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

June 1, 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 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.

President Ford advised that there was a closed meeting prior to the regular scheduled Council meeting to consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State, and to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the May 18, 2009 meetings were approved.

ITEMS BY THE EASTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department had a total of 64 emergency calls for May. During the Annual Firemen's Convention in June, there will be dual enrollment with the next due fire department dispatched.

Permission was given to take Engine 63 and Aerial Tower 61 Ocean City to participate in the Annual Firemen's Convention parade.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY

Mayor Willey discussed the letter in the packet from the Talbot County Electrical Commission regarding the Town of Easton's electrical ordinance recently passed. Mr. Richardson and the Town Attorney will address Mr. Secrist's concerns in the letter.

Mayor Willey advised of the pending Public Works Department sidewalk construction.

The new automated trash truck schedule started in Chapel East, Waylands and Matthewstown Run today.

Mayor Willey asked approval for the following Public Assembly permits as recommended by Easton Police Department:

- The Chamber Music Festival Concert on June 10.
- The Elks Parade on June 28.

Mayor Willey advised that the Easton Police Department is not recommending approval for the live DJ on June 28.

Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, the recommendations from Easton Police Department were approved.

The Parks and Recreation Director Mrs. Gould will be having a community cleanup of the RTC property at 8:00 a.m. on June 27.

1 Mayor Willey discussed Phase One of the Environmental Study being accomplished on the previous
2 Public Works property on Glenwood Avenue.

3
4 The Town Attorney discussed what Phase One encompasses. She stated that it looks at past uses and
5 tries to identify potential problem areas as well as a little site inspection.

6
7 **ITEMS FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY**

8
9 Ms. VanEmburch stated that she would like to continue the Closed Session discussion after the
10 regularly scheduled meeting.

11
12 Ms. VanEmburch stated that Ordinance No. 550 and 551 go hand in hand and need to be passed
13 together.

14
15 **ORDINANCE NO. 550, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON ADOPTING A**
16 **TEMPORARY MORATORIUM OF APPLICATIONS, SITE PLANS, PERMITS FOR,**
17 **CONSTRUCTION OF, PROCESSING OF, AND APPROVAL OF ADULT ORIENTED**
18 **BUSINESSES WITHIN THE TOWN OF EASTON FOR A PERIOD OF NINE (9) MONTHS**
19 **PENDING CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF A REVISED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**
20 **AND SUCH OTHER LEGISLATION AS THE TOWN COUNCIL MAY CONSIDER**
21 **ADVISABLE TO PROMOTE THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE."**
22

23 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, Ordinance No.
24 550 was passed.

25
26 **ORDINANCE NO. 551, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE**
27 **TOWN OF EASTON ZONING RODINANCE TO CREATE THE USE ADULT ORIENTED**
28 **BUSINESS AND TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE**
29 **USE."**
30

31 Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, Ordinance No. 551
32 was passed.

33
34 **LETTER FROM MS. JOANNE BROWE, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER, CHRIST**
35 **CHURCH EASTON REQUESTING PERMISSION TO POST A VINYL BANNER ON THEIR**
36 **PROPERTY ADVERTISING VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL THROUGH JUNE 26, 2009.**
37

38 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Cook and carried unanimously, permission was
39 granted to post the banner as outlined in the letter.

40
41 **LETTER FROM MR. C. DEAN SMITH, P.E. VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN, INC.**
42 **REQUESTING TO WITHDRAW APPLICATION THE SHOPPES AT EASTON GIANT**
43 **FUEL FACILITY PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO PUD003 VHB PROJECT NO. 37934.01.**
44

45 Upon motion by Mr. Ford seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried 4 to 1 with Mr. Wendowski voting no,
46 permission was granted to withdraw the application.

47
48 **PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 BUDGET.**
49

50 At 7:16 p.m., President Ford opened the Public Hearing to consider the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget.

51
52 President Ford introduced for a first reading:

53
54 **ORDINANCE NO. 553, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE RAISING BY**
55 **TAXATION THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO PAY THE ORDINARY EXPENSES OF THE**
56 **TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON THE**
57 **VARIOUS BOND ISSUES AND THE REDUCTION OF CERTAIN BONDS AND NOTES FOR**
58 **THE PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS AND SETTING THE INTEREST AND PENALTY**
59 **FOR DELINQUENT BILLS, COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2009 AND ENDING JUNE 30,**
60 **2010."**
61

62 Mayor Willey presented the proposed budget. He stated that the current year has been a good year for
63 the Town of Easton. He stated that we successfully had our bond rating raised, we have taken delivery
64 of a new rescue pumper for the Fire Department housed at the substation, the Goldsborough Street has
65 been rebuilt, the Public Works facility was purchased at Mistletoe Hall Road and the Easton Police

1 Department has started their expansion. Mayor Willey stated that state cuts will affect the Town next
2 year and more cuts may come to the town through other state shared taxes. Additional street
3 improvements need to be done as well as an upcoming building to be built at the Police Department's
4 Firing Range. He stated that the 300th Anniversary is also coming up for the Town of Easton.

5
6 Mayor Willey highlighted the budget proposed which included the property tax rate remaining the
7 same at \$.52/\$100 of assessed value. He stated that previous commitments have also been funded. He
8 stated that all eligible Town employees will be subject to a raise as well as sworn officers getting a
9 \$2,500 across the board raise as well as a step increase. Mayor Willey stated that there is no borrowing
10 in the proposed budget and all the priority items have been funded.

11
12 Mayor Willey discussed the General Fund balances in past years as compared to the current year.

13
14 Mayor Willey stated that salaries and benefits represent 56% of the Town's expense.

15
16 Mayor Willey discussed town and county tax total comparisons to the surrounding towns. He
17 discussed the constant yield tax rate and the OPEB obligation.

18
19 Mayor Willey stated that the Town is looking good on the balance sheet and the main concern is that
20 we are there and have to work to stay in that shape.

21
22 President Ford asked for questions from the audience. There were none.

23
24 At 7:36 p.m., President Ford closed the Public Hearing. He stated that the record would remain open
25 until the close of business on Friday. Any comments can be forwarded to the Town Manager for
26 distribution to the Council.

27
28 President Ford set a workshop meeting regarding budget issues for Monday, June 8 at 5:00 p.m. in the
29 Council's Chambers at Town Hall.

30
31 **ORDINANCE NO. 554, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON APPROVING**
32 **AMENDMENTS TO THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT ("PUD") ZONING DISTRICT**
33 **KNOWN AS "LAKELANDS" WHICH WAS APPROVED BY ORDINANCE NOS. 458 AND**
34 **505 UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE."**

35
36 President Ford introduced Ordinance No. 554 for a first reading.

37
38 **ORDINANCE NO. 555, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE**
39 **TOWN OF EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE."**

40
41 President Ford scheduled a Public Hearing regarding Ordinance No. 555 for July 6, 2009 at 7:15 p.m.

42
43 **RESOLUTION NO. 5949 AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO MAKE CHANGES**
44 **TO THE TOWN OF EASTON EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK.**

45
46 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 5949
47 was passed.

48
49 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

50
51 Ms. Malone thanked the participants at the recent meeting May 27 at the Firehouse regarding the
52 Airport and runway expansion. She stated that there will be a Ward 1 meeting at June 14, 3:00 p.m., at
53 the Firehouse with Sgt. Patrone, Easton Police Department in attendance.

54
55 Mr. Leshar appealed to his constituents to forward their e-mail addresses for long range planning on
56 the Council's agenda.

57
58 Mr. Wendowski discussed fundraising efforts at the Talbot County Senior Center to provide for the
59 furniture.

60
61 Ms. Cook stated that she would like e-mail addresses as well to set up a Ward 4 meeting.

1 **CLOSED SESSION**

2

3 At 7:50 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously
4 following a roll call vote, President Ford convened into Closed Session.

5

6 **ADJOURNMENT**

7

8 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; President Ford
9 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:39 p.m.

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12 _____
Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk