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

January 2, 2018

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PRESENT AT CONVENING.

Mayor Robert C. Willey
Council President 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, Financial Officer Mrs. Carol Callahan and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.

6:00 PM AUDIT OUTBRIEF PRESENTED BY KEITH NOVAK, PRINCIPAL CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN.

At 6:00 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.

Mr. Novak discussed the Town's financial statements. He discussed the impact of OPEB (other post-employment benefits).

Mr. Novak introduced Manager, Ms. Alexandra Lobeck.

Mr. Novak discussed GASB 74. He stated that this year, the disclosure only was included. He stated that next year the actual liability will be required to be on the books.

Mr. Novak stated that there were no new real disclosures this year; no disagreements with management. He stated that the management provided the necessary disclosure letter.

Mr. Novak discussed supplemental information.

Mr. Novak stated that an unmodified opinion had been issued which is the best available.

Mr. Novak stated that the Town has a positive revenue variance; raising more money than budgeted; spending \$104,000 less than budgeted.

Mr. Novak discussed the impact OPEB will have on next year's statement.

Mr. Novak stated that there is an inherent concern with the segregation of duties due to the size of the staff.

President Ford asked what the liability for OPEB would look like on the statement.

Discussion occurred regarding funding OPEB.

At 6:38 p.m., Mr. Novak, Ms. Lobeck and Mrs. Callahan departed the meeting.

At 6:39 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Leshner, President Ford recessed the meeting.

MEETING.

At 7:00 p.m., President Ford reconvened the meeting.

OPENING REMARKS BY MR. ENGLE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2017 MEETING.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, minutes of the December 18, 2017 meeting were approved.

ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.

CONFIRMATION OF JOHN HARRISON TO THE OFFICE OF CHIEF AT EVFD FOR 2018.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, Chief John Harrison's re-election as Chief for the Easton Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. was approved.

Mayor Willey stated that there may be an appointment to the Planning Commission at the next meeting.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.

56 **PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENT REQUEST FOR PUBLIC GATHERING PRAYER VIGIL**
57 **1/11/18.**

58 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, the public assembly
59 event request for the prayer vigil on January 11, 2018 in front of the Talbot County Courthouse was
60 approved pending receipt of the Certificate of Liability.

61 Mr. Richardson stated that the Public Works Department will be picking up Christmas trees at residents'
62 garbage discarding location. Mr. Dickerson stated that most of the trees end up at Poplar Island.

63 Mrs. Cook thanked Public Works for making the town look beautiful during the holidays.

64 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

65 **LETTER FROM VICE-CHAIRMAN TALBOT BONE, PE REGARDING MARLBORO PLAZA**
66 **BUSINESS TRUST'S REQUEST TO ADD 18 APARTMENT UNITS TO THE REAR OF**
67 **PROPERTY AT 106 MARLBORO AVENUE.**

68 President Ford set the public hearing for 7:15 p.m., February 5, 2018.

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

70 Mrs. Cook invited everyone to the MLK tournament Monday January 15. She stated that games start
71 9:00 a.m. and will be played at the Easton Middle School and the YMCA.

72
73 President Ford thanked Ms. Carolyn Jaffe and volunteers who helped make First Night Talbot a success.
74 He wished everyone Happy New Year.

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76 **ADJOURNMENT.**

77 At 7:06 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, the
78 regularly scheduled council meeting was adjourned.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk