

1 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**
2 **Easton Town Hall**
3 **14 S. Harrison Street**
4 **Council Work Session**

5
6 May 18, 2015
7

8 **PRESENT AT CONVENING.**
9

10 Mayor Robert C. Willey
11 Council President John Ford
12 Councilmember Pete Leshner

13 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski
14 Councilmember Megan M. Cook

15
16 Also in attendance were Councilmembers elect Mr. Alan I. Silverstein (Ward 1), Mr. Ron E. Engle
17 (Ward 3), Town Manager Mr. Robert F. Karge, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch and
18 Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.

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20 **CALL TO ORDER.**
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22 President Ford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
23

24 **MEETING.**
25

26 President Ford stated that the work session had been scheduled to discuss Easton Business
27 Association's proposal on parking in downtown.

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29 Captain Waltrup and First Sgt. Thomas were present from Easton Police Department.
30

31 Ms. Malone joined the meeting at 6:40 p.m.
32

33 Ms. Julie Corson EBA Executive Director and Mr. Jeff Schneider Manager of Hampton Inn,
34 Chairperson for Easton Business Association were present to discuss the proposed campaign for
35 downtown Easton employees to "Walk a Block to Work."
36

37 Ms. Corson stated that Easton Business Association along with the retail business community in
38 Downtown Easton are campaigning together to improve the perception of Easton as a retail-
39 friendly environment for our local community and our tourists.
40

41 Ms. Corson stated that on street parking abuse is a problem as well as a parking problem
42 perception. She stated that they intend to use a proactive approach to work thru these problems.
43 She stated that employees park in the three hour space. Ms. Corson and Mr. Schneider stated that
44 there is accessibility and availability as well as ample parking in lots downtown. She stated that
45 they are proposing a "walk a block to work" campaign.
46

47 President Ford stated that what needs to change is the behavior.
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49 Mr. Schneider discussed the one parking space on the street which he stated generates
50 approximately \$150 - \$300 daily in retail sales. He stated that this is going to be a long term
51 conversation. Mr. Schneider stated that there are approximately 500 parking spaces in lots
52 downtown. He stated that EBA is suggesting trying to push parkers into lots.
53

54 First Sgt. Thomas discussed a recent survey and the activity of the Meter Enforcement Officers.
55 First Sgt Thomas stated that Easton Police Department would like to see parking fines increased.
56

57 Mr. Leshner asked Easton Police Department to share data with the council and EBA.
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59 Mr. Schneider and Ms. Corson exited the meeting at 6:55 p.m.
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61 **ADJOURN.**
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63 President Ford adjourned the work session at 6:56 p.m.
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66 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk