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

September 3, 2013

PRESENT AT CONVENING

Mayor Robert C. Willey
Council President John Ford
Councilmember Megan M. Cook
Councilmember Kelley K. Malone
Councilmember Pete Leshner

Also present was Town Manager Mr. Robert Karge, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.

Mr. Wendowski was excused.

OPENING REMARKS BY MRS. COOK AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mrs. Cook led those present in opening remarks and the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2013 MEETING.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the August 19, 2013 meeting were approved.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.

Mayor Willey discussed the MML meeting he attended this past week and the priority items for this year's campaign. He stated that they are asking with combined efforts with MACO for full funding for highway user taxes. Mayor Willey stated that there is a task force being formed regarding double taxation.

Mayor Willey stated that a check was received today from Wal-Mart for for the Parks and Recreation.

Mayor Willey discussed the Public Works projects for the remainder of the year.

Marlboro Road should be completed this week. Mayor Willey stated that a new grate will be installed on N Aurora Street opposite Creamery Lane.

Mayor Willey reminded the council that an Ethic Ordinance needs to be passed by October 1

CONSIDERATION FOR (RE) APPOINTMENTS TO WATERFOWL FESTIVAL COMMISSION.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, the following appointments to the Waterfowl Festival Commission were approved:

Bonnie Morro - Term of 3 years ending in 2016 (replacing Nancy Wells)
Linda Laramy - Term of 3 years ending in 2016 (replacing Stacey Wrightson)
Stephen Shearer - Renewal term of 3 years ending in 2016
Martha Horner - Renewal term of 2 years ending in 2015
David Bishop - Renewal term of 1 year ending in 2014

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.

Mr. Karge, the Town Manager reminded everyone that Mr. Mark Heckler retired Friday and wished him well. He stated that a new economic development entity is in the works. Mr. Thomas, the Town Planner will be handling residual functions.

Mr. Karge stated that schools have recently restarted. He cautioned residents about speeding.

The Town Manager discussed a request for a poop scoop ordinance. He discussed public, private and park property. He stated that in 2008, an ordinance had been enacted prohibiting dogs in parks. He stated that dogs are required to be on a leash if on the trail and the offending material is to be removed by owner.

Mr. Karge discussed the enforcement by other entities.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.

69
70 The Town Attorney Mrs. VanEmburch stated that the Waterside Village Finding of Facts and Ordinance will be in
71 the September 16 council's packet. She stated that it is her intention to e-mail the draft legislation prior to the
72 meeting so feedback or changes can be forwarded and drafted prior to the meeting.

73
74 **ORDINANCE NO. 627, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING SECTION 2-**
75 **26.2.2 AND SECTION 11-6 OF THE TOWN CODE TO AUTHORIZE CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE**
76 **WAIVERS OF THE MINIMUM PROPERTY MAINTENANCE STANDARDS."**

77
78 President Ford stated that the Public Hearing will be left open indefinitely. He stated that the council can entertain
79 comments from the audience.

80
81 **ORDINANCE NO. 628, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING SECTION 11-5**
82 **OF THE TOWN CODE REGARDING STAIRWAYS AND EMERGENCY ESCAPE AND RESCUE**
83 **OPENINGS."**

84
85 President Ford stated that the Public Hearing will be left open indefinitely. He stated that the council can entertain
86 comments from the audience.

87
88 **ORDINANCE NO. 629, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE EASTON**
89 **TOWN CODE TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE II TO CHAPTER 13 TO PROVIDE THAT A PROPERTY**
90 **DISCLOSURE FORM IS REQUIRED FOR ALL REAL ESTATE SETTLEMENTS INVOLVING**
91 **PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE TOWN OF EASTON."**

92
93 The Town Attorney briefed on Ordinance No. 629. Mrs. VanEmburch stated that the documents will be provided
94 to property owners when purchasing property at settlement.

95
96 President Ford introduced Ordinance No. 629 for a first reading.

97
98 President Ford left the public hearing open indefinitely. He stated that the council and landlords will have a work
99 session Thursday September 5.

00
01 Mr. Coard Benson, MSBR, Commerce Drive; thanked the Council for continued dialogue. Mr. Benson suggested
02 opening the waiver process for all rentals and issues on a case by case basis. He stated that every instance should
03 stand on its own merit.

04
05 Mr. Steve Wheeler, stated that there may be issues that should be considered for waivers.

06
07 Ms. Diana Rhine, High Banks, asked if her house on Maple Avenue would be considered renovated after it was
08 upgraded after a fire. She asked if properties that were constructed or renovated would be considered or if they
09 could be grandfathered.

10
11 President Ford stated that this process is open-ended and the public hearing will remain open indefinitely.

12
13 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

14
15 Ms. Malone wished Jewish friends and neighbors Happy Rosh Hashanah (New Year).

16
17 President Ford stated that Master Sgt. Thomas Anthony Thomas is retiring after 25 years of service. On behalf of the
18 Mayor and Council, President Ford wished him the best.

19
20 **ADJOURN**

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22 At 7:35 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, President Ford
23 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk