

**MINUTES
COMMISSIONERS OF POOLESVILLE
May 18, 2020**

***** This meeting was conducted virtually through ZOOM with live time posting to YouTube. Notice of the meeting date, time and agenda were posted in advance, physically at the Town Hall, on the Town's Website, and on social media. Prior to the start of the meeting it was confirmed that the public could view the meeting on YouTube.**

CALL TO ORDER:

President Cook called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. All Commissioners were in attendance. Town Attorney Gullo and Town Manager Rivard were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Cook led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE 215 – FY 2020-21 BUDGET

President Cook read an opening statement and highlighted the contents of the Official Record in this matter, including the notice given and advertising. She announced the real property tax rate would remain at the Constant Yield Rate of .1781/100 of assessed value.

The Town Manager gave an overview briefing reference slides and the adopt schedule. He highlighted continual efforts to eliminate expenses and defer expenses where it can be done. He indicated that the water and sewer rates would increase by 2%. Finally, he highlighted the capital projects list; the Inflow/Infiltration program and potential revenue shortfalls. He explained that the line item for employee bonuses would remain in the budget and a re-examination of granting bonuses would be made at the in December.

The Hearing was opened for Public Comment. (The mechanics of making public comment via the virtual meeting setting were made available prior to the meeting in the hearing notices.)

No Public Comment was received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

President Cook congratulated the Town Attorney on receiving the Maryland Municipal League's Lifetime Achievement award. She reviewed the Governor's slow open policies for businesses and reported on the number of Covid-19 cases in the Poolesville zip code. President Cook provided a diagram from Montgomery County on the County's path to reopening. Finally, she encouraged everyone to complete the 2020 Census and vote in the Primary election.

Commissioner Dickerson gave an update on the Canal Towns program; the Saval Food distribution and various residents' concern.

Commissioner Klobukowski stated that is prior comment regarding the Route 28 bridge was not accurate as the bridge will still have closures to finalize several aspects of the work. He gave an update on the Montgomery County Covid-19 funding indicating that no money has been set aside to pass on to the local governments. Finally, he reported there is Caregivers Corp from the State that can be deployed to local jurisdiction to supplement when an individual's caregiver become affected by Covid-19.

Commissioner Brown gave an update on the Fair Access Committee and potential good news on funding for new Poolesville High School.

Commission Radigan gave an update on a new business - a café that will serve as a visitor center and farmer's market.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public comment was received from Janet Lamb and Joy Zucker-Tiemann regarding community mental health issues that are developing during the Covid-19 crisis and various ideas in which assistance can be provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Klobukowski moved to approve the minutes of May 4, 2020. Seconded by Commissioner Radigan. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Covid-19 Update

Town Manager Rivard gave an update on the Town's efforts related to the Covid-19 issue. He indicated that he is implementing the following plan for the Town parks: Currently these areas are open: Parking lots, Tennis Courts, Dog Park, Fishing and Baseball field. On May 26 he expects to open play equipment, skate park, swings, basketball. Park bathrooms will be closed until further notice.

Canal Towns

The Commissioners had an update on the information signage that is to be posted on the Canal directing people to Poolesville. It was agreed a kiosk for information is not necessary. The Commissioners gave unanimous consent to this plan of action. A motion was made by Commissioner Dickerson and seconded by Commissioner Klobukowski to send a letter of support for Tow Path improvements. Motion passed 5-0.

Cancellation of Events

The discussion on cancellation of community events was continued from the prior meeting. June events like the Big Flea will be postponed and re-evaluated for September. The June Friday on the Commons events have been cancelled. The July events will be re-evaluated. The decision on the Summer Recreation Programs/summer camp will be re-visited in June.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

A discussion was held regarding a request that the Town support a resolution and other activities for this event. It was agreed that this matter be tabled.

OLD BUSINESS

None

TOWN MANAGER REPORT:

The Town Manager indicated that June meetings will be held virtually, and that Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals meeting will also begin to be held virtually in June. The Pickle Ball courts are almost completed, and the Zoning Text Amendment hearing will occur at the June 15 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Radigan and seconded by Commissioner Dickerson. Motion passed 5-0

A full video of the meeting can be viewed at [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com), search Poolesville, The Town Commission meeting.