

**The Mayor and Commissioners
of the Town of Elkton**

July 7, 2021

As part of The Town of Elkton's response to COVID-19, and in order to limit public gatherings during this time, the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") conducted a hybrid virtual meeting on this date at 12:00 p.m. The following persons participated in this meeting: Mayor Robert J. Alt; Commissioners Jean A. Broomell, Charles H. Givens, Sr., Robert M. Massimiano and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Finance Director Steven H. Repole, CPA; Chief of Police Carolyn Rogers; Elkton Police Lt. Kathy Ford; Director of Public Works J. Daniel Handley, P.E.; Senior Administrative Specialist L. Michelle Henson; and Town Attorney John P. Downs, Esquire.

Mayor Alt called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and lead the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION: The minutes of the June 16, 2021 virtual meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Broomell 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 Massimiano and approved by all present.

Town Administrator's Report

Ordinance 4-2021 Police Pension Plan - Presented for Introduction

Mr. George presented Ordinance 4-2021 Police Pension Plan for introduction.

Mr. George stated that Assistant Town Administrator Joseph Zurolo negotiated the renewal of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the Town and the Elkton Police Department Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 124 (FOP). He stated Ordinance 4-2021 is the result of the negotiations, amending the Elkton Police Pension Plan to provide sworn officers who served in the military service prior to employment with up to three years of credible retirement following the completion of 20 years of service with the Elkton Police Department, and to provide sworn officers the option to buy-back up to 12 months of credible retirement upon an officer's return to service following a Workers' Compensation related absence.

ACTION: Ordinance 4-2021 Police Pension Plan was approved for introduction on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner and approved by all present.

Resolution R6-2021 Juneteenth Holiday for Town Employees

Mr. George presented Resolution R6-2021 Juneteenth Holiday for Town Employees for approval. He stated Resolution R6-2021 provides a paid holiday on June 19th for Town of Elkton employees commemorating the Juneteenth Freedom Day.

ACTION: Resolution R6-2021 Juneteenth Holiday for Town Employees was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massimiano and approved by all present.

Resolution R7-2021 Surplus Property 205 Booth Street

Mr. George presented Resolution R7-2021 Surplus Property 205 Booth Street for approval. He stated Resolution R7-2021 declares 205 Booth Street surplus and authorizes him to initiate the sale of the property to the Elkton Colored School Museum and Cultural Center. He stated the entity will utilize the property for charitable, religious and cultural events.

Mr. Downs stated the Deed will contain easement language that protects the historic and cultural significance of the property, adding that any subsequent owner must abide by the Deed requirements.

ACTION: Resolution R7-2021 Surplus Property 205 Booth Street was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Broomell and approved by all present.

Mayor Alt's Report

Mayor Alt, referring to the Board's previous discussions regarding the intersection of East Main and North Streets, asked Mr. Handley to initiate improvements to emphasize the Stop sign for motorists. Discussion ensued regarding enhanced signage and street painting at the intersection.

Commissioner Givens requested the same enhancements at the intersection of East High and South Streets.

Commissioner Broomell suggested painting the intersection prior to installation of another Stop sign. Mayor Alt suggested LED lighting to enhance the existing Stop sign. Commissioner Piner suggested solar-powered LED lighting to enhance signage.

Mayor Alt questioned the status of hiring a full time Human Resources Director. Mr. George stated he will provide follow up regarding the recruitment process.

Mayor Alt stated Town Hall will reopen to the public upon completion of Lexan barrier installation.

Discussion ensued regarding installation of a temperature monitor and signage pertaining to mask usage for Town Hall visitors.

Commissioner Givens' Report

Commissioner Givens requested an update regarding the Building Administrator's request for a Police escort for Code Enforcement in certain areas. Chief Rogers stated EPD will assist when needed. She stated EPD will continue targeted enforcement, adding that EPD is partnering with other law enforcement agencies to address gun related crimes.

Commissioner Givens questioned if Chief Rogers' requests for public assistance was successful. Chief Rogers stated EPD has received feedback from the public. Discussion ensued regarding installation of "Ring" camera systems in key locations which can provide additional surveillance. Chief Rogers noted that the Town of La Plata has initiated a camera incentive plan via a grant system in which part of the agreement is that footage is shared with Police if needed. She added that the protection of residents' privacy paramount.

Chief Rogers stated the message from EPD is that the Police support neighborhoods, adding that she will meet one-on-one with residents.

Commissioner Broomell questioned if the Town's Nuisance Abatement Ordinance can be amended to address properties at which a deleterious situation is created. Chief Rogers stated she sends notices to owners of properties at which residents have created negative issues.

Commissioner Broomell questioned if fines have been levied against property owners. Mr. Downs answered in the negative.

Commissioner Givens commended the July 4th fireworks event. Mayor Alt stated the fireworks did not seem to be any higher than in years past, adding that he heard no negative comments regarding the show. Mayor Alt noted that the Little League opened its concession stand during the event and had a successful evening. He stated the Little League planned to build on its success next year.

Mayor Alt suggested formation of a fireworks committee prior to July 4, 2022.

Commissioner Piner's Report

Commissioner Piner stated he received positive feedback regarding the fireworks show.

Commissioner Piner requested follow up with a representative of ASI Waste, who will review the Town's current waste removal contract at no charge.

Commissioner Massimiano's Report

Commissioner Massimiano announced the "Red White & Brew" event will take place on Friday, July 9th.

Commissioner Massimiano stated the Town will host the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Cecil Harford Chapter 10 dinner meeting on Thursday, July 15th.

Commissioner Massimiano stated he was able to see the fireworks from his home in Elkton Heights.

Commissioner Massimiano displayed an antique style map that he obtained while attending the MML Convention, suggesting a similar map could be created for Elkton. He stated he will share the map with the Historical Society.

Public Comment

Messrs. Joe Vanasky and Ray Walters introduced themselves to the Board. Mr. Vanasky stated the purpose of their appearance is to announce a baseball themed community event on August 7th in the parking lot adjacent to the Redner's store. He expressed his appreciation to the many business owners who pledged support and raffle prizes.

Mr. Vanasky invited the Board and requested assistance from EPD during the event.

Discussion ensued regarding recruitment of volunteers and anticipated parking issues.

Commissioner Broomell commended Mr. Vanasky for obtaining the large number of sponsors.

Commissioner Piner expressed good wishes to Mr. Vanasky for a successful event.

Mr. Walters stated the E-town Elite Basketball Team will conduct a fund raiser at the event with a dunk tank, and invited Board members to participate.

Commissioner Givens questioned if the event is being advertised. Mr. Vanasky answered in the affirmative, stating chambers of commerce from the County, North East and Elkton Alliance are advertising, and many businesses are posting event flyers.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Alt adjourned the virtual meeting at 12:55 p.m.

L. Michelle Henson
Sr. Administrative Specialist

A VIDEO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE

Mayor & Commissioners Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2021

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. The minutes, in hard copy format, are retained indefinitely by the Town of Elkton, Administration Office, 100 Railroad Avenue, Elkton, Maryland 21921.