



TOWN OF COLMAR MANOR

A Port Towns Community
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Colmar Manor, Maryland 20722

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Town Hall Meeting February 15, 2023 Minutes

Call to Order

Motion to open the Colmar Manor Mayor & Town Council meeting at 6:10 pm. Motion Councilmember Hobbs, second Councilmember Harding. Vote 4-0. Motion passed.

Roll Call

Mayor Casanas, Councilmember Harding, Councilmember Hobbs, and Councilmember Mendoza. Ward 3 vacant.

Staff: Dan Baden, Clerk-Treasurer; Greg Holcomb, Town Administrator, and Chief Tracy Stone.

Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

The Mayor held a moment of silence for the victims of the earthquakes and the victims of the shooting in Michigan.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Harding moved to accept the agenda, Councilmember Hobbs seconded the motion. Voice vote, motion passed.

Presentation(s)

Congressman Ivey's liaison Ethan Sweet, provided information on grant website; stated House appropriations requests are upcoming.

Mayor introduced Mr. Jason Deloach as the new Town Attorney.

Ms. Pamela Morris, Making Life Matter, Inc. presented information about her organization. The organization assists partnering with other non-profits and agencies to offer wrap around services. She offered to do information sessions and outreach.

Resident/Public Comments

Juliana Bethea, Monroe St.- asked about the spay neuter program. Mr. Holcomb stated the grant was just authorized and the town's program is not up and running yet. She asked about tax rate and how the town is going to help relieve the burden.

Debra Williams, Newark Rd.- Asked if taxes were going to go up? Mayor stated that is unknown and real hard discussions need to take place. She further asked about the lighting on her street.

Mayor asked what is it that we can do regarding street lighting. Chief Stone stated there is a light on every pole. Mr. Holcomb stated staff will need to find out what solutions are available to solve the issue.

Ms. Dixon, Newark Road - Asked about committees and if we have received the submissions. She then asked about the sidewalk in front of her home and if it can be fixed, noted recent accident. Mayor asked about what type of plan we can put together to get sidewalk project moving. Mr. Holcomb stated we need to put a phased plan together.

Community/Committee Reports

No reports

Mayor's Report

Stated she met regarding the town's debt and getting reprieve through state funding. She noted the use of the gym by students and partnerships. She stated we are working to create new processes, tightening up procedures for use of our facility. She then thanked Cottage City for assisting in the Black History Month celebration earlier in the month. Thanked Mayor James from Bladensburg and several councilmembers, Delegate Ivey, Sen. Augustine, and all of those who came out.

Stated she was incredibly proud of Black leaders in the town's history.

Stated there is a meet and greet this Saturday for ESOL classes that Foundation of Greatness is hosting. There is also a craft day on Saturday. Noted we are partnering with the Town of Brentwood to do a monthly business meetup.

She thanked the Recreation Committee for all their planning. Stated there is a Salsa wind down coming up. She reminded residence about Zumba. She also reminded residents about the Saturday morning burner.

Mayor then read her Black History Month Proclamation.

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Harding moved to approve the minutes of January 4, 2022, January 11, 2022, and January 10, 2023. Second by Councilmember Hobbs. Voice vote, 4-0, motion passed.

Council Reports

Council Member Harding no report.

Councilmember Hobbs thanked Chief Stone regarding following up on the property she reported for feral cats.

Councilmember no report.

Staff Reports

Treasurer's Report- Clerk-Treasurer Baden provided the monthly Treasurers Report. Councilmember Harding moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Councilmember Hobbs seconded. Vote 4-0, passed.

Public Safety Report- Chief Stone provided the public safety report for the month of December. Councilmember Harding moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Councilmember Mendoza seconded. Vote 4-0, passed.

Town Administrator Report- Mr. Greg Holcomb provided the town administrator report.

Resident/Public Comments

None

Old Business

Council Rules: Mr. Holcomb presented rule changes. Councilmember Hobbs stated she thought the time change to 6pm would be more helpful towards residents. Councilmember Hobbs also stated he thought the same and was in favor. Councilmember Hobbs does not feel that she can always make the 6 pm meeting. The council further discussed the topic.

Councilmember Hobbs moved to accept the new council rules with the change of 7:00 pm meeting start time. Councilmember Mendoza seconded. Voice vote, motion passed.

Household Assistance Program: Changes were proposed by Mr. Holcomb.

Councilmember Hobbs moved to approve the \$59,000 and Household Assistant Program. Harding, seconded the motion. Voice vote, motion passed.

3821 Newark Road. Driveway apron request:

Mr. Holcomb presented the request. Chief Stone expressed concerns that the driveway seems to have needed a variance and the town should have been notified.

Councilmember Mendoza moved to table until the March work session. Councilmember Hobbs seconded the motion. Voice vote, motion passed.

Councilmember Hobbs moved to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember Harding seconded the motion. Voice vote, motion passed.

Adjourned at 8:28 P.M.