

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Special Meeting
December 18, 2004, 12:00 PM

Present: Mayor William F. Eckman, Councilman Wayne Winkler, Councilman C. Keith Back, Councilman Gene Ambrogio, Councilman Roy G. Hale; Douglas R. Miller, Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk

Guests: (see roster)

Minutes:

Mayor Eckman called the special meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

Award Police Station Project bid

At Mayor Eckman's invitation, Councilman Winkler started the discussion with a list of questions regarding bid costs based on information received during the first bid. The questions included cost of doors in the new Town Hall vs. those in the police station, metal vs. wooden trusses, partition in community meeting room, mahogany vs. metal doors, 4" copper vs. 5" or 6" aluminum commercial gutters, and the approximately \$202,000 difference between two contractors' bid costs for aluminum entrances, hurricane entrances, and hurricane impact glass. Councilman Winkler also questioned the June 1, 2005 deadline when the FEMA grant has been extended beyond that date. Councilman Winkler recommended that a building committee be formed and that they go over the cost breakdown data line by line to determine where costs may be reduced.

Mayor Eckman advised he agreed with Councilman Winkler that a building committee should be formed, and noted his belief that the concerns are primarily with the architect versus the contractors. Councilmen Back, Ambrogio and Hale also spoke in favor of this recommendation. The Town Council agreed that the building committee members would be all members of the Town Council, Douglas R. Miller, Town Manager, Cassin B. Gittings, Chief, La Plata Police Department, Joseph W. Norris, Town Treasurer, Donald P. McGuire, Director, Charles County Department of Emergency Services, and Michael J. Pellegrino, PAS, architect for the police station project. Mayor Eckman stated that all meetings of the committee would need to be scheduled as open meetings of the Town Council due to all members of the Town Council being on the building committee. It was further agreed that the committee would meet during the first week of January. Mr. Miller was asked to provide a set of final plans of the police station project and bid cost breakdowns.

Other business (none)

Work Session

Matters of Council Discussion

2005 Meeting Schedule

Description: Councilman Back has a standing work commitment on Tuesday mornings. We will need to change our meeting schedule. Some options are: (a) Meet on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The second Tuesday would be a business meeting and the 3rd and 4th

Tuesdays would be work sessions primarily with the option of calling a portion of those meetings as business meetings if the need arose. (b) Have the business meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays as is now and then have work sessions on the 1st and 3rd Thursday afternoons from 4:00 to 6:00. (c) Have the business meetings as normal and have work sessions on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings.

Council Consensus: The Council agreed to a trial period of one month to have work sessions on the first and third Tuesdays, from 4:00 PM until 6:00 PM, beginning on January 4, 2005. They further agreed that the first work session in January will be a meeting of the building committee.

Martins Crossing Square Footage

Description: We will continue the conversation regarding the treatment of basements in Martin's Crossing.

Council Consensus: The Council agreed to include basements in the allowable square footage of the dwellings.

Councilman Winkler motioned that the Town Manager be directed to consider basements in the computation of square footage of the dwellings in Martin's Crossing. Councilman Back seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Matters of Information

CSX Letter (not discussed)

Future Work Session Topics

Water and Sewer Study Presentation

Meeting with the County Commissioners regarding School Seat Allocation (1/10/05)

There being no further business, Councilman Winkler made a motion to adjourn at 12:54 PM. Councilman Ambrogio seconded the motion and it carried.

Submitted by:

Judith T. Frazier
Town Clerk