

**The Mayor and Commissioners  
of the Town of Elkton**

September 20, 2023

The Mayor & Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") held a regularly scheduled meeting on this date at 12:00 p.m. The following persons attended the meeting either in person or virtually: Commissioners Jean A. Broomell; Charles H. Givens, Sr.; Robert M. Massimiano; and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Director of Finance Steven H. Repole; Elkton Police Department Lt. David Confer; Director of Planning Jeanne D. Minner; Planning Assistant Quinn Krenzel; Director of Human Resources Andy Rodriguez; Human Resources Specialist Danielle Pelagatti; Director of Public Works J. Daniel Handley, P.E.; Director of Building & Zoning Charles A. Bromwell; Assistant Town Administrator L. Michelle Henson; Town Attorney John P. Downs, Esquire.

**Notice of Closed Meeting**

On Wednesday, September 13, 2023, during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor & Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board"), a Closed Meeting was requested and approved by all present pursuant to State Government Statutory Authority to Close Session, General Provisions Article, §3-305(b) (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto. Attendance: Mayor Robert J. Alt; Commissioners Jean A. Broomell, Charles H. Givens, Sr., Robert M. Massimiano and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Assistant Town Administrator L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney John P. Downs, Esquire.

Mayor Alt called the meeting to order and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ACTION:** The minutes of the September 6, 2023 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massimiano and approved by all present with no corrections.

**ACTION:** The Financial Report and the bills submitted for payment were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

**Budget Amendment 2024-02**

To amend the FY2024 Department of Public Works Capital Budget (\$83,133) for the purchase of a Grass and Debris Loader to replace a unit that was totaled in June, 2023.

Mr. Repole presented Budget Amendment 2024-02 in the amount of \$83,133 for the purchase of a grass and debris loader to replace a unit that was totaled in June, 2023.

**ACTION:** Budget Amendment 2024-02 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Massimiano. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

### **Republic Services Overview of Trash & Recycling Collection**

Messrs. Dominic Fulginiti, Municipal Manager, Geoff Jacobs, General Manager, and Andre Wilburn, Operations Supervisor, representing Republic Services, introduced themselves to the Board. Mr. Fulginiti stated the purpose of their appearance was to discuss the transition from the Town's former trash and recycling hauler to Republic.

Mr. Fulginiti provided a synopsis of the transition via a Power Point Presentation, a copy of which was placed in the record of the minutes.

Discussion ensued regarding collection and customer service procedures. Mr. Fulginiti stated Republic will provide a customer service portal for residents to contact Republic directly regarding collection issues.

Discussion continued regarding the process of informing residents and property owners of the transition to Republic. Mr. Fulginiti stated a public information brochure outlining services will be provided to all customers.

Mayor Alt queried if centralized dumpsters could replace individual carts for use by residents who live in apartments, such as on Main Street, and residents of townhome communities. Mr. Fulginiti stated centralized dumpsters at townhome communities could create an access issue for equipment. Mr. Jacobs stated service will be initiated under the terms of the contract, and potential service improvements can be discussed in the future.

Mayor Alt stated that the transition will be discussed with Landlords on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Fulginiti stated new carts will be delivered to residents prior to the contract commencement date of November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. John Stanley expressed concerns regarding requirements associated with disposal of recyclables.

Mr. Mark D'Azevedo queried if property owners can buy additional carts. Mr. Fulginiti answered in the affirmative, adding that there will be a supplemental fee for additional service.

Mr. D'Azevedo questioned if Republic will collect construction debris. Mr. Fulginiti stated Republic is not permitted to collect and mix construction debris with municipal waste.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

#### **Resolution R11-2023 Trash & Recycling Collection Fees**

Mr. George presented Resolution R11-2023 Trash & Recycling Collection Fees for approval. He stated the purpose of Resolution R11-2023 was to offset the expenses of contracted residential trash collection services and landfill disposal fees paid by the Town. A copy of Resolution R11-2023 was placed in the record of the minutes.

Mayor Alt expressed the Board's reluctance to pass cost increases to residents. Noting that the Town is faced with increases in operating expenses, he stated the Board has no choice but to pass the costs to residents. Mr. George noted that the increases in hauling fees do not cover the costs of disposal at the Central Landfill, noting that tipping fees run upwards of \$500,000 per year.

**ACTION:** Resolution R11-2023 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massimiano and approved by all present.

### **Ordinance 5-2023 Water & Sewer Rates - Presented for Introduction**

Mr. George presented Ordinance 5-2023 Water & Sewer Rates for introduction. He stated the Ordinance 5-2023 adjusts the water and sewer rates for the customers of the Town of Elkton to ensure sufficient revenue to pay for water and wastewater systems operations, capital improvements, debt service, and the purchase of water from other utilities. A copy of Ordinance 5-2023 was placed in the record of the minutes.

Mayor Alt stated the Board previously lowered water and sewer rates in an effort to assist residents. He stated operational costs have increased dramatically over the years, creating a deficit in the water and sewer funds. He added that costs also increased for water that the Town purchased from Artesian through an interconnection that was required by the State of Maryland as a backup supply several years ago.

Mayor Alt stated water and sewer rate increases reflect the difficult decision the Board must make to meet increasing costs.

Mr. George stated Ordinance 5-2023 is a critical ordinance as it establishes and provides funds for operating systems and capital improvements necessary to maintain water delivery and wastewater treatment for the Town's residents.

**ACTION:** Ordinance 5-2023 Water & Sewer Rates was accepted for introduction on a motion made by Commissioner Massimiano. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

Mayor Alt expressed concerns regarding futures costs associated with treatment of water and wastewater containing PFAS, known as "forever chemicals" that were previously used in fire suppression, non-stick cookware and other common items.

Mr. John Stanley expressed concerns with water quality at his home and requested fire hydrant flushing in his neighborhood.

**Ordinance 7-2023 Amending Code of the Town of Elkton Article 8.04 Garbage Collection and Disposal - Presented for Introduction**

Mr. George presented Ordinance 7-2023 for the purpose of amending the Code of the Town of Elkton Article 8.04 Garbage Collection and Disposal by including language regarding recyclables.

**ACTION:** Ordinance 7-2023 was accepted for introduction on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner and approved by all present.

**Proclamation P50-2023 Elkton High School Alumni Night October 6, 2023**

Mr. George presented Proclamation P50-2023 designating October 6, 2023 as Elkton High School Alumni Night in Elkton. A copy of Proclamation P50-2023 was read and placed in the record of the minutes.

**ACTION:** Proclamation p50-2023 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Broomell and approved by all present.

**Mayor Alt's Report**

Mayor Alt commended Elkton Alliance Executive Director Ms. Alicia Calhoun and the Alliance team on a successful Fall Fest event.

Mayor Alt stated that Mr. George is working with Attorneys from Whiteford Taylor and Preston regarding the requested Charter Amendment to provide for Collective Bargaining for non-sworn employees. He stated the decision before the Board is whether to administrative amend the Charter or to bring the matter to referendum for the voters to decide at the next Municipal Election in 2024.

**Commissioner Givens' Report**

Commissioner Givens echoed Mayor Alt's comments regarding the Fall Fest event. He asked the Alliance to consider providing transportation for those with mobility issues.

**Commissioner Massimiano's Report**

Commissioner Massimiano stated the recent Fall Fest event was the best he's experienced.

**Commissioner Broomell's Report**

Commissioner Broomell echoed the Board's comments regarding the Fall Fest event.

Commissioner Broomell requested an update from Ms. Calhoun regarding her previous request for financial assistance pursuant to a grant the Alliance received pertaining to the Farmers

Market pavilion. Ms. Calhoun stated the Alliance Board met with Planning Director Ms. Jeanne Minner regarding use of the current grant funds and applications for grants during the next cycle in 2024.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Commissioner Givens adjourned the meeting at 1:33 p.m.

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L. Michelle Henson  
Assistant Town Administrator

A VIDEO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE

Note: The minutes of regularly scheduled public meetings conducted by the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton, following their approval, are posted at [www.elkton.org](http://www.elkton.org). The minutes, in hard copy format, are retained indefinitely by the Town of Elkton, Administration Office, 100 Railroad Avenue, Elkton, Maryland 21921.