

Council of the Town of La Plata  
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland  
Regular Meeting – 7:00 PM  
August 25, 2009

Present: Mayor Roy G. Hale, Councilman R. Wayne Winkler, Councilman C. Keith Back, Councilman Joseph W. Norris; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Danielle Mandley, Town Clerk

Town Staff: Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer; Cassin B. Gittings, Chief, La Plata Police Department; Robert F. Stahl, Director of Operations; David M. Jenkins, Director of Municipal Development

Minutes:

Mayor Hale called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM, and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Approval of July minutes

Councilman Winkler moved to approve the minutes of the July 14 work session, July 21 work session, July 28 regular meeting, and July 28 closed session. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

#### Treasurer's Report

Mayor Hale acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's Report dated June 30, 2009

#### Petitions, Communications, Appearances and Public Forum

##### Presentation of Town Seal to Tom O'Farrell

On behalf of the Town Council, Mayor Hale thanked Tom O'Farrell for his service on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mayor Hale read and presented a Town of La Plata Seal to Mr. O'Farrell in appreciation of his years of dedicated service to the Town as Chairman for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. O'Farrell accepted the Town Seal and expressed his gratitude to Mr. Stahl and all of the Town staff that have helped the Parks and Recreation Commission to reach their goals.

##### La Plata Police Department (LPPD) monthly report – Chief Gittings

Chief Gittings reported on the department's activities during the month of July, 2009.

### Public Forum

Mike Runfola, 113 Morris Drive, spoke on the following topics:

- Heritage Green Roads grant that would have “let the developer off the hook”.
- Mayor and Council should reconsider the 3 minute time limit for speakers during the Public Forum.
- Mayor and Council should implement a question and answer session during all regular meetings.
- Establish a standard procedure for speakers during the Public Forum to state whether they reside within the corporate limits of the Town.
- Mayor and Council should publish the procedures for public hearings in the Town Notes.

### Legislation

**Resolution 09-5 Charter Amendment – Term of Employment of Town Manager** (For Adoption) – For the purpose of amending the Charter of the Town of La Plata to provide a maximum term of employment to which the Town Council may appoint a Town Manager; to provide that such specified term of employment may be renewed by the Town Council; and all matters generally relating thereto.

Mr. Mears provided a brief explanation of the purpose of Resolution 09-5.

Councilman Back moved to adopt Resolution 09-5. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Resolution 09-7 Award of Bid for Wills Park Elevated Water Storage Tank Painting Project** - (for introduction and consideration of adoption) – For the purpose of accepting and awarding a certain bid submitted by Corrosion Control Corporation for the Wills Park Elevated Water Storage Tank Painting project; and all matters relating to acceptance of such bid.

Mr. Mears briefly explained the purpose of Resolution 09-7, award of bid for the Wills Park elevated water storage tank painting.

Councilman Norris moved to adopt Resolution 09-7, Award of Bid for Wills Park Elevated Water Storage Tank Painting Project. Councilman Winkler seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Ordinance 09-11 FY 2009-2010 Fee Schedule** (For Consideration of Adoption) – For the purpose of correcting an error in a refuse collection fee in the fee schedule.

Mr. Mears spoke regarding the purpose of Ordinance 09-11, FY 2009-2010 Fee Schedule, to correct an error in the fee schedule.

Councilman Winkler moved to adopt Ordinance 09-11. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Emergency Ordinance 09-12 Extension of Temporary Moratorium on Enforcement of Certain Sign and Fee Regulations** (For Introduction and Consideration of Adoption) – For the purpose of extending temporary moratoria, for a certain duration of time, upon the enforcement of certain regulations regarding the placement, location and duration of certain temporary signs in the CB, CBT and CH zoning districts, and upon the payment of certain fees for the issuance of certain sign permits; providing for the effective date of this Ordinance and the termination of the moratoria established by this Ordinance; and all matters generally related to the extension of a temporary moratorium upon the enforcement of certain regulations relating to certain temporary signs in the Town of La Plata.

Mr. Mears spoke about the discussions of the La Plata Business Association, Design Review Board and Town Council and the purpose of Emergency Ordinance 09-12.

Councilman Back moved to suspend the provisions of Town Charter § C6-4 Ordinances, to adopt this as an emergency ordinance. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Councilman Norris moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance 09-12. Councilman Winkler seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

**Ordinance 09-13 2009 Comprehensive Plan** (For Introduction) – For the purpose of adopting a new comprehensive plan for the Town of La Plata; and all matters relating to said plan.

Mr. Mears explained the procedures and the purpose of the 2009 Comprehensive Plan. Mayor Hale commended the Town staff and the Planning Commission for all of the hard work that went in to creating the 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

**Ordinance 09-14 2009 Comprehensive Rezoning Map** (For Introduction) – For the purpose of adopting a new comprehensive rezoning map for the Town of La Plata; and all matters relating to said map.

Mr. Mears spoke about the purpose of the Comprehensive Rezoning Map and how it is part of the 2009 Comprehensive Plan.

**Unfinished Business** (None.)

New Business

Appointments to boards and commissions

Councilman Winkler moved to appoint Jim Goldsmith to a 4-year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission with a 1 year term as Chairman. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Commission Reports

- Councilman Winkler reported on the activities of the Parks and Recreation Commission and thanked Mr. O'Farrell for all he has done for the Commission.
- Councilman Back had no report regarding the Planning Commission, the August meeting was cancelled.
- Councilman Norris reported on the Design Review Board discussions regarding the Sign Moratorium and the possible code changes and the preliminary plat approval for the Baldus Center II.

There being no further business, Councilman Norris moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 PM. Councilman Back seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Submitted by:

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Danielle Mandley  
Town Clerk

**Pursuant** to the requirement of Annotated Code of Maryland State Government Article Section 10-509(c)(2), this statement is included in these minutes:

A closed session of the Council of the Town of La Plata was held at 8:56 PM, Tuesday, June 16, 2009, in the La Plata Town Hall.

*Present: Mayor Hale, Councilmen Winkler, Back, Mudd and Norris; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Michelle D. Miner, Assistant Town Manager; Danielle Mandley, incoming Town Clerk; Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer*

*On a motion made by Councilman Back, seconded by Councilman Norris, and by unanimous consent of the members present, the session was closed. The authority under which the session was closed was Annotated Code of Maryland State Government Article Section 10-508(a)(3) – Consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss acquisition of property for parkland. The Town Council agreed to schedule another closed session on June 23, 2009, to continue the discussion. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.*