

March 16, 2016

Present

Commissioners Joanne Clark, Ann Borders, Joyce Harrod, Roy Myers, and Jaime Windon, Town Manager Jean Weisman, Finance Clerk Katherine Eaglseder, Administrative Clerk Suzanna Warnick, and no members of the public.

Call to Order

President Clark called to order the special public working session on the FY 16 budget at 11:05 a.m. in the meeting room of the Edgar M. Bosley, Jr. Municipal Building, 300 Mill Street, St. Michaels, Maryland. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Special Working Session on the Budget

- Fiscal Year 2017 Budget

Town Manager Jean Weisman provided an update of the budget since the last workshop and noted that the areas of concentration for this work session were Parks and Recreation and outside requests. Parks Committee member Marie Martin reviewed highlights of Parks and Recreation activities over the past year and noted that the committee's current budget of \$4,000.00 was sufficient for its FY17 needs. President Clark thanked Ms. Martin for a good report. The Commissioners then heard requests for funding from the following outside organizations:

Talbot County Arts Council, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Talbot Partnership	\$1,200.00
Stories of the Chesapeake	\$1,000.00
SMASH	\$4,000.00
SOS (Sink or Swim)	\$4,000.00

Ms. Libby Moose explained that the SOS program teaches swimming and water safety to young people at the Bay Hundred Pool in St. Michaels and that the organization had graduated 550 students in 2015.

The Commissioners took a 10-minute break, reconvening the meeting at 12:40 p.m. The Commissioners then opened a general discussion on the Police Department's request for two additional police officers. President Clark asked the Chief if the request could be for one officer in this year's budget and one in next year's budget so as not to raise the tax rate. Chief Smith said that given the timing of training, it was likely that one officer this year and one next year would be the end result anyway. The Commissioners then reached consensus on which of the funding requests from outside organizations they were willing to approve.

President Clark said there were issues regarding the additional police officers that needed to be discussed in closed session, and she called for a motion to move into Closed Session at 2:15 p.m. Commissioner Borders made the motion. Commissioner Harrod seconded it, and the motion carried on a roll call vote of 5-0 in favor.

The closed session was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. and President Clark reconvened the public meeting at 3:40 p.m. The Commissioners then reviewed the proposed draft capital budget. The Commissioners discussed regular capital expenditures and ways to increase town revenue possibly through increased accommodation tax, departmental savings, or reinstating paid parking. After some

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additional discussion of the additional police officers, the Commissioners were in general agreement to approve one additional police officer, and 3 months coverage for a cadet that would begin work in FY18, which would necessitate a tax increase cost of \$.01.

The Commissioners then agreed to meet again on the budget at 2:00 p.m. on March 23, 2016, just prior to the regular legislative session at 4:30 p.m. Mrs. Weisman said she would make revisions to the draft budget based on the discussion.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanna Warnick
Administrative Clerk

Public Handouts:

Agenda

Draft Budget