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TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND
Easton Town Hall
14 S. Harrison Street

April 7, 2008

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PRESENT AT CONVENING

8 Mayor Robert C. Willey
9 Mr. John F. Ford
10 Ms. Maureen Scott-Taylor
11 Mr. Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr.
12 Ms. Moonyene Jackson-Amis

13
14 Mr. Scott R. Jensen was excused.

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IN ATTENDANCE

18 Also in attendance were the Town Attorney Mr. Kehoe, Town Manager Mr. Karge, Town Planner Mr.
19 Hamilton, Building Code Official Mr. Don Richardson and Town Clerk Ms. Ruf.

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CONVENING

23 At 7:00 p.m., the President of the Council, President Ford called the meeting to order.

24
25 Mr. Wendowski opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 17 AND MARCH 24, 2008 MEETINGS

29 Upon motion by Ms. Scott-Taylor seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, minutes of
30 the March 17 and March 24, 2008 meetings were approved as amended by Ms. Jackson-Amis.

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EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

34 Mr. Jamie McNeal was present with the Fire Department's March report. He discussed the dedication
35 of Station 60, the substation and new engine yesterday. Mr. McNeal discussed plans for the
36 Department's 200th Anniversary and parade.

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ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY

40 Mayor Willey discussed the Eastside and Westside town cleanup this past Saturday. He discussed
41 upcoming budget meetings with head of departments. Mayor Willey suggested that departments
42 review their fee schedule for updates that may be out of date. Mayor Willey reminded those present
43 that the Federal Home Loan Bank workshop will be in the Council's Chambers on April 16.

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ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER

47 Mr. Karge requested approval for the Farmer's Market scheduled for Saturdays April 19 through
48 December 20 using a portion of Lot 5 behind the Goodwill building and every Wednesday from June
49 25 to September 24 as well as July 4.

50
51 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Scott-Taylor and carried unanimously, approval
52 was granted for the Farmer's Market on dates as outlined.

53
54 Ms. Jackson-Amis asked for an update on the Watkins' property. She asked that the associated costs be
55 included in the upcoming budget.

56
57 Ms. Jackson-Amis discussed concerns regarding trash put out on West and Port Streets before allotted
58 pickup times. She wanted it made clear that there would be fines assessed if the offenses continue.

59
60 Ms. Scott-Taylor asked how property owners file complaints for rental properties. Mr. Karge stated
61 that maintenance concerns should be addressed to the Property Maintenance Enforcement Department,
62 Mr. Garlick; noise complaints should be directed to the police department.

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ACE MENTORING PROGRAM TO PRESENT STUDENT PROJECT

66 Members of the ACE (Architectural, Construction and Engineering) Mentoring Program were present
67 to discuss the ACE Program and student projects. Matt Faulkner discussed their experiences and

1 mentor companies. He introduced members of the Easton High School ECO Design's Ace Team,
2 Taylor Brophy, Chip Lempke and Doug Hunter. Mr. Faulkner explained their proposed project. He
3 stated that their mission was to choose a location in town and design a sports center. He discussed the
4 details of the project they designed at Moton Park. Mr. Faulkner stated that the ACE Program was
5 founded a few years ago, is involved in over 100 cities and has over 10,000 students. He thanked the
6 Mayor and Council, Easton High School and the associated professional mentors.

7
8 Mr. Charlie Thornton, Founder of ACE in New York was present and stated that he moved locally in
9 2000 and started the program in Easton. He introduced Mr. Jack Dempsey, Executive Director of ACE
10 of the Eastern Shore. He stated they have their eye on Salisbury where there is 14,000 high school
11 students.

12
13 Mr. Karge stated that Matt Faulkner has worked deeply in the field for the Town of Easton and was
14 integral in the design of the Memorial Walk.

15
16 **CHIEF (RET.) EDWARD R. BLESSING TO DISCUSS FUNDS FOR RETIREES**

17
18 Chief Blessing, 7102 Calves Acre Lane, Easton was present with 11 members of the Easton Police
19 Department that have retired. He stated that there are 300 years of service to the Town in the room. He
20 stated that the retirees have had a 2% increase in their pension in 11 years which equals a gross
21 increase of \$.82 per day. Chief Blessing discussed his experience on the Joint Insurance Committee
22 and previous increases to the retirees. Chief Blessing stated that he is grateful for his health insurance
23 plan.

24
25 President Ford stated that it promises to be a very challenging budget process.

26
27 **LETTER FROM MR. GARY L. MOORE, SENIOR PASTOR, ST. MARK'S UNITED**
28 **METHODIST CHURCH REQUESTING USE OF THE PAVILION AT IDLEWILD PARK**
29 **FOR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M. JUNE 1 THROUGH**
30 **AUGUST 31, 2008**

31
32 Ms. Jackson-Amis discussed her concern for other religious parties that request use of the park. She
33 asked that a policy be created for use of the facilities.

34
35 Upon motion by Ms. Scott-Taylor seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously; Pastor Gary
36 Moore's request was approved.

37
38 **ORDINANCE NO. 523, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON REPEALING, RE-**
39 **CODIFYING AND REENACTING WITH AMENDMENTS CHAPTER 13A-1 THROUGH**
40 **13A-8 FOR THE RENTAL HOUSING LICENSING AND INSPECTION PROGRAM.**

41
42 Ms. Jackson-Amis discussed her concern for the necessity of a license for rentals to families and
43 extended relatives. She stated she has a concern with limiting relationships that should be included in
44 the family concept.

45
46 Mr. Richardson stated that the definition of family came from legal counsel at the request of the
47 council.

48
49 Mr. Wendowski and Ms. Scott-Taylor were opposed to the ordinance with the exceptions.

50
51 Ms. Jackson-Amis asked that information be forwarded regarding rental properties that have on site
52 management, off site management and those with no management.

53
54 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Ford and carried Ordinance No. 523 as amended
55 with Section 14-8 removed was passed with Ms. Jackson-Amis voting no.

56
57 Mr. Richardson stated that the application has been revised and asked that all licenses which expire in
58 the Town of Easton become current.

59
60 **ORDINANCE NO. 530, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING**
61 **ORDINANCE 461 WHICH GRANTED THE APPLICATION OF ELM STREET**
62 **DEVELOPMENT, LC FOR AN AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING PLANNED UNIT**
63 **DEVELOPMENT."**

1 Upon motion by Ms. Jackson Amis seconded by Ms. Scott-Taylor and carried; Ordinance No. 530 was
2 tabled due to potential legal complexities with Talbot Preservation Alliance.

3
4 **ORDINANCE NO. 531, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON GRANTING THE**
5 **APPLICATION OF FRANK SAULSBURY FOR A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ON**
6 **THE EAST SIDE OF THROGOOD LANE BETWEEN DOVER STREET AND SOUTH LANE**
7 **UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE."**

8
9 President Ford brought Ordinance No. 531 to the floor for a first reading.

10
11 **ORDINANCE NO. 532, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AUTHORIZING**
12 **THE SALE OF A 0.147 ACRE PARCEL OF LAND DESIGNATED AS OPEN SPACE AREA**
13 **"B" IN THE BRETRIDGE SUBDIVISION TO JAMES FOREMAN."**

14
15 President Ford brought Ordinance No. 532 to the floor for a first reading.

16
17 **CONSENSUS ON TOWN OF EASTON PENSION AND OPEB REVISIONS**

18
19 Mr. Karge stated that Mr. David Boomershine, Actuary and members of the Joint Insurance
20 Committee Mr. Moeller, Mr. Grunden and himself are present for any questions.

21
22 Mr. Wendowski and Mr. Ford stated that they support the pension changes. Ms. Jackson-Amis stated
23 that she has concerns she has to work out.

24
25 Mr. Karge clarified that sworn officers are not affected by this change; they have a totally separate
26 pension package.

27
28 Mr. Kehoe asked that any additional questions be directed to him in order to draft legislation.

29
30 Ms. Scott-Taylor stated that she thinks there is no choice but for the town to go to this plan. She asked
31 that every employee be educated with the changes and asked to see a plan regarding employee
32 communications.

33
34 Mr. Grunden discussed employee communication efforts at Easton Utilities.

35
36 Mr. Kehoe stated that he will draft a resolution for consideration.

37
38 **BALLOT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSURANCE TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

39
40 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Scott-Taylor and carried unanimously, the Board of
41 Trustees as submitted by Local Government Insurance Trust were approved.

42
43 **ITEMS FROM COUNCIL**

44
45 Ms. Jackson-Amis reiterated her concerns regarding renting to relatives and having to obtain a license.
46 She asked Mr. Kehoe to research the violations of legal rights for those renting to family members.

47
48 Mr. Karge stated that one bid had been received from USDA Rural Utilities Service for the sale of a
49 bond in the amount of \$323,500 for 4.5% fixed rate for a term of 40 years payable quarterly for the
50 water and wastewater improvements to West Kennedy Street to solely recoup monies the town has
51 already expended.

52
53 Mr. Kehoe stated that he has received a request from a property owner at the intersection of Port Street
54 and Pleasant Alley whose residential property encroaches a few inches into the right of way of Pleasant
55 Alley. He stated that this is routinely handled by a revocable license agreement and a resolution will be
56 drafted for consideration.

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58 **ADJOURNMENT**

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60 At 9:04 p.m., upon motion by Ms. Scott-Taylor seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously;
61 the President of the Council adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk