

1 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**  
2 **WORKSHOP**  
3 **Easton Welcome Center**  
4 **11 S. Harrison Street**

5 January 11, 2010  
6

7 **PRESENT AT CONVENING**  
8

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

15  
16 Also in attendance were Town Manager Mr. Karge, Finance Officer Mrs. Callahan, Town  
17 Planner Mr. Hamilton, and Town Clerk Mrs. Ruf.  
18

19 **MEETING**  
20

21 At 6:00 p.m., President Ford called the workshop meeting to order. Discussion occurred  
22 regarding:  
23

24 **I. Impact Fees – Annual Report**

25 a. Background Questions

26 b. Current Status

27 i. Financial

28 Mr. Karge updated on impact fees and The Tischler Study. Mr. Karge discussed actual  
29 expenditures. He stated that the figures shown on the Impact Fee Summary report are  
30 cumulative.  
31

32 President Ford discussed a six year window with the ordinance passed.  
33

34 Discussion occurred regarding the transportation figures which may be used to build a road  
35 across Mistletoe Hall farm.

36 Mayor Willey stated that the study may need to be updated to include the purchase of a new  
37 tower for Easton Volunteer Fire Department.

38 Mayor Willey stated that the YMCA, the Airport and St. Mark's Church questioned whether to  
39 they could be included in the The Tischler study.

40 Mr. Leshner stated that there are new projects that need to be included.

41 President Ford discussed the possibility of changing the impact fees.

42 Mr. Hamilton stated that adjustments may need to be made for the small businesses.

43 Mr. Karge stated that costs need to be revised to reflect current costs.

44 President Ford explained that the original study initiated the maximum allowable impact fees.

45 Discussion occurred regarding Mayor Willey and the Town Manager reporting on the current  
46 capital projects and recommendations to the council.

47 Ms. Malone asked if the Town should start collecting for parking structure as recommended by  
48 the AKRF Study.

49 Mayor Willey stated that he will forward a report of projects that should be accomplished.

50 ii. Projects

51 c. Next Steps

52 **II. Affordable Housing**

53 a. Background Questions.

54 Mr. Hamilton questioned if there are lots for the houses to be built.

55 President Ford stated Elm Street has that property now. He recommended a report and  
56 recommendation from the Affordable Housing Board at the second council meeting  
57 in February.

58 b. Status of West Side AHUs

59 i. Number built; to be built

60 President Ford stated discussed the structures that need to be constructed in the west  
61 side. He stated that there are six left in the total of eight to be constructed. He stated  
62 that it proved to be very difficult to find applicants that fit geographical requirements  
63 and financing. He stated that there will be a change to the ordinance previously  
64 passed to turn over the project to Habitat. He stated that Elm Street is also in favor of  
65 the change. He stated that applicants will have to meet criteria that Habitat uses and  
66 will also have to have a tie to the west side area.

67 ii. Proposed changes to off-site requirements

68 c. Next Steps

69 **III. Easton Point Small Area Plan**

70 a. Background Information/Questions

71 b. Status of planning process

72 Mrs. Cook reported that they have had one meeting so far. She defined the project and the  
73 area which encompasses the previous Public Works facility and the entire Easton Point.  
74 Environmental results may be complete in late February. She stated that people want to  
75 wait until MDE results. She stated that the Council needs to have vision.

76 Mr. Hamilton discussed the foot bridge to be constructed at Easton Village.

77 Next Steps:

78 Mrs. Cook stated that the next meeting will be in March after results are received from  
79 MDE.

80 **IV. RTC Property**

81 a. Background Information/Questions

82 b. Status of planning process

83 Ms. Malone stated that she has looked at RTC Park. She discussed previous group's  
84 visions and plans. Ms. Malone discussed where we want to go short term and long term.

85 Discussion occurred regarding RTC's biggest problem which is access to the Park.

86 (Mr. Wendowski joined the meeting at 6:50 p.m.).

87 Ms. Malone stated that she did not see any reason to reinvent the wheel when they could  
88 start where the original group left off.

89 Mr. Leshar stated that he may join the group. The first meeting was Thursday, 7:00 pm.

90 President Ford discussed making a future addendum to the Comp Plan.

91 Mayor Willey suggested bringing the Assistant to the Town Engineer in as soon as  
92 possible.

93 Ms. Malone discussed short term and long term goals. She stated that the Council needs  
94 to look at three phases of park. 1) what can be implemented in 2 years 2) five seven year  
95 time frame and involve projects such as addition of restrooms, children's garden, soccer  
96 field and 3) grander visions such as central park concept.

97 President Ford discussed entrance and egress to RTC property. He stated that the east  
98 west connector road may not be feasible in its entirety but maybe in some form.

99 Mayor Willey stated that EVFD is adamantly opposed to E/W connector road.

100 c. Next Steps

101 **V. AKRF Plan – Parking**

102 a. Short term goals

103 President Ford stated that there are recommendations in the study regarding not only  
104 parking but pedestrian access and pedestrian crossing. He stated that it may be easy to  
105 implement and this portion really needs to be done. He stated that the town needs  
106 better signage to direct where lots are if we expect people to find where to park.

107 Discussion occurred regarding the creation of some mechanism to manage street  
108 parking from business owners.

109 It was the consensus to ask the Economic Development Director to lead the charge to  
110 manage street parking with their employees.

111 b. Long term goals

112 c. Next Steps

113

114 Mayor Willey discussed budget constraints and stated that there will be no new hires  
115 for cop vacant slots.

116 Discussion occurred regarding the two million dollar cuts expected from the State.

117 Mr. Clem Clark was present and suggested that the east west connector road be  
118 broken into parts for construction.

119 At 7:21 pm, President Ford adjourned the workshop.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk

