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

December 21, 2009

PRESENT AT CONVENING

Mayor Robert C. Willey
Council President John F. Ford
Councilmember Kelley K. Malone
Councilmember Pete Lesher
Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski
Councilmember Megan M. Cook

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Karge, the Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, Major David Spencer, CEO and President Easton Utilities Hugh Grunden, Engineering Department Manager Talbot Bone and Town Clerk Mrs. Ruf.

CONVENING

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

Ms. Malone opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Mr. Lesher seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the December 7 and December 14, 2009 meetings were approved as written.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Ford advised that there was an Executive Session prior to the regularly scheduled council meeting this evening to discuss personnel.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY

Mayor Willey discussed his semi review of the budget. He stated that the departments need to keep cost awareness issues in place. Mayor Willey stated that all departments are coming in under budget.

Mayor Willey displayed a sign that MUST would like to put at various spots around Easton to make the public aware of bus stops. He stated that he will ask for council approval to put signs up when the schedule becomes available.

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OF POLICE

Mayor Willey asked for consideration for the appointment of Major David A. Spencer to the position of Chief of Police.

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded Mr. Ford and carried unanimously, the appointment of David A. Spencer to the position of Chief of Police was approved.

Major Spencer thanked the Council. He stated that he does not take lightly the opportunity and trust. He discussed the civic pride in Easton Police Department and stated that it is the highest that he has seen since his tenure which speaks highly of caliber of personnel. Major Spencer stated that he believes that we have the best personnel we could pick right now.

Mayor administered oath of office to David A. Spencer.

LETTER FROM EASTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. ASKING APPROVAL OF THE ELECTION OF CHARLES R. CHANCE, JR. TO THE OFFICE OF CHIEF FOR THE YEAR 2010.

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, approval was granted to approve Charles R. Chance, Jr. to the office of Chief for the year 2010.

1 **RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. STEVEN D. PERICONI TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING**
2 **COMMISSION AND MR. RICHARD TETTELBAUM TO THE BOARD OF ZONING**
3 **APPEALS.**
4

5 Upon motion by Mr. Lesher seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, the re-appointment of
6 Mr. Steven D. Periconi and Mr. Richard Tettelbaum to their respective Boards was approved.
7

8 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER**
9

10 Mr. Karge thanked Chief Blue for his dedicated service and congratulated Chief Spencer.
11

12 Mr. Karge requested Council permission to accept the audit. He stated that given the nature of the
13 economy, efforts over the past years, staff and elected have done a great job to control spending. He
14 discussed the upgrade by Moody's. Mr. Karge stated that things are positive but challenges remain. He
15 stated that the department heads have been asked to find ways to be innovative.
16

17 Upon motion by Mrs. Cook seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, the FY2008/09 Audit
18 was accepted.
19

20 **APPROVAL OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENT**
21

22 Mr. Karge asked for approval for First Night Talbot 2009/10 scheduled for December 31 from 6:00
23 p.m. to 12:01 p.m.
24

25 Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Lesher and carried unanimously, approval was granted.
26

27 **EFFORTS TO MITIGATE SNOW**
28

29 Mr. Karge briefed the Council on efforts to mitigate snow. He stated that the Town has modified the
30 steps recently taken.
31

32 Snow emergency routes and Phase II of the Emergency Snow Plan were discussed.
33

34 **ORDINANCE NO. 549, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE**
35 **TOWN OF EASTON SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS."**
36

37 Upon motion by Mr. Lesher, seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, Ordinance No. 549
38 was approved.
39

40 **ORDINANCE NO. 563, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AUTHORIZING**
41 **THE TOWN OF EASTON TO CONVEY A PARKING LOT LOCATED OFF MILL PLACE**
42 **WHICH IS PARCEL 1196-2 ON TAX MAP 104 TO THE TIDEWATER INN, LLC IN**
43 **EXCHANGE FOR THE TIDEWATER INN, LLC CONVEYING A PARKING LOT TO THE**
44 **TOWN OF EASTON LOCATED OFF SOUTH STREET WHICH IS PARCEL 1536 ON TAX**
45 **MAP 104 AND GIVING THE TOWN OF EASTON A RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL FOR**
46 **PARCEL 1196-2."**
47

48 Upon motion by Mr. Lesher seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, Ordinance No. 563
49 passed 4 to 1 with Mr. Wendowski voting no.
50

51 **CONSENSUS FROM COUNCIL REGARDING REQUEST FROM TREEHAVEN**
52 **HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION FOR TRASH PICKUP**
53

54 Mr. Karge advised that there is no support from the Town staff to change the procedure as originally
55 prescribed by the approval of the development.
56

57 It was the consensus of the Council that there is not sufficient support to respond favorably to this
58 request.
59

60 Mr. Karge was asked to draft a response to Mr. Shortall with Mr. Ford to review.
61

62 **SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**
63

64 President Ford set the Public Hearing for February 1, 2010 at 7:15 p.m.
65

1 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$1,065,337.37**

2
3 Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, invoices totaling
4 \$1,065,337.37 were approved.

5
6 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

7
8 Mr. Wendowski extended holiday greetings. He thanked the public works and fire department for their
9 continued service and stated that a superb job has been done by dedicated people.

10 Mr. Wendowski discussed upcoming construction scheduled for Dutchman’s Lane.

11
12 Mrs. Cook wished everyone a happy holiday season. She thanked everyone for their feedback
13 regarding plowing issues. Mrs. Cook asked the community if they should have the opportunity to help
14 their neighbors with their shoveling.
15

16
17 President Ford advised that the second meeting in January will be held on Wednesday, January 20.
18

19 **ADJOURNMENT**

20
21 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Ford and carried unanimously; President Ford adjourned
22 the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:06 p.m.

23
24 _____
25 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk
26
27