



Town Council MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 7, 2021 - 5:30 PM
Council Chambers, Easton Town Office
14 S Harrison Street

5:30 PM: Call to Order by President Cook.

Mayor Robert C. Willey
Mr. Al Silverstein
Mr. Don Abbatiello
Mr. Ron Engle
Rev. Elmer Davis
President Megan Cook

Also present was the Town Manager Mr. Don Richardson, Assistant Town Attorney Mr. Will Chapman, and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.

At 05:30 PM, President Cook called the meeting to order.

Opening remarks by Councilmember Silverstein and Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Silverstein gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes May 17th and May 18th Meetings

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, minutes of the May 17th and May 18th meetings were approved as written.

Items by the Mayor.

Re-Appointment of Park Board Members for an additional three-year term.

Upon motion by Mr. Engle second by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, Re-Appointment of Park Board Members for an additional three-year term was approved.

Economic Development

Mayor Willey stated that Tracy Ward is present to discuss Economic Development.

Tracy Ward, Executive Director, EEDC discussed the bird scooters proposal and horse and carriage rides. She stated that Holly DeKarske will start with EEDC June 23.

Ms. Ward stated that the carriage rides pilot program will begin this week. She stated that if there are any issues, please call her directly.

Ms. Ward stated that a Merchants meeting will be held June 17, 8:15 a.m. with the location to be determined.

Mr. Engle asked for Police Department input regarding the scooters.

Rev. Davis asked for a copy of the route for the horse drawn carriage rides.

Ms. Ward stated that new outdoor furniture, flower pots and bistro tables will be placed around the downtown June 20 or June 21.

Items by the Town Manager.

Public Assembly Permits:

1. Avalon Foundation Outdoor Summer Concert Series 6/19 – 8/21.
2. Carols by Candlelight, Friends of Hospice 11/27.
3. Request from Easton Airport for a one-time access and removal agreement to remove obstructions

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein second by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the Outdoor Summer Concert Series which will occur June 19, 2021 thru August 21, 2021 was approved.

Upon motion by Mr. Engle seconded by Rev. Davis and carried unanimously the Public Assembly Permit for Carols by Candlelight which will occur November 27, 2021 was approved.

Mr. Richardson discussed the county's request to remove airport obstructions.

Mr. Richardson stated that Micah Risher, Airport Manager has reached out to the town. Mr. Richardson recommends that Mr. Risher come before the council to discuss the removal.

Mr. Richardson stated that the Airport has the obstruction removal out for bid although the work is not to occur until September.

Mr. Engle stated that the town was blamed for the other cutting.

President Cook stated that Mr. Risher could come before the council July 6 or after.

Items by the Town Attorney.

Approval of Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget.

Ord. 761, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON ESTABLISHING THE TOWN BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022"

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein second by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Ordinance 761 was approved.

Ord. 762, "AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE RAISING BY TAXATION THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO PAY THE ORDINARY EXPENSES OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ON THE VARIOUS BOND ISSUES AND THE REDUCTION OF CERTAIN BONDS AND NOTES FOR THE PERIOD OF TWELVE MONTHS AND SETTING THE INTEREST AND PENALTY FOR DELINQUENT BILLS, COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2021 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2022."

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein second by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Ordinance 762 was approved.

Ord. 763, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO CARRY FORWARD CERTAIN CAPITAL FUND EXPENDITURES INTO FISCAL YEAR 2022."

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein second by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Ordinance 763 was approved.

Res. 6134, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON REVISING THE TOWNS LICENSE, APPLICATION, PERMITS, INSPECTION, CERTIFICATE AND OTHER FEES."

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein second by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, Resolution 6134 was approved.

Resolution No. 6136, "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF EASTON APPROVING THE RENAMING OF RTC PARK TO THE JOHN F. FORD PARK."

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein second by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, Resolution No. 6136 was approved.

Ord. 766, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EASTON TO PURCHASE TWO PARCELS OF LAND LOCATED OFF OF PORT STREET AT EASTON POINT WHICH ARE PARCELS 215 AND 158 ON TALBOT COUNTY TAX MAP 34."

President Cook brought Ordinance 766 to the floor for a first reading. President Cook set the Public Hearing for a first reading.

Approval of Invoices totaling \$1,296,731.24

Upon motion by Mr. Engle seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, invoices totaling \$1,296,731.24 were approved.

Public Comments.

There were no public comments.

Items by Members of the Council:

Mr. Silverstein stated he has been around downtown; with the carriage rides, music, he thinks the downtown looks great.
Mr. Abbatiello thanked Mayor Willey and Mr. Richardson for their efforts to reduce town collection fee. He stated the residents will appreciate it as well.
Mr. Engle stated the change in the light on RT 50 was a team effort to get the help from SHA. He stated he appreciated the help from Delegate Mautz.
Mr. Engle stated the improvement was done in three weeks which is unheard of. Kudos for everyone.
Rev. Davis asked everyone to use due caution, drive carefully and stay safe exercising outside.
Mayor Willey stated that the Town's Executive Orders have all been rescinded but three.
President Cook stated the upcoming Council meeting scheduled for June 21 may have to be canceled due to lack of a quorum. She stated the first meeting in July will be July 6 due to the July 4 holiday and town closing.

Adjournment

At 6:03 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Abbatiello and carried unanimously, President Cook adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk