

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
August 11, 2009, 7:00 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; William F. Eckman, Chairman, Water and Sewer Advisory Committee

Quests: Robert C. Turgeon, Chairman, Design Review Board

Minutes:

Mayor Hale called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

Matters of Council Discussion

2009 Comprehensive Plan

Description: Discussions regarding the Public Hearing and written correspondence for the Comprehensive Plan recommended by the Planning Commission to be approved by the Town Council.

Mr. Mears spoke regarding the proposed 2009 Comprehensive Plan, to reiterate the consensus from the July 21, 2009 meeting to include the Darley Drive area and that the comment period is open until August 14, 2009.

Mr. Eckman presented maps of the Darley Drive sewer shed and advised the Council that the majority of residential properties in the Proposed Growth Area, submitted for the record by Thomas F. Mudd, are already developed.

Comprehensive Rezoning Map

Description: Discussions regarding the Public Hearing and written correspondence for the Comprehensive Rezoning Map recommended by the Planning Commission to be approved by Council.

Mr. Jenkins replied to the request to gather data regarding the need for Multi Family dwellings in the La Plata area. The results were in conclusive, with the available data out of date.

Sign Moratorium

Description: Discussions of the recommendation by the La Plata Business Association / Design Review Board regarding Sign Moratorium.

Mr. Turgeon spoke about the discussions and consensus of the Design Review Board and La Plata Business Association joint meeting, with a formal recommendation to be presented to the Council at a later date.

- Limit to one sign per property
- Increase display period to 45 days
- Reinstate permit fee
- Enforce the night time removal of Sandwich Boards
- Design Review Board to submit a formal recommendation to change the code

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to have staff amend the Emergency Ordinance for introduction.

Appointments to boards and commissions

Description: Discussions to appoint Jim Goldsmith to fill the vacancy on the Parks and Recreation Commission, due to the resignation of Tom O'Farrell.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to appoint Jim Goldsmith as Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, and to send letters to all members of Boards and Commissions with expiring terms, requesting reapplication.

Matters of Information

Future Work Session Topics

- Appointment process for Boards and Commissions
- Formally establish the Water and Sewer Advisory Committee by Ordinance
- Formally establish the Green Building Committee by Ordinance
- Sign Moratorium/Code
- Public Library Wi-Fi proposal
- Special Taxing District
- Debt Policy

Other business

There being no other business, Councilman Winkler moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it carried.

Submitted by:

Danielle Mandley
Town Clerk