

## The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

### MINUTES

March 5, 2014

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the “Board”) held their first regularly scheduled meeting in March on this date at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were present: Mayor Joseph L. Fisona; Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr.; Charles E. Hicks, V; Mary Jo Jablonski and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Finance Director Steven H. Repole; Acting Chief of Police Matthew Donnelly; Administration Office Secretary L. Michelle Henson and Town Attorney H. Norman Wilson, Jr., Esquire.

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

**ACTION:** The minutes of the February 19, 2014 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner 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 Jablonski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner and approved by all present.

### **Town Administrator’s Report**

#### **Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001 – K & K Painting Project Change Order #1 – Increasing Contract Price by \$13,500 for Installation of Interior Access Ladder, Pursuant to State Safety Regulations- Presented for Approval**

Mr. George presented Change Order #1 regarding the Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001. He stated the Change Order, which increased the contract price by \$13,500, was requested by K & K Painting, the contractor performing rehabilitation of the tower. He stated the access ladder leading to the interior of the tank was necessary in order to comply with state safety regulations, but was not included in the original contract documents.

**ACTION:** Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001 Change Order #1 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Jablonski. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and approved by all present.

**Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001 – K & K Painting  
Project Change Order #2 – Extension of Contract Time by 90 Days Resulting  
from Postponements Due to Winter Weather  
Presented for Approval**

Mr. George presented Change Order #2 regarding the Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001. He stated the Change Order, which increased the contract time by 90 days, was requested by K & K Painting, the contractor performing rehabilitation of the tower. He stated the request was based upon winter weather (wind, cold and precipitation) that prevented the contractor from safely accessing the tower and completing rehabilitation work. Mr. George stated funding for the rehabilitation project was provided via a grant through the Maryland Community Development Block Grant Program, adding that the CDBG approved the request for increased time.

**ACTION:** Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-002 Change Order #2 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner and approved by all present.

**Old Business**

Commissioner Hicks, referring to previous discussions regarding refinancing of a loan, questioned if Mr. Repole had an update. Mr. Repole stated the loan about which Commissioner Hicks inquired was through PNC Bank. He expressed frustration that PNC was not providing a concrete response to his inquiries regarding refinancing of the loan.

Discussion ensued regarding investigation of another bank to refinance the debt. Mr. George stated he and Mr. Repole would pursue 2 local banks regarding refinancing of the debt.

**Mayor Fisona's Report**

Mayor Fisona commended the Department of Public Works (DPW) staff during snow plowing operations. He stated the Town received an email from a resident complimenting the staff.

Mayor Fisona, referring to his involvement with the Mayors' Drug Task Force, stated he visited Exton, Pennsylvania with Mr. Ken Collins, Cecil County's Special Assistant to the County Executive for Drug Policy. He stated drug abuse was a national as well as local problem, which would require entire communities to address.

Mayor Fisona stated he supported a "Good Samaritan" law, which would protect people who called 911 to aid an overdose victim.

Mayor Fisona announced the Cecil County Health Department was showing “Anonymous People”, a documentary about drug abuse, on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Elkton Municipal Building Community Room.

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

Commissioner Jablonski commended Mr. George’s weekly reports, stating he provided a great deal of information.

Commissioner Jablonski, referring to the July 4, 2014 Fireworks event, said she wanted the public to know that Mayor Fisona and the Parks & Recreation Department received \$4,500 in donations toward the cost of the show.

Commissioner Jablonski stated she was looking forward to the Town’s new Website, which would be live soon. She commended the vendor, Virtual Town Hall, regarding the site.

Commissioner Jablonski asked Mr. Repole to investigate software that would enable citizens to pay water / sewer bills online.

Commissioner Jablonski asked Mr. George to contact Delmarva Power regarding lighting upgrades in the stairway leading from the municipal parking lot to Main Street.

Commissioner Jablonski stated she recently testified before the Maryland Community Development Corporation in support of the Community Development Block Grant Program’s Neighborhood Works Program.

### **Commissioner Piner’s Report**

Commissioner Piner, referring to recent weather-related trash and recycling collection schedule changes, questioned how citizens who did not have email could receive notices of last-minute collection schedule changes. Mr. George stated he knew of no economical way that citizens could be contacted regarding last minute collection schedule changes, other than an announcement posted on the Town’s website and notices via Facebook and Twitter.

### **Commissioner Givens’ Report**

Commissioner Givens concurred with Commissioner Piner’s concerns regarding notices for citizens who did not use electronic media. He stated the last-minute changes to the trash / recycling collection schedules created confusion for residents.

Commissioner Givens noted that many parking meters on Main Street were used during the day, adding that South Street parking was underutilized.

Commissioner Givens, referring to Mayor Fisona's comments regarding drug abuse, expressed support for anti-drug measures, adding that younger children needed to receive the anti-drug message. He stated that recreation, sports and related activities were successful deterrents to negative behavior.

Commissioner Givens questioned when the Board would continue discussions regarding the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget. Mr. George stated the Departments of Parks & Recreation and Planning would present their Fiscal Year 2015 Budgets at the March 12, 2014 workshop.

Commissioner Givens stated a newsletter could be utilized to reach citizens who did not use electronic media. Discussion ensued regarding costs associated with production and mailing of newsletters.

### **Commissioner Hicks' Report**

Commissioner Hicks concurred with Mayor Fisona and Commissioner Givens regarding their statements about anti-drug education for young children.

Commissioner Hicks stated he was looking forward to the launch of the Town's new website.

Commissioner Hicks stated Elkton Police Sergeant Angelo Giafes was recently recognized as Police Officer of the Year by the Port Deposit VFW. He asked for formal recognition by the Board. Captain Donnelly stated the recognition of Sgt. Giafes stemmed from his successful performance of CPR during a response to a call for service. Commissioner Hicks stated the recognition should be highlighted on the Town's website.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona requested a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**ACTION:** The request to adjourn the meeting was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and approved by all present.

Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 7:30 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 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.