

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

MINUTES

January 18, 2012

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board") held their second 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 (arriving at 7:05 p.m.); Mary Jo Jablonski, and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Town Administrator Lewis H. George, Jr.; Finance Director Steven H. Repole; Elkton Police Chief 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.

Notice of Closed Meeting

On Wednesday, January 4, 2012, at 7:38 p.m., during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the "Board"), a Closed Meeting was requested and approved by all present pursuant to State Government Article § 10-508 (1) to discuss (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. Attendance: Mayor Joseph Fisona; Commissioners Charles H. Givens, Sr., Charles E. Hicks, V; Mary Jo Jablonski and Earl M. Piner, Sr.; Administration Office Secretary L. Michelle Henson and Town Attorney H. Norman Wilson, Jr.

ACTION: The minutes of the January 4, 2011 meeting were approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jablonski 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.

Budget Amendment 2012-008

Mr. Repole presented Budget Amendment 2012-008 to budget \$4,622 received from Cecil County Government and transferred to William M. Singerly Steam Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder.

ACTION: Budget Amendment 2012-008 was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jablonski and approved by all present.

American Red Cross – Lease Extension Request

Mr. Patrick Delaney, Executive Director, and Mr. Patrick Smythe, Manager, Emergency Services, introduced themselves to the Board.

Mr. Delaney stated the American Red Cross leased the building located at 207 Blue Ball Avenue, which was used for training and logistics. He stated the original lease term was March 2004 – March 2007, with subsequent extensions. He said the current lease expires March 30, 2012, and requested a 3-year extension of the agreement.

ACTION: The request of the American Red Cross to extend the lease of the property at 207 Blue Ball Avenue for 3 years, to March 31, 2015, was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jablonski and approved by all present.

Old Business

Mayor Fisona requested an update regarding the Town's recycling program. Mr. Repole stated Elkton recycled approximately 347 tons of material during the period June – December 2011, compared with 76 tons during the same timeframe in 2010. He stated the increase in recycling saved \$14,408 in dumping fees at the Central Landfill.

Commissioner Jablonski requested an update regarding the Time Center time management program. Mr. George stated Ms. Laura Brown, Human Resources Director, was reviewing another program that was more suitable to the needs of the Town. Commissioner Jablonski requested an update from Ms. Brown regarding the new system that was being reviewed.

Commissioner Piner, referring to a previous discussion with Mr. Ken Benner, Area Manager, Severn Trent Environmental Services, requested an update from Mr. Benner regarding Mr. Benner's search for additional water resources.

Commissioner Givens requested an update regarding a new Recreation Center. Mr. George stated Ms. Mary Magaw, Director of Parks & Recreation, was scheduled to present a concept plan for the proposed facility at the February 1, 2012 meeting.

Commissioner Hicks requested an update regarding the Board's request of the State Highway Administration (SHA) to lower the speed limit on Elkton Newark Road (Route 279) in the vicinity of the schools. Mr. George stated he would contact SHA for an update.

Mayor Fisona's Report

Mayor Fisona, referring to a previous discussion regarding pedestrian safety on the Delaware Avenue bridge, stated he met with SHA to request the addition of a pedestrian crossing on the west side of the span.

Commissioner Jablonski's Report

Commissioner Jablonski, at the request of Mr. Dan Handley, Director of Public Works, read a Public Notice regarding snow plowing procedures. A copy of the notice was placed in the record of the minutes.

Commissioner Jablonski commended Commissioner Givens and the Wrights AME Church for the Martin Luther King, Jr. birthday event.

Commissioner Givens' Report

Commissioner Givens, referring to a Baltimore-area news report which indicated the Town of Elkton had increasing drug issues, stated he felt Elkton was a good community which should be maintained.

Commissioner Givens asked Commissioner Jablonski if business at the Howard House Restaurant had been affected by a new restaurant on Route 40. Commissioner Jablonski stated she spoke with the owner of the Howard House, who indicated her business was down slightly, adding she did not expect it to be a major issue.

Public Comment

Ms. Rebecca McKinney stated property owners should keep sidewalks clear of ice and snow in inclement weather.

Ms. Kay Michael, referring to a letter previously sent to the Board regarding her concerns about adequate buffers and parking issues, requested opportunity for citizen input regarding review of the Town's Zoning Ordinances.

Mr. Dave Fordyce stated he would assist in reviewing the Town's Zoning Ordinances.

Mr. Larry Crawford requested an update on the proposed Methadone Clinic. Mr. Wilson stated the proposed facility required a variance from the Town's Zoning Ordinance, and was scheduled to be heard before the Board of Zoning Appeals in February.

Mr. Bob Litzenberg requested an update regarding a blighted property on West High Street.

Mr. Litzenberg requested enforcement regarding illegal camping in Town Parks after hours and burning of open fires in Town limits.

Mr. Litzenberg requested removal of a sand bar that had formed in the creek on the west side of the Delaware Avenue Bridge. Mr. George stated SHA previously removed a sand bar from the area, adding that it cost approximately \$100,000. Commissioner Jablonski requested that Mr. Handley investigate removal of the sand bar.

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 Piner and approved by all present.

Mayor Fisona adjourned the meeting at 7:36 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. The minutes, in hard copy format, are retained indefinitely by the Town of Elkton, Administration Office, 100 Railroad Avenue, Elkton, Maryland 21921.