

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
January 12, 2010, 7:05 PM

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

Town Staff: Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer;

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 9:25 PM, Tuesday, December 15, 2009, in the La Plata Town Hall.

Present: Mayor Hale, Councilmen Winkler, and Norris; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Danielle Mandley, Town Clerk; Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer

On a motion made by Councilman Winkler, 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 municipal facilities. The meeting adjourned at 10:10 PM.

Minutes:

Mayor Hale called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Matters of Council Discussion

Sign Ordinance

Description: Discussion and review of possible changes to the sign ordinance.

Mr. Mears briefly described the status of the proposed changes to the sign ordinance, and requested any suggestions and comments from the Council.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to direct staff to review the guidelines pertaining to vacant business signage.

Proclamation; African American History Month

Description: Discussion regarding a Proclamation designating February as African American History Month.

Mr. Mears provided background information regarding the African American History Month proposed Proclamation.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to take action if a constituent requested an African American History Month Proclamation.

Appointments to boards and commissions

Description: Discuss reappointments/appointments to boards and commissions.

Councilman Norris briefly discussed the application and interview of Henry Payton, to fill a vacancy on the Design Review Board.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to consider the following appointments at the Regular Meeting scheduled for January 26, 2010:

Design Review Board - Appoint Henry Payton as alternate, to fill an unexpired term until September 23, 2010.

Beautification Commission - Reappoint Helen Lucas to a 2 year term as Chairman, if she so desires to continue as Chairman.

Planning Commission - Appoint Debra Posey to fill an unexpired term until August 26, 2013.

Matters of Information

Mr. Mears informed the Council regarding the new approach to conducting the Budget Priority Setting Sessions to commence Saturday, January 16, 2010. The topics of discussion would include an update on the FY2010 Priorities, financial awareness and revenue projections.

Future Work Session Topics

- Discussions pertaining to the Council Column in the "Town Notes"
- An invitation will be extended to the representatives of Panera Bread to make a presentation at the January 18, 2010 work session.

Other business

There being no other business, Councilman Back moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. Councilman Winkler seconded the motion and it carried.

Submitted by:

Danielle Mandley
Town Clerk