

Council of the Town of La Plata  
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland  
Work Session  
October 13, 2009, 7:12 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; David M. Jenkins, Director of Municipal Development

Minutes:

Mayor Hale called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.

### Matters of Council Discussion

#### Library Municipal Wi-Fi

Mr. Mears summarized a proposal from the Charles County Library to provide Wi-Fi services throughout the Town of La Plata. Charles County Library Staff; Emily Ferren, La Plata Branch Director; Aaron Krebeck, IT Director and Fred Lively, Consultant, conducted a power point presentation and answered questions. The proposal is to offer Wi-Fi services in the target area from the Library at 2 Garret Avenue to Route 301, covering the Central Business District.

INSERT: La Plata Municipal Wi-Fi Proposal

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to advance discussions regarding the La Plata Municipal Wi-Fi Proposal and to have staff research the following items:

- Obtain information from area businesses to determine if providing Wi-Fi has increased their customer base, and what the monthly fees are for providing the service.
- Contact communities that currently provide Municipal Wi-Fi service to gather data on the success of the program.

#### Reverend Powell - program to provide guidance and education for youth

*Description: Consideration of Town expressing support of Rev. Powell's child program plans.*

Reverend Powell briefly described his intentions and goals regarding a proposed child program and would like the Council of the Town of La Plata to encourage businesses to support his efforts.

### Homestead Tax Credit

Mr. Mears and Mr. Oliphant provided information describing the purpose of adopting the percentage for the Town of La Plata Homestead Property Tax Credit.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to introduce Legislation at the next regular meeting.

### Appointments to boards and commissions

Mayor Hale addressed the Council to bring to their attention some expired or expiring and/or vacant terms on various boards and commissions. During discussion it was brought to the attention of Staff that there will soon be 2 vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Commission and steps need taken to fill said vacancies.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to make the following appointments at the October 27, 2009 regular meeting.

- Re-appoint Joseph W. Keys to the Parks and Recreation for a 4 year term.
- Re-appoint Robert Turgeon, as Chairman to the Design Review Board for a 2 year term.
- Charles L. Rogers, currently an alternate on the Design Review Board will be asked to fill the unexpired term until February 26, 2012, formerly held by Lila Bredbenner. If the appointment is accepted an alternate will be appointed to fill unexpired term of Mr. Rogers until September 23, 2010.
- Re-appoint Richard H. Reckeweg to the Board of Supervisors of Elections and Town of La Plata Officials Ethics Commission, for a 4 year term.

### A letter to the Governor in support of Charles County's effort to secure the use of two ground water wells on the Chapman's Landing property.

Mr. Mears spoke regarding water use issues within Charles County; expressly Charles County's effort to secure the use of two ground water wells on the Chapman's Landing property, and the benefit the Town would gain by Charles County pulling out from the Patapsco Aquifer.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to write a letter to Governor O'Malley, in support of Charles County's efforts.

### Matters of Information

Mayor Hale and Mr. Mears addressed the Council to advise that the Legislative Action Requests approved by Council in June, were not accepted by the Maryland Municipal League.

Staff has been working on submitting the request to area Legislators independently with the intent for the Legislation to be considered before the General Assembly.

Mr. Mears provided an update regarding the GIS mapping and the addition of parcel lines to all parcels within the Town. Staff has access through Maryland Property Review, and can sign on to view the property lines of any parcel. This feature will assist staff with permitting, inspections and Public Works functions.

Future Work Session Topics

Other business [none]

There being no other business, Councilman Winkler moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 PM. Councilman Back seconded the motion and it carried.

Submitted by:

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Danielle Mandley  
Town Clerk