

**MINUTES**

**COSM**

**Commissioners**

**COSM Special Budget Workshop - Three  
Friday, March 26, 2021, 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Virtual Remote Meeting**

**I.**

Call to Order for Special Budget Working Session - Pledge of Allegiance

President Harrod called to order the special remote budget session of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 3:00 p.m. in St. Michaels, Maryland and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Also present at the meeting were Commissioners Michael Bibb, David Breimhurst, Jaime Windon and Tad duPont, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Public Works Director Jeff Richardson, Legislative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, Communications Manager Kimberly Weller, and members of the public.

**II. Public Working Session on the Budget for FY22  
Fiscal Year 2022 Budget**

Areas of concentration for this work session are the following:

Public Works  
Water Department  
Outside Agency requests

Town Manager Jean Weisman introduced Abby Graves of the Shore United Bank, who explained the bank's ICS portfolio investment program and answered questions from the Commissioners. Commissioner duPont had specific questions about interest rates. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Graves for her information.

President Harrod opened the discussion of the FY 2022 budget and requests from Public Works. Mrs. Weisman said that Jeff Richardson had received a bid to power-wash and seal Honeymoon Bridge and the Nature Trail Bridge, a project that would cost approximately \$5,000.00. Mr. Richardson said this was a separate project from the replacement of the flooring on Honeymoon Bridge. Mr. Richardson said money could be saved if public works did the power-washing of both bridges. The Commissioners approved the expenditure and agreed that public works should do the power washing and that the sealing of Honeymoon bridge could wait 6 months after the decking was replaced, as recommended by Bailey Marine.

Mr. Richardson said his department was also requesting funding for a single-axel hauling trailer, replacement of the Town's water meters, electrical service for the new pole barn, and repairs to storm drains on two streets. Mrs. Weisman said she had put the State Rescue Act money in the budget which would help defray the cost of the meter replacements. Commissioner Breimhurst felt the state funding was a significant one-time opportunity to upgrade the water system without incurring a lot of debt. Commissioners Bibb and duPont agreed. Mrs. Weisman said there was money left over from last year's construction of the pole barn to add lighting. Mr. Richardson said he would like to increase his repair budget for the storm drains noting that no work had been done on the drains, other than temporary fixes, for about fifteen years. In response to a question from Commissioner duPont, Mr. Richardson said he could do a repair of the worst section of Perry Cabin Drive for about \$6,500.00. Mrs. Weisman added the amount to her budget draft.

Mr. Richardson said he would like to budget for annual tree maintenance in the Town and would be putting the work out for bids. The Commissioners agreed to the budget item.

Mrs. Weisman said she had received a request to have the carriages for the cannons in Muskrat Park replaced and she had a cost estimate for that replacement of \$4200.00 from Martin and Beggins. Commissioner duPont agreed it should be a budget item with funding coming out of the Parks and Recreation budget.

There was a discussion of the sidewalk project on Railroad Avenue. It was agreed that further research was necessary and possibly the nature trail extension project should be the first priority.

Mr. Richardson provided preliminary estimates for outsourcing the Town's trash pickup and said he would obtain more information.

Mrs. Weisman summarized the budget items she would be adding to her draft based on today's discussions and from the meeting last Friday. Commissioner Breimhurst said he was pleased with the new budget format.

The Commissioners agreed to take the Town's investments to Shore United for a better interest rate, and to fund the upgrade of the Town's website and other meeting technology.

Mrs. Weisman briefly reviewed line-item donations and announced that salaries would be the topic at the next meeting on April 9th.

### III. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

### IV. Comments from the Commissioners

Commissioner duPont raised objection to opinions posted on Facebook that were personally offensive to him.

### V. Announcement of Future Budget Meetings

April 9 2021 - 3:00 pm - Budget Session 4

### VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.