

MINUTES



**Commissioners of
St Michaels
Meeting Minutes - Working and Closed Session
Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
St. Michaels Branch of the Talbot Co. Library
106 S. Fremont Street
St. Michaels, MD 21663**

1. 5:30 - Call to Order for Working Session - Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Breimhurst, President, called to order a live and remote Working Session of the Commissioners of St. Michaels at 5:30 pm in St. Michaels, Maryland and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Also present at the meeting were Commissioners Joyce Harrod, Tad duPont, Katrina Whittington, and Al Mercier. Other representatives include Special Projects Manager/Code Compliance Officer Eric Knapp, Town Planner Steve Ball, Town Clerk Vickie Sharp, and Captain Oswald. Approximately 46 members of the public were present as well as remote attendees on Zoom.

2. Announcement of Closed Session

Commissioner Breimhurst announced that there would be a Closed Session before the Working Session. Commissioner Harrod motioned and approved the Closed Session before the Working Session. Commissioner Mercier seconded and was passed on a roll call vote 5-0 in favor.

The Commissioners met in closed session before the Open Session pursuant to Maryland Code, under the Open Meetings Act, General Provisions Article Section §3-305(b) to discuss the following: (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over who this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals, (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto.

3. Announcements from COSM and Staff

Was announced that this meeting is a public hearing. If anyone wished to speak on any Ordinance, they would need to sign up on the sign up sheet.

Town Clerk/Water Department gave an update on the installation of the new water meters. New meter installation began on May 8th starting at the Perry Cabin Townhomes, then moving into Town on Talbot Street.

Special Projects Manager/Code Compliance Officer gave an update on the status of permits and violations. Auto Cad mapping of the Town's water system. Lighting committee will be taking survey of all the light poles. Will be attending the Restaurant and Business Association meeting and will be collecting business information. Followed up on the laundry mat issue, spoke with Don Bibb and talked to him about space for more units for tenant use.

Police Captain informed that there are a few homeless individuals in our community and if we see them let the police know as they would like to get them help.

4. Comments from the Public

St. Michaels President Chris Thomas of the Fire Department thanked Brian Thompson and Rob Straebel for re-striping their parking lot at the Fire House.

Brooke Kimbrough lives on Mill Street, expressed her concerns about building the New Police Station/Town Hall on Mill Street.

Peter Gorman asked could street reflective tape mark the parking spaces on the side streets, so people would park properly. Could do it temporarily to see how it works before making it permanent. Stated the informal meeting on May 9th regarding the New Police/Town Hall should have been on Zoom so everyone could participate. The New Police/Town Hall is in a flood zone and the Town is asking for money to raise the street, stated it was hypocritical to want to build in a flood zone instead of adapting.

5. Consent Agenda for Minutes, Department Reports and Events

Consent Agenda was approved as presented, Commissioner Harrod motioned and approved the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Whittington seconded and was passed on roll call vote 5-0 in favor.

6. New Business

Letter of support for the St. Michaels Public Library Expansion and Renovation project will be sent to the USDA who is financing the project.

7. Ordinances for Public Hearing

Ordinance No. 539 - Formula Zoning - **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 340, "ZONING", TO RESTRICT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CERTAIN BUSINESSES COMMONLY KNOWN AS FRANCHISES, CHAINS, AND FORMULA BUSINESSES IN THE TOWN IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE TOWN'S GENERAL CHARACTER.** The public spoke for and against this Ordinance. Commissioner Mercier motioned and approved Ordinance No. 539 as presented. Commissioner Whittington seconded and was passed on roll call vote 5-0 in favor. Enacted May 10, 2023.

Ordinance No. 542 - Gateway Commercial Zoning - **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS AMENDING TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 340, "ZONING", AMENDING ARTICLE XVII, "DESIGN", SECTION 340-183, "STATEMENT OF INTENT", SECTION 340-184, "APPLICABILITY", AND SECTION 340-185, "COMPATIBILITY STANDARDS", FOR THE PURPOSE OF PRESERVING THE CHARACTER OF THE TOWN'S COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS AND PROTECTING THE TOWN'S ECONOMIC WELL BEING.** The public spoke for and against this Ordinance. Commissioner Harrod motioned and approved Ordinance No. 542 as presented. Commissioner Whittington seconded and was passed on roll call vote 5-0 in favor. Enacted May 10, 2023.

Ordinance No. 543 - Fire Apparatus Access - **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF ST. MICHAELS AMENDING TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 340, "ZONING", ARTICLE VIII, "SUPPLEMENTAL USE REGULATIONS," SECTION 340-91 "REQUIREMENT FOR FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS" FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING EMERGENCY AND FIRE ACCESS SERVICES TO LARGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND FOR THE SAFETY AND WELL BEING OF THE CITIZENS OF ST. MICHAELS.** The public spoke for and against this Ordinance. Commissioner duPont motioned and approved Ordinance No. 543 as presented. Commissioner Harrod seconded and was passed on roll call vote 5-0 in favor. Enacted May 10, 2023.

Ordinance No. 544 - Setback Accessory - This Ordinance was Tabled pending changes. Ordinance No. 544 was Tabled as presented and Commissioner Harrod motioned to Table Ordinance No. 544 as presented. Commissioner Mercier seconded and was tabled as presented on roll call vote 5-0.

Ordinance No. 545 - 2018 International Building Code - **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108, "BUILDING CONSTRUCTION", SECTION 108-7, "CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS" OF THE TOWN CODE, TO ADOPT THE 2018 EDITIONS OF THE VARIOUS BUILDING CODES ADOPTED BY THE CITY.** The public spoke for and against this Ordinance. Commissioner Whittington motioned and approved Ordinance No. 545 as presented. Commissioner Mercier seconded and was passed on roll call vote 5-0 in favor. Enacted May 10, 2023.

8. Comments from the Public

Library Director thanked the Town for their support of the library and for signing the letter of support.

Questions and concerns regarding a new well. Was explained where some of the funds will come from as well as hoping the new water meters will give an accurate reading and the water department will then have funds to contribute.

9. Comments from the Commissioners

10. Announcement of Future Meetings - to be held at Library

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May 24, 2023 - COSM Legislative Session

June 14, 2023 - COSM Working & Legislative Session

June 25-28, 2023 - MML Summer Conference - Ocean City

July 12, 2023 - COSM Working & Legislative Session

August 9, 2023 - Working & Legislative Session

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Harrod motioned to call the meeting to a close. Commissioner Whittington seconded the motion.

Adjournment of Open & Closed Sessions was approximately 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted By
Vickie Sharp
Town Clerk

Public Participation: All comments from the public will be taken during the period set aside for "Comments from the Public." The "Comments from the Public" portion of the Commission agenda shall have a limited time period as determined by the Commissioners, and shall be at the beginning and at the end of each agenda. To be recognized, a member of the public should raise his or her hand and wait to be recognized by the President. Comments and questions should be kept brief and to the point, and be directed to the President.