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3 **TOWN OF EASTON, MARYLAND**  
4 **Easton Town Hall**  
5 **14 S Harrison Street**  
6

7 **August 15, 2016**  
8

9  
10 **PRESENT AT CONVENING.**  
11

12 Mayor Robert C. Willey 15 Councilmember Pete Leshar  
13 Council President John Ford 16 Councilmember Ron E. Engle  
14 Councilmember Alan I. Silverstein 17 Councilmember Megan M. Cook  
15

16  
17  
18  
19 **IN ATTENDANCE.**  
20

21 Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Robert F. Karge, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon  
22 VanEmburch, Code Official Donald J. Richardson and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.  
23

24 **CONVENING.**  
25

26 At 7:00 p.m., President Ford called the meeting to order.  
27

28 **OPENING REMARKS BY MR. LESHAR AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**  
29

30 Mr. Leshar gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
31

32 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 1, 2016 MEETING.**  
33

34 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the minutes of the  
35 August 1, 2016 meeting were approved.  
36

37 **FIRE BOARD.**  
38

39 Mr. Sonny Jones, Jr., Easton Volunteer Fire Department Trustee thanked the Council for the recent  
40 renovations. He discussed upcoming fundraising events. Mr. Jones stated that the self-contained  
41 breathing apparatus has been ordered and thanked the Mayor and council for their assistance.  
42

43 Mr. Jones stated that Talbot County has started a retention campaign to attract new members.  
44

45 Mr. Tim Knotts, Trustee, discussed fundraising efforts and the Beer Fest scheduled for October 8,  
46 2016.  
47

48 **ITEMS BY THE MAYOR.**  
49

50 Mayor Willey asked for confirmation of the following appointments:  
51

- 52 ○ Ms. Jennifer Williams, Ethics Commission for a three year term expiring September 7, 2019.
- 53 ○ Ms. Linda Laramy, Waterfowl Festival Commission for a three year term expiring September
- 54 2019.
- 55 ○ Ms. Bonnie Morro, Waterfowl Festival Commission for a three year term expiring September
- 56 2019.
- 57 ○ Mr. Duane Hilghman, Affordable Housing Trust for a three year term expiring May 2019.
- 58 ○ Mr. J. Edward Lynch, Affordable Housing Trust for a three year term expiring May 2019.
- 59 ○ Mr. Paul Weber, Planning and Zoning Commission for a five year term expiring December 31,
- 60 2018.  
61

62 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the appointments  
63 were confirmed.  
64

65 **TOWN MANAGER APPOINTMENT.**  
66

67 Mayor Willey asked for confirmation of the appointment of Donald J. Richardson as Town Manager  
68 for the Town of Easton.

69 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Mr. Richardson's  
70 appointment was approved.  
71

72 Mr. Richardson stated that he looks forward to assisting Mayor Willey and following in the footsteps  
73 of Mr. Karge.  
74

75  
76 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN MANAGER.**

77  
78 Mr. Karge extended condolences to the family of (Ret.) Sgt. Larrier Walker who recently passed.  
79

80 Mr. Karge congratulated Mr. Don Richardson on his recent appointment. He stated that being  
81 Town Manager would be the pinnacle of Mr. Richardson's career.  
82

83 Mr. Karge extended condolences to the family of Mr. Gerald Friedel of Davis, Bowen and Friedel  
84 (DBF) who served as Assistant to the Town Engineer for ten years.  
85

86 **APPROVAL OF BID FOR V BOX SALT SPREADER AS RECOMMENDED BY PUBLIC WORKS STAFF.**

87  
88 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried, the bid for a v-box salt spreader in  
89 the amount of \$13,745 from Moxley Welding was approved as recommended by staff.  
90

91 **APPROVAL OF BID FOR UTILITY MOWER.**

92  
93 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the bid for a utility  
94 mower with boom from Rathell Farm Equipment in the amount of \$161,360 was approved as  
95 recommended by staff.  
96

97 **APPROVAL OF PUBLIC ASSEMBLY EVENT: NATIONAL MS SOCIETY CHALLENGE WALK MS 2016**  
98 **FUNDRAISER.**

99  
100 Mr. Karge brought the Public Assembly request from the National MS Society for their Challenge  
101 Walk MS 2016 to the floor. He stated that the event is scheduled to occur September 11.  
102 Discussion occurred regarding other events scheduled for that day. Mr. Karge discussed the lack of  
103 the Certificate of Insurance naming the Town of Easton as insured.  
104

105 Ms. Whitney Pogwist was present to address any issues. She discussed the route.  
106

107 President Ford started that the date scheduled has the potential for Easton Police Department to  
108 be in multiple locations. He stated that the date is not ideal but doable.  
109

110 Ms. Pogwist stated that they have over 60 volunteers and walkers that also assist those with MS.  
111

112 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshar approval was granted for the Public  
113 Assembly Event subject to receipt of the required insurance provisions.  
114

115 **REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE § 3-305(b)(7) TO CONSULT WITH**  
116 **COUNSEL TO OBTAIN LEGAL ADVICE ON A LEGAL MATTER.**

117  
118 Mr. Karge asked President Ford to convene into Closed Session after the regularly scheduled  
119 meeting for the advice of counsel.  
120

121 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

122  
123 Mrs. VanEmburch reviewed the schedule for the upcoming public hearings on Tuesday September  
124 6.

- 125 ○ 7:15 PM - Annexation and Zoning for property located on Port Street.
- 126 ○ 7:30 PM – Amendment to the conditions related to Affordable Housing for Elm Street.
- 127 ○ 7:45 PM – Request for a Planned Unit Development Galloway Meadows

128  
129 **MR. KEN KOZEL, PRESIDENT AND CEO AND MS. PATTI WILLIS, SR. VICE PRESIDENT STRATEGY**  
130 **AND COMMUNICATIONS UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SHORE REGIONAL HEALTH TO UPDATE**  
131 **COUNCIL.**

132  
133 Mr. Kozel thanked Mr. Karge for his support of the hospital through the years. Mr. Kozel updated  
134 on the status of the new hospital. He stated that they currently have a physician shortage. Mr.

135 Kozel discussed the plans to relocate Shore Regional Health near the airport and the community  
136 center. He stated that their intention is to update their application by mid-September.

137  
138 Mr. Silverstein discussed the adaptive reuse of the current facility.

139  
140 Mr. Kozel discussed the opening of the urgent care facility in the Waterside Shopping Center.

141  
142 Mr. Kozel thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.

143  
144 President Ford thanked Mr. Kozel and offered the Council's assistance with the process for  
145 adapting the Washington Street facility.

146  
147 **MS. TRACY WARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EASTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO**  
148 **UPDATE COUNCIL.**

149  
150 Ms. Ward was present and discussed recent Easton Economic Development events. She updated  
151 on their business model and pending grants. Ms. Ward stated that Chesapeake Harvest did a soft  
152 launch for their business and the staff is currently doing branding and marketing. Ms. Ward  
153 discussed the Port Street Master Plan.

154  
155 President Ford stated that the Port Street Master Plan is very impressive.

156  
157 **REVIEW OF INVOICES TOTALING \$2,424,177.64.**

158  
159 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mrs. Cook and carried unanimously, invoices totaling  
160 \$2,424,177.64 were approved.

161  
162 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

163  
164 Mr. Leshner thanked Officers Freeman, Bordley and Trams for attending the August 4 East End  
165 Neighborhood Association meeting which addressed Public Safety.

166  
167 Mr. Leshner congratulated Eagle Scout recipients and stated that it was a privilege to participate in  
168 their Court of Honor.

169  
170 Mrs. Cook thanked everyone for their participation in National Night Out. She asked the  
171 community to be mindful of buses and children as school is about to commence.

172  
173 **CLOSED SESSION ON THE ADVICE OF COUNSEL.**

174  
175 President Ford asked if there was anyone to bring anything before the council. There being no  
176 one, President Ford entertained a motion to convene into Closed Session.

177  
178 At 8:07 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously,  
179 President Ford convened into Closed Session.

180  
181 At 8:19 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner, President Ford adjourned  
182 the Close Session and reconvened into the regular meeting.

183  
184 **ADJOURN.**

185

186  
187 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, President Ford  
188 adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting at 8:19 p.m.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk