



TOWN OF COLMAR MANOR

A Port Towns Community
3701 Lawrence Street
Colmar Manor, Maryland 20722

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Town Meeting Minutes

August 9, 2022, 7 PM

Meeting ID: 826 7950 6698 Passcode: 3611

Call to Order

Motion to open the meeting at 7:15 PM introduced by Councilman Harding, seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. All in Favor. No Discussion. 4-0. **Motion** Passed.

Attendance: Mayor Casañas, Councilman Harding, Councilwoman Hobbs (zoom), Councilwoman Mendoza, Chief of Police Tracy Stone, and Clerk Treasurer Dan Baden are present. Councilman Bowles and Town Attorney John Barr are absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department delivers pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to add hiring of Town Administrator position an agenda item introduced by Councilwoman Mendoza and seconded by Councilwoman Hobbs. 4-0. All in Favor. **Motion** Passed.

Hiring of Town Administrator

Motion to discuss the process for the Town Administrator position introduced by Councilman Harding, seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. 4-0. All in Favor. No Discussion. **Motion** Passed.

Motion to hire Greg Holcomb to the town administrator position for the Town of Colmar Manor presented by Councilwoman Mendoza, seconded by Councilman Harding. 4-0. All in Favor. **Motion** Passed.

Past & Upcoming Events:

- Delegate Fennell School Giveback

On Saturday August 2, 2022, over 900 stuffed book bags were given to District 47A families. Over \$450,000 worth of food was delivered in partnership with STAT DC. Mayor Casañas shared her remarks of gratitude to Delegate Fennell, Democratic Nominee for Governor of Maryland Wes Moore, the Ethiopian Eritrean Church and the Colmar Manor Public Works team.

- National Night Out

On Tuesday August 2, 2022, the Colmar Manor Police Department hosted its annual National Night Out event. Mayor Casañas showed her appreciation to Chief Stone and the entire CMPD for engaging and building trust with the community.

- Salsa Party

Mayor Casañas is in the planning phase of hosting a Salsa Party with the community in honor of her election; September 23, 2022, was presented as a potential day.

- Non-Citizen Voting Forum

On September 7, 2022, the Town of Colmar Manor will host a non-citizen voting forum where residents will be able to ask a panel of local elected officials and residents who are from communities where non-citizen voting has been enacted.

Weight Room

Councilman Harding inquired about relocating some of the weight equipment to a different location to make way for Foundation of Greatness LLC's community outreach. Foundation of Greatness will work with Councilman Harding to categorize the inventory in the weightroom.

Appearances

- CBT proposal
Motion to approve proposed Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant brought forth by Councilman Harding and seconded by Councilwoman Hobbs. 4-0. All in Favor. No Discussion. **Motion** Passed.
- LID Center
Motion to approve proposed RFP for Newark Rd and 43rd Ave improvement presented by Councilman Harding and seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. 4-0. All in Favor. Discussion: Clerk-Treasurer Dan Baden inquired about the potential deliverables not included in RFP for ZEST LLC. **Motion** Passed.
- Foundation of Greatness
Mayor Casañas provides an update on Foundation of Greatness passing background checks while also stating that access to the building would be granted in September. Motion to approve working with Foundation of Greatness LLC stated by Councilman Harding seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. 4-0. All in Favor. Discussion: MOU from Town Attorney Mr. Barr is still pending. **Motion** Passed.

Resident/Public Comments

Resident – Inquired about the distribution of ARPA funds.

Resident – Petition with 36 signatures presented to Mayor & Council opposing a police tower at the car wash property on 42nd Ave.

Resident – Delivered remarks opposing a potential gas station development plan for 4210 Newark Rd.

Committee/ Community Group Reports

Recreation Committee

Next recreation committee will be on Monday, August 15, 2022, at Town Hall 7 pm.

Garden Club

Motion to approve \$3,600 five garden bed renewal expenditure stated by Councilwoman Mendoza seconded by Councilman Harding. 4-0. All in Favor. No Discussion. **Motion** Passed.

Mrs. Epps also shared that there would be no Garden Club meeting in August but also noted the efforts of the Colmar Manor Public Works Department.

Hispanic Outreach Committee

The Hispanic Outreach Committee reported that they were happy to participate at National Night Out and noted that they helped to pack bookbags for Delegate Fennell's School Back Give Back. The Committee reminded residents that they are working diligently to expand non-citizen voting for all residents. Lastly, the Hispanic Outreach Committee meets on Wednesdays at noon.

Neighborhood Watch

No report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Casañas expressed her gratitude for all the residents who came out and participated in National Night Out and Delegate Fennell's Give Back. Mayor Casañas reminded residents about Shabach's food giveaway on Thursday, August 18, 2022, at Lariscy Park from 11 am – 1 pm.

Approval of Minutes July 12 Town Meeting

Councilwoman Hobbs makes motion to approve minutes from the July 12, 2022, Mayor & Council meeting and Councilwoman Mendoza seconds. 4-0. All in Favor. No Discussion. **Motion** Passed.

Council Reports (3 Minutes Each)

Ward 1 Councilman Harding

Councilman Harding reported that he was happy to see residents using the recreational areas in town. Councilman Harding urged residents to call Bates to make bulk trash appointments and reminded residents that yard waste is picked on Mondays. Ultimately, Councilman Harding is looking to initiate a Black Culture Committee and a Colmar Manor Youth Council.

Ward 2 Councilwoman Hobbs

Councilwoman Hobbs shared that she would like to see improved communication from Code Enforcement Officer Charles Reading.

Ward 3 Councilman Bowles

Councilman Bowles is absent.

Ward 4 Councilwoman Mendoza

Councilwoman Mendoza congratulated Colmar Manor Police Department for another successful National Night Out. In addition, Dr. Bottoms of Rogers Heights Elementary School was recognized for their service to the Port Towns Community. Lastly, Councilwoman Mendoza shared with residents that a Scrap Tire Amnesty event would take place on September 17 and to call PGC311 for more information.

Staff Reports

- Treasurer's Report

Mr. Baden reported that new fiscal year began on July 1, 2022. In addition, he will be providing a two-month treasurers report at the next Mayor & Council meeting.

Police Report

Police Report for the month of July 2022 was read by Chief Stone. No motion to accept police report into record. Chief Stone also reminded residents that the next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be on September 22, 2022.

Resident/Public Comments

Ward 4 Resident – resident inquired about the Colmar Manor scholarship process.

BVFD – The Brentwood Volunteer Fire Department presented themselves requesting funds to pay new fire pumper.

Appearances:

- Gaitan Strategic Group LLC

- Mauricio Gaitan of Gaitan Strategic Group LLC is looking to provide financial literacy to Colmar Manor residents and will work with Councilwoman Hobbs to plan a workshop.

Meeting with Michael Company

Mayor will select a date to meet with the Michael Company to discuss future development plans.

Work with Greenwill

Greenwill Consulting Group will continue their discussion to establish a partnership with the Town of Colmar Manor during the next Mayor & Council Worksession.

Welcome America

Welcome America shared with the Mayor & Council their aim to provide recreational events to Colmar Manor.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 10:00 pm presented by Councilwoman Mendoza and seconded by Councilman Harding. 4-0. All in Favor. No Discussion. **Motion** Passed.

Submitted,

Cristian Ortiz-Romero