

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

MINUTES

September 9, 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 Planning Jeanne Minner; Director of Parks and Recreation Mary Magaw; 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 - Route 7 Force Main - YMCA of Cecil County Water Service

Mr. George Patchell, Executive Director, Cecil County YMCA, and YMCA Board members Messrs. Al Wein and Mike Pugh were introduced to the Board. Mr. George said Mr. Patchell approached the Town regarding the YMCA’s failing septic system, and requested a partnership with the Town to place a sewer line adjacent to the YMCA property on Route 279 in order to tie into the Town’s sewer system.

Mr. George introduced Messrs. Barry Ebersole and David Strouss, representing McCrone Engineering, to the Board. He said McCrone was working with the YMCA on possible solutions to address the septic issue, one of which was to replace the force main that ran from the State Highway Administration (“SHA”) facility on MD Route 7, under the twin bridges at Route 40, to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (“WWTP”) with a new line on Route 279, which would be connected to the main at Route 545.

Mr. George stated the existing sewer main was in need of repair or replacement, and stated the Town could partner with the YMCA to reduce the cost of the project.

Mr. Patchell said the YMCA’s objective was to tie into public sewer. He said the facility’s 15-year old drain field was failing and stunting the YMCA’s ability to grow.

Discussion ensued regarding the YMCA’s future expansion plans. Mr. Patchell, referring to an aerial photo of the facility, indicated the area that would be utilized for expansion. Discussion continued regarding the location and accessibility of existing utilities.

Mr. Ebersole stated the project would involve coordination between the Town, Cecil County and SHA.

Mr. George stated the other option to the Route 40 sewer line issue was to continue to repair the deteriorating pipe under the bridge. He said the YMCA project offered a positive solution to the Town as well as the YMCA.

Commissioner Jablonski questioned if the YMCA considered annexation into Elkton. Mr. Patchell stated the YMCA would be interested in annexation.

Mr. George said if the Board approved of the project, he would obtain a cost estimate for engineering services from McCrone and present the information for approval. Mayor Fisona queried the Board for a consensus regarding support for the YMCA proposal. The Board supported the YMCA proposal.

Discussion - Posting Videos of Town Meetings on Website

Ms. Kamp presented the Electronic Viewing of Town Meetings Policy to the Board. A copy of the policy was placed in the record of the minutes.

Discussion ensued regarding the procedure for posting the meeting videos to the Town's Website.

Discussion ensued regarding the protocol for citizens to speak at the meeting.

Mayor Fisona queried the Board for a consensus regarding presentation of the Electronic Viewing of Town Meetings Policy for adoption at the September 16, 2009 meeting. It was the consensus of the Board to have the policy presented for adoption at the September 16, 2009 meeting.

Discussion - Request by Homes for America for Support for Local Project

Ms. Jeanne Minner, Director of Planning, referring to a previously distributed memo, stated Ms. Nancy Rase, President, Homes for America, requested to speak to the Board regarding a proposed housing project. She said the project involved renovation and development of an existing elderly housing facility and housing for moderate income families. She said Homes for America was applying for grant funding from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. She said Homes for America was required to obtain a letter of support for the project. She added Homes for America might request financial support via waiver of permit fees for the rehabilitation portion of the project. She estimated the amount of fees waived would be \$14,000.00.

Ms. Minner stated the process was similar to a previous request for support from the Holden Group regarding the Elkton Senior Housing project.

Commissioner Jablonski questioned the amount of fees the Town would collect from the project. Ms. Minner stated the Town would collect approximately \$105,000.00 in fees after waiving the building fees. She stated Mr. Craig Trostle, Building Administrator, could provide an exact figure regarding the fees.

She distributed information regarding the proposed project, stating she wanted the Board to be informed prior to Ms. Rase's appearance on September 16, 2009.

Motion for a Closed Meeting

Pursuant to State Government Article § 10-508 (a) (3) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto, Commissioner Jablonski made a motion for a Closed Meeting at 4:52 p.m. 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 4:52 p.m.

L. Michelle Henson
Administration Office Secretary

A RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE