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**TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND
EASTON TOWN HALL
14 S HARRISON STREET**

August 6, 2018

PRESENT AT CONVENING.

Mayor Robert C. Willey
President of the Council John Ford
Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein
Councilmember Pete Leshner
Councilmember Ron E. Engle
Councilmember Megan M. Cook

Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Don Richardson, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, Town Planner Mr. Lynn Thomas and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.

MEETING.

At 7:00 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.

OPENING REMARKS BY MR. SILVERSTEIN AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2018 MEETING.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, minutes of the July 16, 2018 meeting were approved.

POLICE BOARD.

Chief Spencer was present and updated on Easton Police Department personnel. Rec. Dustin Schulz graduated 6/14/18 and is in field training. Recruits Cody Bland and Timothy Magee began their training at the ESCJA on 7/9 and should graduate 12/19/18. First Sgt. Brad Hughes recently graduated from Northwestern University Center for Public Safety. Sgt. Clint Bordley and Pfc. Yvonne Freeman have announced their intent to retire. He thanked neighboring police departments that helped with the recent murder investigation. Chief Spencer announced specialized training, recent activities and officer awards.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD.

Mr. James Bent, Easton Affordable Housing Board Chairman was present to discuss what is being proposed for Ashby Commons and Easton Village's on-site requirement to build affordable homes. He stated that the town has not received any funding for the sites at Easton Village. Mr. Bent stated that the Affordable Housing Board recommends that the Council amend the ordinances as proposed. Mr. Bent stated that the monies in the fund will be used for renovations throughout town and vacant lots for infill projects. Discussion occurred regarding the remaining lots in both developments.

The public hearing for the proposed amendments will be held at 7:15 at the August 20th Council meeting.

ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor Willey stated that construction has officially started on the Port Street Redevelopment project. He stated that Easton Utilities will install a landscaping berm in early fall.

Director of Parks and Recreation, Mrs. Lorraine Gould is submitting grant applications for two playgrounds. He stated that she is requesting \$132,000 for updated equipment at Moton Park and \$200,000 for Easton Point Park.

Mayor Willey reminded everyone that Talbot County Public Schools' Opening Day is scheduled for August 29.

President Ford asked if there is approval from State Highway Administration regarding the light at Glenwood Avenue and the Parkway.

Mayor Willey stated that it will happen but there is no specific timeframe.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.

APPROVAL OF VERMEER STUMP CUTTER PURCHASE FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, approval was granted

58 for the purchase of the 2011 used Vermeer stump grinder in the amount of \$8,500.

59 **APPROVAL OF 2018 PICKUP TRUCK PURCHASE FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.**

60 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, approval was granted
61 for the purchase of a 4WD pickup truck through the State of Maryland bid process in the amount of
62 \$27,587.

63 **RECOMMENDATION FROM TOWN ENGINEER FOR PARKING CHANGES ON**
64 **AIRPARK DRIVE AND GLEBE PARK DRIVE.**

65 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the Town Engineer’s
66 proposal to improve access to the business entrances and eliminate long term parking on the street by
67 making the following changes was approved:

- 68 1. Airpark Drive will be a “No Parking” area,
- 69 2. Glebe Park Drive northwest of Airpark Drive will be a “No Parking” area,
- 70 3. Glebe Park Drive (northwest side of street) from the Easton Utilities substation to Airpark Drive
71 will be a “No Parking” area,
- 72 4. Glebe Park Drive (except for portions of street listed above) will be a “No Overnight Parking”
73 area consistent with Section 17-24 of the Town Code which indicates “between the hours of 1:00
74 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. parking of all vehicles shall be limited to one hour on those streets in the town
75 as may be designated by the council, by resolution, and posted by signs setting forth the limit.”
76

77
78 Mr. Silverstein stated that he has met with the businesses in the area.

79
80 Mrs. Cook asked that all businesses effected be contacted and are aware and support the changes.

81
82 Mr. Richardson stated that the parking changes could be held until the Town Engineer has an
83 opportunity to speak with the businesses but Mr. Silverstein verified that he had taken the steps to
84 contact the businesses.

85
86 **PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENT APPROVAL FOR HOSPICE PATIENT CARE 5K RUN –**
87 **09/22/18.**

88
89 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the Public Assembly
90 Event for Hospice Patient Care 5K Run to be held on September 22, 2018 was approved.

91
92 **7:05 PM PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS THE REQUEST OF MARLBORO PLAZA**
93 **BUSINESS TRUST FOR AN AMENDMENT TO AN APPROVED PLANNED UNIT**
94 **DEVELOPMENT (PUD) TO PERMIT THE CREATION OF A LOT WITHOUT FRONTAGE**
95 **ON A PUBLIC STREET.**

96 At 7:29 p.m., President Ford opened the 7:05 p.m. scheduled public hearing.

97 The Town Planner, Mr. Thomas was present to discuss the PUD amendment. He stated that the issue of
98 the lot frontage was not discussed with the PUD approval.

99 Mr. Zach Smith, Armistead, Lee, Rust & Wright, P.A. 114 Bay Street, stated he was present on behalf
100 of the applicant. He stated that the request is for a simple, straightforward address. They are asking for a
101 separate residential portion from the commercial portion. Mr. Smith stated that the only request for the
102 change is to strike the property line. Note on plat contemplates future proposed line of division.
103 Planning Commission issued a favorable recommendation. Marlboro Plaza will own both plats but
104 financing needs to be addressed.

105 President Ford opened the floor for public comments. Approval has previously been granted for the 18
106 unit development.

107 There were no public comments.

108 At 7:40 p.m., President Ford closed the public hearing. President Ford stated that the record would be
109 left open until close of business Friday for written comments which are to be disseminated.

110 **DISCUSSION CONCERNING PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON’S**
111 **ENTERPRISE ZONE.**

112 Mr. Thomas, Town Planner discussed the previously approved Enterprise Zone for the
113 Town which essentially encompasses the downtown area. He discussed the proposed expansion which
114 would include recently annexed portions of Easton Point, Commerce Park and Mistletoe Hall Farm.

115 Mayor Willey discussed the benefits of the proposed expansion of the Enterprise Zone.

116 Mr. Engle stated that he feels the expansion is very important with job and business retention.

117 Mr. Silverstein concurred and stated that it positions the town for the future.

118 Mr. Thomas asked for council support to draft appropriate legislation.

119 It was the consensus of the council to support the proposed expansion of the Town of Easton's
120 Enterprise Zone.

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

122 Mr. Silverstein reminded everyone about the leash law and asked that pets be kept on the leash.

123
124 Mr. Engle reminded everyone to attend National Night Out Tuesday, August 2.

125
126 Mrs. Cook thanked EVFD for serving food for National Night Out. She encouraged everyone to come
127 out for a great family event which includes music, and food and stated that the pool would be open.

128
129 President Ford congratulated Avalon Foundation for the successful Plein Air Festival.

130
131 **AUDIENCE COMMENTS.**

132
133 Ms. Elizaabeth Dawkins, 11 N Thorogood Lane, stated that the residents should feel safe 24 hours a
134 day. She discussed the recent crime that occurred on rails-to-trails. Ms. Dawkins encouraged the
135 elected officials to help our country be the way it was intended to be. She asked the council to make
136 our police force better.

137
138 **ADJOURNMENT.**

139 At 8:06 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously,
140 President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk