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

December 1, 2008

PRESENT AT CONVENING

8 Mayor Robert C. Willey
9 Council President John F. Ford
11 Councilmember Scott R. Jensen
12 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski
13 Councilmember Moonyene Jackson-Amis

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Attorney Mr. Kehoe, Town Manager Mr. Karge and Town Clerk Ms. Ruf.

CONVENING

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

Ms. Jackson-Amis opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17 AND NOVEMBER 26, 2008 MEETINGS

Upon motion by Mr. Jensen seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously; minutes of the November 17 and November 26, 2008 meetings were approved as written. Ms. Jackson-Amis asked that the record reflect that the meeting held November 26 was just a general meeting.

Mr. Kehoe stated that the purpose of the meeting does not matter and if it is about public business and three or more members of the council are in attendance it is a meeting of the Town Council under the Maryland Open Meetings Act and needs notification and minutes should be kept.

EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Jamie McNeal was present with the November report. He discussed a mass casualty drill held at the old Lowe's facility on November 22.

Mr. McNeal discussed personal accountability tags issued by Talbot County that each firefighter has with information relative to each firefighter.

Mr. McNeal stated that he will have new line officer information for the first meeting in January.

MR. JOSEPH P. ROSS, PRESIDENT AND CEO TO UPDATE COUNCIL ON SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM

Mr. Ross introduced Mr. John Murray, Counsel for Shore Health System and Ms. Patti Willis, Vice President of Corporate Communications. He discussed personal calls made to each councilmember notifying them of the decision of Shore Health System's Board to recommend the Talbot County site for the new hospital.

Mr. Ross updated on planning goals, community need and expressed appreciation for everyone's hard work for the preferred site. He offered special appreciation to Mr. Kehoe for his hard work on the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Ross discussed the attraction and retention of physicians on the Eastern Shore and the need to serve the entire region. He discussed key conclusions that Shore Health System has reached in the planning process. Mr. Ross discussed the advantages of the Talbot County site and stated that the working date for the groundbreaking is 2012.

Mr. Ross expressed appreciation as individuals and as a council for the support and commitment to the preferred site.

Mr. Murray discussed obligations still needed to be accomplished for the preferred site in Talbot County.

1 **ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY**

2
3 Mayor Willey discussed the visit to New York to meet with the rating agencies prior to the bond sale.

4
5 Mayor Willey stated that the Thompson Park Christmas tree lighting will be December 5 and the
6 turkey distribution to Boards and Commissions and employees will be December 23.

7
8 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER**

9
10 Mr. Karge discussed the holiday trash schedule and stated that Christmas trees will be picked up for
11 recycling.

12
13 Mr. Karge stated that Memorial Walk bricks are still available for purchase.

14
15 The following Public Assembly Permits were submitted by Easton Police Department for approval:

- 16
17 • December 6, 6:30 p.m., Olde Tyme Holiday Parade
18 • December 31, 6:00 p.m. – 12:01 a.m., 1st Night Talbot

19
20 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Jensen and carried unanimously, Public Assembly
21 Permits as recommended by Easton Police Department were approved.

22
23 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski, seconded by Mr. Jensen and carried unanimously, the FY2007/08
24 Audit as prepared by Clifton Gunderson LLP, Certified Public Accountants & Consultants and
25 presented in the audit outbrief by Mr. Matthew E. Birkelien, CPA was approved for release.

26
27 **LETTER FROM CHAIRMAN EASTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**
28 **REGARDING EASTON DOWNTOWN PLAN FOR INFILL DEVELOPMENT PREPARED**
29 **BY CONSULTING FIRMS OF AKRF AND STREET WORKS**

30
31 It was the consensus of the Council to hold a public hearing.

32
33 President Ford scheduled the Public Hearing for January 5, 2009 at 7:15 p.m. for public comment.

34
35 Mr. Jensen asked Ms. Scott-Taylor to take the lead in getting participants to attend the public hearing.

36
37 **NEW PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING**

38
39 Ms. Jackson-Amis asked if the new Public Works facility would be named after Robert Potter as was
40 the previous building.

41
42 Mayor Willey stated that he anticipates that the new facility will be named after the long standing
43 public works employee Robert Potter.

44
45 **POLICE AND FIRE BOARD MEETINGS**

46
47 Ms. Jackson-Amis discussed the Fire Board and Police Board meetings. She stated that no decisions
48 can be made at these meetings and have to come before the Council. Ms. Jackson-Amis asked if the
49 Council could be thinking of having a more flexible system. She stated if a member cannot be there,
50 discussion should still be allowed.

51
52 **CLOSED SESSION**

53
54 Upon motion by Mr. Jensen seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, President Ford
55 convened into Closed Session at 8:32 p.m. to discuss real estate.

56
57 **ADJOURNMENT**

58
59 Upon motion by Mr. Jensen seconded by Ms. Jackson-Amis and carried unanimously; President Ford
60 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk