

Mayor and Council Special Meeting
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
January 7, 2003, 8:45 AM

Present: Mayor William F. Eckman, Councilman Wayne Winkler, Councilman Thomas W. Fritz, Councilman Gene Ambrogio, Councilman Roy G. Hale; Douglas R. Miller, Town Manager; Patricia L. Bembe, Assistant Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk

Guests: (none)

Minutes:

The Mayor and Council held a special meeting at 8:45 AM to make appointments to the Planning Commission and to authorize the Town Manager to offer a contract to purchase certain property.

Planning Commission appointments

Mayor Eckman recommended that Gary Echols be reappointed to a 5-year term and that Keith Back, currently an alternate member, be appointed to regular member for a 5-year term. Mr. Hale seconded the Mayor's recommendation. During discussion before the vote, Councilman Ambrogio asked how many terms Mr. Echols has served, how long Keith Back has been on the Planning Commission, and how the Commission chooses a chairman. Mayor Eckman advised that Mr. Echols has served numerous terms, Mr. Back has served three and one-half years, and that the Planning Commission elects its chairman. The vote was unanimous to reappoint Mr. Echols and to appoint Mr. Back to 5-year terms as regular members of the Planning Commission.

Regarding appointment of a new alternate member to the Planning Commission, Mayor Eckman stated that the interview process would begin and an appointment would be made in March.

Town Manager authorization to contract to purchase property

Councilman Hale made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to offer to the owner of the old post office building property at 101 La Grange Avenue a \$320,000 contract to purchase the property. Councilman Ambrogio seconded the motion. In discussion prior to the vote, it was noted that the contract should contain information regarding environmental review concerns, and further noted that if there is any asbestos present it may be in the tile floor but not on pipes and in the ceiling. It was noted for the record that Councilman Winkler recused himself from voting on this item. The motion carried.

Councilman Fritz made a motion to adjourn the special meeting at 8:55 AM. Councilman Winkler seconded the motion and it carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith T. Frazier
Town Clerk