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3 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**
4 **EASTON TOWN HALL**
5 **14 S HARRISON STREET**
6

7 **September 21, 2020**
8

9 **PRESENT AT CONVENING.**

10
11 Mayor Robert C. Willey
12 Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein
13 Councilmember Donald M. Abbatiello
14 Councilmember Ron E. Engle
15 Councilmember Rev. Elmer N. Davis, Jr.
16 Council President Megan M. Cook
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 PRESIDENT COOK.**

22
23 At 5:30 p.m., President Cook called the meeting to order.
24

25 **OPENING REMARKS BY REV. DAVIS AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

26
27 Rev. Davis gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
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29 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 MEETING.**

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31 Upon motion by Mr. Engle seconded by Rev. Davis and carried unanimously, minutes of the
32 September 8, 2020 meeting were approved.
33

34 **ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.**

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36 **TOWN OF EASTON EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS.**

37
38 Mayor Willey presented awards to the following employees for their 2019 Service Awards:
39 Susan Filbird – Permit Clerk (20 years)
40 Barry Slaughter – Public Works (20 years)
41 William (“Bill”) Willis – Public Works (20 years)
42

43 Not present:

44 Allen Orrison – Police Officer (10 years)
45 Jeanette Whalley – Police Officer (20 years)
46 Mary Moyer – Evidence Clerk (20 years)
47 David Trevino – Police Officer (20 years)
48 James Ray Rodgers – Public Works (10 years)
49

50 **ABATEMENT OF TAXES.**

51
52 Mayor Willey has a letter requesting abatement of Real Property Taxes from Neighborhood
53 Service Center for 6 South Street; a dwelling for three families.
54

55 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, the
56 abatement of real property taxes was approved.
57

58 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**

- 59
60
 - Public Assembly Permit: EVFD 5k Run – October 24, 2020 10 a.m.
61

62 Upon motion by Mr. Engle seconded by Rev. Davis and carried unanimously, the Public
63 Assembly Permit was approved.
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65
66
67

68 **RECOMMENDATION FOR WEBSITE AND INTEGRATED COMPONENTS.**

69
70 Mr. Richardson asked that the recommendation for website and additional services be tabled
71 until the next meeting. He stated that designs have been forwarded to the Town's Department
72 heads to give them a chance to review the websites. He asked that the recommendation be
73 considered at the next council agenda.

74
75 **2020 CENSUS.**

76
77 Mr. Richardson stated that the 2020 Census ends on September 30 and the Town of Easton's
78 response rate is currently at 73.9% which exceeds the marks. He stated that every individual
79 counted helps with funding sources and asked that citizens respond to data collectors. Mr.
80 Richardson stated that he hopes that Easton's rate gets to 80%.

81
82 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

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84 Mrs. VanEmburch, the Town Attorney stated that she has nothing for this evening.

85
86 **MS. TRACY WARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EASTON EDC TO UPDATE ON**
87 **SIDEWALK DINING AND BEAUTIFICATION.**

88
89 Ms. Tracy Ward was present to update on the lane closure and discussion of the beautification
90 committee. Ms. Ward invited Mr. Jeff Lankford, Marketing and Events Coordinator for Easton
91 Business Alliance, to discuss outdoor dining. Mr. Lankford stated that they are really focusing on
92 functionality. He stated that businesses are showing strong support for the extension until
93 October 31. Mr. Lankford discussed a recent vehicular accident on Washington Street. He stated
94 that they are suggesting the Town invest in impact barriers to be used along the existing parking
95 spaces. He stated that it is a significant investment from the town to purchase the barriers. Mr.
96 Lankford discussed estimated costs and stated that the assets could be used for additional events.
97 Mr. Lankford stated that they will be talking to businesses to see what they would like to have.

98 President Cook asked that businesses discuss the next steps and what they would like before
99 January.

100 Ms. Natalie Slater discussed the Beautification Committee. She stated that Ted Mueller is the
101 Chairman. She stated that the committee is inviting stakeholders that are interested in the
102 beautification in the town. She stated that they would like to focus on short term and
103 recommendations for 2021. They are suggesting to refurbish planters around town, place picnic
104 tables, trash cans and sanitizing stations as well as added outdoor seating. She discussed placing
105 hanging baskets starting in May 2021.

106 Mr. Silverstein asked to be kept informed.

107 Mr. Jeff Lankford discussed the hand sanitation stations with signage. He stated he will forward
108 minutes and details. Mr. Lankford stated that he wants to get the community involved to give the
109 biggest impact.

110 **RESOLUTION NO. 6124, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON ADOPTING**
111 **ADDITIONAL FISCAL POLICIES."**

112
113 Mr. Richardson, Town Manager discussed the three recommended debt service policies included
114 with Resolution No. 6124.

115
116 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Resolution
117 No. 6124 was passed unanimously following a roll call vote.

118
119 **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

120
121 There were no public comments.

122
123 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

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125 Mr. Abbatiello thanked the council for supporting EVFD. He explained to the listening audience
126 that the Department is completely volunteer.

127
128
129

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131 **ADJOURNMENT.**

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133 At 6:03 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried
134 unanimously, President Cook adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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138 _____
138 Respectfully submitted,

139 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk (approved October 5, 2020)