

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
December 20, 2005, 6:00 PM

Present: Mayor Gene Ambrogio, Councilman Wayne Winkler, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd, Councilman Vic E. Newman; Douglas R. Miller, Town Manager; Patricia L. Bembe, Assistant Town Manager; Joseph W. Norris, Town Treasurer
[Excused: Councilman Back; Clerk Frazier]

Minutes:

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Matters of Council Discussion

Chamber's 50th Anniversary

Description: The Charles County Chamber of Commerce celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2006. The Chamber's Executive Director, Sally Jameson will outline several of the events that will take place to commemorate this milestone.

Recap: Sally Jameson presented a promotion similar to ones done in Western Maryland and Delaware where the town has a scarecrow decorating contest. The scarecrows are attached to lampposts. The Council was in favor of partnering with the Chamber on this promotion.

Presentation of the Audit

Description: The Town's auditing firm will present the financial audit for FY 05.

Recap: Rodney Saunders of McGladrey and Pullen presented highlights of the FY 05 audit. That audit was favorable.

WWTP Property Exchange

Description: The Council will be asked to give guidance to the Town Manager regarding the execution of the contract for the trading of land between the Town and Somerset Development.

Recap: The Council was in favor of proceeding with the land swap.

Public Works facility

Description: The location of the Public Works Facility will be discussed.

Recap: Steve Murphy and Jeff Garner joined the discussion. After much discussion, the consensus was to look at the possibility of moving the public works facility to recently annexed land owned by Steve Mote. The Town Manager is to begin assembling cost estimates for such a move.

Skateboard Park

Description: The Parks and Recreation Commission has asked that the Council give them guidance as to whether to proceed further on the possible location and construction of a skateboard park.

Recap: Work is to continue on this project.

Police Salary Adjustment

Description: The Council has discussed the possible enhancement of police salaries for the remainder FY 06. A memorandum from the Chief of Police will be discussed.

Recap: The Council wishes to discuss at a later date and in more detail.

Restaurant Smoking Ban

Description: The Council will discuss the next steps (if any) in banning smoking in restaurants.

Recap: The Council wishes to discuss with the County Commissioners at their joint meeting in January. The possibility of adding local amendments to the IBC regulations requiring physical separation from smoking and non-smoking areas was also discussed.

Council Questions, Issues and Concerns

Recap: The Council expressed interest in putting “Kitty’s Clock” at the corner of La Grange and Charles on the property of D.H. Steffens.

Matters of Information

- January 18, 2006; SMMA Meeting, North Beach, 6:00 PM
- January 24, 2006 Joint Session with the County Commissioners, County Office Building, 4:00 PM
- January 31, 2006; Commission Reception

Future Work Session Topics

- Universal Sprinkler Requirement
- Charles Street Task Force findings

There being no voiced objection, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Submitted by:

Douglas R. Miller
Town Manager