

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

August 15, 2011

PRESENT AT CONVENING

Mayor Robert C. Willey
Council President John Ford
Councilmember Kelley K. Malone

Councilmember Pete Leshner
Councilmember Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr.
Councilmember Megan M. Cook

IN ATTENDANCE

Also in attendance were the Town Manager Mr. Robert F. Karge, Sr., the Town Attorney Ms. VanEmburch and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.

CONVENING

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 1 AND AUGUST 8, 2011 MEETINGS.

Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, minutes for the August 1 and August 8, 2011 meetings were approved as corrected.

ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.

Mayor Willey discussed the September 11 service at the Memorial Walk at 8:30 a.m. to commemorate the fallen police and firemen.

Mayor Willey stated that the intersection at Bay Street and Washington Street is operational.

Bid packages are being prepared for the multi-purpose fields at RTC Park.

Mr. Wendowski discussed recently attending the Tax Differential meeting.

ITEMS BY TOWN MANAGER.

Mr. Karge he had received a status request regarding the airport trees. He stated that as far as he is aware, the status is unchanged. He stated that the Council directed that the consultant for airport provide a tree plan to Mr. Hause for review and it has yet to be received.

Mr. Karge advised that significant paving is occurring in the vicinity of Lakelands.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.

Mrs. VanEmburch stated that she will forward an Ethics Ordinance in the next packet which needs to be passed by October 31 as well as a Recycling Ordinance.

MR. JIM BENT, CHAIRMAN, AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD TO UPDATE COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM.

Mr. Bent discussed changes the Affordable Housing Board feels needs to be made to the Ashby Commons program.

Ms. VanEmburch discussed covenants that have previously been approved and proposals.

Mr. Bent updated on revisions to the Affordable Housing program materials. He stated that it may be revised each year.

ERECT LAWN SIGNS AND PLACE SANDWICH BOARDS TO PROMOTE CHESAPEAKE FILM FESTIVAL.

Mr. Bob Tessier, President of the Board of Directors for the Chesapeake Film Festival was present to answer questions.

Upon motion by President Ford seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, approval was granted for the town wide signage program.

REQUEST FROM MS. BETH HANSEN, THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GRANT FROM THE STORIES OF THE CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE AREA.

Ms. Beth Hansen was present on behalf of The Historical Society.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, approval for the support letter was granted.

DISCUSSION OF NOISE ORDINANCE.

President Ford discussed Chief Spencer's response regarding a noise ordinance and the ability to enforce. He asked for council consensus regarding the drafting of legislation.

It was the consensus of the council that legislation may not be necessary now but may be in the near future; especially with the build out of commercial property near residential development.

Mr. Karge stated he will check with Chief Spencer but thinks the Easton Police Department feels the complaint is not warranted.

REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE INVOICES TOTALING \$496,582.67.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook invoices totaling \$495,582.67 were approved for payment.

Discussion of impact fees occurred.

ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Ms. Malone invited residents to a neighborhood meeting Thursday evening August 18 at 7:00 p.m. at EVFD. Mr. Michael Boldezzer will speak on emergency preparedness.

Mr. Wendowski asked that a strong letter be drafted to SHA recommending a reduction in speed to 40 miles per hour on Glebe Road to Port Street and requesting the reduction of speed at Airport nearing town limits.

Ms. Malone stated that she supports the letter.

Mr. Karge stated that a pedestrians crossing route 50 has been a problem for some time and should also be included.

Mrs. Cook reminded those present that a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. would occur Sept. 1 at EVFD regarding Easton Point.

Mrs. Cook stated that an Alcohol Code meeting would occur at 6:30 p.m. in the Wye Oak Room at the Talbot County Community Center tomorrow evening.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS.

Mr. John Ippolitto discussed building code concerns he feels he is experiencing regarding requested renovations and permitting issues for The Bishop House.

Mr. Ippolitto discussed the condition of the cross on the previous St. Peter and Paul church on Goldsborough and Aurora Street.

Ms. Joan Johnson asked if there is a law regarding the frequency of yard sales.

Ms. Johnson stated there is a dead tree on Wayside Avenue of significant size on Town property.

Mr. Otis Sampson, 322 Hopkins Place, discussed his support for a crosswalk on Route 322 near Marlboro Road. He suggested a fence near Moton Park to keep children from wandering onto the Parkway.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk