

MINUTES

COSM

Commissioners

COSM Work and Legislative Remote Session

Wednesday, June 2, 2021, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Virtual Remote Meeting

- I.

Note: Commissioner Harrod, as current President, will preside over meeting until the Election of Officers.

Once the election of President is completed, the new President will preside over the remainder of the elections and the meeting.

- President Harrod said the Commissioners would first elect officers and called for nominations. Commissioner Breimhurst nominated Commissioner Bibb for President. Commissioner Bibb nominated Commissioner Windon for Vice President. Commissioner Harrod nominated Commissioner duPont for Treasurer, and then called for a vote.

The Commissioners voted 4-1 in favor of Commissioner Bibb for President, with Commissioner Windon voting nay. The Commissioners voted 5-0 in favor of Commissioner Windon for Vice President. The Commissioners voted 5-0 in favor of Commissioner duPont for Treasurer.

II. Call to Order - Pledge of Allegiance

- President Bibb called to order the remote work and legislative session of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 6:00 p.m. in St. Michaels, Maryland. Also present were Commissioners Michael Bibb, David Breimhurst, Jaime Windon and Tad duPont, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Legislative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, and members of the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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III. Agenda Amendments

- Mrs. Weisman said there were agenda amendments; a request to add the Eagle Scout project to the agenda. The Commissioners agreed to the addition. Mrs. Weisman said appointments to the Sea Level Rise Committee was being removed because the Commissioners needed more time to review the candidates and would be having a meeting on Friday, June 4th at 4:00 p.m. to make the appointments. Mrs. Weisman said the Consent Agenda was also being removed from the agenda since minute approval was being postponed to the June 23rd meeting and there were no event permit applications.

IV. Election of Officers of The Commissioners of St. Michaels

- Commissioner Harrod - will be facilitating the election of a President, Vice President and Treasurer.

- Once the election of President is completed, the new President will preside over the remainder of the elections for Vice President and Treasurer, and the meeting.
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- Election of officers were as noted above.
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V. Announcements from COSM and Staff

- Police Chief Anthony Smith provided an update on the Covid vaccination project. Chief Smith the police department was offering a trip to Six Flags as an incentive for hesitant young residents to complete their vaccinations. Chief Smith also urged residents on the meeting call to join him for the Coffee with A Cop remote session on Friday at 8:00 a.m. to listen to a presentation on the running festival that is scheduled for August 2021.
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VI. Comments from the Public

- Roy Myers of Chestnut Street asked if the street sweeper was operating on Fridays as usual. Mrs. Weisman said she would check on the schedule and report back. Mrs. Weisman did note that Public Works also uses the sweeper to power wash Town buildings, fences and picnic tables and to clear drains.

Chief Smith said as people emerge from the Covid situation, his officers are monitoring Town activity, especially on the weekends, to prevent and diffuse rambunctious behavior and keep the peace.

Robin Baxter and Susan Wojokowski of East Chestnut Street had comments on the lighting at the Boy Scout Cabin.

VII. Special Presentations and Announcements

- Eagle Scout Colin Vielfeld of Mt. Pleasant Road provided background on himself and his volunteer activities on behalf of the Town. He described his project to improve the Nature Trail and presented slide photos of areas he wanted to improve and where he thought plantings would beautify the trail for potential users. He then took questions. Commission Windon said she was excited about the plans and volunteered to help if she can and thanked Colin for his interest. Colin said he needed consent from the Commissioners to move forward.

The Commissioners provided unanimous approval to move forward and Mrs. Weisman said she would supply written approval for Colin to present to his Scout organization. Commissioner Bibb said the Town would be supplying mulch and helping with maintenance.

- FY21 Budget Review

- Commissioner duPont
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- Commissioner duPont said the Town was looking at a positive end to this fiscal year 2020 and he had no additional comments on budget issues for this meeting.

Marketing and Advertising Review

- Kimberly Weller, Marketing Director
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- Mrs. Weisman said there was no report for this meeting.
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VIII. Consent Agenda for Minutes, and Event Permits

Minutes

Events

- There were no items for the Consent Agenda. Review of Minutes for May 2021 was rescheduled for the June 23rd meeting and there were no event permit applications.
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IX. Resolution Eligible for Vote

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Resolution 2021-05 - Amend Rules for the Conduct for Meetings

- A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE RULES FOR THE CONDUCT FOR MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MICHAELS
- Mrs. Weisman read the title of Resolution No. 2021-05 into the record as referenced above. Mrs. Weisman said this resolution amended the conflict-of-interest language related to voting and amended the required forms. Mrs. Weisman said the resolution was eligible for a vote. Commissioner duPont had questions about procedure when a subject changes mid-discussion and may require invocation of the conflict of interest. Mrs. Weisman said the discussion can be halted to allow for that and the minutes would reflect that a Commissioner had stepped away from deliberations.

President Bibb called for a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-05 as presented. Commissioner Breimhurst made the motion to accept the amended rules of conduct, which was seconded by Commissioner Harrod, and which then passed on a roll call vote of 5-0 in favor.

X. Board and Commission Appointments

- Appointments for Climate Change / Sea Level Rise Commission

- Interested persons having sent in a letter of interest and resume:

Michael Bibb
Jesper Anderson
Susan Wojciechowski
John Marrah
Dennis Glackin
Roy Myers
William C Boicourt
Doug Rollow
Andrew Thaler
Jonathan Clarke
Michael T. Morgan

XI. Items for Discussion

- Boy Scout Cabin walkway and security lights

- Bill Gilmore and members of the HDC will be in attendance

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- Commissioner duPont opened the discussion and he hoped that the lighting issue at the Boy Scout lighting could be resolved this evening. He noted he appreciated all the comments, but that he felt the six lights should be removed and put in storage, and replaced with more appropriate lights. Peter Leshner, Chairman of the Historic District, said the HDC would welcome the opportunity to review any replacement lighting. He did note that pathway lighting was modern in nature.

Mr. Gilmore said he thought the solution was correcting the horizontal lighting and that before taking the lights out, that solution should be tried. Mr. Leshner said the heads of the lights could be changed; the posts need not be as they are historic posts.

Mrs. Weisman read further comments from the public.

The Commissioners agreed to take the lights down.

- Request from Frank Hopkinson to use Town Office bulkhead during Classic and Antique Boat Show in June 2021

- The Commissioners discussed a request by the Maritime Museum to use the Town's bulkhead during the Antique and Classic Boat Show coming up in mid-June. Kristin Greenaway, President of the Maritime Museum said the Boat Show organizers would be grateful to use the Town's bulkhead but it was not a necessity.

Commissioner duPont said he did not favor use of the Town's public dock, and the other Commissioners agreed and did not act on the request.

- Repair and Replacement Fund

- Commissioner duPont - rename and repurpose fund
- Commissioner duPont opened the discussion of the Repair and Replacement Fund and other funds. He noted that he hoped to open a specific account for the climate/sea level grant process.
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XII. Comments from the Public

- There were no additional public comments.
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XIII. Comments from the Commissioners

- Commissioner duPont said he had concerns about public drinking and the Town getting a reputation as a "party town." He said that this was not a healthy direction for the Town. The other Commissioners agreed and determined that a meeting with Chief Smith and the businesses was appropriate to help discourage drinking in public spaces.

Mrs. Weisman suggested that the issue be put on the agenda as a "problem-solving" session.

XIV. Commissioners Calendar

- June 23 2021 - COSM Session
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- Mrs. Weisman and the Commissioners discussed agenda items for their meeting on June 23rd. Mrs. Weisman noted the Commissioners' meeting on June 4th at 4:00 p.m. to appoint members to the newly formed Sea Level/Climate change committee.

XV. Announcement of Future Meetings

- June 23 2021 - COSM Session

XVI. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.