

Council of the Town of La Plata  
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland  
Regular Meeting – 7:00 PM  
September 25, 2007

Present: Mayor Gene Ambrogio, Councilman James Goldsmith, Councilman Scot D. Lucas, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd, Councilman Vic E. Newman; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk

Town Staff: Joseph W. Norris, Treasurer; Cathy Flerlage, Director of Planning and Zoning; Carol L. Rollins, Development Coordinator; Danielle Mandley, Accounting Administrative Assistant

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

▶ *A closed session of the Council of the Town of La Plata was held at 7:30 PM, Tuesday, August 28, 2007, in the La Plata Town Hall.*

*Present: Mayor Ambrogio, Councilmen Goldsmith, Lucas, Mudd and Newman; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk; Frederick C. Sussman, Town Attorney*

*On a motion made by Mayor Ambrogio, seconded by Councilman Goldsmith, 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)(7) – Consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss (1) GP Homes/Heritage Green Developers Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (DRRA) and (2) Amendments to School Seat Allocation Policy ordinance. Action taken: Following consultation with the Town Attorney regarding a draft ordinance he prepared, which revises the Town's School Seat Allocation Policy, the Council agreed to revise the Town's School Seat Allocation Policy and agreed on a course of action regarding proposing said revision to the County Commissioners for their consideration of inclusion within the GP Homes/Heritage Green DRRA. The Council further agreed on a course of action regarding what consideration the Town wants from GP Homes for the DRRA. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.*

▶ *A closed session of the Council of the Town of La Plata was held at 9:23 PM, Tuesday, September 11, 2007, in the La Plata Town Hall.*

*Present: Mayor Ambrogio, Councilmen Goldsmith, Lucas, Mudd and Newman; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk*

*On a motion made by Mayor Ambrogio, seconded by Councilman Newman, 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 economic development. Action taken: The Council directed the Town Manager to contact the property owner regarding the price of the property and to report back to the Town Council. The meeting adjourned at 9:48 PM.*

#### Minutes:

Mayor Ambrogio called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and asked Amanda Russell to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Approval of August minutes

Councilman Goldsmith moved to approve the minutes of the August 14 special meeting, August 14 work session, August 14 closed session, August 21 work session, August 28 regular meeting, and August 28 closed session. Councilman Newman seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

#### Treasurer's Reports (July and August)

Mayor Ambrogio acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's reports dated July 31, 2007 and August 31, 2007.

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

##### Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation – LEED certification

Following brief remarks, Mayor Ambrogio read and presented certificates of appreciation to those present of the people who helped the Town achieve LEED certification for the Town Hall: Karla Rangi, Manoj Dalaya, Paul Facchina, Sr., Charles McPherson, George Nash, Barry Lewis, Ken Crouse, Amanda Russell, Joe Norris, Carol Rollins, Cathy Flerlage, Danielle Mandley, Patti Bembe, and Bill Eckman. Mayor Ambrogio acknowledged the contribution of Wayne Winkler, Keith Back, Roy Hale and Tom Fritz, who were members of the Town Council while the Town Hall project was underway.

##### Charles County, Maryland Genealogical Society – presentation of information about the Society

Robin Boswell, President, provided information about the Society and their current projects. Diane Giannini, Vice President, was also present.

##### Public Forum (none)

#### Legislation

Ordinance 07-11 Design Review Board Membership (For Introduction) – For the purpose of altering the composition of the Design Review Board membership by converting one regular

membership to be an Alternate Member; specifying the term of office of the Alternate Member; and all matters generally relating thereto.

Mayor Ambrogio provided a brief explanation of Ordinance 07-11, noting it is scheduled to be voted on at the October 23 meeting and would become effective on December 6, 2007, if adopted.

Resolution 07-10 Amendment of the Grasso Annexation Agreement (For Introduction) – For the purpose of approving and authorizing the amendment of a certain Annexation Agreement between the Town of La Plata, Pamela D. Grasso and Gerard T. McDonough, Substitute Trustees, and others; and all matters relating to the amendment of the Annexation Agreement.

Mayor Ambrogio provided a brief explanation of Resolution 07-10 and announced that a hearing is scheduled by the Town Council on this resolution on October 23.

Councilman Newman stated he asked Mr. Mears to assure that all verbal agreements between the neighboring residents and the developer are included in the agreement, and further stated that he believes the Town Council should meet with affected residents.

Unfinished Business (none)

New Business

Commission Reports

Councilman Goldsmith reported on topics discussed at the September 4 Planning Commission meeting and on a meeting he attended on September 24, of the County Commissioners and Maryland Department of Transportation.

Councilman Lucas reported on topics discussed at the September 5 and September 19 Design Review Board meetings, and provided an update on the results of the Speed Awareness Month program conducted in August, for which he expressed appreciation to Chief Gittings, La Plata Police Department, Sheriff Coffey, Charles County Sheriff's Office, and Lt. Stephens, Maryland State Police.

Councilwoman Mudd reported on topics discussed at the September 17 Beautification Commission meeting, particularly their recommendation to purchase a 16' balled and burlap blue spruce tree to be used as the Christmas tree placed in the circle in front of the Town Hall, then planted in another location on Town property. It was suggested that the 14' artificial tree be used in the atrium. Councilwoman Mudd said the blue spruce tree needs to be reserved soon.

Following discussion, Councilwoman Mudd moved to purchase a live blue spruce tree, price not to exceed \$2,000, for use at Christmas in the circle in front of Town Hall, and to be planted after Christmas on Town property. Councilman Newman seconded the motion. Following discussion, a roll call vote was taken: Mayor Ambrogio and Councilmen Lucas, Goldsmith, Mudd and Newman voted aye. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Councilwoman Mudd reported on topics discussed at the September 20 meeting of the Kent Avenue Corridor Partnership.

Councilman Newman reported on topics discussed at the September 12 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mayor Ambrogio announced that the Fall Festival/“Festival of Scarecrows” Kick off and Taste of La Plata events will be held October 28.

There being no further business, Mayor Ambrogio moved to adjourn at 8:02 PM. Councilman Goldsmith seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Submitted by:

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Judith T. Frazier  
Town Clerk