

MINUTES

COSM

Commissioners

COSM Special Remote Session - Budget Friday, February 12, 2021, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Virtual Remote Meeting

- I.

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

- President Harrod called to order the remote special budget session of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 5:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Michael Bibb, David Breimhurst, Tad duPont, and Jaime Windon, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Legislative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, and Communications Manager and meeting coordinator, Kimberley Weller.

II. Agenda Amendments

III. Comments from the Public

- There were no comments.

IV. Working Session on the Current FY21 Budget

- Current Fiscal Year 2021 Budget

- Commissioner duPont opened the discussion. Commissioner duPont said he considered the sea rise issue a priority for the Town and suggested that the Town use its emergency fund (current balance \$400,000) and increase it to \$1 million to fund the grant process for addressing it. He also suggested hiring a grant writer to pursue funding for the project. Roy Myers, Chairman of the Waterway Advisory Board, said a committee could be formed comprised of Waterways members, Planning Commission members, and residents to design a template of priorities over the next ten years and present recommendations to the Commissioners. Commissioner duPont and Mr. Myers agreed on a target date of April for the formation of the committee and an initial proposal. Commissioner Breimhurst agreed with the approach. Mr. Myers asked if Mrs. Weisman could provide him some guidance on contracting for grant writing and engineering support, and she said she would be happy to assist. Mrs. Weisman said she would look into a full-time grant writer on a contingency basis.

Commissioner duPont also addressed the effect of Covid-19 on the Town, and suggested being proactive by lowering the tax rate to ease any potential economic impacts.

In addition, Commissioner duPont said he still believed there would be cost savings to the Town by moving to a health care system provided by the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) and Mrs. Weisman said she was pursuing those inquiries. The Commissioners discussed other areas of the budget Commissioner duPont said he felt needed to be reviewed and understood.

Mrs. Weisman said she had begun building the budget for the next year and had sent the Commissioners what she and Commissioner Breimhurst had formulated in advance of the upcoming budget meetings. The Commissioners then discussed their schedule of budget meetings which would begin in March., and it was agreed that the budget meetings would be on each Friday in March beginning at 3:00 p.m.

V. Comments from the Public

- There were no comments.

VI. Comments from the Commissioners

- There were no additional comments.

VII. Announcement of Future Meetings

February 15 2021 - Office Closed for Presidents Day

February 24 2021- 6:00pm - COSM Legislative Session - Virtual Remote

VIII. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.