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

July 17, 2017

PRESENT AT CONVENING.

Mayor Robert C. Willey	12	Councilmember Pete Leshner
Council President John Ford	13	Councilmember Ron E. Engle
Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein	14	Councilmember Megan M. Cook

MEETING.

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

OPENING REMARKS BY MRS. COOK AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mrs. Cook gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 3, 2017 MEETINGS.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, minutes of the July 3, 2017 meetings were approved.

MS. MARY ANN SCHINDLER, CO-CHAIR OF THE ARTWORKS FOR FREEDOM/EASTON PROJECT TO BRIEF COUNCIL ON PLANS TO BRING THE ARTWORKS FOR FREEDOM EXHIBITION TO TALBOT COUNTY.

Ms. Schindler was present to discuss the Freedom/Easton Project which she stated raises awareness about human trafficking through the arts. She stated that the project brings to light the problem with human trafficking and modern-day slavery. Ms. Schindler stated that there are a record of increased incidences of crime in our community and the crime is second to drug trafficking. She discussed partners and sponsors and efforts to pass the information to the public. She stated that it will be exhibited September 8 – October 1 at the Waterfowl Building with films and exhibits that are free and open to the public. Ms. Schindler stated that Maryland consists of one of the top ten per capita for these related crimes. She asked for council's support and approval.

ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor Willey reminded everyone that National Night Out is August 1st at 5:00 at Moton Park.

Mayor Willey stated that the 911 Ceremony will occur at the Town's Memorial Park on Dover Street.

Mayor Willey discussed the recent articles promoting Easton as the Hamptons of Talbot County and Easton as one of the best places to retire.

Mayor Willey requested an abatement of Real Property taxes for Talbot County Board of Education in the amount of \$1,071.39

Upon motion by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, the abatement was approved.

CONFIRMATION OF RE-APPOINTMENTS TO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the following re-appointments were confirmed:

- o Kurt Herrman, Historic District Commission for a three year term
- o George Koste, Historic District Commission for a three year term

CONFIRMATION OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. JEFF SCHNEIDER AS TOWN'S REPRESENTATIVE TO TALBOT COUNTY TOURISM BOARD.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Jeff Schneider's appointment as the Town's Representative to Talbot County Tourism Board was confirmed.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.

APPROVAL OF BID FOR PUBLIC WORKS 2017 ¾ TON PICKUP TRUCK.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, the bid from Hertrich's Frederick Ford of Seaford for a ¾ ton pickup truck in the amount of \$32,988 was approved as recommended by staff.

59 **APPROVAL OF BID FOR PUBLIC WORKS FLAT BED DUMP TRUCK WITH SALT**
60 **SPREADER AND PLOW.**

61 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the bid for the flat bed
62 dump truck with snow plow and stainless-steel v-box in the amount of \$154,078 from The Peterbilt
63 Store – Delaware of Seaford, Delaware was approved as recommended by staff.

64 **APPROVAL OF BID FOR PUBLIC WORKS AUTOMATED COLLECTION TRUCK.**

65 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, the bid for the
66 new automated collection truck from Mid-Atlantic Waste in the amount of \$219,992 was approved
67 as recommended by staff.

68 **ATM INSTALLATION AT EVFD.**

69 Mr. Richardson asked for approval for the installation of an ATM at EVFD, ADA compliant, as
70 requested by members of the Easton Volunteer Fire Department.

71 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously, permission was
72 granted for the installation of an ATM at Easton Firehouse.

73 **7:15 PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ANNEXATION OF APPROXIMATELY 4.446 ACRES,**
74 **MORE OR LESS LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD.**

75 At 7:21 p.m., President Ford opened the 7:15 PM scheduled public hearing.

76 The Town Attorney summarized the annexation request. Mrs. VanEmburch stated that there are two
77 pieces of property owned by Celeste Industries in this request. She stated that there are only two
78 parcels left in Clifton Industrial Park to annex. Mrs. VanEmburch stated that the intent is to apply
79 the town's Industrial (I) Zoning.

80 Mr. Thomas, the Town Planner was present to discuss the annexation request. He stated that the
81 Town Planning & Zoning Commission recommended the annexation and the application of the I
82 Zoning to the properties.

83 The Town Planner stated that the annexation is the result of very cooperative efforts. He stated that
84 the annexation will result in extending water and sewer to these properties and therefore will allow
85 Celeste to expand their operations.

86 President Ford asked for questions from the council.

87 The Town Planner stated the annexation is very consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

88 The Town Attorney stated that the Industrial Park Road will be conveyed to the town from the
89 county. She stated that the Town is currently maintaining the road.

90 Zach Smith, Esq. Armistead, Griswold, Lee & Rust, 114 Bay Street, thanked the council and asked
91 for favorable consideration for the annexation and I Zoning. Mr. Smith stated that Celeste Industries
92 has been in Talbot County since 1950 producing nonhazardous cleaning chemicals to airlines. Mr.
93 Smith introduced Mr. Steve Lantz, Senior Technical Product Manager at Celeste.

94 President Ford asked for public comments. There were none.

95 President Ford closed the public hearing but left the record open until close of business Friday. He
96 stated that written comments could be forwarded to the Town Clerk for dissemination.

97 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$1,444,466.67.**

98 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, invoices totaling
99 \$1,444,466.67 were approved.

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

101 Mr. Engle thanked Town of Easton Public Works for the speediness of the recent paving downtown.

102 Mrs. Cook invited everyone to the 11th Annual National Night Out on August 5.

103 President Ford stated that Plein Air Festival is underway.

107 **RESOLUTION NO. 6082, "A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN LANDS OWNED BY**
108 **CELESTE INDUSTRIES CORPORATION, LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF**
109 **INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD AND CONSISTING OF 4.446 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR**
110 **LESS, INTO THE TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE TERMS AND**
111 **CONDITIONS OF THE ANNEXATION."**

112 Introduced May 15, 2017.

114 **ORDINANCE NO. 708, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING**
115 **THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPLY AN ORIGINAL**
116 **ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF INDUSTRIAL (I) TO CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND**
117 **ANNEXED TO THE TOWN OF EASTON BY RESOLUTION NO. 6082 LOCATED ON**
118 **THE EAST SIDE OF INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD AND CONSISTING OF 4.446 ACRES**
119 **OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.”**

120 Introduced May 15, 2017.

121 **7:30 PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS ORDINANCE NO. 712 WHICH PROPOSES**
122 **AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN’S ZONING ORDINANCE.**

123 At 7:30 p.m., President Ford opened the public hearing.

124 The Town Planner Mr. Thomas stated that the request is to amend the Zoning Ordinance which
125 proposes to amend the current use by inserting sports training facilities in the description. I-1 will be
126 converted to BC eventually. He stated that the Planning Commission has reviewed the request and
127 recommended adoption.

128 Burry Parker Esq. on behalf of Hearthstone Health & Fitness discussed the request for an
129 amendment. Mr. Parker stated that Hearthstone has received National recognition as a Club of
130 Tomorrow but they need additional space. Mr. Parker stated that the former postal facility on
131 Commerce Drive is over 16000 sq. ft. and Hearthstone is proposing a facility the Town should be
132 proud of. Mr. Parker stated that they are requesting an amendment of the Zoning Ordinance. Mr.
133 Parker stated that the facility would also house an indoor golf training facility. He stated that
134 Hearthstone also works with high schools for their sports teams. Mr. Parker stated that by amending
135 the Zoning Ordinance, the council would be keeping a successful business in town and encouraging
136 Hearthstone Health & Fitness to remain.

137 The Town Attorney Mrs. VanEmburch discussed a revision in the title of the Ordinance which
138 would include amending the title to include BC.

139 Mr. Parker stated that Hearthstone wants the new facility to open in approximately a year.

140 President Ford stated that this is a public hearing and opened the floor for any public comment.

141 Mr. Steve Wheeler, Easton stated he has been a member at Hearthstone for approximately a year. He
142 stated that the current facility doesn’t serve all the needs. Mr. Wheeler stated that he thinks it is
143 important to look at the opportunity to grow and employ successful people. Mr. Wheeler asked the
144 Council for favorable consideration.

145 There being no further comments, at 7:45 p.m., President Ford closed the public hearing.

146 **ORDINANCE NO. 712, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING**
147 **THE TOWN OF EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE TO ADD “FITNESS**
148 **CENTERS/SPORTS TRAINING FACILITIES/HEALTH SPA/FIGURE SALON” AS A**
149 **PERMITTED USE IN THE I-1 ZONING DISTRICT SUBJECT TO SUPPLEMENTAL USE**
150 **STANDARDS.”**

151 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Ordinance No.
152 712 was approved.

153 **ADJOURNMENT.**

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155 At 7:46 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously,
156 President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk