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

October 21, 2013

**PRESENT AT CONVENING**

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

Also present was Town Manager Mr. Robert Karge, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy Ruf.

**OPENING REMARKS BY MR. WENDOWSKI AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Mr. Wendowski led those present in opening remarks and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2013 MEETING.**

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, minutes of the October 7, 2013 meetings were approved.

**ITEMS BY MAYOR WILLEY.**

Mayor Willey stated that the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be held at the Tidewater Inn October 25 at 7:00 a.m.

Mayor Willey invited everyone to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Veterans' Ceremony hosted by the Navy JR ROTC on November 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Talbot County Auditorium.

**COUNCIL CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS.**

Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded Ms. Malone and carried, Mayor Willey's appointment of Ms. Daphne Cawley to the Board of Appeals for special waiver requests was approved 4 to 1 with Mr. Wendowski voting no.

**ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**

Mr. Karge advised that the council meetings can be watched at <http://streams.tv-98.com/>.

Ms. Malone asked that this link be posted on the town's website.

Mr. Karge advised that the Impact Fee briefing is scheduled November 18 during the regular council meeting. President Ford asked that the material be distributed to the council prior to the meeting for review.

Mr. Karge stated that the Chief of Police has advised that officers will be present at the Easton High School and St. Peter and Paul to provide information regarding the Maryland law changes pertaining to talking on the cell phone and texting while driving as well as seat belt usage. Subsequent to the educational effort, the Easton Police Department will step up enforcement efforts for cell phone/texting while driving and seat belt usage.

Mr. Karge stated that leaf collection has started. He asked residents to please put leaves in a pile between the sidewalks and the curb but not in the street where the storm drains may get clogged. He stated that during this time, the town's back up street sweeper will also be in use.

**APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY FOOD CONCESSIONS FOR 2013 WATERFOWL FESTIVAL VENDORS.**

Upon motion by Ms. Malone seconded by Mr. Wendowski and carried unanimously, permission was granted for the temporary food concession vendors as submitted by the Waterfowl Festival.

**MR. ALBERT PRITCHETT TO PRESENT THE 2013 WATERFOWL FESTIVAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN.**

Mr. Pritchett was present to discuss the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Waterfowl Festival which will be held November 7 through November 10. He stated that they have given away 5.5 million dollars to conservation programs. Mr. Pritchett stated that they expect 15,000 visitors to this year's festival. The hours this year have changed on Friday and

69 Saturday to 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The buses will provide service throughout the weekend. The tickets for the  
70 Festival are \$12 per person for the weekend's events.

71  
72 Mrs. Cook asked about parking on Talbot Lane. Mr. Pritchett stated that the circumstances will be as in the past.

73  
74 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual WFF  
75 Transportation Plan was approved.

76  
77 **LETTER FROM MR. LARRY CALLAHAN, EASTON LIONS CLUB REQUESTING PERMISSION TO**  
78 **USE TOWN LOT TO SELL CHRISTMAS TREES.**

79  
80 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, permission for the Lions Club to  
81 use the town lot next to the Amish Market to sell Christmas trees was approved.

82  
83 **7:15 PM PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS, "ORDINANCE NO. 634, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN**  
84 **OF EASTON AMENDING SECTION 11-5 OF THE TOWN CODE MINIMUM LIVABILITY CODE**  
85 **PROVISIONS REGARDING HISTORIC STRUCTURES."**

86  
87 At 7:16 p.m., President Ford opened the public hearing to discuss Ordinance No. 634.

88  
89 Mrs. VanEmburch discussed the history of Ordinance No. 634 which is a spinoff from Ordinance No. 628 with  
90 two minor changes.

91  
92 Mrs. VanEmburch discussed the changes.

93  
94 Mr. Coard Benson, President Mid Shore Board of Realtors, encourages diligence by the council regarding the  
95 proposed ordinance. He thanked the council for their time.

96  
97 Doug Collison, Esq., asked for clarification and asked that the details be outlined in the ordinance to explicitly  
98 state that the inspections are only triggered when a building permit gets issued.

99  
00 Mr. Leshar asked that this not be acted on tonight until further clarification.

01  
02 At 7:31 p.m., President Ford closed the public hearing. He stated that written comments can be submitted until  
03 close of business on Friday.

04  
05 **WATERFOWL FESTIVAL PUBLIC ASSEMBLY PERMIT APPROVAL.**

06  
07 Upon motion by Ms. Malone, seconded by Mr. Leshar and carried unanimously, the Waterfowl Festival's request  
08 for a public assembly permit was approved.

09  
10 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$1,688,038.18.**

11  
12 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Ms. Malone and carried unanimously, invoices totaling \$1,688,038.18 were  
13 approved for payment.

14  
15 **CONTRIBUTION FOR EASTERN SHORE LAND CONSERVANCY.**

16  
17 Mayor Willey stated that Eastern Shore Land Conservancy is short on their fund drive. He stated that if the Town  
18 Council is inclined, he suggests the Town of Easton make a contribution as this will be an asset to that part of the town.

19  
20 President Ford stated that it is a good economic move for the town.

21  
22 Mr. Wendowski suggested looking at the first quarter end and see how the town is doing.

23  
24 Upon motion by Mr. Wendowski, seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, approval was granted to make a  
25 \$50,000 contribution to Eastern Shore Land Conservancy to help with their alternations to the McCord's building.

26  
27 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

28  
29 Ms. Malone thanked Easton Utilities Commission for planting 100 trees in the RTC Park and stated that the schools  
30 will be planting trees.

31  
32 Mr. Karge advised that they are planting 1400 trees at RTC Park.

33  
34 Mr. Wendowski discussed attending the MML Fall Conference at Solomon's Island. He said that they discussed ethics,  
35 accountability, and the Open Meetings Law. He stated that the issue of speed cameras is going to come up in the  
36 general assembly.

37

38 Mrs. Cook said that the East End Neighborhood Association meeting is scheduled for Monday October 28th at 6:30  
39 p.m. at Asbury Church.

40  
41 **ADJOURN**

42  
43 At 7:40 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Wendowski seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, President Ford  
44 adjourned the regularly scheduled Council meeting.

45  
46  
47 \_\_\_\_\_  
48 Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk