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2 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**  
3 **Easton Town Hall**  
4 **14 S. Harrison Street**

5 November 2, 2015  
6

7 **PRESENT AT CONVENING**  
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9 Mayor Robert C. Willey 12 Councilmember Pete Leshner  
10 Council President John Ford 13 Councilmember Ron E. Engle  
11 Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein 14 Councilmember Megan M. Cook

15  
16 Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Robert F. Karge, Town Attorney Mrs.  
17 Sharon VanEmburch and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.  
18

19 **CALL TO ORDER.**  
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21 At 7:00 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.  
22

23 **OPENING REMARKS BY MR. ENGLE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**  
24

25 Mr. Engle gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

26 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2015 MEETINGS.**

27 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, minutes of  
28 the October 19, 2015 meetings were approved.

29 **POLICE BOARD.**

30 Chief Spencer was present to discuss personnel, the memo of understanding with Talbot County  
31 for dispatchers, events and departmental statistics.

32 President Ford congratulated Sgt. Kellner for his recent award.

33 **MR. MATTHEW PETERS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL REGARDING CHESAPEAKE**  
34 **MULTICULTURAL RESOURCE CENTER.**

35 Mr. Matthew Peters was present to discuss Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center.  
36

37 Mr. Peters introduced Ms. Melissa Micriotti and Ms. Michelle Hayman. Mr. Peters stated that  
38 President of the Council John Ford is a Board Member. Mr. Peters gave a brief history, and what  
39 they need to expect as a community and what they are dealing with on the Eastern Shore.  
40

41 Mr. Peters discussed diversity in the community and a demographic shift in the community. He  
42 stated that there is a tremendous growth in the Hispanic population in Easton. Mr. Peters stated  
43 that he has spoken to parents regarding health organizations and other available resources.  
44

45 Mr. Peters discussed partnering with leaders in the community to make sure resources are not  
46 overlooked in order to make the population a participating part of the community.

47 **MS. TRACY WARD TO ADDRESS COUNCIL REGARDING GRANT FUNDING TO**  
48 **SUPPORT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANT FOR THE**  
49 **PORT STREET MASTER PLANNING PROJECT.**

50 Ms. Tracy Ward was present requesting support for Community Engagement and a Technical  
51 Assistant for the Port Street Master Planning Project. She stated that she has put together two  
52 grants which were submitted last week. She stated that they are expanding community  
53 involvement. Ms. Ward asked the town for support in the form of a resolution should the need  
54 arise.  
55

56 It was the consensus of the council to support the resolutions. Ms. Ward confirmed that the

57 resolutions can be passed at a subsequent meeting.

58 **ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.**

59 Mayor Willey reminded those present that a Veterans' Day Ceremony will occur Tuesday  
60 November 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Talbot Auditorium. He stated that the ceremony is sponsored by  
61 Easton and Colonel Richardson's High Schools' Naval Jr. ROTC as well as the Town of Easton.

62 **APPOINTMENT OF MS. JOAN BANKS AND MS. BONNIE MORRO TO THE**  
63 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD.**

64 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein and seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Ms. Joan  
65 Banks and Ms. Bonnie Morro's appointment to the Affordable Housing Board was approved.

66 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**

67 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Ms. Cook and carried unanimously, the bid from  
68 Koons Toyota for a new 2016 Toyota Tacoma in the amount of \$36,054 for the Code  
69 Department was approved. Mr. Karge stated that although Preston Nissan's bid for \$36,000 was  
70 the low bid; it did not meet the requirements as the bid was received late.

71 Mr. Karge stated that he would like to make his annual reminder for residents to blow leaves to  
72 the area where their garbage is placed. He stated that putting leaves in the streets clogs the storm  
73 drains.

74 Mr. Karge discussed ongoing complaints from residents at Easton Club. He stated that this is a  
75 private property dispute and pending in the courts.

76 Mr. Karge stated that the town is in receipt of an email regarding concerns related to  
77 Matthewstown Road. He stated that State Highway Administration is intending to but has not  
78 committed to placing a red light at Fisher Range Road. Mr. Karge stated that there is no timeline  
79 for the light and reminded everyone that this is solely under the jurisdiction of State Highway  
80 Administration.

81 President Ford asked that a response be given to the residents regarding their concerns.

82 **7:15 PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE THAT PROPOSES TO DISPENSE**  
83 **WITH THE PUBLIC BIDDING REQUIREMENTS FOR SPORTS FIELD LIGHTS AT**  
84 **THE NORTH EASTON SPORTS COMPLEX AS IMPRACTICABLE TO PUBLICLY**  
85 **BID.**

86 At 7:56 p.m., President Ford opened the scheduled public hearing on Ordinance No. 671 that  
87 proposes to dispense with public bidding requirements for field lights at the North Easton Sports  
88 Complex.

89 The Town Attorney discussed the requirements for the lighting. She discussed the company the  
90 Little League works with that supplies lights for the fields and stated that other companies that  
91 may bid may not meet the standards imposed by the National Little League. She stated that the  
92 local Little League organization stated that it may be a detriment if the town bids the lights and  
93 the specific company is not awarded the bid. Discussion occurred regarding the ability to secure  
94 tournaments should the specific lights as required by National Little League not be installed on  
95 the field.

96 Mr. Engle suggested getting confirmation from National Little League regarding the specific  
97 lights.

98 **ORDINANCE NO. 671, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON**  
99 **AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EASTON DISPENSE WITH THE PUBLIC BIDDING**  
100 **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LIGHTS TO BE INSTALLED AT THE NORTH EASTON**  
101 **SPORTS COMPLEX AS THEY WOULD BE IMPRACTICABLE TO PUBLICLY BID."**

102 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Ordinance No.  
103 671 was approved.

104 **RESOLUTION NO. 6059, “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON IN**  
105 **SUPPORT OF THE HILL REVITALIZATION PROJECT AND ITS APPLICATION**  
106 **FOR FUNDING.”**

107 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, Resolution  
108 No. 6059 was approved.

109 **RESOLUTION NO. 6060, “A RESOLUTION CHANGING PARKING FINES FOR**  
110 **VIOLATIONS WITHIN THE TOWN OF EASTON.”**

111 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Resolution No.  
112 6060 was approved.

113 **RESOLUTION NO. 6061 TO CHANGE TO TWO PARKING LOTS TO FREE**  
114 **PARKING AND CHANGE PARKING PERMITS IN ONE LOT.**

115 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously, Resolution  
116 No. 6061 was approved.

117 **RESOLUTION NO. 6062 AUTHORIZING PARKING TIME LIMITS FOR FREE, ON**  
118 **STREET AND OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES.**

119 Mr. Silverstein asked that Resolution No. 6062 be held in abeyance. He asked that Resolution  
120 No. 6062 be tabled and reconsidered in 60 days.

121 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Resolution  
122 No. 6062 was voted to deny.

123 **ORDINANCE NO. 670, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON**  
124 **AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EASTON TO PURCHASE LOT 9C BRYAN DRIVE**  
125 **IN TALBOT COMMERCE PARK IN THE TOWN OF EASTON.”**

126 President Ford brought Ordinance No. 670 to the floor for a first reading. President Ford  
127 scheduled a Public Hearing for November 16 at 7:15 p.m. for comments regarding Ordinance  
128 No. 670.

129 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

130 Mr. Silverstein stated that he recently attended the MML Fall Conference in Cambridge and  
131 reviewed how municipal government operates.

132 Mr. Leshar discussed voting down a resolution and the timetable.

133 Mrs. Cook stated that she recently attended the MML meeting in Cambridge and accepted the  
134 Town of Easton’s award for Sustainable Maryland.

135 Mrs. Cook invited everyone to the East End Neighborhood Association meeting in two weeks at  
136 5:00 p.m.

137 **ADJOURN.**

138 At 8:16 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously,  
139 President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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141

142 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk