

1 MINUTES  
2 Town of Easton Council Meeting  
3 August 16, 2010 – 7:00 PM  
4  
5

6 **6:15 PM FIRE BOARD MEETING**  
7

8  
9 **7:00 PM PRESENT AT CONVENING**  
10

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

14 **IN ATTENDANCE**  
15

16 Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Karge, Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch, and Ms. Jackie  
17 Knopp for the Town Clerk.  
18

19 **CONVENING**  
20

21 At 7:00 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.  
22

23 Mr. Leshner opened the meeting with prayer and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
24

25 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 2, 2010 MEETINGS AND AUGUST 9, 2010**  
26 **WORKSHOP**  
27

28 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes with corrections as  
29 submitted by Mr. Leshner were approved.  
30

31 **ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY**  
32

33 Mayor Willey informed the council that he will be attending a joint insurance meeting. Changes to the  
34 insurance are possible.  
35

36 Maryland Comptroller, Peter Franchot along with Mr. Len Foxwell, Assistant Controller will be in Easton  
37 on August 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 P.M. for the Ribbon Cutting at Wayland Park.  
38

39 Mayor Willey discussed the schedule for Capital for a Day on Thursday on August 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00  
40 A.M.  
41

42 Mayor Willey asked to get comments back from Council Members Ms. Malone and Ms. Cook for the RTC  
43 Property and Easton Point regarding the concept drawings he had passed out to them.  
44

45 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER**  
46

47 **APPROVAL OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENTS**  
48

49 Mr. Karge asked for approval for the following Public Assembly Permits as recommended by the Easton  
50 Police Department.  
51

52 ○ CHOICES FOR LIFE PREGNANCY CENTER WALK-A-THON, Saturday September 11, 2010  
53 from 0800-1400 hrs.

54 LOCATION: Idlewild Park

55 DATE/TIME: Saturday September 11, 2010 from 0800-1400 hrs.  
56

57 Upon motion by Ms. Malone, seconded by Mr. Leshner the Public Assembly events as recommended by the  
58 Easton Police Department were approved.  
59

60 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY**  
61

62 Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch did not have any items for the council.  
63

64 **ORDINANCE # 577, EASTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S ANNUAL PACKAGE**  
65 **OF AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN'S ZONING ORDINANCE**  
66

67 A question from Councilmember Ms. Malone was addressed. President Ford talked about the process to  
68 move forward with Ordinance # 577.

69 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$844,685.47**

70  
71 Upon motion by Ms. Malone, seconded by Mr. Lesher the invoices totaling \$844,685.47 were unanimously  
72 approved.

73  
74 **JOINT OPPORTUNITY INITIATIVE DISCUSSION**

75  
76 President Ford discussed a joint opportunity initiative between a group Ms. Barbara Heatly has formed and  
77 the Town of Easton to create and implement improvements for a specific area of town in need of upgrades  
78 to both home owner and rental properties. The source of funding is in the form of a Technical Assistant  
79 Grant from the Department of Housing and Community Development. The deadline for the application  
80 submission is September 8, 2010 and must be submitted by the Town.

81  
82 **AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD AND POSSIBLE CHANGES TO ORDINANCE NO. 23**

83  
84 Mr. Ford discussed the possibility of changes to Ordinance No. 23 that requires the Affordable Housing  
85 Board to renovate five owner-occupied, Class 8 condition homes at Easton Village.

86  
87 **7:15 PUBLIC HEARING REOPENING ON THE REQUEST OF EASTON INVESTMENTS II,**  
88 **OWNER OF BLOCK "C" OF THE LAKELAND'S PUD SUBDIVISION**

89  
90 The developers are requesting twenty-four (24) additional units in Block "C" increasing the total units in the  
91 block from the twenty-nine (29) currently approved units to a total of fifty-three (53) units. They are also  
92 requesting approval of new architecture for the units in Block "C."

93  
94 Mr. Ford opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m.

95  
96 Mr. Showalter talked about the changes to scenario A.

97  
98 Councilmember Ms. Malone thanked Easton Investments for their efforts.

99  
100 Mr. Bill Elliott, 29251 Pin Oak Way, South Beechwood stated that he would like a guarantee that  
101 emergency vehicles can get down the streets.

102  
103 Mr. Ford stated that the record for comment will remain opening until this Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at the close of  
104 the business day. Mr. Ford also stated the Planning Commission will be reviewing the changes as submitted  
105 by Mr. Showalter this Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

106  
107 Mr. Ford closed the Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.

108  
109 **THE SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING FOR EASTON MARKET PLACE HAS BEEN**  
110 **POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

111  
112 Mr. Ford asked Mr. Showalter the reason for postponing Easton Market Place Hearing.

113 Mr. Showalter asked for the Hearing to be postponed indefinitely because they are struggling to work  
114 through the economics involved and did not want to take the public's and Town's time until they are ready.

115  
116 **COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED REMOVAL OF TREES FROM EASTON AIRPORT**

117  
118 Ms. Sweeny was not present at the time scheduled for her comments.

119  
120 President Ford asked Easton Airport Manager Mike Henry for his comments regarding the removal of trees  
121 from Easton Airport. Mr. Henry and the council members discussed the removal of the trees from Easton  
122 Airport. Mr. Henry stated that they will be looking to replant types of trees that have limited growth height.  
123 He also assured the Council that the area being cut would be left clean.

124  
125 Mr. Wendowski asked to give Ms. Sweeny the opportunity to come back and speak.

126  
127 Straw support was granted for a one time easement in support of the tree removal. This will be acted upon at  
128 the next meeting.

129  
130 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:**

131  
132 Ms. Malone wanted to thank Mayor Willey for the effort on the RTC Program.

133  
134 Mr. Lesher had no items to bring before the council.

135  
136 Mr. Wendowski had no items for the council.

137 Mrs. Cook talked about Unity for our Kids on August 29<sup>th</sup> at Moton Park. This is a free event.  
138

139 President Ford wanted the community to know that the Fire Department's Annual Appeal Letter will be  
140 coming out in September. He encouraged all to read this letter.  
141

142 **AUDIENCE COMMENTS**  
143

144 At 7:55 Ms. Libby Dawkins of 11 N. Thoroughgood Lane spoke about planting trees and deforestation of  
145 trees in the Town of Easton.  
146

147 At 8:03 Ms. Christine Sweeny of TRPA (Talbot River Production Association) had reentered the room and  
148 was called to speak by President Ford. There was discussion on cropping versus topping of the trees at  
149 Easton Airport.  
150

151 Mr. Tim Harper, 29020 Superior Circle spoke in regards to the Lakelands Public Hearing.  
152

153 **CLOSED SESSION**  
154

155 At 8:25 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously; President  
156 Ford convened into closed session regarding business retention and real estate matters.  
157

158 **CITATION: § 10-508(a) (4)** Consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial  
159 organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State.  
160

161 **ADJOURN**  
162

163 At 8:45 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook, President Ford adjourned the regularly  
164 scheduled meeting.  
165

166  
167 \_\_\_\_\_  
168 Jackie Knopp for Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk  
169