experience with the central booking concept. Town Manager Jean Weisman said Commissioners and members of the Department of Economic Development and Tourism committee will hold a working session on May 30th at 2:00 p.m. as a follow-up to the listening session on May 4th. Mrs. Weisman also noted that the Commissioners and select staff members would attend the annual Maryland Municipal League Convention in Ocean City on June 25-28, 2017. There were no public announcements.

Consent Agenda

President Myers said a vote to approve the consent agenda would include approval of minutes for the month of April 2017, and approval of a permit application from the St. Michaels Art League for a Kids Art Day at Muskrat Park on Saturday, July 18, 2017. President Myers said there were two additional items for the consent agenda that were time sensitive – two permit applications from the Community Center for a Neighborhood Block Party on Jun 10, 2017 and for the 26th annual Summer Concert Series in Muskrat Park on Thursday evenings from June 15th to August 31st. The Commissioners agreed to include the above items to the consent agenda. As there were no additional items or comments, Commissioner Windon made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Bibb seconded the motion, which then passed on a roll call vote of 4-0 in favor.

Ordinance Eligible for a Vote

- Ordinance No. 483- FY17 Budget Amendment

President Myers announced that Ordinance No. 483 was discussed at the May 10, 2017 regular Commissioners' meeting, and was introduced at that meeting by Commissioners Boos, Bibb and Windon. President Myers noted, that a public hearing was not necessary for this ordinance, and that Ordinance No. 483 was now eligible for a vote. Mrs. Warnick then read the title of the ordinance into the record as follows:

ORDINANCE NO. 483: AN ORDINANCE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS TO AMEND THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, AS ADOPTED ON APRIL 27, 2016, AND EFFECTIVE MAY 18, 2016.

As there were no additional changes or comments from the Commissioners, President Myers called for a vote to approve Ordinance No. 483 as presented. Commissioner Boos made the motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Myers, and which passed on a roll call vote of 5-0 in favor, with an absentee vote of "yea" from Commissioner Joyce Harrod, as read into record by Mrs. Weisman.

Items for Discussion

- Solar Panels within the Town of St. Michaels

Mrs. Weisman said Zoning Officer Sarah Abel had researched regulation on solar panels in several other Eastern Shore townships and that Easton's code seemed the most sensible. Mrs. Weisman said St. Michaels' code does allow solar panels as an accessory structure. Commissioner Boos suggested that any changes to our code regarding solar panels is not time sensitive, and could be done as part of the upcoming code review. Commissioner Myers said he thought the Planning Commission should weigh in on regulation of solar panels outside the Historic District. Mrs. Edwards of East Chew Street offered to send the Commissioners research that she and her husband had done regarding solar panels, which President Myers said would be most helpful.

- Invitation to join Talbot County Free Library's Strategic Planning Committee

President Myers said he would join Commissioner Harrod in attending a meeting on the Library's expansion plans.

Comments from the Public

Trish Payne of the Community Center thanked the Commissioners for approving the concert series and encouraged everyone to attend. Mr. John Marrah said he was the Eastern Shore manager for solar services based in Easton, and was encouraged that the Commissioners were open to exploring solar options and offered to share any information needed.

Comments from the Commissioners

Commissioner Boos asked if there was any information from the sidewalk language committee. Mrs. Weisman said she would consult with Ms. Abel about the matter when she returned from vacation.

Commissioners' Calendar

Mrs. Weisman asked the Commissioners if they were comfortable with the new "St. Michaels in Bloom" committee going forward with their plans for hanging flower baskets on Honeymoon Bridge, as long as the Town's Parks and Recreation Committee and Historic District Commission agreed. The Commissioners said they would accept the judgment of the Town's committees. The Commissioners then discussed additional agenda items for meetings in June 2017.

Adjournment

The public meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m., and President Myers announced that the Commissioners would now move into closed session, pursuant to Maryland Code, State Government Art., 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 to move into closed session, which was seconded by Commissioner Boos and which then passed on a roll call vote of 4-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanna K Warnick
Administrative Clerk

Public Handouts:

Agenda

Ordinance No. 483 – FY17 Budget amendment