



66           **LOCATION:** Lot #5

67           **DATE/TIME:** Saturdays 4/16/16 to 12/17/16 from 0800 to 1300 hrs. and Wednesdays  
68           7/6/16 to 8/31/16 from 1600 to 1900 hrs.

69           Upon motion by Mr. Leshner, seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, the Farmer's  
70           Market was approved.

71           ❖   **EVENT:** Women's History Month Celebration and Street Rededication  
72           **APPLICANT:** Frederick Douglas Memorial Action Coalition/Moonyene Jackson

73           **LOCATION:** Tubman Drive between Meadow Drive and Bethune

74           **DATE/TIME:** 3/26/16 1300 to 1530

75           Mr. Karge stated that there has been some opposition to the application so it is up to the council  
76           how to proceed.

77           Ms. Jackson was present and stated that she was surprised this had become an issue. Ms. Jackson  
78           asked for the recommendation to the council from 1st Sgt. Thomas which stated it was the  
79           council's discretion. She stated that the site that was chosen took in the consideration of egress  
80           and ingress. Ms. Jackson stated that she chose the location of these streets due to their names.

81           Ms. Jackson stated that the residents were served March 9 with the event details. She stated that  
82           she proposed Tubman Drive and Bethune. Ms. Jackson stated that she recommends to the  
83           council for their consideration the freedom of assembly. She stated that she has the right to  
84           assemble for the celebration and rededication. Ms. Jackson stated that her preference has always  
85           been for the street not the park. She stated that the closure she is asking for is very minimal.

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87           Ms. Jackson distributed letters in support of the event and location and asked for any questions.

88  
89           President Ford asked for audience comments.

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91           Mr. Mike Thielke, 200 Tubman Drive, President of Patriot Square HOA Board, stated that they are  
92           not opposed to the event. He stated that this is an opportunity for a service to the community.  
93           He stated that the HOA owns the park and they have made a major investment in improvements.  
94           He stated that Ms. Jackson did not reach out to the HOA and the event will be an inconvenience  
95           to the residents. He stated that the Board requested a Certificate of Insurance as well as a \$5,000  
96           deposit. Mr. Thielke stated that the homeowner's had built and renovated the square at their  
97           cost of approximately \$40,000. He stated that the community is developed and built out now;  
98           not like it was nine years ago when the first event was held. Mr. Thielke stated that they are  
99           trying to protect the interest of the neighborhood and they are very well aware of the significance  
100          of the street names.

101  
102          Ms. Jennifer Williams, Patriot Square, Tubman Drive; stated that the event and the closing of the  
103          street would impact her personally. She discussed the inconvenience to the residents and the  
104          inability to get emergency equipment down the streets. Ms. Williams stated that there is one  
105          way in the neighborhood and one way out. She stated that the homeowners had to outlay the  
106          expense of the park improvements and that is why they asked for the security deposit. Ms.  
107          Williams stated that they never had the opportunity to work with the applicant.

108  
109          Ms. Jackson discussed the previous celebration and the location. She discussed having the  
110          freedom of assembly. She stated that the duties to speak to the HOA were given to Mrs. Cook.

111  
112          Mr. Darnell Thomas, Tubman Drive, stated that he supports what Ms. Jackson is doing. Mr.  
113          Thomas stated that he feels like she should be given a chance for the first time this year.

114  
115          Ms. Irene Canzian, Tubman Drive, asked where the event is being held. She stated that she did  
116          not agree with the street being blocked. She stated that she will not be able to get in and out of  
117          her house. She stated that blocking the street will cause an inconvenience and discussed the HOA  
118          offering use of the common area. She stated that it is a good cause, but a private neighborhood.  
119          She stated that the residents in that neighborhood pay taxes and should have some rights.

120  
121          Mr. Eric Horst, 200 Tubman Drive, stated that he agrees with Mr. Thomas; plan it for 10<sup>th</sup>  
122          anniversary and they can work it out to have a celebration. He suggested working all the details  
123          out for the actual 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year; perhaps set it up in the square.

124 President Ford stated that he thinks it's a terrific event and he empathizes with both sides.  
125 President Ford stated that this event should be a true community celebration of the street. He  
126 discussed the offer from the HOA president to make this a true community celebration which is  
127 how this should happen. President Ford stated that he does not support this application for the  
128 closure of Tubman for this Saturday but he intends to hold feet to the fire for the future that this  
129 event can take place on the actual tenth anniversary and be a true celebration in that  
130 neighborhood.

131  
132 Mr. Silverstein stated that he agrees and everyone should be involved. Mr. Silverstein stated that  
133 he is voting to deny the Public Assembly Event. He stated that he was distressed to see a  
134 newspaper article today inviting people to join the celebration before permission was granted  
135 for the Public Assembly application. Mr. Silverstein stated that he would like to get behind a 10th  
136 year celebration.

137  
138 Mr. Engle said he has not seen a lack of support for the event but the location is the concern. He  
139 stated that he supports President Ford's recommendation.

140  
141 Mr. Leshar stated that he is in the same opinion as President Ford. He stated that the parties  
142 should have been communicating but he supports President Ford's course of action.

143  
144 Mrs. Cook discussed her communications with Ms. Jackson-Amis and the Homeowner's  
145 Association.

146  
147 Upon motion by Mr. Leshar seconded by Mr. Engle and carried, the Public Assembly Permit  
148 application was denied.

149  
150 Ms. Jackson-Amis stated that people are coming and there is no law against people gathering.

151  
152 President Ford thanked those for coming to express their opinion.

153  
154 **ITEMS BY THE TOWN ATTORNEY.**

155  
156 The Town Attorney asked President Ford to schedule a public hearing for the two critical area  
157 map amendments for Talbot Commerce Park as well as a text amendment as recommended by  
158 the Planning and Zoning Commission.

159  
160 President Ford scheduled the public hearing for May 2 at 7:15 p.m.

161  
162 The Town Attorney asked President Ford to schedule a public hearing on the Brant Court PUD  
163 portion of the public road to become private road. The intention is to deed the property to the  
164 owner as private property. The PUD requires maintenance and things in place. The closing of  
165 the road would extend to the edge of the development property.

166  
167 President Ford scheduled the public hearing for April 4 at 7:30 p.m.

168  
169 The Town Attorney stated that she needs feedback on an amendment to the donation bin  
170 ordinance regarding their size. She stated that the ordinance needs to be modified that was  
171 passed if the current bins are to comply. There are 21 bins in town that this may affect. Ms.  
172 VanEmburch asked for guidance.

173  
174 Mr. Silverstein stated that he thinks it would be fine to raise the height outlined in the  
175 ordinance. He stated that the Code Department needs to be able to enforce the ordinance.

176  
177 It was the consensus of the council to support amending the size limits of the donation bins.

178  
179 **LETTER FROM RYAN D. SHOWALTER REQUESTING ABATEMENT OF TAXES.**

180  
181 Mr. Karge discussed the basis of the taxation which he stated is not the exchange of a  
182 transaction. He stated that taxes are a general assessment on a property for the general  
183 support of the town. Mr. Karge stated that it is the advice of the staff not to abate the tax.

184  
185 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the council  
186 denied approval of the abatement.

187 **7:15 PM PUBLIC HEARING TO OBTAIN THE VIEWS OF CITIZENS ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE**  
188 **EXTENSION/IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CURRENTLY UNDERWAY AT TALBOT COMMERCE PARK**  
189 **THAT IS PARTIALLY FUNDED WITH A MARYLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT.**  
190

191 At 8:26 p.m., President Ford opened the Public Hearing.

192  
193 Mr. Karge discussed the CDBG requirements of the second public hearing.

194  
195 At 8:27 p.m., there being no comments, President Ford closed the public hearing.

196  
197 President Ford stated that written comments can be forwarded to the Town office until close of  
198 business Friday.

199  
200 **LETTER FROM AL BOND, AVALON FOUNDATION REGARDING AGREEMENT ON MANAGING**  
201 **THE ARTS MARKET THAT OPERATES AS PART OF PLEIN AIR EASTON.**  
202

203 Ms. Jen Wagner thanked the council for suggesting communication between her and the  
204 Avalon. She stated she was appreciative of the outcome. Ms. Wagner stated they came up with  
205 a really good solution for both parties.

206  
207 Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Leshner and carried unanimously, the letter  
208 was ratified as submitted.

209  
210 **RESOLUTION NO. 6064, "A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN LANDS OWNED BY ROUTE 33,**  
211 **LLC AND STANDARD FUSEE CORPORATION (FORMERLY KNOWN AS MCLAUGHLIN ACQUISITION**  
212 **CORPORATION), LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MARYLAND ROUTE 33 AND CONSISTING**  
213 **OF 13.025+ ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, INTO THE TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE**  
214 **FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ANNEXATION."**  
215

216 President Ford introduced Resolution No. 6064 and stated that the Public Hearing has been set  
217 for April 18 at 7:15 p.m.

218  
219 **ORDINANCE NO. 676, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE OFFICIAL**  
220 **ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPLY ORIGINAL ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF**  
221 **GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) TO CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND ANNEXED TO THE TOWN OF**  
222 **EASTON BY RESOLUTION NO. 6064 LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MARYLAND ROUTE 33**  
223 **AND CONSISTING OF 13.025 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS."**  
224

225 President Ford brought Ordinance 676 to the floor for a first reading and stated that the Public  
226 Hearing has been set for April 18 at 7:15 p.m.

227  
228 **REVIEW OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TOTALING \$775,292.95.**  
229

230 Upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, payables totaling  
231 \$775,292.95 were approved for payment.

232  
233 **ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.**  
234

235 Mr. Silverstein reminded citizens to take extra pride in the community and pick up trash and  
236 dog droppings.

237  
238 Mrs. Cook has been invited by Mr. Bibb to sit in on the Buffalo Soldier's House renovation  
239 meetings. She stated she will keep the council informed.

240  
241 **ADJOURN.**  
242

243 At 8:33 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Leshner seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously,  
244 President Ford adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

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Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk