

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

MINUTES

January 4, 2012

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") held their first regularly scheduled meeting in January 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 Repole; Chief of Police William E. Ryan; 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 December 21, 2011 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 Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jablonski and approved by all present.

Severn Trent Environmental Services Water/Wastewater Treatment Services Report – Months of November and December 2011

Mr. Ken Benner, Area Manager, presented the Water/Wastewater Treatment Services report for the months of November and December, 2011. A copy of the report was placed in the record of the minutes.

Mr. George, referring to Mr. Benner's comments regarding the Town's Grease Trap Inspection Program, stated several inspections had occurred and would continue. He said the program was administered by the Zoning Department.

Administration of Oath of Office – Chief of Police William E. Ryan

Chief William Ryan administered the Oath of Office to Elkton Police Officers Dancy Debrosse, Dennis Lasassa and Benjamin Smith.

Old Business

Mayor Fisona requested an update regarding tonnage of recyclable materials collected under the Town's recycling program.

Commissioner Jablonski questioned the status of the Time Center program. Mr. George stated communications issues continued regarding the Time Center program.

Commissioner Piner requested follow up with Mr. Ken Simmons regarding the Town's adoption of residential Sprinkler Codes.

Mayor Fisona's Report

Mayor Fisona requested repair of a street light located at Burkley Boulevard and South Street.

Commissioner Jablonski's Report

Commissioner Jablonski commended the Department of Public Works (DPW) regarding repair of a retaining wall by DPW employees, which saved taxpayer money.

Commissioner Piner's Report

Commissioner Piner requested replacement of signage that was damaged during a vehicle accident at East Main Street and Locust Lane and another sign near Elkton High School.

Commissioner Givens' Report

Commissioner Givens stated household trash was placed on the sidewalk near South and High Streets and requested that notice be sent to the property owner of 205 East Main Street regarding use of trash receptacles.

Commissioner Givens, referring to publicity regarding placement of substance abuse clinics in and near Elkton, stated the Board received a letter from a resident expressing concerns about the number of clinics being proposed for the area.

Discussion ensued regarding zoning regulations pertaining to treatment clinics.

Commissioner Jablonski, referring to a proposed facility at 205 West Pulaski Highway, stated the Board of Zoning Appeals was scheduled to hear a variance request for the facility at the February 16, 2012 meeting.

Public Comment

Mr. David Fordyce stated he owned a home on Osage Street. He expressed concerns regarding increased drug traffic and prostitution in his neighborhood. He stated there was an existing treatment clinic in his neighborhood, and said he was strongly opposed to placement of additional facilities in the area.

Mr. Fordyce expressed concerns that multiple treatment facilities in Elkton would have a harmful impact on how the town was perceived by potential homeowners and business people, which would negatively impact the Town's tax base.

Mr. Andrew Jodlbauer expressed opposition to placement of a proposed treatment facility south of the intersection of Delaware Avenue and Route 40, which was adjacent to Town limits. He stated the Town and County Zoning Ordinances needed to address the issue of placing treatment facilities and pain management clinics at multiple locations.

Mr. Jodlbauer stated the facility located at Landing Lane and West High Street in Elkton treated over 500 patients per day, 6 days per week.

Mr. Jodlbauer expressed concerns that the facilities were for-profit businesses and not regulated by the State of Maryland.

Ms. Candy D'Azevedo, referring to an article in the Cecil Whig that stated Elkton was struggling to reverse a perception of decline, stated the important component was perception. She said the perception of Elkton would continue to decline with the placement of multiple treatment facilities.

Ms. D'Azevedo stated the County passed an Ordinance requiring parking spaces for the peak number of patients being treated at the facility and urged the Board to consider adopting the same amendment.

She expressed concerns that the proposed facilities would be treating patients from outside Elkton and Cecil County.

Commissioner Jablonski stated she wanted to discuss the Town's Zoning Ordinance with the Directors of Planning and Zoning.

Motion for a Closed Meeting

ACTION: Pursuant to State Government Article § 10-508 (1) (i) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance evaluation of appointees, employees or officials over whom the Town has jurisdiction; Commissioner Givens made a motion for a Closed Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and approved by all present. Mayor Fisona announced that the public meeting would not reconvene.

Hearing no additional business to come before the Board, Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

L. Michelle Henson
Administration Office Secretary

Mayor and Commissioners Meeting Minutes

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