

1 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**
2 **Easton Town Hall**
3 **14 S. Harrison Street**
4 **Budget Workshop**

5 April 18, 2016
6

7 **PRESENT AT CONVENING**
8

9 Mayor Robert C. Willey
10 Councilmember Al Silverstein
11 Councilmember Pete Leshner
12 Councilmember Ron Engle
13 Councilmember Megan M. Cook
14 Council President John F. Ford
15

16 **IN ATTENDANCE**
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18 Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Karge, and Town Clerk Mrs. Ruf.
19

20 **CONVENING**
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22 President Ford called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
23

24 Mayor Willey stated that the Town of Easton department heads have presented their requests and now
25 EBA and EEDC will present their budget requests.
26

27 Mr. Leshner stated that the request is for \$104,845. After Mayor review, the budgeted amount is
28 \$93,422.
29

30 Mr. Jeff Schneider, EBA was present regarding EBA's request.
31

32 Mr. Schneider discussed EBA's budget request. He stated that EBA represents the interests of the
33 Easton business community of the town. He discussed their marketing techniques. Mr. Schneider
34 stated that they should not duplicate Chamber of Commerce activities. They currently have 60
35 members but they are working to encompass all the business community. Mr. Schneider discussed
36 their advertising campaign and stated that they count on the town's support.
37

38 President Ford stated that the amount allocated for EBA is \$11,000 less than requested. Mr. Schneider
39 stated that they would like to grow membership support and work on more fundraising events.
40

41 Mr. Schneider stated that the salary for the Executive Director remains at \$41,000; with benefits and
42 taxes that line item totals \$50,000.
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44 Mr. Silverstein asked for clarification and recognition for funding from the Town of Easton.
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46 Mr. Schneider asked if the council would like more information regarding events.
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48 Mr. Silverstein discussed enhancing the Discover Easton website.
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50 Mr. Karge discussed losing the Main Street designation.
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52 Mayor Willey stated that Mr. Thomas is not enthused with Main Street or getting involved with the Main
53 Street designation.
54

55 Mr. Schneider exited the meeting at 6:25 p.m.
56

57 Ms. Tracy Ward and Mr. Ted Bautz updated on Easton Economic Development Corporation. Ms. Ward
58 stated that the Board has changed. She stated that EDC is coordinating with other organizations on their
59 economic development activities. Ms. Ward discussed two projects; the Port Street Master Plan
60 Redevelopment and Chesapeake Harvest. Ms. Ward stated that she intends to have a draft document to
61 the Mayor and Council by the end of May. She stated that she wants to get streetscape design work
62 completed in order to get funding from the state.
63

1 Ms. Ward stated that there are four property owners at Easton Point that would like to annex; one
2 property includes the marina with a proposal for a restaurant. She stated that the second project,
3 Chesapeake Harvest Center Easton is in the middle of this opportunity.

4
5 Ms. Ward and Mr. Bautz updated on funding resources.

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7 President Ford thanked Ms. Ward for the information.

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9 Ms. Ward and Mr. Bautz exited the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

10
11 **RECESS.**

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13 President Ford recessed the budget meeting and stated the regularly scheduled meeting would
14 reconvene at 7:00 p.m.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk