

MINUTES

COSM

Commissioners

COSM Special Remote Session - Budget Friday, January 29, 2021, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm Virtual Remote Meeting

- I.

Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

- President Harrod called to order a remote special budget meeting of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 4:00 p.m. Also present were Commissioners Jaime Windon, David Breimhurst, Michael Bibb and T. Coleman duPont, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Legislative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, and Meeting Coordinator Kim Weller. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Agenda Amendments

- There were no amendments.

III. Announcements from COSM and Staff

- Commissioner Bibb said he had obtained copies of the budgets from the municipalities of Denton and North Beach and passed them along to Commissioners duPont and Breimhurst. He said he would also copy Mrs. Weisman.

IV. Comments from the Public

- There were no public comments.

V. Items for Discussion FY2021 Budget Review

- Commissioner duPont said that it was his opinion that the Town's revenues were trending down due to the Covid 19 situation, except for the income tax rate and the real estate tax numbers, which have yet to slow. He said he felt it was important to analyze and understand the budget and find ways to economize and plan for an uncertain future. He added that he was especially concerned with the Town's poor return on investment and he wanted to look for ways to improve that situation. Commissioner Bibb said he would obtain budget information from some of the larger communities to see what they are invested in. Mrs. Weisman said she would obtain information from PNC bank on their investment policy with regard to the Town.

Mrs. Weisman said she had some good news in that the Town would be receiving \$34,500 of reimbursement for Covid-19 expenses from the State.

Mrs. Weisman answered budget questions and suggested she would be more than happy to meet with the Commissioners individually or in pairs in the Town Office to do a line-by-line review of budget revenues and expenses. The Commissioners agreed they wanted to do that.

Commissioner duPont said he believed that the Town had two priority situations, one being Covid-19 and the other the rising tide situation and the Town needed to financially plan for these issues. Commissioner Breimhurst noted additional study of the harbor sea level rise alone would cost around \$300,000, followed by the cost of any remedy. Commissioner Bibb asked Mrs. Weisman to look into the grants that Oxford received from FEMA for tidal rise and to explore the possibility of a commissioned part-time grant writer.

The Commissioners discussed dates to meet with Mrs. Weisman on the budget, with Commissioner Breimhurst meeting on the following Tuesday. The Commissioners also agreed to postpone the next budget meeting from February 5th to the following Friday, February 12 at 5:00 p.m.

VI. Comments from the Public

- There were no additional comments.
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VII. Comments from the Commissioners

- Commissioner duPont said a resident had expressed concern that the water bill postcard was not private enough. He said he told the resident that an envelope mailing was not cost effective, but that perhaps an electronic solution would be forthcoming.

Commissioner Windon urged residents and businesses to monitor their trash cans and take them off the street as soon as possible given the winter's cold and windy weather.

VIII. Calendaring

- Mrs. Weisman and the Commissioners discussed agenda items for their meetings in February 2021, including scheduling another discussion of repairs to Honeymoon Bridge. Commissioner Bibb said the railings on the police station were being built and will be installed soon. Mrs. Weisman said the sewer work was progressing on schedule in Muskrat Park.

IX. Announcement of Future Meetings

- February 10 2012 - 6:00 pm - Remote COSM Working Session

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X. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned 5:25 p.m.