

TOWN OF EASTON NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the Town of Easton will hold a public hearing on March 5, 2018 at 7:15 P.M. in the Council Meeting Room, 14 South Harrison Street. The purpose of this hearing is to discuss Ordinance Number 718 which proposes amendments to the Town's Forest Conservation Ordinance.

Copies of Ordinance 718 are on file in the office of the Town Planner and are available for public inspection during normal business hours. They may also be found on the Town's website at www.town-eastonmd.com. The public is hereby invited to attend the hearing and all interested parties shall be entitled to appear and be heard.

The proposed Ordinance repeals and readopts the Town's Forest Conservation Ordinance. Changes proposed are consistent with and reflect the latest State of Maryland Forest Conservation Model Ordinance. The most significant changes can be summarized as follows:

- An increase in the fee-in-lieu of rate from 10 cents per SF to 30.5 cents per SF.
- Revisions to the general administration of the fee-in-lieu of Forest Conservation option.
- The establishment of priority retention for rare, threatened or endangered trees, shrubs or plants.
- Clarification of the General Requirements section.
- The alignment of definitions between the FCA and the Zoning Code for consistency.
- The addition of definitions to both the FCA and the Zoning Code where cross-referencing occurs.
- The re-formatting of the document for its integration into Chapter 31 of the Town Code.

Persons wishing to attend or participate in the public hearing who require special accommodations or assistance because of a disability should contact the Town Clerk, Kathy Ruf at the Town Office, telephone number (410) 822-2525 during normal business hours by March 2, 2018.

Kathy M. Ruf
Town Clerk