

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

## **MINUTES**

September 9, 2020

In order to comply with Governor Larry Hogan's declaration of a State of Emergency as part of Maryland's response to COVID-19, and in order to limit public gatherings during this time, the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") conducted a virtual workshop meeting on this date at 12:00 p.m. The following persons participated via computer and/or telephone: Mayor Robert J. Alt; Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr., Robert M. Massimiano and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Finance Director Steven H. Repole, CPA; Senior Administrative Specialist L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney John P. Downs, Esquire. Commissioner Jean A. Broomell was excused from the meeting.

Mayor Alt called the virtual workshop meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

### **Discussion**

#### **Town of Elkton Code Chapter 8.12.050**

#### **Burning of Rubbish - Accumulation and Burning of Garbage**

Mr. Rod Burr, President of the Kensington Courts Homeowners Association (HOA) introduced himself to the Board. He stated the purpose of his appearance is to request the Board's consideration of amending the Town of Elkton Code Chapter 8.12.050 Burning of Rubbish - Accumulation and Burning of Garbage.

Referring to a previously distributed overview of the requested changes, Mr. Burr stated the current restrictions on burning prohibit fire pits, chimineas, and other devices such as grills, which are used by many residents. A copy of Mr. Burr's request was placed in the record of the minutes.

Mayor Alt thanked Mr. Burr for his presentation and asked Mr. George to review the current Code and the requested changes.

Commissioners Givens, Massimiano and Piner expressed appreciation to Mr. Burr for his research and input.

Mr. George stated he will review the suggestions, adding that any change to the Town's Code affects the entire town. He noted that citizens with respiratory issues must be considered, stating that smoke will travel to other properties.

### **Discussion**

#### **Elkton Alliance - Activity Update and Memorandum of Understanding Update - Request for Funding Assistance - Downtown Speaker System**

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Ms. Danielle Carroll, Vice President, and Ms. Jessica Price, Executive Director, introduced themselves to the Board. Ms. Carroll stated the purpose of their appearance is to provide an update regarding the Elkton Alliance.

Ms. Carroll stated the Elkton Alliance is required by the Maryland Main Street Program to enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town, which defines the role of the Alliance and its relationship to the Town of Elkton. She stated the Alliance continues its focus on economic development.

Mayor Alt expressed support for the Elkton Alliance, and asked Ms. Carroll to forward the MOU.

Ms. Carroll stated the Alliance is working through the COVID-related cancellations while remaining within its budget.

Ms. Carroll stated the Alliance continues to receive and distribute façade grants.

Citing restrictions on gatherings, Ms. Carroll stated the Fall Fest and Halloween Parade are cancelled this year. She added that the Alliance will sponsor Halloween-related activities at Meadow Park, noting that social distancing will be maintained. Commissioner Massimiano questioned if the parade could be held at Meadow Park. Ms. Carroll responded in the negative, stating social distancing cannot be guaranteed in larger groups of participants.

Ms. Carroll announced Small Business Saturday on November 28, 2020.

Ms. Carroll asked the Board to continue permitting outdoor dining and alcohol consumption in designated spaces adjacent to downtown food establishments.

Mayor Alt expressed support for the continuation of outdoor dining and alcohol consumption in designated spaces adjacent to downtown food establishments.

Discussion ensued regarding encouraging downtown businesses to increase their operating hours.

Mayor Alt noted that parking enforcement will resume the week of September 14th.

Ms. Carroll thanked Commissioner Massimiano for assisting with the First Friday events on October 2nd.

Ms. Carroll requested the Board's consideration of upgrades to the downtown speaker system. She stated the current system is difficult to maneuver, adding that the Alliance received an estimate for a lamppost-mounted system which will provide audio from the intersection of Bow and Main Streets to the Courthouse. She stated she will forward the information to the Board, and asked the Board to consider supporting 50% of the cost, which is approximately \$17,500.

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Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Alt adjourned the virtual workshop meeting at 12:46 p.m.

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L. Michelle Henson  
Senior Administrative Specialist

A VIDEO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION  
OFFICE