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

November 16, 2009

**PRESENT AT CONVENING**

8 Mayor Robert C. Willey  
9 Council President John F. Ford  
10 Councilmember Kelley K. Malone  
11 Councilmember Pete Leshner  
12 Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski  
13 Councilmember Megan M. Cook

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Also in attendance were the Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, Town Manager Mr. Karge, Town Planner Mr. Hamilton, Economic Development Director Mrs. Scott-Taylor, Easton Main Street Manager Ms. Heather Potasnak and Mrs. Lorraine Gould for Town Clerk Ms. 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.

**CORRECTION TO THE AGENDA**

President Ford stated that Ordinance No. 560 should be Ordinance No. 561 which is pertaining to the Shore Health System annexation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, minutes of the November 2 and November 9, 2009 meeting were approved with corrections as submitted by Mr. Leshner.

**ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY**

Mayor Willey asked President Ford to convene into Executive Session to discuss real estate.

**ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER**

Mr. Karge advised that the Town has been soliciting bids for fuel for all departments of the Town. He stated that the best case has been the state contract vendor which would allow the provision of fuel at the Public Works facility with a significant cost savings.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Ford and carried unanimously, approval was granted to accept the state contract vendor for use of the Town of Easton's vehicles.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, the bid for the one ton dump truck as submitted by Norris Ford for \$52,841.32 was approved. Mr. Karge stated that the amount budgeted for the truck was \$65,000 so the remainder will be applied to the bulk fuel capital expenditure use.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MAIN STREET MANAGER**

Mrs. Scott-Taylor, Director of Economic Development introduced Ms. Heather Potasnak, Easton's Main Street Manager. Ms. Scott-Taylor discussed upcoming events in Easton.

**ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY**

Mrs. VanEmburch stated that she has one item for Closed Session following the regular meeting; State Government Article § 10-508(a) (3) acquisition of real property, § 10-508(a) (4) expansion of a business and § 10-508(a) (7) consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

1 **MRS. KATHY FOSTER, HEALTH OFFICER TALBOT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
2 **AND EARLY HEAD START, FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER PARTICIPANTS TO MAKE**  
3 **PRESENTATION TO TOWN COUNCIL**  
4

5 Mrs. Foster thanked the Council for helping with the Family Support Program and allowing them to  
6 offer this program to the county.  
7

8 Ms. Chelsea Coleman and her son Ben and Ms. Josephina Deladeo and her son Brennan were present  
9 to explain what the program has meant to them.  
10

11 President Ford accepted a plaque of appreciation.  
12

13 President Ford stated that the real thanks should go to the staff that has made this program successful  
14 and congratulations should go to the whole community.  
15

16 Mrs. Foster stated that their new location is 215 Bay Street. She invited the council to share  
17 Thanksgiving dinner November 22 at 12:00 p.m.  
18

19 **LETTER FROM MR. JOHN ATWOOD, CHAIRMAN PLANNING & ZONING**  
20 **COMMISSION RECOMMENDING APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO**  
21 **SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS**  
22

23 Mr. Hamilton, Town Planner stated that a public hearing needs to be set for the proposed amendments  
24 to subdivision regulations.  
25

26 President Ford set the public hearing for December 21st at 7:15 p.m.  
27

28 **LETTER FROM MS. JO ANNE BROWN, CO-CHAIR, 2009 FESTIVAL OF TREES**  
29 **REQUESTING PARKING WAIVERS NOVEMBER 22 THROUGH DECEMBER 2, 2009**  
30

31 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, the parking  
32 waivers as requested were approved.  
33

34 **PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PETITION OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND AND SHORE**  
35 **HEALTH SYSTEM, INC. (COLLECTIVELY, "PETITIONERS") FOR RESOLUTION 5955**  
36 **("ANNEXATION RESOLUTION") WHICH WAS INTRODUCED AT THE SEPTEMBER 21,**  
37 **2009 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING. THE REQUEST IS TO ANNEX APPROXIMATELY**  
38 **276.479 ACRES LYING CONTIGUOUS TO THE EXISTING BOUNDARIES OF THE TOWN**  
39 **OF EASTON."**  
40

41 The Town Attorney discussed the history of the annexation of the three parcels and the cooperative  
42 efforts of parties involved to get to this point. She discussed the provisions and contingencies included  
43 in the annexation resolution.  
44

45 Ms. VanEmburch discussed Ordinance No. 561 which applies the zoning to the parcels.  
46

47 Ms. VanEmburch requested that the Public Hearing be kept open until the next meeting. She stated  
48 that was to deal with the annexation agreement should there be any changes that may require changes  
49 to other things that would need to be addressed.  
50

51 The Town Planner reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission met on September 24 and  
52 discussed the zoning classifications which would be applied. He stated that the Planning and Zoning  
53 Commission voted unanimously to support the annexation. He stated that the 276.479 acre property is  
54 consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and stated that it is outlined for potential annexation. Mr.  
55 Hamilton stated that the recommendation has been forwarded to the Town Council.  
56

57 Mr. John Murray, Esq., was present on behalf of Shore Health Systems. Mr. Murray introduced his  
58 colleague Mr. Ryan Showalter, and Vice President for Strategic Planning for Shore Health System  
59 Mike Silgen.  
60

61 Mr. Murray discussed efforts leading to the public hearing tonight. Mr. Murray gave a brief history of  
62 the annexation petition. He discussed the proposed zoning districts and the hospital's timetable. He  
63 stated that they would like to be ready to begin construction of a new hospital by 2012. Mr. Murray  
64 stated that the proposed annexation has found to be consistent with the town and county's

1 Comprehensive Plans. He stated that Shore Health System very strongly wants this annexation to  
2 proceed and urges the Council to approve it.

3  
4 Mr. Ryan Showalter discussed the requirements for building construction and zoning for the parcels.  
5 He asked that the public record be kept open until the next meeting.

6  
7 The Town Attorney stated that the Public Hearing could be opened up to the public giving Maryland  
8 Department of Planning and Talbot County the first opportunity to speak. She stated that the Town had  
9 received a letter from Department of Planning and there was no communication of objection,

10  
11 The President of the Council asked if there was anyone present from the Maryland Department of  
12 Planning or Talbot County. Neither party was present.

13  
14 President Ford opened the public hearing for public comments.

15  
16 Councilmember Leshar stated that he is taking the lack of public comment as overwhelming support to  
17 see this move forward.

18  
19 President Ford stated that the record will be left open through the next meeting. He stated written  
20 comments can be submitted to Mr. Karge at the Town office.

21  
22 President Ford closed the hearing at 7:40 p.m.

23  
24 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$1,110,856.28**

25  
26 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, invoices were  
27 approved.

28  
29 **ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

30  
31 Ms. Malone discussed her attendance at the Waterfowl Festival and stated it was truly a terrific  
32 experience.

33  
34 Mrs. Cook thanked the East End Neighborhood Association for a great meal last Tuesday.

35  
36 **CLOSED SESSION**

37  
38 At 7:45 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, President  
39 Ford convened the regularly scheduled meeting into Executive Session to discuss the acquisition of  
40 real property, the retention of business and to obtain legal advice.

41  
42 **ADJOURNMENT**

43  
44 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously; President Ford  
45 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:35 p.m.

46  
47 \_\_\_\_\_  
48 Lorraine Gould for Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk

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