

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

January 6, 2021

In order to comply with Governor Larry Hogan's declaration of a State of Emergency as part of Maryland'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 virtual meeting on this date at 12:00 p.m. The following persons participated via computer and/or telephone: Mayor Robert J. Alt; Commissioners 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 Public Works J. Daniel Handley, P.E.; Director of Planning Jeanne D. Minner; Assistant Town Administrator Joseph V. Zurolo; Planner I Nicholas Cannistraci; Senior Administrative Specialist L. Michelle Henson; Administrative Assistant Catheline Adams; and Town Attorney John P. Downs, Esquire. Commissioner Jean A. Broomell was excused from the meeting.

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 December 16, 2020 virtual 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 Massimiano. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

Ordinance 3-2020 Amending the Elkton Zoning Ordinance, Article X, Permissible Uses, Section 7.2 and Article XII Supplementary Use Regulations. Amendments are in regards to counseling services - Presented for Adoption

Mr. George presented Ordinance 3-2020 for the purpose of amending the Elkton Zoning Ordinance, Article X, Permissible Uses, Section 7.2 and Article XII Supplementary Use Regulations. The amendments are in regards to permitting counseling services via Special Exception with Conditions in the RO (Residential Office) and TC (Town Center) Districts.

Mr. George stated that the Board accepted Ordinance 3-2020 for introduction at the December 16, 2020 meeting.

Mayor Alt questioned if the Planning Commission had any concerns regarding Ordinance 3-2020. Ms. Minner answered in the negative.

ACTION: Ordinance 3-2020 was adopted on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner and approved by all present.

Ordinance 4-2020 Amending the Elkton Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI, Signs. Amendment is in regard to variance requests for signs - Presented for Adoption

Ms. Minner presented Ordinance 4-2020 for the purpose of amending the Elkton Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI, Signs. The amendment is in regard to variance requests for signs.

Mr. George stated that the Board accepted Ordinance 4-2020 for introduction at the December 16, 2020 meeting.

Mayor Alt questioned if the Planning Commission had any concerns regarding Ordinance 4-2020. Ms. Minner answered in the negative.

ACTION: Ordinance 4-2020 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Massimiano. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. George informed the Board that Mr. Ray Jackson committed \$50,000 for repairs to the stone house at Elk Landing. Mayor Alt expressed his appreciation for the donation, stating the stone house project has been ongoing for 20 years.

Mr. George reported that the Cecil County Council voted to table a rezoning request regarding property that is currently undergoing the process of annexation. He stated he advised Ms. Minner to remove the annexation request from the Planning Commission's upcoming meeting agenda, adding that the matter will also be removed from the Board's upcoming meeting agenda.

Mayor Alt stated that the County questioned ownership of a portion of Belle Hill Road. Mr. George stated ownership of the section of Belle Hill Road between the McDonald's and Blue Beacon properties is questionable regarding maintenance responsibility.

Commissioner Piner's Report

Commissioner Piner expressed frustration regarding lack of advance notice when the State Highway Department closed Delaware Avenue for flood cleanup operations. He stated many citizens are affected by the closure, and requested improvements in public notice regarding the roadway.

Commissioner Piner announced that the Neighborhood Community Center is now operating Monday - Thursday, offering Dance, Open Gym and Basketball programs, and pre-school and youth activities, adding that staff is following all CDC guidelines to ensure safety.

Commissioner Givens' Report

Commissioner Givens requested routine Police patrol at the Community Center.

Commissioner Givens expressed his desire to provide fireworks for Independence Day this year.

Commissioner Givens, referring to the Board's previous discussions regarding the Elkton Housing Authority Board, stated the current Board Chair requested a meeting with the Board. Mayor Alt requested that the Chair attend an upcoming workshop.

Commissioner Givens stated the Elkton Police Department currently has 3 candidates attending the academy, adding that 2 of the candidates are his former students.

Commissioner Massimiano's Report

Commissioner Massimiano stated the preparations for the commemoration of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday will take place on Friday, January 8th from 11:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m., adding that he will be in attendance. Commissioner Givens stated the preparations entail taking a photograph of all who plan to attend the virtual program on January 8, 2021.

Commissioner Massimiano requested enforcement at the stop sign located at the intersection of North and Main Streets.

Mayor Alt's Report

Mayor Alt stated he will be meeting with Mr. Repole in preparation of the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget. Mayor Alt stated he will look to make cuts where possible, noting that he will not support raising taxes to meet revenue projections. Mayor Alt added that the Town is currently on track within the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget.

Commissioner Givens questioned if Mayor Alt planned to meet the newly elected County Administrator. Mayor Alt answered in the affirmative.

Mayor Alt stated his list of priorities for 2021, including but not limited to: conducting a water / sewer billing audit, repairs to the stone house at Elk Landing, repairs to the Armory, the Delaware Avenue pedestrian bridge, and Howard Street restoration and stabilization.

Mayor Alt requested that the Town initiate Instagram and Twitter accounts in order to reach citizens who utilize social media.

Mayor Alt expressed his desire to complete renovations to the former Town Hall located at 101 East Main Street. Ms. Minner stated the project is under architectural review.

Mayor Alt stated his desire to conduct a ribbon cutting at the Community Center and a dedication of the Town Square to the memory of Commissioner Mary Jo Jablonski.

Mayor Alt stated he anticipates a groundbreaking event regarding the Southfields Planned Unit Development once weather permits.

Public Comment

Ms. Pat Opal invited the Board to attend a visit by the Maryland Historic Trust at the stone house at Elk Landing at 10:00 a.m. on January 11th.

Mr. Richard Lemen congratulated Mr. Joseph Zurolo for his appointment to the Assistant Town Administrator position. Mr. Zurolo provided an overview of his duties.

Mr. Lemen suggested that the Board should obtain the Holly Hall property adjacent to the Big Elk Mall.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Alt adjourned the virtual meeting at 12:39 p.m.

L. Michelle Henson
Sr. Administrative Specialist

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