

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

July 5, 2011

PRESENT AT CONVENING

Mayor Robert C. Willey
Council President John Ford
Councilmember Kelley K. Malone

Councilmember Pete Leshner
Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr.
Councilmember Megan M. Cook

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Robert F. Karge, Sr., the Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.

CONVENING

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

Mr. Wendowski opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 20, 2011 MEETING.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, minutes of the June 20, 2011 meetings were approved as prepared.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.

Mayor Willey stated that National Night Out is scheduled for August 2 at Moton Park.

Mayor Willey stated that he has received notification that \$179,193 will be received from State Aid for Police Protection. He stated that this figure is not much different than last year but approximately \$15,000 more than the amount appropriated in the budget.

APPROVAL OF RE-APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, the following re-appointments were approved:

- Mr. Jeff Parks, Talbot County Parks and Recreation Board – 4 year term
- Mr. Miles Circo, Affordable Housing Trust – 3 year term
- Mrs. Mary Ann Draut, Affordable Housing Trust – 3 year term

Mayor Willey advised that he has received a letter from Program Open Space agreeing to the proposal to exchange a piece of property at Easton point for property at Chapel Road.

Mayor Willey stated that Ms. Clendaniel, Community Development Coordinator has been notified of a \$2,000 grant approval for travel and expedition at the Wye House.

Mayor Willey discussed the Bay Street and Washington project which has commenced. He stated that the handicap access sidewalk near Idlewild Park is near completion.

Work is proceeding for the lane widening project on Marlboro Road.

Mayor Willey will attend the Board of Public Works meeting tomorrow to get approval for reimbursement for the Frederick Douglas statue. This is in conjunction with the legislation submitted by Delegate Jeannie Haddaway.

Mayor Willey advised that Easton was acknowledged as a MML Banner City at the 2011 Maryland Municipal League Convention in Ocean City.

President Ford congratulated Mayor Willey for being inducted into the MML Hall of Fame.

Mayor Willey stated that he has asked what items are a hindrance to small businesses in town and was notified that one item is the outside café application. He asked for council consensus on a proposal to make the permit fee a onetime fee of \$200.

Mr. Wendowski expressed concern for the \$200 fee.

ITEMS BY TOWN MANAGER.

Mr. Karge advised that Mr. Lynn Thomas has succeeded to Town Planner and Mr. Zach Smith will be Deputy Town Planner.

Mr. Karge stated that the Parking Commission workshops need to be reset.

Mr. Karge stated that the Town website has been restructured and redesigned. The purpose of the website is to get as much information to the community as possible.

ITEMS BY TOWN ATTORNEY.

Ms. VanEmburch discussed the six month deferral for the Waterside Village amendment application.

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously the approval was granted to defer the amendment application for an additional six months.

RESOLUTION NO. 5978, "A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN LANDS OWNED BY JENSEN'S INC., INTO THE TOWN OF EASTON LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF US ROUTE 50 AND CONSISTING OF 117.994 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ANNEXATION."

Mr. Wendowski made a motion to table the vote until Ms. Malone's return from vacation. The motion failed for lack of a second.

President Ford has received concerns regarding Capital Charges.

Ms. VanEmburch discussed three options:

- 1) Option to amend resolution and not annex area.
- 2) Apply different zoning district for undeveloped portion of property.
- 3) Amendment to annexation agreement to address potential development issues.

Mr. Ryan Showalter stated that many of the concerns can be addressed in the annexation agreement. He stated that there are no specific development plans. Mr. Showalter stated that any development would have to go through a proposal development process. He stated that the agreement binds the property not the owner or any successor.

Mr. Wendowski discussed concerns regarding annexation and asked for advantages to the town versus advantages to the applicant.

Mr. Leshner discussed favorable advantages of annexation.

President Ford stated that the rate of growth is not discussed in the annexation agreement.

Mr. Thomas discussed density for undeveloped parcel.

President Ford discussed the 1% growth rate adopted in the Town of Easton's Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Showalter discussed costs of delay.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook, Resolution No. 5978 was approved with Mr. Wendowski abstaining.

ORDINANCE NO. 588, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPLY THE R-10M ZONING DISTRICT TO TWO PARCELS OF LAND ANNEXED TO THE TOWN OF EASTON BY RESOLUTION NO. 5978 LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF U.S. ROUTE 50 AND CONSISTING OF 117.994 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS."

Upon motion by President Ford seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried, Ordinance No. 588 was tabled until the next meeting.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Mr. Curtis Kilmon discussed his concerns and requests for a noise ordinance to address delivery times for businesses near residential developments on Route 50.

President Ford stated that he prefers to build up a record from calls and review what has transpired. He stated that Chief Spencer is to give a report on the situation at the upcoming Police Board meeting.

ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mrs. Cook thanked St. Michaels, Oxford and Avalon for the July 4 festivities.

Mayor Willey stated that he will ask Chief Spencer to research noise concerns in residential communities adjacent to commercial properties.

ADJOURN

At 8:24 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously; President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk