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

May 16, 2011

**PRESENT AT CONVENING**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE**

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

**CONVENING**

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

Mrs. Cook opened the meeting with remarks and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2011 MEETING.**

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the May 3, 2011 meeting were approved as prepared.

**MAYOR ROBERT C. WILLEY TO ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO COUNCILMEMBERS KELLEY K. MALONE – WARD 1 AND LEONARD E. WENDOWSKI, SR. – WARD 3 FOR FOUR YEAR TERMS.**

Mayor Robert C. Willey administered the Oath of Office to Councilmembers Kelley K. Malone, Ward 1 and Leonard E. Wendowski, Sr., Ward 3 for a four year term.

**ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.**

Mayor Willey stated that Wal Mart has given the Town a grant for parks in the amount of \$2,500.

**TOWN OF EASTON 2010 EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS.**

Mayor Willey presented Service Awards to Town of Easton employees for their years of service.

- o Carol A. Callahan, 10 Years – Town of Easton
- o Lynzie E. Chalfant, 10 years – EPD
- o Lois A. Elder, 10 Years – EPD
- o Larry Emory, 40 Years – Public Works
- o Jacqueline C. Garvey, 10 Years – EPD
- o Kevin C. Hackett, 20 Years – Public Works
- o Matthew J. Larmore, 20 Years – Public Works
- o George T. Larrimore, 10 Years – EPD
- o Marwin A. Lewis, 10 Years – Public Works
- o Barbara A. Mooney, 20 Years – EPD
- o Dorothy A. Stichberry, 10 Years – EPD
- o Stacy D. Woodard-Slaughter, 10 Years – Public Works

**ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**

Mr. Karge asked permission for the Historic District Commission to submit a grant to MHT. He stated that the grant deadline is June 1 and will re-survey the Historic District.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, permission was granted to submit the grant.

Mr. Karge advised that the Frederick Douglass events are on schedule. The unveiling will occur June 18.

June where recycling will also be discussed.

**ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

Ms. VanEmburch advised that the General Assembly recently passed changes with respect to minutes which will be effective June 1.

Ms. VanEmburch stated that she hopes to get the Council a draft of the Charter to review necessary amendments. She stated that the Oath of Office which was administered tonight may change.

**ORDINANCE NO. 588, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPLY THE R-10M ZONING DISTRICT TO TWO PARCELS OF LAND ANNEXED TO THE TOWN OF EASTON BY RESOLUTION NO. 5978 LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF U.S. ROUTE 50 AND CONSISTING OF 117.994 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.”**

President Ford introduced Ordinance No. 588 for a first reading.

**PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS TO EASTON ELEMENTARY 2011 MML DISTRICT 2 (CAROLINE, QUEEN ANNE’S, KENT AND TALBOT COUNTIES) “IF I WERE MAYOR” 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ESSAY FINALISTS (LIAM GRANT, NICHOLAS LEE AND NATALIE ROSS).**

Mrs. Cook presented Proclamations to Liam Grant and Natalie Ross. Mayor Willey presented 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pewter Mugs to the finalists.

**MR. CLARENCE KUNTZ TO ADDRESS COUNCIL REGARDING APRIL 2 PROJECT CLEAN STREAM.**

Mr. Clarence “Doc” Kuntz, Mid Shore River Conservancy reported results of the April 2 Project Clean Stream. He recognized volunteers that participated. Doc Kuntz invited everyone to Rad Pad 4 at Easton Point on June 4.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE NO. 586 TO GIVE THE PUBLIC AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE EASTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION’S ANNUAL PACKAGE OF AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN’S ZONING ORDINANCE.**

**Ord. 586, “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE TOWN OF EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE.”**

At 7:46 p.m., President Ford opened the Public Hearing regarding amending the Town’s Zoning Ordinance.

Mr. Thomas summarized the four proposed changes.

President Ford opened the floor for public comments.

Mr. John Selby, Selby Sign Company discussed the hold times on LED signs. He displayed Marlboro Plaza’s sign with a 10 second hold time. Mr. Selby stated that if used properly, the LED sign can be a good thing.

Mr. Jim Prettyman, 9714 Chapel Road, Easton; discussed the sign Logan Prettyman recently donated to the Easton Volunteer Fire Department as part of his Eagle Scout project. Mr. Prettyman suggested no time limit for displays.

Mr. Ben Phillips, Phillips Signs, Seaford Delaware discussed the advantage stores need to advertise. Federal Highway Administration suggested a standard of eight seconds; transition 1 to 2 second for frames. He asked the council to be fair limiting hold times.

Mr. Raymond Blazer, owner Sparkle Pools asked for fairness for his LED sign. He stated that as a businessman, he needs citizens to know and recognize where he is.

Mr. Karge stated that staff has been told that some of the signs are advertising services that are not on site which is prohibited in the Zoning Ordinance.

Ms. Malone discussed grandfathering in businesses with established LED lights.

President Ford stated that the Zoning regulations should be made as simple as possible due to enforcement issues.

of business Friday.

**DISCUSSION OF BECOMING A MARYLAND ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT.**

Ms. Katie Clendaniel, Main Street Manager, stated that they have been approached by the Maryland State Arts Council to discuss the possibility of Easton becoming a Maryland Arts & Entertainment District. She discussed the benefits and incentives. She stated that she would like to find out how other towns are handling the Arts & Entertainment District.

President Ford clarified that the application is due in August.

Mr. Leshner stated that there is an overall positive impact for the town.

Ms. Clendaniel stated that she will proceed to get more information.

**DISCUSSION OF NOISE ORDINANCE.**

Discussion occurred regarding a noise ordinance and the possibility of businesses restricting delivery times.

**REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$670,937.52.**

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, invoices were approved for payment.

**ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Ms. Malone stated that there will be a St. Aubins' neighborhood meeting, 7:00 p.m., Thursday May 19 at the Easton Volunteer Fire Department.

Mrs. Cook stated that the first public meeting regarding Easton Point will be on June 9 at 6:30 p.m., at Easton Elementary.

President Ford stated that he had the privilege of participating as Designated Greeter May 19 for the Chinese Mayors from Shing Du. He stated that there were two translators and discussion occurred regarding the potential for agricultural development in urban settings and land preservation.

**FREDERICK DOUGLASS RETURNS**

Ms. Maureen Scott-Taylor, Town of Easton Economic Development Director discussed the summary of events planned honoring Frederick Douglass.

**ADJOURN**

At 8:48 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously; President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk