

Town of Upper Marlboro

14211 School Lane • Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772 • 301-627-6905

Work Session Minutes

Tuesday, May 28, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.

Approved

Call to Order

- Meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m.
 - Roll Call – President Tonga Turner (communicated absence*); Commissioner Wanda Leonard; Commissioner Linda Pennoyer; Town Clerk M. David Williams; Finance Director William Morgan; and, Chief of Staff Kyle Snyder.
- *It was noted that Commissioner Leonard would be presiding over tonight's meeting.
- Pledge of Allegiance

Reports

Commissioner Leonard: Had no report at this time.

Commissioner Pennoyer: Had no report at this time.

Clerk's Office: The Clerk announced that informative workshops on combating the Asian Tiger Mosquito will be conducted by the Department of Agriculture in June. More information can be found posted in the Town Hall and on the Town website.

Business

Memorandum of Understanding with Prince George's County: Commissioner Leonard explained that the Board would be voting to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the County, as the signed MOU, which was discussed in closed session on May 14th and dealt with legal matters concerning Town ownership of Judge's Drive, was time sensitive and had to be in effect by July 1, 2019. Commissioner Pennoyer asked what would happen should the County reconfigure the road and/or add parking meters. Chief of Staff Snyder replied that in such an instance, the MOU which defines the road as a "driveway", would then become void.

Commissioner Leonard then motioned to accept the MOU as presented, Commissioner Pennoyer seconded the motion. With all in favor, the motion was passed by majority vote of the Board.

Ordinance 2019-04: Town Operating Budget for FY2020: Commissioner Leonard noted that the only change within the "Condensed" line item budget had been a \$10K increase to the State Aide for Police Protection grant (SAPP), and that the final passage of the Town Operating Budget for FY2020 will be conducted at the June Regular Town Meeting on June 10, 2019. She then opened the floor for public comment.

A resident inquired about the MOU, concerned that it had just been approved by the Board without the residents knowing details about it. Commissioner Leonard stated they were bound to confidentiality as the case remains an ongoing legal matter, but details might be able to be shared with the public by the next Town Meeting.

FY20 Condensed Budget: The resident then expressed concern about the FY20 Budget forecast for parking revenues, stating the amount seemed exorbitant given there was no obvious source to account for this increase. Finance Director Morgan explained the rise was mostly attributed to the recent rise in parking meter rates, and it was noted that the costs for new meters and maintenance was already budgeted under line item 8231 Contingency Fund, and/or, covered under the contract with the service provider. More concerns about other increases in expenditures such as salaries were also addressed by Mr. Morgan. It was noted that the Town did not plan on hiring additional staff positions until increased parking revenues are realized.

Another resident stated that the rise in parking meter rates and business taxes was against long-standing policy of the Town, and that the FY20 Budget proposal was inappropriate for a Town of this size. Other concerns expressed included staff salaries, grant programs, and the depletion of Town reserve funds over time.

A resident asked the Board what the citizens are getting for the \$2.5M in operating expenses. Mr. Morgan noted that after deducting the 5 anticipated grants, the total operating budget figure is more like \$1.8M for operating expenses.

Charter Update: Commissioner Leonard recapped the Town's Charter Forum on May 23rd stating the Board appreciated the great feedback from the residents, and that President Turner would be working on edits to the proposed language of the Charter Sections discussed. She added the redraft(s) will be discussed at a second Charter Forum sometime in July 2019.

General/Administration issues: There were no issues brought forth the Board at this time.

Adjournment

Commissioner Leonard motioned to adjourn, Commissioner Pennoyer seconded. With all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



M. David Williams
Town Clerk/Administrator

