

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

October 17, 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 remarks and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 3, 2011 MEETING.

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

ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor Willey asked for an Executive Session after the regularly scheduled meeting for the advice of counsel.

Mayor Willey stated that the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for 7:00 a.m. on October 28 at the Tidewater Inn.

Mayor Willey discussed the budget projections that he received this morning. He stated that departments are minding the store very well.

ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.

Mr. Karge advised that the Town public works department started the effort of picking up leaves until January.

BID AWARD RECOMMENDATION FOR RTC PARK PLAYING FIELDS PROJECT.

Mr. Karge asked for approval for the bid from Bridges Site Construction for the RTC Park Playing Fields Project in the amount of \$174,037.

Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously the bid was accepted from Bridges as recommended by staff.

Mr. Karge discussed passing a portion of the Waterside Village property to adjoining property owners. He discussed the process and having to declare the property a surplus.

President Ford would like to see the material and discuss at the next council meeting. He asked Mr. Karge to include the supporting documents in the next packet.

MEMO AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MODIFICATION TO TOWN CODE TO ADDRESS RECYCLING.

Mr. Karge discussed what the Code may look like with the proposed changes. He stated that if the council is comfortable; the Town Attorney can draft the Ordinance. He suggested making the changes effective July 1.

Discussion occurred regarding penalties in the legislation for non compliance.

Mr. Leshner stated that he has a constituent disappointed that recycling may not start until July.

It was the council consensus for the Town Attorney to draft legislation as presented.

MR. ALBERT PRITCHETT TO ADDRESS COUNCIL REGARDING 2011 WATERFOWL FESTIVAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN.

Mr. Pritchett was present to discuss the Waterfowl Festival Transportation Plan. He thanked Easton Police Department for their continued cooperation. He stated that Festival activities are back at the Bay Street Ponds after completed construction.

Mrs. Cook asked for clarification regarding the closing of South Street. She asked for a way to protect parking for residents on Harrison Street. Mr. Pritchett stated that signs could be made and the area could be marked.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, the Waterfowl Festival Transportation Plan was approved.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR TEMPORARY CONCESSIONS FOR 2011 WATERFOWL FESTIVAL.

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously, the concessions for the 2011 Waterfowl Festival were approved.

RESOLUTION NO. 5986 AUTHORIZING ABATEMENT OF REAL ESTATE TAXES FOR TALBOT HOSPICE.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously; Resolution No. 5986 was approved.

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 591, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE TOWN OF EASTON ZONING ORDINANCE."

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously; Amended Ordinance No. 591 was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 592, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON EXTENDING THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO BE FUNDED BY DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES WITHIN THE TOWN."

The Town Attorney discussed the Ordinance as drafted. She discussed granting approval to extend the time period past six years for projects that have not been completed and need to be reevaluated. Ms. VanEmburch stated that the extension would be extended until 2013.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously; Ordinance No. 592 was approved.

REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$962,015.49.

Mr. Wendowski questioned an invoice paid to Rosetta Stone. Mr. Karge advised that it is a program used by the sworn officers which is purchased to enable the sworn officers to learn to speak Spanish.

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, invoices were approved for payment.

ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mr. Leshar received an invitation from East End Neighborhood Association for their Annual Meeting which is to be held at Bethel AME Church Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Wendowski discussed attending a conference at Chesapeake College on things one could do to reduce heating and electrical bills. He stated upon receipt he will forward the information to the Council.

Mrs. Cook stated that on Saturday, Mr. Wendowski and Ms. Malone went to NAACP Volunteer Awards program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, President Ford convened into Executive Session at 7:32 p.m.

At 7:38 p.m., President Ford adjourned the Executive Session and re-convened the regular meeting.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk