

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68

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

December 7, 2009

PRESENT AT CONVENING

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, Town Manager Mr. Karge, Town Planner Mr. Hamilton, Economic Development Director Mrs. Scott-Taylor and Town Clerk Ms. Ruf.

CONVENING

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

Mrs. Cook opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTION OF PARKING LOT SWAP LEGISLATION

President Ford announced that the legislation for the Tidewater Inn parking lot swap would be introduced this evening but not voted on until the following meeting which is standard procedure.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, minutes of the November 16, 2009 meetings were approved.

REPORT FROM THE EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Jamie McNeal was present for the November fire department report. He displayed a carbon monoxide detector.

Mr. McNeal stated that the nominations are this evening for new officers at the department with the elections the first Monday in January.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY

Mayor Willey reported that the Airport is undergoing environmental assessments before construction.

Mayor Willey stated that the annual audit for the Town of Easton was received today. He stated that Mr. Karge will arrange an audit outbrief with the auditor and the Council.

Mr. Wendowski asked the Mayor if any additional cuts have been received from the State. Mayor Willey stated that the Town has not been notified of additional cuts although the state will probably have a deficit.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER

Mr. Karge advised that the Public Works Department will have the leaves caught up in time for Christmas.

Mr. Karge stated that Easton Police Department renovation is estimated to be completed early February.

Mr. Karge advised that the police are on holiday deployment and discussed the potential for crime. He asked that everyone be observant of their surroundings.

Mr. Karge discussed the Economic Development Economic Recovery Zone. He asked the Council if they would like to send a letter of support to the County.

1 He stated that money may be available at favorable rates and there is no commitment at this stage. All
2 funds would be funneled through the county.

3
4 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, it was the consensus
5 of the Council to send a letter of support to the County Council and ask that Easton be included as part
6 of the recovery zone.

7
8 **ACCEPTANCE OF BID FOR REFUSE COLLECTION TRUCK**

9
10 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously; the bid from
11 Elliott Wilson Trucks, Easton in the amount of \$121,155 was approved as recommended by the Public
12 Works Department.

13
14 Mr. Wendowski asked if the Town receives taxes from the Airport.

15
16 The Town Manager stated that there are none that he could think of. The Airport is owned by Talbot
17 County Council.

18
19 **LETTER FROM MR. C. RONALD SHORTALL, TREEHAVEN HOMEOWNER'S**
20 **ASSOCIATION, INC. REQUESTING TRASH PICKUP**

21
22 The Town Manager stated that the staff had reviewed the request and stated that the Public Works
23 Department is not supportive in allowing this to occur due to the configuration of the trash pickup site
24 and the distance the sanitation trucks would have to back up to get to the garbage site. He stated that
25 the tipper truck is an even worse idea.

26
27 Mr. Wendowski discussed the sketch plan that the Assistant to the Town Engineer had forwarded.

28
29 President Ford stated that the issues are untenable with Public Works and asked if the agreement could
30 be altered.

31
32 Mr. Charles Shortall, Sr., 510 Brookletts Avenue discussed trash pickup.

33
34 Mr. Wendowski asked that the staff review the request and report back to the council.

35
36 Mr. Leshar asked if the pickup site could be reconfigured.

37
38 The Town Planner discussed the approval of the development. He stated that the developer wanted
39 more units and agreed to private pickup.

40
41 Ms. Sandra Beatty, 510 Brookletts Avenue, Unit 201 stated that their trash pickup is over \$600 per
42 month and is not beneficial to the residents.

43
44 **(CONTINUED) PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PETITION OF TALBOT COUNTY,**
45 **MARYLAND AND SHORE HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. (COLLECTIVELY, "PETITIONERS")**
46 **FOR RESOLUTION 5955 ("ANNEXATION RESOLUTION") WHICH WAS INTRODUCED**
47 **AT THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING. THE REQUEST IS TO**
48 **ANNEX APPROXIMATELY 276.479 ACRES LYING CONTIGUOUS TO THE EXISTING**
49 **BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN OF EASTON.**

50
51 At 7:33 p.m., the President of the Council opened the Public Hearing on the annexation petition of
52 Talbot County and Shore Health System. He stated that the public hearing was left open due to the
53 potential for changes to the annexation.

54
55 Ms. VanEmburch, Town Attorney discussed minor changes to the Resolution and Ordinance.

56
57 The President of the Council asked for comments. There were none.

58
59 At 7:38 p.m., the President of the Council closed the Public Hearing.

60
61 **Resolution No. 5955, "A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN LANDS OWNED BY TALBOT**
62 **COUNTY, MARYLAND, INTO THE TOWN OF EASTON LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE**
63 **OF US ROUTE 50 AND CONSISTING OF 276.479+ ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS,**
64 **AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ANNEXATION."**
65

1 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, Resolution No.
2 5955 was passed.

3
4 **Ordinance No. 561, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE**
5 **OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPLY AN ORIGINAL**
6 **ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF REGIONAL HEALTHCARE AND**
7 **GOVERNMENTAL/INSTITUTIONAL TO THREE PARCELS OF LAND ANNEXED TO**
8 **THE TOWN OF EASTON BY RESOLUTION NO. 5955 LOCATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF**
9 **U.S. ROUTE 50 AND CONSISTING OF 276.479 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.”**

10
11 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, Ordinance No. 561
12 was passed.

13
14 **APPROVAL OF ANNEXATION AGREEMENT AND PUBLIC FACILITIES AGREEMENT**
15 **(FOR SHORE HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.).**

16
17 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, the Annexation
18 Agreement and Public Facilities Agreement was approved.

19
20 **PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO EASTON SUBDIVISIONS**
21 **REGULATIONS.**

22
23 At 7:40 p.m., President Ford opened the Public Hearing scheduled for 7:15 p.m.

24
25 Mr. Hamilton discussed the CAD standards change. He passed out proposed language for the
26 Subdivision Regulations.

27
28 Mr. Hamilton discussed other changes to be incorporated in the Subdivision Regulations and asked for
29 questions from the Council.

30
31 Mayor Willey stated that he would like to see it be a requirement for all developments to have streets
32 accessible to garbage and fire trucks.

33
34 Mr. Hamilton stated that developers are asked to design to town’s standards.

35
36 Mr. Talbot Bone, Easton Utilities Engineering Department Manager; Water and Wastewater
37 Department Manager was present and agreed that the regulations for the CAD standards was adequate.

38
39 President Ford asked for audience comments. There were none.

40
41 President Ford introduced Ordinance No. 549, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON
42 AMENDING THE TOWN OF EASTON SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS” for a first reading.

43
44 At 7:49 p.m., President Ford closed the Public Hearing and stated that the written record would be left
45 open until close of business Friday.

46
47 **ORDINANCE NO. 563, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AUTHORIZING**
48 **THE TOWN OF EASTON TO CONVEY A PARKING LOT LOCATED OFF MILL PLACE**
49 **WHICH IS PARCEL 1196-2 ON TAX MAP 104 TO THE TIDEWATER INN, LLC IN**
50 **EXCHANGE FOR THE TIDEWATER INN, LLC CONVEYING A PARKING LOT TO THE**
51 **TOWN OF EASTON LOCATED OFF SOUTH STREET WHICH IS PARCEL 1536 ON TAX**
52 **MAP 104 AND GIVING THE TOWN OF EASTON A RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL FOR**
53 **PARCEL 1196-2.”**

54
55 President Ford introduced Ordinance No. 563 for a first reading and asked for Council comments.
56 There were none. He stated that Ordinance No. 563 would be eligible for a vote at the next meeting.

57
58 Mr. Leshner stated that he has heard mixed reactions from the public. He encouraged the Tidewater Inn
59 to be hospitable to their neighbors. He stated that it is essential for the Tidewater’s viability and that
60 there is a need to actively pursue parking considerations in downtown.

61
62 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

63
64 President Ford reminded everyone of a scheduled work session with the Planning and Zoning
65 Commission on December 14 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Comprehensive Plan.

1 **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

2
3 | Mr. H. Mac Brittingham, Lacaze Meredith discussed the proposed parking lot swap~~t~~ and the ownership
4 of lots. He stated that he would like to see the Tidewater Inn flourish but not at the expense of the town
5 and community. He suggested a parking permit for the guests at the Tidewater.

6
7 Mr. Richard Covell, Colony Circle stated that the guests at the Tidewater Inn will be able to get in their
8 cars and leave and not shop the downtown.

9
10 Ms. Trish Wren, 702 S. Washington Street stated that she brings numerous clients in to Lacaze
11 Meredith and often works late at night. She stated that this proposal is a terrible inequity land swap.

12
13 Ms. Lisa Hall, 17 N. Harrison Street and 12 N. Washington Street stated that she will be thrilled to see
14 the Tidewater prosper but it is scary to think realtors are going to be parking on the streets where her
15 customers normally park. She stated she is also concerned about the inequity of the parking lot swap.

16
17 **ADJOURNMENT**

18
19 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously; President Ford
20 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:16 p.m.

21
22 _____
23 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk
24
25