

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

October 19, 2022

The Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") held a regularly scheduled meeting on this date at 12:00 p.m. The following persons attended the meeting either in person or virtually: 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; Director of Planning Jeanne D. Minner; Planning Assistant Quinn Krenzle; Director of Human Resources Andy Rodriguez; Chief of Police Carolyn Rogers; Director of Public Works J. Daniel Handley, P.E; Assistant Town Administrator L. Michelle Henson; Administrative Assistant Catheline Adams; and Town Attorney John 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 September 21, 2022 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massimiano 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 Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner and approved by all present.

### **Elkton Police Department Presentation to Singerly Fire Personnel**

Chief Rogers, referring to an incident during which an Elkton Police (EPD) Officer experienced a medical emergency on August 30, 2022, stated that responding Singerly Fire Paramedic Robert Borkowski, EMT Brandon Hreroux and Paramedic Student Matthew Imming provided life-saving care to the Officer, while maintaining a calm, professional demeanor. She publicly offered her appreciation to the staff members, saying there is no doubt their actions saved the Officer's life.

### **Singerly Fire Company**

Discussion - Request for Amendment to Town of Elkton Charter §8-23 Contributions to Singerly Fire Company

Messrs. Steve Horah, Robert Muller and Sam Goldwater introduced themselves to the Board. Mr. Horah stated the purpose of their appearance was to discuss the Town's present annual contribution to Singerly Fire Company (Singerly), and to request an increase in the funding amount.

Mr. Goldwater provided a Power Point presentation, a copy of which was placed in the record of the minutes.

Mr. Goldwater stated the Town of Elkton Charter §8-23 Contributions to Singerly provides an annual donation to Singerly based upon the current formula of \$0.012 per \$100 of real property assessment within the Town. He requested that the amount be increased to \$.15 per \$100 of real property assessment within the Town. Mr. George stated the requested amount is approximately \$1.8 million. Mr. Goldwater stated that Singerly needs \$1.6 million.

Discussion ensued regarding operating costs within Singerly Fire Company and resultant budget deficits.

Mayor Alt expressed support for the emergency services provided by Singerly, adding that the requested increase should be placed before the Town's taxpayers via referendum.

Commissioners Givens, Massimiano and Piner expressed support for providing taxpayers the opportunity to vote on the requested increase. Commissioner Broomell questioned if the referendum would take place during the 2024 Municipal Election or sooner. Mayor Alt stated the referendum would take place during the 2024 Municipal Election, adding that a smaller increase could be initiated in the interim.

#### **Discussion - Stormwater Management / Flood Mitigation**

Mr. Chris Becraft - Underwood Associates

Mr. Chris Becraft, representing Underwood Associates, introduced himself to the Board. He stated the purpose of his appearance was to discuss periodic flooding in Elkton. He stated that while flooding cannot be stopped, it can be mitigated through the creation of upland Regenerative Stream Channels which assist in removal of sediment while slowing the speed of floodwater, resulting in reduction of sediment deposits and erosion of the stream banks.

Mr. Becraft provided a Power Point presentation, a copy of which was placed in the record of the minutes. He provided an overview projects for the City of Havre de Grace, in which areas were created that resulted in passive recreational areas, including sand walking paths and restored shorelines. He added that restored shorelines provided areas to launch kayaks.

Mr. Becraft stated that Underwood Associates is a design/build firm, noting that they obtain applicable grant funding and required permits, as well as interfacing with regulatory agencies.

Mr. Becraft stated that Underwood Associates coordinates with Stormwater Management staff to ensure compliance with State stormwater regulations.

Discussion ensued regarding mitigation of floodwater that is exacerbated by tidal surge. Mr. Becraft stated that Underwood Associates designs wetlands that succumb to floodwaters and tidal surges vs. attempting to move the water through a pipe at high speeds.

Ms. Minner asked Mr. Becraft to address logs and other natural materials that were placed in the channels. Mr. Becraft stated that the design includes planting of native species and placement

of logs and other carbon-producing materials, which are a food source for aquatic life. He stated this process initiates the reaction that results in cleaner water.

Mr. Ojofeitimi expressed concerns regarding maintenance of the areas. Mr. Becraft stated Underwood Associates stated his firm maintains the areas, noting that the natural areas require lower maintenance than traditional stormwater management areas.

Mr. Ojofeitimi questioned if Underwood Associates maintained any stormwater management agreements. Mr. Becraft answered in the affirmative, stating Underwood Associates currently maintains approximately 50 stormwater management agreements.

Mr. Becraft suggested that he take a walking tour of the Big Elk Creek to determine the Town's needs, adding that Underwood Associates will not require upfront funding.

Mayor Alt queried the Board for a consensus to move forward with investigating the feasibility of a Regenerative Stream Channel project. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with the next steps regarding a Regenerative Stream Channel project.

**Ordinance 5-2022 Amendment to Article X, Permissible Uses Section 7.2**

(Use Description 4.100 Light Manufacturing) and Article XII, Supplementary Use Regulations to allow light manufacturing associated with research and development in the C-2 Zone - Presented for Introduction

Ms. Minner presented Ordinance 5-2022 for introduction. She stated Ordinance 5-2022 amends Article X, Permissible Uses Section 7.2 and Article XII, Supplementary Use Regulations, for the purpose of permitting light manufacturing associated with research and development in the C-2 Zone.

Ms. Minner stated the Planning Commission recommended approval of Ordinance 5-2022, and presented a finding of facts, a copy of which was read and placed in the record of the minutes.

**ACTION:** Ordinance 5-2022 was approved for introduction on a motion made by Commissioner Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Massimiano and approved by all present.

**Town Administrator's Report**

Elkton Alliance - Request for Waiver of Alcohol Prohibition  
Turkey Trot Event November 24, 2022

Mr. George presented a request from the Elkton Alliance for a Waiver of the Town's Alcohol Prohibition for the Downtown Turkey Trot Event on November 24, 2022.

**ACTION:** The request from the Elkton Alliance for a Waiver of Alcohol Prohibition for the Downtown Turkey Trot Event was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Massimiano. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Broomell and approved by all present.

### **Mayor Alt's Report**

Mayor Alt stated he is scheduled to attend an event at Thiokol Credit Union on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Alt announced the Annual Halloween Parade is scheduled for Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Commissioner Massimiano's Report**

Commissioner Massimiano stated he and Mayor Alt attended the recent Rotary Club Golf Tournament, stating it was a great event.

### **Commissioner Piner's Report**

Commissioner Piner questioned the status of proposed changes to the trash and recycling collection schedules by the Town's hauler, Waste Management (WM). Mr. Handley stated WM has provided residents with notices of the proposed changes, adding that the goal of the amended schedule, which commences on November 7<sup>th</sup>, is to improve collection efficiency.

Commissioner Piner expressed concerns that Public Works (DPW) staff will experience increased workloads in the event collections are missed, or items do not fall within WM's disposal parameters.

Commissioner Piner expressed concerns regarding WM staff leaving empty totes in residents' driveways and/or travel lanes. He asked Mr. Handley to address the issue with WM.

Commissioners Broomell and Givens concurred with Commissioner Piner's comments.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Rod Burr stated he previously talked with DPW regarding flooding issues in his neighborhood, and requested a follow up to determine solutions. Mayor Alt asked Mr. Handley to follow up with Mr. Burr.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Alt adjourned the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

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L. Michelle Henson  
Assistant Town Administrator

A VIDEO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING RETAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Mayor & Commissioners Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2022

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](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.