

# The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

## MINUTES

March 20, 2013

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") held their second regularly scheduled meeting in March on this date at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were present: Mayor Joseph L. Fisona; Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr.; Charles E. Hicks, V; Mary Jo Jablonski and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Finance Director Steven H. Repole; Elkton Police Chief William E. Ryan; Administration Office Secretary L. Michelle Henson and Town Attorney H. Norman Wilson, Jr., Esquire.

Mayor Fisona called the meeting to order, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Presentation of Certificate of Special Recognition**

A Certificate of Special Recognition was presented to Mrs. Mary Johnson, acknowledging her numerous years of volunteer service to the citizens of Elkton.

**ACTION:** The minutes of the March 6, 2013 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and approved by all present with no corrections or amendments.

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

### **Budget Amendment 2013-014**

Mr. Repole presented Budget Amendment 2013-014 to recognize the forfeiture of \$9,800 in Seized Funds and their use in funding a Human Resources Needs Assessment.

**ACTION:** Budget Amendment 2013-014 was approved on motion made by Commissioner Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

### **Severn Trent Environmental Services**

Water / Wastewater Treatment Services Report – Months of January and February 2013

Mr. Ken Benner, Area Manager, presented the Water/Wastewater Treatment Services report for the months of January and February 2013. A copy of the report was placed in the record of the minutes.

Mayor Fisona questioned the status of compost removal at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Mr. Benner stated a local farmer was using the material on his fields.

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

#### **KCI Technologies Proposal – Elk Landing Well**

Mr. George introduced Mr. Jeff Gernand, Senior Hydrogeologist with KCI Technologies, Inc., (KCI) the Town's engineering firm. He stated Mr. Gernand was attending the meeting to answer any questions from the Board regarding a proposal from KCI to drill, install, test and obtain a permit for a new backup water supply well in the Elk Landing area.

Mr. Gernand stated he met with officials from the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) regarding the proposed well, who made it clear that MDE would not allocate groundwater to the Town unless a need was clearly demonstrated. He added that MDE based its assessments of need upon growth data from the Maryland Department of Planning, which indicated no growth in Elkton. Mr. Gernand stated MDE required the Town to have backup water supply in the event the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) was inactive, and said the well near Elk Landing was to be used for backup supply only.

Mr. George stated the process for obtaining the permit was long and involved, and would include a public hearing at which KCI would present data to support the Town's permit application.

Mr. George added the location of the proposed well was advantageous as the area was considered "weak" in terms of its distance from the interconnection from which Town would draw water in the event the WTP was taken offline.

Mayor Fisona requested a motion authorizing KCI to drill, install, test and obtain a permit for a new backup water supply well in the Elk Landing area.

**ACTION:** The request to authorize KCI to drill, install, test and obtain a permit for a new backup water supply well in the Elk Landing area was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Hicks. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

Commissioner Jablonski questioned if the Town could sell the water from the Elk Landing well if it produced a large amount of water. Mr. Gernand stated he was unsure, but would find out if the Town could sell the water.

Discussion ensued regarding use of a supplemental backup system other than Artesian Water Maryland.

Commissioner Piner, referring to the Maryland Department of Planning's low growth projection for Elkton, questioned if there was a time limit on the projection. Mr. George stated, for example, the permit for Well 4, obtained in 2010, used population projections to 2022.

### **Delaware Avenue Pedestrian Bridge Update**

Mr. George, referring to the Board's request for installation of a pedestrian walkway at the Delaware Avenue Bridge, said the State Highway Administration (SHA), after discussing the request, agreed to install a separate pedestrian bridge and sidewalks from Howard Street to the base of Creswell Hill, contingent upon the Town accepting maintenance responsibility for the structures. He said the project was still in the planning phase, and suggested the Town show good faith by contributing \$50,000 toward the project. He requested authorization from the Board to commit the Town to maintain the improvements once installed.

Mr. George stated the State of Maryland Highway User Revenue Funds would be used to install the improvements.

**ACTION:** The requests to maintain the planned pedestrian bridge and sidewalk upon completion and to commit \$50,000 to the project were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jablonski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

### **Old Business**

Commissioner Givens questioned the status of sidewalk improvements in the 200 block of East Main Street. Mr. George responded the project, due to the need for professional concrete work, exceeded the budgeted funds for the current fiscal year, adding that the project would be funded in the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Givens questioned the status of a change to the Town's yard waste program, as suggested by Department of Public Works Director Mr. Dan Handley. Mr. George stated he would ask Mr. Handley to provide an update at the April 3, 2013 meeting.

### **Mayor Fisona's Report**

Mayor Fisona announced the Town received Community Development Block Grant funds of \$500,000 for improvements to the Belle Hill Water Tower. Commissioner Jablonski commended the efforts of Ms. Jeanne Minner, Director of Planning, in obtaining the grant. Mr. George stated the Town received a proposal from KCI to provide management of the project. He stated the project was similar to the Thomson Estates Water Tower Improvement Project.

### **Commissioner Jablonski's Report**

Commissioner Jablonski, referring to the sandbar at the west side of the Delaware Avenue Bridge, asked Mr. George to contact SHA and request its removal.

Commissioner Jablonski stated she attended a meeting with the Cecil County Tourism at which the Town was recognized for its partnership with the county.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**ACTION:** The request to adjourn the meeting was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jablonski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

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L. Michelle Henson  
Administration Office Secretary

AN AUDIO AND 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.