



Town Council MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 5, 2022 - 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. Ron Engle
Rev. Elmer Davis
President Megan Cook

Mr. Abbatiello was excused.

Also present was the Town Manager, Mr. Don Richardson, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.

At 5:30 p.m., President Cook called the meeting to order.

Opening remarks and Pledge of Allegiance by Rev. Davis.

Rev. Davis gave opening remarks and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes.

Minutes of June 6, 2022 meetings.

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the minutes of the June 6, 2022 meetings were approved as written.

Municipal Official Items.

Items by Mayor Willey.
Nothing at this time.

Council consensus for the Town of Easton to submit DHCD grant for Port Street Commons Strategic Demolition fund.

Mr. Jonathan Rondeau asked for council consensus for the Town of Easton to act as a subgrantee for a Department of Housing and Community Development grant for Port Street Commons Strategic Demolition in the amount of 1 million dollars. Mr. Rondeau stated that ARC will write the grant and the Town of Easton will submit on their behalf.

Upon motion by Rev. Davis, seconded by Mr. Silverstein and carried unanimously, it was the Council consensus for the Town of Easton to submit a grant to DHCD in the amount of 1 million dollars to the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Items by the Town Manager.

Public Assembly Event: Hispanic Heritage Month Event 9/17/22

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Rev. Davis and carried unanimously, the Public Assembly Event: Hispanic Heritage Month Eve was approved.

Approval for Building Relocation Project, 672 Glenwood Ave to Lot 9A Mistletoe Drive.

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Rev. Davis and carried unanimously, approval for the Building Relocation Project, 672 Glenwood was approved in the amount of \$319,498. Mr. Silverstein complemented Mr. Richardson working with Easton Utilities.

Acceptance of Bid for Annual Street Resurfacing & Rail Trail Asphalt Repairs.

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the annual

street resurfacing and asphalt repair bid from Myers in the amount of \$484,500 was approved.

Items by the Town Attorney.

The Town Attorney, Mrs. VanEmburch has nothing at this time.

Public Hearings.

CONT'D. - Ord. 784, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON PROHIBITING RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE TOWN FROM PROVIDING CUSTOMERS WITH SINGLE USE DISPOSABLE PLASTIC BAGS AND PROVIDING FOR EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PROHIBITION AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS."

At 5:40 p.m., President Cook opened the floor to continue the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 784.

Ms. Elaine Tama was present and stated she wanted to say two things this evening. As of today, they have a lot of supporters: 427 petition signers, 175 FB friends and 141 other supporters. She wanted to pass along that there is a lot of public support for this bill. On compliance, Westminster, President of town council, relayed that once people understood the ordinance, there was no compliance issue. She stated that education is a big issue.

Ms. Robin Paige, responding to a question from Mr. Silverstein regarding if this is more appropriate for county than town? She stated that she would like to see this enacted at the state level.

Ms. Patty Brennan, 100 Talbot Lane, stated she is happy to see this before the council as she feels it is absolutely essential for waters and air. She stated she is strongly in support of this legislation.

At 5:44 p.m., President Cook asked if there is anyone else. There being no further comments, she continued the public hearing until July 18.

Legislation.

Ord. 789, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF EASTON TO CREATE A RESIDENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT ALONG A PORTION OF HAMMOND STREET FROM BAY STREET TO FEDERAL STREET AND ALONG FLOYD LANE."

President Cook brought Ordinance No. 789 to the floor for a first reading.

President Cook set a public hearing for comments on Ordinance No. 789 for July 18, 2022 at 5:35 p.m.

Ms. Cecilia Potter, Hammond Street asked for clarification regarding some traffic concepts. Ms. Potter asked if Hammond Street was a one-way street? She stated that if this is to be made residential parking, will Hammond become a one-way street from Floyd Lane. She stated that they prefer that Hammond Street not become one-way in its entirety as residents on Floyd Lane then must take a block around to get there. She asked that Dover down to Federal be considered as well due to new homes as there is no parking other than street parking.

Mr. Richardson stated that the residential parking permit will be no charge, one-time fee that doesn't renew annually. There is a \$1 charge for additional visitors' permit. He stated that Bay Street and Floyd does not change and the one-way between Federal and Floyd does not change.

Ms. Potter stated that the one-way is not being enforced. Richardson will let Chief know.

John V. Louis, DMD, owns the periodontal practice on Bay and Hammond Street. He stated he has seven spaces on their property. He discussed parking and the need for their patients' parking. He asked for clarification regarding the parking permit. Dr. Louis asked if the permit would apply the parking district the entire length of Hamond Street.

Mr. Richardson stated this Ordinance is only the introduction. He stated he hopes everyone can work together to contemplate solutions that might work for the dental office. He stated they are at the office 8-5 three days a week and they need parking on the road to accommodate their patients.

Mrs. Louis questioned how Habitat homes were constructed without driveways. President Cook stated that all those homes are not Habitat and that it is a historic district with very small lots.

President Cook stated that a public hearing would be held July 18 on Ordinance No. 789.

Review of Invoices.

Invoices from 6/1/22 - 6/29/22 totaling \$1,021,427.33.

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, invoices totaling \$1,021,427.33 were approved.

Public Participation/Comments.

There were no further comments.

Items by Members of the Council:

Mr. Silverstein thanked the Avalon Foundation for the carnival and fireworks.

Rev. Davis concurred with Mr. Silverstein's comments.

President Cook thanked Easton Police for handling crowd control.

Adjournment.

At 5:59 p.m., upon motion by Mr. Silverstein, seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, President Cook adjourned the regularly scheduled meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy M. Ruf, Town Clerk