



Town Council MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 19, 2021 - 5:30 PM
Council Chambers, Easton Town Office
14 S Harrison Street

Roll Call

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, Town Attorney Mrs. Sharon VanEmburch, and Town Clerk Mrs. Kathy M. Ruf.

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

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

Opening remarks by Councilmember Engle and Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Approval of minutes of April 5, April 7 and April 8, 2021 meetings.

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, minutes of the April 5, April 7 and April 8 meetings were approved.

Items by the Mayor.

Mayor Willey stated that 26 checks were distributed to downtown businesses. The checks were in the amount of \$9,500. The money was part of \$7 million in grants awarded to Maryland's Main Street communities from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and the Maryland General Assembly's COVID-19 Relief bill.

Items by the Town Manager.

Public Assembly Permits

1. 4/24 – Packard Auto Display 6:30 - 9PM
2. 5/1 – Multicultural Festival 10AM – 2PM
3. 5/15 – Red & Blue Week 5K Run – 9AM
4. 5/15, 6/19, 9/18, 10/16 – Outdoor Art & Music Festival (Rails-to-Trails)
9AM – 3PM
5. 6/20 – Academy Art Museum Juneteenth Celebration 10AM – 4PM

Upon motion by Mr. Silverstein seconded by Mr. Engle and carried unanimously, the Public Assembly Permits were approved.

Items by the Town Attorney.

Mrs. VanEmburch stated that she has nothing at this time.

Fair Housing Proclamation.

Mr. Abbatiello presented a proclamation to Laura Anderson, Mid Shore Board of Realtors recognizing Fair Housing for the month of April 2021.

5:35PM PUBLIC HEARING for Annexation and Zoning for property located east of the intersection of Maryland Route 309 and Black Dog Alley and consisting of 1.637 acres of land, more or less.

At 5:38 p.m., President Cook opened the Public Hearing to hear comments regarding the proposed annexation and zoning for property located east of the intersection of Maryland Route 309 and Black Dog Alley.

Mr. Thomas, Town Planner was present to discuss the annexation request. He stated that the proposed annexation is at the northeast portion of the town; Maryland 309 and Black Dog Alley and is the request of Julie Pinder Harrison and Joe Harrison. Mr. Thomas stated that Planning and Zoning Commission voted 5-0 in favor of the Annexation and stated that the annexation is consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan, Priority 1 Growth Area. CG General Commercial Zone which P&Z believes it is an appropriate zoning

Mr. Thomas stated that in the annexation public hearing process, the County and State are offered to speak first on this application. President Cook asked if there was anyone present to speak from the County or State. There was no one present.

Ryan D. Showalter, McAllister, DeTar, Showalter & Walker LLC was present on behalf of petitioners. He stated that the annexation is located contiguous to town boundary. He discussed the Priority 1 designation for annexation for this planning period. He stated that the annexation is consistent with county designation.

Mr. Showalter stated he would answer any questions. There were none.

President Cook asked for public comments. There were none.

President Cook stated that she would leave the record open for public comments until Friday April 30, close of business. President Cook stated that the annexation would be considered at the May 3 meeting.

Resolution No. 6132, "A RESOLUTION TO ANNEX CERTAIN LANDS LOCATED EAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARYLAND ROUTE 309 AND BLACK DOG ALLEY AND CONSISTING OF 1.637 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS, INTO THE TOWN OF EASTON AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ANNEXATION."

President Cook brought Resolution No. 6132 to the floor for introduction.

Ordinance No. 759, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE TOWN OF EASTON TO APPLY THE GENERAL COMMERCIAL (CG) ZONING DISTRICT TO A CERTAIN LOT OR PARCEL OF LAND ANNEXED TO THE TOWN OF EASTON BY RESOLUTION NO. 6132 LOCATED GENERALLY EAST OF THE INTERSECTION OF MARYLAND ROUTE 309 AND BLACK DOG ALLEY AND CONSISTING OF 1.637 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS."

President Cook brought Ordinance No. 759 to the floor for introduction.

Ordinance No. 760, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF EASTON AMENDING SECTIONS 11-20 OF ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 11 OF THE TOWN OF EASTON CODE REGARDING THE IMPOSITION OF A REFUSE DISPOSAL FEE."

President Cook brought Ordinance No. 760 to the floor for introduction. President Cook set a public hearing for comments for May 3, 2021 at 5:35 p.m.

Public Comments.

There were no public comments.

Items by Members of the Council:

Mr. Silverstein reminded citizens to place leaves on their property not on the street near the stormdrains..

Mr. Abbatiello noted that there have been two fatal accidents on the south end of town in the last two we. He asked that serious consideration be given to change the flashing light to a red light.

Mr. Engle stated he would like comments from Maryland State Police and Easton Police. Rev. Davis stated he is grateful for the new Town website. He stated it is a good opportunity for citizens to stay informed.

President Cook reminded everyone that Tuesday May 4 is the Town's Election day. She

stated that an absentee ballot can be requested or you may vote in person.

Adjournment

At 5:54 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