

# The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton

MINUTES  
May 7, 2014

The Mayor and Commissioners of the Town of Elkton (the “Board”) held their first regularly scheduled meeting in May on this date at 7:00 p.m. The following persons were present: Mayor Joseph L. Fisona; Commissioners Charles E. Hicks, V; Charles H. Givens, Sr.; 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. Commissioner Mary Jo Jablonski was excused from the meeting.

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

Mayor Fisona announced that Commissioner Jablonski would not be in attendance at the meeting due to another commitment.

**ACTION:** The minutes of the April 16, 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 Piner. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Givens and approved by all present.

## **Proclamation P11-2014 Kids to Parks Day May 17, 2014**

Mayor Fisona presented Proclamation P11-2014 – Kids to Parks Day, May 17, 2014. A copy of Proclamation P11-2014 was read and placed in the record of the minutes.

**ACTION:** Proclamation P11-2014 Kids to Parks Day was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Givens. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hicks and approved by all present.

## **Town Administrator’s Report**

### **PNC Bank Loan – Refinancing General Fund Loan**

Mr. George, referring to the Board’s decision to refinance a loan with PNC Bank, stated the refinancing process was settled on April 22, 2014. He stated the loan principal of \$1,408,396.52 was refinanced from a rate of 3.62% to 2.35% for 60 months, resulting in estimated \$43,000 in savings.

### **Annexation Resolution A1-2014 – Progress Report**

Mr. George stated Annexation A1-2014, which was introduced on April 16, 2014, pertained to property located in the Holly Hall neighborhood and upon which the Town's Well No 1 was currently located, and Well No 2R was to be constructed. He provided a timeline of the annexation process, a copy of which was placed in the record of the minutes.

### **Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001 – Progress Report**

Mr. George stated the Belle Hill Water Tower Rehabilitation Project 2013-001 was near completion. He stated the project totaled \$456,944, and was funded via a Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$342,708, with a \$114,236 cost to the Town.

### **Old Business**

Mayor Fisona stated the Main Street walkway streetlight upgrade project was underway and should be completed within the next couple weeks.

Mayor Fisona, referring to \$43,000 in interest saved by the refinancing of the PNC Bank loan, added the Town received \$99,000 in Major Facilities fees in the past week.

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

Commissioner Piner stated he attended the Parks & Recreation dance recital in the past week, and commended the Parks & Recreation staff for their work on the event. He stated the event grew in participation each year, and thanked Elkton High School for use of the school for the 2-day event.

### **Commissioner Hicks' Report**

Commissioner Hicks commended Department of Public Works (DPW) employees for their attention to various potholes in Town.

Commissioner Hicks questioned if pedestrians were permitted in Meadow Park during regular hours if the gates were closed. Mr. George stated pedestrians could use the park's walking track during daytime park closures. He stated the gates were closed to keep vehicles out of the park when the ground was muddy.

Commissioner Hicks asked for a replacement of the speed hump on Bethel Street. He asked that the device be a standard, asphalt speed hump.

### **Commissioner Givens' Report**

Commissioner Givens, referring to barricades that were placed at Delaware Avenue to warn motorists of flooding during rain events, asked if signage could be placed at Old Baltimore Pike and Delancy Road during Delaware Avenue closures. He stated this would assist motorists in determining an alternate route. Mayor Fisona added that signage should also be placed at Howard and Bridge Streets.

Commissioner Givens questioned the status of the removal of trees located adjacent to the Municipal Building. Mr. George stated he would follow up with DPW.

Commissioner Givens, referring to the recent flood event, stated there was standing water behind 150 East Main Street, and asked if the Town could do anything to remove the water. Mr. George responded in the negative, stating the Town did not own the property. He stated he was unaware of any law requiring the property owner to remove the water.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Robert Litzenberg stated he wanted to place a privacy fence at his property, but due to Town zoning regulations, he could only place a 4-foot high fence with 50% visibility.

Mr. Litzenberg stated he abided by the Town's Ordinances, and stated his neighbors should be required to do the same. He asked that the Town Code Enforcement Officer visit his neighborhood as well as other areas of town, such as North Street near Town Hall.

Mr. D.J. Van Reenen suggested that Town events should be placed on the Town website's calendar.

Mr. Van Reenen questioned why the process of refinancing the loan took so long. Mr. Repole stated the process involved getting several officials on the same page, and included review by attorneys.

Mr. Van Reenen questioned if the debt concerning the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade could be refinanced. Mr. George responded in the negative, stating the project was financed through the State of Maryland.

Mr. Van Reenen questioned if the lettering of the Belle Hill Water Tower was included in the original contract. Mr. George answered in the negative.

Mr. Van Reenen questioned if the Town seal was copyright protected. Mr. George answered in the negative.

Mr. Van Reenen questioned the status of paving Bonney Marie Court. Mr. George stated the Town had a Public Works Agreement pending with the developer, adding Bonney Marie Court as well as Vince Court were to be paved under the agreement.

Mr. Keith Thompson suggested that the Town participate in Cecil County's "reverse 911" system to provide advance notice to business owners and residents in flood-prone areas of impending rain events.

**Motion for a Closed Meeting**

**ACTION:** Pursuant to State Government Article § 10-508 to discuss (1) (1) the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation or performance evaluation of appointees, employees or officials over whom the Town has jurisdiction; or (ii) any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; Commissioner Givens made a motion for a Closed Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Piner 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 8:02 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.