

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

December 21, 2022

The 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: 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.; Director of Planning Jeanne D. Minner; Planning Assistant Quinn Krenzel; Director of Human Resources Andy Rodriguez; Director of Public Works J. Daniel Handley, P.E; Assistant Town Administrator L. Michelle Henson and Town Attorney John Downs, Esquire.

Mayor Alt called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and lead the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Notice of Closed Meeting

On Wednesday, December 7, 2022, 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) (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. 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.; of Planning Jeanne D. Minner; Director of Human Resources Andy Rodriguez; Assistant Town Administrator L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney John P. Downs, Esquire.

ACTION: The minutes of the December 7, 2022 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 Broomell and approved by all present.

Holiday Decorating Contest Winners Announced

Mayor Alt announced the winners of the annual Decorating Contest. The list of awards was read and placed in the record of the minutes.

Commissioner Broomell thanked the contest participants, and requested that the contest be publicized in the 2023 Parks and Recreation Community Guide.

Town Administrator's Report

Request of Waste Management to Amend Current Service Agreement - Rate Increase

Mr. George presented a request from Waste Management (WM), the Town's contracted trash and recycling hauler, for an increase of \$8,000 per month. Mayor Alt stated he met with Mr. Dan Handley, Director of Public Works (DPW) regarding WM's request. He asked the Board to delay a decision on WM's request until the beginning of 2023. It was the consensus of the Board to delay a decision on WM's request until the beginning of 2023.

South Street Extension Project Concept Plan

Mr. George presented a concept plan for the extension of South Street from East High Street to Stockton Street. He stated that the plan will include widening of Collins Street to permit parking on both sides of the street as well as a tie-in to Bethel Street.

Mr. George stated the Town is pursuing Right of Entry (ROE) agreements with the various property owners who will be affected by the proposed extension and street widening. He stated the purpose of the ROE's is for the Town to obtain permission to conduct surveys of each property in order for the project to move to the surveying and property acquisition stage.

Discussion ensued regarding acquisition of properties when the ownership of which is unclear. Mr. George stated the Town will exhaust all avenues to identify legal ownership.

Mayor Alt queried the Board for a consensus to move forward with the South Street Extension Project. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the South Street Extension Project.

Proclamation P41-2022 Edna Mae Piner Remembrance Day

Mr. George presented Proclamation P41-2022 Edna Mae Piner Remembrance Day for approval. He stated the Proclamation honored Commissioner Piner's Mother, Mrs. Edna Mae Piner. A copy of Proclamation P41-2022 was read and placed into the record of the minutes.

ACTION: Proclamation P41-2022 Edna Mae Piner Remembrance Day, was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massimiano and approved by all present.

Mayor Alt's Report

Mayor Alt queried Mr. Downs for an update regarding the Holly Hall property. Mr. Downs stated the Title search is complete and he is determining a path forward to remove the prohibition from subdivision of the parcel.

Mayor Alt announced that the Town will accept requests by non-profits for donations from funds allotted to the Town by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). He stated the requests will be accepted during the period January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023.

Mayor Alt advised the Board that Fiscal Year 2034 Budget discussions will commence in the first quarter of 2023.

Mayor Alt reiterated his previous request for completion of employee evaluations.

Mayor Alt stated he rescheduled discussion of the requested rate increase from Inframark, the Town's contracted Water and Wastewater Treatment facilities operator, to provide the Board ample time to review the request. Mr. George noted that the proposal included additional staff.

Commissioner Massimiano's Report

Commissioner Massimiano stated he received a request from Singerly Fire Company to continue discussions regarding funding assistance to that entity. Commissioner Massimiano stated he advised the Singerly representative that the Board will continue to discuss financial assistance while recognizing the need for additional revenue from ongoing development projects within the Town.

Mayor Alt reiterated his desire to bring the decision for increased funding to Singerly Fire Company to referendum. He stated the Board's obligation to provide funding assistance and expressed his belief that taxpayers have the right to decide on increased funding for Singerly.

Commissioner Broomell questioned if future funding assistance for Singerly Fire Company will increase as the tax base increases. Mayor Alt answered in the affirmative, reiterating his desire to provide taxpayers the opportunity to decide if taxes should be increased to provide additional funding for Singerly.

Commissioner Piner's Report

Commissioner Piner commended the Parks & Recreation Department for the Holiday Dance Recital on December 16th.

Commissioner Givens' Report

Commissioner Givens offered his condolences to Commissioner Piner and family regarding the passing of Commissioner Piner's Mother, Mrs. Edna Mae Piner.

Commissioner Givens wished all in attendance a Merry Christmas.

Commissioner Broomell's Report

Commissioner Broomell expressed support for Singerly Fire Company, commending the Emergency Response Technicians for their promptness and professionalism.

Commissioner Broomell expressed her support for Town staff, stating that Elkton is well represented by employees.

Commissioner Broomell expressed appreciation to Mrs. Laura Handley for her efforts in decorating the Elkton Armory.

Commissioner Broomell wished all in attendance a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Public Comment

Chief Rogers announced that Cecil County Government is considering appointments to the Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee.

Chief Rogers reported that the annual Shop with a Cop event had been cancelled, adding that Elkton Police Officers conducted their own event, providing a shopping opportunity to children. She thanked Enzo's for supplying pizza for the event, and Cpl. Brian David for dressing as Santa Claus for the participants.

Mr. Rodriguez advised the Board that Minimum Wage will increase to \$13.25 in January.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Alt adjourned the meeting at 12:54 p.m.

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. The minutes, in hard copy format, are retained indefinitely by the Town of Elkton, Administration Office, 100 Railroad Avenue, Elkton, Maryland 21921.