

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

5 March 25, 2014

6
7 **PRESENT AT CONVENING**

8
9 Mayor Robert C. Willey
10 Councilmember Kelley K. Malone
11 Councilmember Pete Leshner
12 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski
13 Councilmember Megan M. Cook
14 Council President John F. Ford

15
16 **IN ATTENDANCE**

17
18 Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Karge, and Town Clerk Mrs. Ruf.

19
20 **CONVENING**

21
22 President Ford called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of
23 Allegiance.

24
25 **Superintendent of Public Works Mr. Michael Dickerson and Assistant to the Town Engineer Mr.**
26 **Brian Hause.**

27
28 Mayor said the operational side has been funded as asked for. The capital side is a little short. Mayor
29 Willey stated he would like to fund additional paving.

30
31 Mr. Leshner asked for clarification regarding staff salaries. Mr. Karge stated that no employees have
32 been cut out of the budget.

33
34 Mr. Dickerson stated that recycling has picked up.

35
36 Engineering costs were discussed.

37
38 Mr. Hause discussed the study of the midtown storm drain.

39
40 Mrs. Cook applauded the Public Works efforts during the snow events.

41
42 Mr. Dickerson stated that the Public Works department is no longer using sand on the roads.

43
44 Mr. Dickerson discussed the street sweeper and grappler truck that is starting to wear out.

45
46 Mayor Willey stated that he thinks the solution to the necessity to repave numerous streets is to
47 restructure the bond debt.

48
49 Discussion occurred regarding the replacement of the light bulbs to LED. Mr. Hause stated that there
50 are approximately 75 more colonial streetlights to do and then plans are to start replacing the Cobra
51 Heads to LED then he believes a significant savings would be realized.

52
53 Mr. Hause discussed proposed upcoming projects.

54
55 Mr. Dickerson stated that he would like to see the requested equipment remain in the budget.

56
57 Mr. Dickerson stated that the morale at the Department has been outstanding during the inclement
58 weather conditions.

59
60 At 7:11 p.m., Mr. Dickerson and Mr. Hause exited the meeting.

61
62 **Fire Department**

63
64 At 7:11 p.m., Mr. Edward Lynch and Mr. Ken Bush were present for the Fire Department's requests.
65

1 Mayor Willey stated that window replacements are in the capital budget.

2
3 Mayor Willey stated that an additional custodian position is in the budget.

4
5 The purchase of a camera system was discussed.

6
7 The summary for what is needed at the Fire Department is basically the windows for the addition, floor
8 scrubber and custodian. Mayor Willey stated that the floor scrubber can be purchased in the current
9 budget.

10
11 Mr. Bush stated that the fund drive is ongoing and doing very well.

12
13 At 7:27 p.m., Mr. Lynch and Mr. Bush exited the meeting.

14
15 **Planning and Zoning Department**

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17 At 7:28 p.m., Mr. Lynn Thomas was present for his department.

18
19 Mr. Thomas stated that the Planning Department budget is very straightforward and pretty much
20 identical to last year's budget. He stated that the Department is making do with a retired police car.

21
22 President Ford discussed professional fees for Boards and Commissions.

23
24 Mr. Thomas discussed replacing the plotter. He stated it was the consensus of the department that the
25 current plotter could make it thru to the next budget cycle.

26
27 Discussion occurred regarding the density in the downtown and where the practices and desires do not
28 mesh with the Comprehensive Plan and the possibility of a workshop for further discussion with the
29 Planning and Zoning Commission.

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31 At 7:44 p.m., Mr. Thomas exited the meeting.

32
33 Discussion occurred regarding how to fund the shortfall.

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35 **ADJOURNMENT**

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37 Upon motion by Mrs. Cook seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, President Ford
38 adjourned the budget workshop at 8:49 p.m.

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42 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk