

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

MINUTES

June 10, 2009

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.; Mary Jo Jablonski; Earl M. Piner and C. Gary Storke; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Assistant Town Administrator Kim Kamp; Finance Director Steven Repole; Director of Human Resources Venus Kincaid; Planning Director Jeanne Minner; 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 - Status of Water Appropriation and Use Permit Application Associated with Test Well # 4

Mr. Jeff Gernand, Sr. Hydrogeologist, KCI Technologies, Inc. stated the purpose of his appearance was to update the Board on the status of the Water Appropriation and Use Permit application associated with Test Well # 4.

He stated KCI subcontracted Advanced Land and Water, Inc. to perform draw down tests of Well # 4, and key elements of the subsequent report indicated the well could yield 770,000 gallons per day (“gpd”). He said two residential wells lost water due to the draw down tests, and said Advanced Land and Water recommended the Town perform an inventory of area wells to establish wells that may have pre-existing issues or those that may be adversely affected. He stated identification of at-risk wells would aid in establishing a program to address issues.

Mr. George stated the Maryland Department of Environment (“MDE”) required monitoring of wells within 2,000 feet of the test well prior to the original draw down test and added Advanced Land and Water recommended monitoring of wells within 4,000 feet of Test Well # 4. Mr. Gernand added his support to Advanced Land and Water’s recommendation to address wells in the area. Mr. George stated a program to address residents’ concerns should be in place prior to the Public Hearing that MDE will require as part of the application process.

Commissioner Storke expressed concern regarding the hand dug wells in the area. Discussion ensued regarding the aquifers that fed the wells. Mr. Gernand stated the majority of the wells in the area drew from the Potomac aquifer, and stated the 4 hand dug wells drew from a different aquifer.

Commissioner Storke questioned the Potomac aquifer’s ability to recharge. Mr. Gernand stated the aquifer should withstand the anticipated draw.

Mr. Gernand stated an additional recommendation was to install a monitoring well near the Elk River to address concerns the draw could increase salinity of the aquifer.

Discussion ensued regarding Artesian Water's draw from the Potomac Aquifer in Delaware.

Commissioner Storke expressed concerns of future well failures and costs to the Town associated with the issue.

Discussion continued regarding the request from MDE that the Town establish a back up water supply. Mr. Gernand stated the recently amended Artesian Interconnection agreement should address the issue.

Mr. George suggested the Town meet with representatives of MDE's Water Supply Program to discuss the application prior to formal submission of the application.

Discussion - Town of Elkton Back Up Water Supply Plan

Mr. George stated Mr. Gernand's comments were in reference to comments from Maryland Department of Environment ("MDE") that the original draw from the interconnection was not sufficient. Mr. George stated he renegotiated the agreement to a maximum 1.5 million gallons per day, which should meet MDE requirements.

Discussion - Posting Meeting Videos on Website

Commissioner Jablonski stated she wanted to have the videos of the Mayor and Commissioners meetings posted on the Town's Website. Ms. Kamp suggested the videos could be posted in 15-minute segments, based on agenda items.

Discussion ensued regarding costs of software and additional video equipment.

Discussion - Utilization of former Human Resources Offices for Elkton Police Department Interrogation

Chief Ryan stated the Maryland General Assembly in 2008 issued a Public Policy Statement that recommended Police Departments make reasonable efforts to tape interrogations of specific crimes. He stated space limitations at the Elkton Police Department prevented videotaping. He said the Human Resource Director's former office would be ideal for videotaping, and added the former Human Resource Assistant's office would provide an observation area, as well as a private area for police to conduct routine interviews, eliminating the need for conducting police business in the building's common lobby.

It was the consensus of the Board that the Elkton Police Department should utilize the former Human Resources offices to conduct general interviews and interrogations.

Ms. Kamp, referring to a previously distributed memo regarding hallway security for the Human Resources area, queried the Board for comments.

Discussion ensued regarding hallway security.

Discussion - Police Department Pension

Ms. Kincaid, referring to a previously distributed memo regarding an actuarial study conducted for the proposed Police Pension Plan, queried the Board for comments.

Discussion ensued regarding the short- and long-term costs associated with the plan. Ms. Kincaid stated the difference between the plan Town employees currently participated in and the proposed plan for the Police Department was the current plan was “defined contribution”, and the police plan was “defined benefit”. She said the difference was that defined benefit plans guaranteed participants a specific return on their contributions, and if factors negatively affected the amount of return, the Town would be responsible to make up the difference.

Discussion continued regarding types of plans available. Commissioner Storke expressed concerns regarding costs and stated he wanted to see a plan for all employees.

Commissioner Jablonski said she supported Commissioner Storke’s position and agreed the costs would be lower if more employees participated, and added she felt the Police faced different risks in their positions.

Ms. Kincaid stated the cost to conduct a second actuarial study to include all employees would be \$10,000.00.

Chief Ryan queried the Board for a consensus regarding the Police Pension Plan. Commissioner Piner stated the Board previously discussed creation of a pension plan for the Police and then one for employees. He reiterated Chief Ryan’s query for a consensus from the Board.

Commissioner Storke stated he did not support the proposed defined benefit plan for the Police Department, adding that he did not want to commit the Town to the cost.

Commissioner Piner queried Ms. Kincaid for her opinion of a defined benefit plan. Ms. Kincaid stated the present economic situation made a defined benefit plan too expensive. Commissioner Piner stated he did not support the proposed defined benefit plan based on its associated costs.

Commissioner Givens stated he agreed that the Police needed a quality pension plan but stated he agreed the cost was prohibitive.

Mayor and Commissioners Workshop Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2009

Page 4 of 4

Mayor Fisona concurred with Commissioners Storke, Piner and Givens.

Commissioner Jablonski stated she supported the proposed defined benefit plan for the Elkton Police Department.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

L. Michelle Henson
Administration Office Secretary

A RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE