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2 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**
3 **Easton Town Hall**
4 **14 S. Harrison Street**

5 June 2, 2014

6
7 **PRESENT AT CONVENING**
8

9 Mayor Robert C. Willey
10 Council President John Ford
11 Councilmember Megan M. Cook
12 Councilmember Pete Leshner
13 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr.

14
15 Also present was the Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.

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17 **OPENING REMARKS BY MRS. COOK AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

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

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21 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2014 MEETINGS.**

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23 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, minutes of the May 19, 2014
24 meetings were approved as written.

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26 **ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.**

27
28 Mayor Willey stated that he needed to appoint a negotiating team for the Avalon Theatre. He stated that Robert
29 Karge, Sharon VanEmburch and Patrick Fitzgerald have agreed to sit on the committee on behalf of the Town of
30 Easton.

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32 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, the negotiating team was
33 approved.

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35 Mayor Willey stated that due to the untimely death of Mr. Ed Pinder, the Town is looking for a candidate for
36 consideration on the Park Board.

37
38 Mayor Willey updated on construction projects throughout town.

39
40 Mayor Willey asked for comments regarding a show proposed for July 12 and July 13.

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42 **TOWN OF EASTON 2013 EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD FOR BRIAN C. DOYLE, EASTON POLICE**
43 **DEPARTMENT 20 YEARS.**

44
45 Mayor Willey presented Office Brian Doyle, Easton Police Department with a gift for 20 years' service.

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47 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

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49 Mrs. VanEmburch reminded everyone that the Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics is scheduled for Wednesday
50 June 4 at 9:00 a.m. at the Easton Police Department.

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52 Mrs. VanEmburch reviewed the Public Assembly Permits previously approved by Chief Spencer.

53
54 Mrs. VanEmburch asked that the President of the Council set Public Hearings.

55
56 President Ford scheduled the following public hearings:

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58 7:15 PM June 16, CDBG Habitat Application
59 7:45 PM June 16 Talbot Commerce Park
60 7:15 PM July 7, Brant Court PUD Application

61
62 **RESOLUTION NO. 6028, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AUTHORIZING THE**
63 **EXECUTION OF A LICENSE AGREEMENT TO ALLOW THE CUTTING OF TREES DESIGNATED**
64 **AS OBSTRUCTIONS TO NAVIGATION ON PROPERTY OWNED BY THE TOWN WHICH IS**
65 **PARCEL 138 ON TALBOT COUNTY TAX MAP 25 AND MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS**
66 **MISTLETOE HALL FARM."**
67

68 The Town Attorney discussed the pending legislation and license agreement. She stated that it would allow
69 removal of 359 trees and the crowning of an additional 56 trees. She stated that the agreement references the Forest
70 Conservation requirements.

71
72 Ms. Malone joined the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

73
74 Mr. Pullen discussed the mitigation and stated that it could be handled as a separate contract. He stated that after a
75 two year period, the seedlings that have been planted that don't survive are replaced.

76
77 Mr. Stagg discussed the Forest Conservation ordinance versus plantings around the town center. He stated that if
78 you remove a forest, you replace a forest.

79
80 Mrs. Cook suggested planting street trees versus seedlings for a more aesthetic effect.

81
82 Mr. Pullen stated that \$200 per tree for street trees changes the costs substantially to the county.

83
84 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by President Ford, Resolution No. 6028 was approved unanimously.

85
86 **ORDINANCE NO. 641, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO AMEND THE EASTON**
87 **TOWN CODE, CHAPTER 31, FOREST CONSERVATION, TO EXEMPT THE CUTTING OR**
88 **CLEARING OF TREES ON AIRPORT PROPERTY TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF 14**
89 **CFR § 77.25, RELATING TO OBJECTS AFFECTING NAVIGABLE AIRSPACE, PROVIDED THAT**
90 **THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION HAS DETERMINED THAT THE TREES ARE**
91 **HAZARD TO AVIATION."**

92
93 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by President Ford and carried unanimously, Ordinance No. 641 passed.

94
95 Mr. Wendowski asked that the noise abatement plan be reviewed.

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97 **ORD. 638, BUDGET FY 2014/15.**

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99 Mayor Willey discussed amendments to the original draft of the budget. He stated that there are two major
00 changes. He added \$28,400 to the Economic Development Budget and there is a short term loan now included.

01
02 Mr. Wendowski stated that he will not support the budget.

03
04 Ms. Malone asked if the \$182,400 short term loan has been tagged to particular capital items.

05
06 Mayor stated that the loan is only to balance the budget.

07
08 Mr. Leshner appreciates the work Mayor Willey and the staff have done to get to this point in the budget as well as
09 holding the tax rate constant. Mr. Leshner stated that he feels this is an acceptable way to go forward.

10
11 President Ford thanked the county for the help they recently gave to help keep a business in the town.

12
13 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by President Ford and carried, Ordinance No. 638 passed 4-1 with Mr.
14 Wendowski voting no.

15
16 **ORD. 639, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE RAISING BY TAXATION THE AMOUNT**
17 **NECESSARY TO PAY THE ORDINARY EXPENSES OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE**
18 **FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON THE VARIOUS BOND ISSUES AND THE REDUCTION OF**
19 **CERTAIN BONDS AND NOTES FOR THE PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS AND SETTING THE**
20 **INTEREST AND PENALTY FOR DELINQUENT BILLS, COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2014 AND**
21 **ENDING JUNE 30, 2015."**

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23 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone, Ordinance No. 639 passed 4-1 with Mr. Wendowski voting
24 no.

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26 **RESOLUTION NO. 6030, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPROVE AND**
27 **SUPPORT THE UM CHESTER RIVER HEALTH FOUNDATION'S COMMUNITY INVESTMENT TAX**
28 **CREDIT APPLICATION & PROJECT."**

29
30 Ms. Joanna Pierce, UM Chester River Foundation was present to discuss the purpose of Resolution No. 6030. She
31 stated that it will not only be used at UM Chester River but Memorial Hospital as well. She stated that businesses and
32 individuals can receive a tax credit of 50% of their donation.

33
34 Ms. Pierce stated that the software will be used for tracking purposes; no actual medical purpose.

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36 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 6030 was
37 approved.

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ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Ms. Malone stated that she appreciated feedback from Chief Spencer regarding safety concerns at North Easton Park.

Mrs. Cook invited everyone to a screening of A Place at the Table; Tuesday 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. She stated that the presentation was sponsored by Talbot Family Network. The documentary film will be shown at the Talbot Historical Society with a free dinner by Olive Garden.

COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE.

Ms. Judy Gordon was present in support of a dog park in Easton.

Ms. Malone discussed Ms. Kathy Garcia’s request for a dog park and stated that she suggested Ms. Garcia go directly to the Park Board and Town Manager with her support.

ADJOURN.

At 8:10 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned.

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk