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2 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**
3 **EASTON TOWN HALL**
4 **14 S HARRISON STREET**
5

6 **November 18, 2019**
7

8 **PRESENT AT CONVENING.**
9

10 Mayor Robert C. Willey
11 Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein
12 Councilmember Donald Abbatiello
13 Councilmember Ron E. Engle
14 Councilmember Megan M. Cook
15

16 President of the Council John Ford was excused.
17

18 Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Don Richardson, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon
19 VanEmburch and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.
20

21 **CALL TO ORDER BY TOWN CLERK.**
22

23 At 7:00 p.m., Kathy Ruf, Town Clerk called the meeting to order due to the absence of Mr. Ford,
24 President of the Council, and requested nominations for an Acting President of the Town Council.
25

26 **MOTION FOR ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.**
27

28 Pursuant to a motion from Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Mrs.
29 Cook was elected as the Acting President of the Council.
30

31 Acting President Cook took the President of the Council's seat.
32

33 **OPENING REMARKS BY MRS. COOK AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**
34

35 Mrs. Cook asked for thoughts for President Ford and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
36

37 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2019 MEETING.**
38

39 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, minutes of the
40 November 4, 2019 meeting was approved as written.
41

42 **FIRE BOARD.**
43

44 Chief Sonny Jones gave a statistical report for response of incidents. He stated the Fire Department
45 has 125 members on the roster; 100 active members. Chief Jones stated that they had 1069
46 emergency responses which was a 3% increase over last year. He asked the public to make sure they
47 are fire safe, with working smoke alarms and chimneys cleaned. Chief Jones wished everyone a
48 safe, healthy and happy holiday on behalf of the Fire Department. He discussed the substantial
49 numbers of recruits with ten members enrolled in Fire Fighter One basic training class in Queens
50 Anne County. He stated that Easton will host the class at the fire station.
51

52 President Tim Knotts discussed recruit and retention. He stated that they may have to purchase new
53 gear racks as they have expended close to their entire turnout budget for gear. He stated that they are
54 making progress on training ground. President Knotts stated that the train garden will be open next
55 Friday.
56

57 Vice President Rick Stacey updated on projects at the Department.
58

59 At 7:12 p.m., Mr. Jones, Mr. Knotts and Mr. Stacey departed the meeting.
60

61 **ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.**
62

63 Mayor Willey stated that the Historic District Commission needs a member and an alternate for the
64 Board of Appeals.
65

66 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**
67

68 **RAILS-TO-TRAILS (EASTON VILLAGE) UPDATE.**
69

70 Mr. Richardson, Town Manager stated the Town will be buying a spreader and a tiller to implement
71 soil cement solution. The Town will utilize an RFP for mill and overlay.
72

73 **RAILS-TO-TRAILS (EAST/WEST SPUR LINE) UPDATE.**
74

60 Mr. Richardson asked for permission to award Phase 2 to Rauch in the amount of \$14,300 and
61 Phase 3 to Rauch in the amount of \$38,850.

62 Upon motion by Mr. Engle, seconded by Mr. Silverstein carried unanimously, permission to award
63 Phase 2 and Phase 3 as proposed was granted.

64 **RECOMMENDATION FOR CREAMERY LANE STORM DRAIN LINING.**

65
66 Mr. Richardson stated there is a sink hole forming in Creamery Lane near Leonard Rieck Drive and
67 asked for permission to award the repair work to Pleasants for the total price of \$166,750.

68
69 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, permission was
70 granted to award the contract to Pleasants.

71
72 **RECOMMENDATION FOR TANYARD BRANCH & PAPERMILL BRANCH STREAM**
73 **RESTORATION CONSTRUCTION.**

74
75 Mr. Richardson discussed storm drain failure and recommended awarding the Stream Restoration
76 Construction work to Environmental Quality Resources (EQR) with the add alternate for the total
77 price of \$813,918.25.

78
79 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, permission
80 was granted to award the stream restoration construction work to EQR.

81
82 Mr. Richardson stated that Public Works is hard at work with leaf collection. He asked that
83 residents not put leaves to be picked up in street or storm drains.

84
85 Mr. Richardson stated that Public Works has planted 48 trees at Glenwood Avenue; 80 trees planted
86 throughout Easton.

87
88 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

89 Nothing at this time.

90 **LETTER FROM MR. JACK STUECKLER, EASTON LIONS CLUB REQUESTING**
91 **PERMISSION TO HOLD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE SALES ON LOT NEAR AMISH**
92 **MARKET.**

93 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, permission to
94 hold annual Christmas Tree sales on a lot near the Amish Market was approved.

95 **MS. NEOMA ROHMAN TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL REGARDING FUNDING FOR**
96 **EMERGENCY REPAIRS FOR TOWN OF EASTON RESIDENTS.**

97 Ms. Rohman was present to discuss marketing for grant funding for low income residents. She
98 asked if the town is receptive for them to use the list Easton Utilities has or will send out
99 information on their behalf.

100 Mr. Richardson asked that the request be forwarded to the Affordable Housing Board.yZx
101 :.m

102 Mr. Silverstein asked Mr. Bent how the funds are marketed.

103 Mr. Bent stated that the Board would prefer the application come back to them and not a third party.

104 Mr. Silverstein asked if it is feasible for the parties to get together.

105 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$541,137.86.**

106 Upon motion by Mr. Abbatiello seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, invoices
107 totaling \$541,137.86 were approved.

108 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:**

109 Mr. Abbatiello stated he appreciated Mayor Willey's invitation to the ROTC Veteran's Ceremony.

110
111 **ADJOURNMENT.**

112 At 7:33 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously,
113 Acting President of the Council adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.