

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

5 May 18, 2020
6

7 **PRESENT AT CONVENING.**
8

9 Mayor Robert C. Willey
10 Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein
11 Councilmember Donald M. Abbatiello
12 Acting President of the Council Ronald E. Engle
13 Councilmember Megan M. Cook
14

15 Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Don Richardson, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon
16 VanEmburch and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.
17

18 **CALL TO ORDER.**

19 At 7:00 p.m., Acting President Mr. Engle called the meeting to order.

20 **OPENING REMARKS BY MR. SILVERSTEIN AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

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

22 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2020 MEETING.**

23 Upon motion by Mr. Abbatiello seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, minutes of the
24 April 20, 2020 meeting were approved as written.
25

26 **FIRE BOARD.**

27 Chief Sonny Jones briefed on the State of Affairs for Easton Volunteer Fire Department. Chief
28 Jones stated that the anticipated loss of income due to coronavirus and the cancellation of
29 fundraising events may exceed \$100,000. He stated that the Annual 5K Race will cancelled this
30 year. He stated that they will need to change protocols for responses due to the pandemic. Mr.
31 Jones stated that their personnel is their most significant resource.
32

33 Chief Jones stated that they have a good stock of personal protective equipment. He stated that
34 they are working in conjunction with Department of Emergency Services to replenish supplies as
35 needed. He stated that both stations are currently restricted to members only and the MD State
36 Fire Convention in Ocean City has been cancelled this year. He stated that they anticipate other
37 cancellations as well.
38

39 Chief Jones discussed department statistics thru April. He stated that their alarms are down 35%.
40

41 Chief Jones made a white hat presentation to Mayor Willey. He stated that Mayor Willey is
42 present at large scale incidents and he needs to have a vest and helmet.
43

44 Mr. Engle asked for clarification regarding exposures during car accidents.
45

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

47 Mr. Abbatiello stated that Carol Prettyman suffered a brain aneurism and was in surgery today at
48 10 a.m. He stated that she will be in Neurological ICU in Baltimore for 10-14 days.

49 Mrs. Cook discussed the passing of Eric Lowery. She asked that everyone keep the Lowery
50 family in their thoughts.
51

52 Mr. Engle reminded everyone that the Governor has instituted Stage 1 of the re-opening plan. He
53 reminded everyone to wear their mask and maintain social distancing.
54

55 **ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.**
56

57 Mayor Willey stated that the Council will continue virtual meetings thru June.

58

59 Mayor Willey stated that Mr. Kozel from UMMS will be present at the upcoming meeting to
60 update on the regional hospital.

61

62 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**

63

64 **APPROVAL TO AWARD IMPERVIOUS SURFACE AWARD TO BRYAN & SONS FOR**
65 **OLD PUBLIC WORKS.**

66

67 Mr. Richardson discussed the DNR grant to begin transforming old Public Works to a waterfront
68 park which includes removing impervious surface and replacing the surface to a green space with
69 soils and grasses.

70

71 He asked for approval to award the bid to Bryan & Sons in the amount of \$45,000.

72

73 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, the bid from
74 Bryan & Sons was approved.

75

76 Mr. Abbatiello discussed parking at the hospital.

77

78 Mr. Richardson stated that the matter can be revisited.

79

80 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

81

82 The Town Attorney Mrs. VanEmburch discussed the upcoming election scheduled for Tuesday,
83 June 9 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at EVFD. She stated that social distancing measures will be in place
84 but if voters prefer to vote by absentee ballot, the request must be made to the town office by June
85 2.

86

87 **ORDINANCE NO. 748," THE BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR THE TWELVE-MONTH**
88 **PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2020."**

89

90 Upon motion by Mrs. Cook, seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, Ordinance No.
91 748 was approved.

92

93 **ORDINANCE NO. 749, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE RAISING BY**
94 **TAXATION THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO PAY THE ORDINARY EXPENSES OF**
95 **THE TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON**
96 **THE VARIOUS BOND ISSUES AND THE REDUCTION OF CERTAIN BONDS AND**
97 **NOTES FOR THE PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS AND SETTING THE INTEREST**
98 **AND PENALTY FOR DELINQUENT BILLS, COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2020 AND**
99 **ENDING JUNE 30, 2021."**

100

101 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, Ordinance No.
102 749 was approved.

103

104 **ORDINANCE NO. 752, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO CARRY**
105 **FORWARD CERTAIN CAPITAL FUND EXPENDITURES INTO FISCAL YEAR 2021."**

106

107 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, Ordinance
108 No. 752 was approved.

109

110 **RESOLUTION NO. 6118, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON REVISING**
111 **THE TOWN'S LICENSE, APPLICATION, PERMITS, INSPECTION, CERTIFICATE**
112 **AND OTHER FEES."**

113

114 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously,
115 Resolution No. 6118 was approved.

116

117 **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

118

119 Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, there is no public access to the Council meetings.

120

121 Mayor stated that upcoming council meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. starting June 1. Closed session
122 times will be discussed.

123

124 Mr. Engle suggests that any closed sessions, they should occur after the regularly scheduled
125 meetings.

126

127 **ADJOURNMENT.**

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129 At 7:29 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried
130 unanimously, Acting President of the Council adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk (approved June 1, 2020)