

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

MINUTES

June 9, 2010

A public meeting (workshop) of the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (“the Board”) was held on this date at 4:00 P.M., with the following persons present: Mayor Joseph Fisona, Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr., Charles E. Hicks, V; Mary Jo Jablonski and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Assistant Town Administrator Kim Kamp; Finance Director Steven Repole; Assistant Finance Director A. Beth Moran; Chief of Police William Ryan; Administration Office Secretary L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney H. Norman Wilson, Jr.

Mayor Fisona called the Workshop meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Discussion – Municipal Financial Services Group Water/Sewer Rate Study Recommendations

Ms. Donna Lakeman, a resident of the Holly Hall Terrace neighborhood, appeared on behalf of her neighbors to discuss the Board’s impending decision on water / sewer rates. Commissioner Givens questioned Ms. Lakeman if she understood the history behind the original water / sewer rate study. She answered in the affirmative.

Ms. Lakeman stated she and her neighbors discussed the various rate structure options as presented by Municipal Financial Services Group (“MFSG”). She stated her neighbors preferred rate structure Option “A”.

Ms. Lakeman said she and her neighbors questioned why out of town rate payers were required to pay double rates.

Discussion ensued regarding minimum billing limits. Mr. Derrick Smith, also a resident of Holly Hall Terrace, stated he and Ms. Lakeman understood the Board wanted to reduce bills for citizens who used very little water per quarter. He said he and Ms. Lakeman polled senior citizens in their neighborhood and found they used between 6,000 and 8,000 gallons per quarter, which would place them in the group of rate payers who would recognize the highest increase in fees.

Mr. George stated the water and sewer fund debt service could not be met by the current Major Facilities Fund. Discussion ensued regarding the necessity of maintaining revenues in order for the water/sewer fund to remain operational.

Mayor Fisona queried the Board regarding the rate options outlined in the MFSG study. It was the consensus of the Board to choose Rate Structure “A”, which would be revised to include an increase of the percentage of debt service for the upgraded Wastewater Treatment Plant collected from sewer user fees from 50% to 100%.

Mr. Repole stated MFSG could complete an analysis of out of town users at a cost of \$3,000 for the study. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of the study. It was the consensus of the Board to forgo the analysis of out of town users.

Discussion – Stormwater Management Ordinance

Ms. Kamp said the State of Maryland required changes to stormwater management regulations. She presented a summation sheet of the new regulations, and said she would present a Stormwater Management Ordinance at the June 16, 2010 meeting.

Discussion – Property Tax Discount

Mr. Repole stated Cecil County asked if the Town planned to offer a 2% discount for early payment of real property taxes. He stated the Town had not offered discounts in the past.

Mayor Fisona queried the Board for a consensus regarding a 2% discount for early payment of real property taxes. It was the consensus of the Board to not offer a 2% discount for early payment of property taxes.

General Discussion

Commissioner Jablonski requested that the Board discuss the “open container” law. She stated she had several letters from citizens concerned about public drinking downtown. She expressed concerns about individuals buying single servings of alcohol and consuming it in public.

Discussion ensued regarding current enforcement of alcohol consumption laws. Discussion ensued regarding the geographic areas of enforcement of alcohol consumption laws.

Commissioner Jablonski requested that the Board discuss an ordinance to require wearing of shirts in the downtown district. Discussion ensued regarding the parameters and enforcement of an ordinance requiring the wearing of shirts in the downtown district.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

L. Michelle Henson
Administration Office Secretary

A RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE