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3 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**
4 **Easton Town Hall**
5 **14 S. Harrison Street**
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November 3, 2014

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8 **PRESENT AT CONVENING**
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10 Mayor Robert C. Willey 13 Councilmember Kelley K. Malone
11 Council President John Ford 14 Councilmember Pete Leshner
12 Councilmember Megan M. Cook 15 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr.
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Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Robert F. Karge, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, Town Planner Mr. Lynn Thomas, Chief David Spencer, Capt. Mark Waltrup and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.

OPENING REMARKS BY MR. WENDOWSKI AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mr. Wendowski gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2014 MEETING.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the October 20, 2014 meeting were approved as written.

RESOLUTION NO. 6038, "A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE MARYLAND CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM."

Mr. Oxnam discussed the effort to help conserve energy and save taxpayers and rate payers money whenever possible.

Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 6038 was approved.

CLOSED SESSION PRIOR TO MEETING.

President Ford stated that a Closed Session had been held prior to the regular meeting regarding § 10-508 (a) (12); ~~to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation~~ to conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct.

POLICE BOARD.

Chief David Spencer and Lt. Mark Waltrup were present to give updates regarding the Easton Police Department.

Chief Spencer discussed:

Personnel:

Police Officers: (49 authorized)

- 2 openings for January class, started the hiring process in July
- 22 applications were received
- 15 participated in the written test and physical agility phase
- 7 were assigned for background investigation
- 4 remain in the background investigation phase
- Rec. Marshall is on schedule to graduate 12/16/14

Police Dispatchers: (8 authorized)

- We had a PCO resign 10/9/14 to take apposition with the 911 Center
- PCO Testing for position began on 10/29/14
 - 14 applications were received
 - 10 participated in the written test
 - --8 are scheduled for oral board interviews on Nov 5th

Recognition:

- Pfc. Anthony Reyes was recognized as EPD Officer of the 3rd Quarter.

Events:

- National Night Out –Aug. 5 - Very Well Attended
- Honor Guard Training – Oct. 8 -10 - 28 Attendees from 9 Other Agencies
- Oct. 31 - Halloween
- Nov. 14 – 16 - Waterfowl Festival
- Dec. 18 – M/Sgt. Sears’ Retirement Luncheon EVFD
- Dec. 23 - EPD Christmas Luncheon

JAN – SEPT ACTIVITY REPORT

Stats	2014	2013	+/- Change	Difference
• Traffic				
• Citations	4175	3977	+ 198	5%
• Warnings	8144	6844	+1300	19%
• DWI’s	65	62	+ 3	5%
• Part 1 crimes				
• Murder	0	0	0	0%
• Rape	8	6	+2	33%
• Robbery	11	10	+1	10%
• Burglary	65	57	+8	14%
• Assault	149	144	+5	3%
• Theft	369	294	+75	26%
• Part 2 crimes				
• MDOP	29	120	-91	-76%
• CDS	165	164	+1	1%
• Miscellaneous	306	446	-140	-31%
• Calls for Service	12788	16297	-3509	-21%
• Search Warrants	34	28	+6	21%

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.

Mayor Willey stated that the Mayor’s Prayer breakfast had been held October 24 at the Tidewater Inn.

Mayor Willey stated that a Veterans’ Ceremony put on by the Naval Jr. ROTC will be held November 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Talbot Auditorium.

Mayor Willey advised that the City of Hodgenville, KY bought and has picked up the Town’s tower truck that was for sale.

Mayor Willey stated that the audit is complete and will be discussed at the next meeting. He stated that the audit out brief will be held December 1.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.

Mr. Karge discussed the current sidewalk policy and options to amend the fee schedule for repairs. He stated that the current cost is \$6.25 per square foot with the adjoining property owner responsible for 100% of the cost, typically. The staff compromise proposal would be for 40% to be absorbed by the town and 60% paid by the property owner.

President Ford stated that he is in favor of the 60/40 payment split recommended by staff.

President Ford stated that he intends to meet with residents that have raised concerns regarding their sidewalks. He stated that he will not ask the council where they stand on changing current regulations until after meeting the meeting with residents. He stated that a public hearing would most likely be scheduled.

Mr. Wendowski discussed the mention of the skate park in the Park Board minutes. He stated the skate park needs to be looked at long and hard.

Mr. Wendowski stated he would like to see a regional dog park.

Mayor Willey stated that a location has not been confirmed.

President Ford questioned what the new structure referred to in the Park Board minutes is at the North Easton Park. It was noted that it is the Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Karge reminded residents not to push leaves into the street as they get into storm drains and cause problems.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.

Ms. VanEmburch discussed the Easton Village PUD. She stated that a certain amount of onsite affordable units are required. Ms. VanEmburch discussed modifying that condition which would require legislation as an amendment to the PUD. Ms. VanEmburch stated that the process does not need to go before Planning and Zoning but will need to be approved by the council.

President Ford stated that he intends to schedule a public hearing but after the Affordable Housing Board reviews the changes.

MS. JULIE CORSON, MANAGER OF OPERATIONS EASTON BUSINESS ALLIANCE TO UPDATE ON EASTON HOLIDAY EVENTS.

Ms. Julie Corson updated on upcoming events. She discussed the membership and stated there are 25 paid members and seven more commitments.

Ms. Corson stated that local activities can be found on www.discovereaston.com, Facebook & twitter.

Ms. Malone thanked Ms. CorsonJulie for being responsive for the council's concerns regarding events with alcohol.

CONSENSUS ON THE REQUEST OF PENGUIN VENTURES, LLC TO ENTITLE THE DEVELOPMENT OF 114 RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT UNITS PROPOSED TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY VIA THE PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (PUD) PROCESS.

President Ford asked the applicant to meet with the American Legion to work on a solution amenable to both parties.

President Ford stated he is supportive of the application.

Mr. Leshar stated that he has mixed feelings on the application. Mr. Leshar discussed how the application conforms to the PUD and is in the spirit of the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Leshar stated that he supports the application.

Ms. Malone stated that she supports the application but is sympathetic to the neighbors' concerns. She stated that the applicant has responded to those concerns, a ir conditioninge noise, lighting and parking, Ms. Malone stated that the developer has done a good job addressing the concerns of the neighbors.

Mrs. Cook referenced the applicant's compatibility with the Comprehensive Plan; the drainage concerns and stated that she is impressed with how well the applicant has addressed concerns. She stated that she is in support of the application and applauds their efforts.

Mr. Wendowski stated that the application shows a very congested development and he feels the ponds should be dredged. Mr. Wendowski stated that the applicant should be held to take care of the flood water in that area. He stated that he is not in favor of the application. Mr. Wendowski stated that he wants to see the one and two bedroom floor plans.

ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mr. Wendowski reminded everyone that if they plan to vote, watch to make sure their intended vote doesn't flip parties.

Mrs. Cook reminded everyone to support the boys High School soccer team that has a game tomorrow night and is in the state finals.

ADJOURN.

At 8:11 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously, President Ford adjourn the regularly scheduled meeting.

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk
