

# The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

## MINUTES

July 16, 2008

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") held their second regularly scheduled meeting in July on this date at 7:00 P.M. The following persons were present: Mayor Joseph Fisona; Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr., Mary Jo Jablonski, Earl M. Piner, Sr., and C. Gary Storke; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Finance Director Steven Repole; Elkton Police Chief William Ryan; Human Resources Director Venus Kincaid; Administration Office Secretary L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney H. Norman Wilson, Jr., Esq.

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

### Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to State Government Article § 10-508 (a) (1) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance evaluation of appointees, employees or officials over whom the Town has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; a Closed Meeting was held on Wednesday July 2, 2008 in the Mayor and Commissioners Meeting Room at the Elkton Municipal Building, 100 Railroad Avenue, Elkton, Maryland 21921. The following persons were present: Mayor Joseph Fisona; Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr., Mary Jo Jablonski, Earl M. Piner, Sr., and C. Gary Storke; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Human Resources Director Venus Kincaid; Administration Office Secretary L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney H. Norman Wilson, Jr., Esq.

**ACTION:** The minutes of the July 2, 2008 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jablonski 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 Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

### Mayor Fisona's Report

Mayor Fisona announced the Emergency Water Conservation Notice was cancelled. He noted the reservoir was back to fully operational capacity.

Mayor Fisona questioned the status of an inquiry from a Buttonwoods Road resident. Mr. Wilson stated the matter was referred to him for follow up.

Mayor Fisona questioned the status of a request for intersection improvements at Delaware Avenue and Route 40. Mr. George stated a letter was sent to the State Highway Administration (“SHA”) requesting the improvements.

Mayor Fisona stated he received a letter from Ms. Cheryl Gee announcing her resignation from the Board of Zoning Appeals. He asked for the Board’s approval to fill the vacancy by appointing Mr. Patrick Tuer to serve the remainder of the term.

**ACTION:** The request to appoint Mr. Patrick Tuer to the Board of Zoning Appeals for the term July 17, 2008 to January 31, 2009 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jablonski and approved by all present.

### **Commissioner Jablonski’s Report**

Commissioner Jablonski suggested the Board consider assigning members to a specific department to enhance communication. Commissioner Givens agreed with Commissioner Jablonski. He said this had been done in the past.

Commissioner Jablonski stated the Department of Juvenile Services had applied for and received a grant to create a community garden in Elkton. She said the department, in conjunction with the Master Gardeners of Cecil County, would create a garden fountain in front of the District Court on Main Street.

### **Commissioner Givens’ Report**

Commissioner Givens stated owners of abandoned and blighted properties needed to be held responsible for the negative impact on the community.

Commissioner Givens questioned the process to determine placement of speed humps. Mr. George stated a survey was sent to neighborhoods in which a resident requested a speed hump, and if the majority was in favor of the devices, speed hump installation would be scheduled.

Discussion ensued regarding various types of speed reduction devices.

Commissioner Jablonski questioned if the Town received feedback from residents of Locust Lane regarding the installation of 2 speed humps on that street. Mr. George answered in the negative. Commissioner Jablonski expressed concern that 2 speed humps were placed relatively close to one another on Locust Lane, and stated that speed hump installation should follow the standard specifications for placement and distance.

**Commissioner Storke's Report**

Commissioner Storke questioned invoices from PC Supplies, asking if the Board authorized the expenditures. He said the bills totaled over \$78,000.00 to date, and asked if the funds had been budgeted.

Commissioner Jablonski expressed concerns that there were ongoing issues with the computer network system. She asked if PC Supplies guaranteed its work.

Mayor Fisona stated the Webpage and network system were budgeted expenses.

Commissioner Storke questioned when the networking project would be done. Mayor Fisona stated the server installation was completed. Mr. George stated there were ongoing issues with the server. Commissioner Storke expressed concerns regarding the outstanding issues and expense.

Commissioner Jablonski stated she opposed networking the computers prior to the start of the project, and expressed concerns that the expense would continue to increase.

Commissioner Piner questioned the "block time" charges, asking why PC Supplies did not charge a one-time annual fee as opposed to block time fees.

Commissioner Storke asked Messrs. George and Repole to meet with PC Supplies' representative to determine a bottom line of costs.

Mr. George stated he would locate a new computer vendor after directing PC Supplies to correct all outstanding issues.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Rebecca McKinney requested Police presence in the Hollingsworth Manor neighborhood. She stated children are allowed to run unattended and she expressed concerns for their safety.

Mr. Robert Litzenberg expressed support for Commissioner Jablonski's suggestion regarding interaction with Department Heads.

Mr. Litzenberg suggested that the Town hire a Purchasing Agent.

Mr. Dick Reed questioned the status of the speed hump installation in his neighborhood. Mr. George stated that surveys were mailed to residents.

Mr. James Nicholson, commenting on the July 17, 2008 car show sponsored by the Elkton Alliance, requested that the "no parking" signs be posted on North and Main Streets the day of the event, not 24 hours prior to the event, as the notices caused confusion for motorists.

Mr. Nicholson questioned the outcome of a meeting at the Elkton Alliance involving the Homeless Coalition. Commissioner Jablonski said the Board of Directors of the Alliance, in conjunction with Cecil County Social Services, invited stakeholders in the community, including representatives from counseling services, Union Hospital and Cecil College to discuss ways to improve the quality of life in the area.

Mr. Mike Dixon said he was aware the Board was considering trading certain parcels of land for the purpose of acquiring a recreational center. He asked the Board to consider the historical importance of one the parcels involved in the plan, which was Elk Landing. He said the Elk Landing property was one of the most historically important parcels in the region, and asked the Board to consider the impact of any changes to the property.

There being no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

---

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 the approval of said minutes, 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. The Maryland Public Information Act provides that the minutes of public meetings be made available to the public upon request. Please contact the Town of Elkton by telephone at (410) 398-0970, by facsimile at (410) 392-6633 or via email at [elkadsec@iximd.com](mailto:elkadsec@iximd.com) to request a copy of the minutes.