

Council of the Town of La Plata  
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland  
Special Meeting and Work Session  
August 1, 2006, 4:00 PM

Present: Mayor Gene Ambrogio, Councilman R. Wayne Winkler, Councilman C. Keith Back, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd, Councilman Vic E. Newman; Patricia L. Bembe, Assistant Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk; Joseph W. Norris, Town Treasurer

Minutes:

### Special Meeting

Due to the absence of Mayor Ambrogio, Councilman Back acted as mayor pro tem and called the special meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

### Motion to conduct Closed Session

Councilman Winkler moved to conduct a closed session, pursuant to *Annotated Code of Maryland* Section 10-508(a)(1)(i) – Discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom it has jurisdiction. Councilman Newman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Councilmen Winkler, Back, and Newman voted aye. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

There being no other discussion, Councilman Newman moved to adjourn the special meeting at 4:02 PM. Councilman Winkler seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote. [*Councilwoman Mudd arrived at 4:03 PM; Mayor Ambrogio arrived at 4:06 PM.*]

### Work Session

### Matters of Council Discussion

#### Presentation by Steve Schroeder regarding Redwood Lake spillway repair options

*Description: Mr. Schroeder will describe repair options and make a recommendation regarding accepting a proposal for the repair.*

Council consensus: The Town Council agreed to act on accepting the proposal from Deane Guy Masonry, Inc. at the August 8 meeting.

Mr. Schroeder updated the Council on the St. Mary's Avenue project and advised that he wants contractors of the developments along there to bring their water and sewer lines in from the street to approximately 5' within their properties now so there will be no patches made to the St. Mary's Avenue paving after the streetscape project is complete.

Councilwoman Mudd asked if it was possible to have Civil Construction look at removing the island at Dr. Ferrero's office on La Grange Avenue, and pave the area for handicap accessible parking. Mr. Norris remarked that he knew that other property owners there will be asking for the same thing. Councilman Back expressed concern that there will be an appearance of having a 4-lane road if there is parking along both sides.

Presentation by David Hruda regarding Stagecoach Crossing

*Description: Mr. Hruda will give an update on sewer conveyance and present their proposed school site plan.*

Mr. Hruda presented a slide show on their proposed elementary school site on 10.03 acres of property, which would have an "Earth Sciences Discovery Park" adjacent and connected to the site and which would be owned and maintained by the Stagecoach Crossing Homeowners Association. Mr. Hruda noted that if the Town believes this is a good plan, it will be presented to the County as an elementary school site.

Mr. Hruda provided an update regarding the sewer conveyance line to the wastewater treatment plan and noted they have hired as a consultant Ron Nelson, who formerly worked for MDE. Mr. Hruda also advised they are working with the other major developers to coordinate efforts regarding water and sewer infrastructure, as requested by the Planning Commission. He also recommended that the Town call the County and advise that the Town's wastewater treatment plant capacity should be upgraded from 1.5 million to 3 million, as the County is updating their comprehensive plan and that MDE will look for verification that the Town meets that plan.

In closing, Mr. Hruda questioned why the annexation agreement requires the connection of the road to Buckeye Circle prior to issuance of the 75<sup>th</sup> building permit, and noted they may come back and ask the Town Council to reconsider that requirement.

Council consensus: The Town Council agreed they like the plan for the elementary school.

Southern Maryland Tourism Area and Corridor Signing program

*Description: The Council is being asked to review and approve signage that SHA will be installing throughout the tri-county area. New signs will be replacing the existing brown historical directional signs. All signs appear to be within County and State rights-of-way on Routes 301, 6, and 225 and Washington Avenue. SHA will be providing signage and labor; no expense to the Town is anticipated.*

Ms. Miner explained that SHA will be replacing old, existing signs with signs of a new design, and that no additional signs are being erected.

Council consensus: The Town Council approved the new signage and signed a letter to that effect, which was addressed to the Director of the Office of Traffic and Safety, Maryland Stated Highway Administration.

DRAFT Ordinance 06-21 - Major Facilities Fees in the Old Town Utility District

*Description: The Town Treasurer wishes to discuss revising the exemption to application of Major Facilities Fees on properties located in the Old Town Utility District. This draft ordinance addresses that issue. If the Council agrees to the revision, the ordinance could be introduced at the August 8 meeting.*

Mr. Norris provided a brief description of the history of this exemption, and noted that Ordinance 06-21 revises that exemption.

Council consensus: The Town Council agreed to introduce Ordinance 06-21 at the August 8 meeting.

Local Government Infrastructure Finance Program

*Description: The Town Treasurer will discuss the need to modify the prior ordinance. The well amount was estimated to cost \$1.1 million and will cost approximately \$650,000. St. Mary's Avenue Streetscape was estimated to cost \$600,000 and will cost approximately \$400,000. In order to utilize the loan commitment the Town has already made, projects must be added.*

Mr. Norris recommended adding additional projects: roads paving project and Well #8 improvements and water tank. Ms. Miner suggested including upgrade of the Kent Avenue water line. Mr. Norris advised he would be speaking with bond counsel regarding how to amend the prior ordinance and that he was working on preparing this in an expeditious manner.

Matters of Information

Bids for new utility body truck

Ms. Miner advised quotes for the new utility body truck with snow plow, which is in the FY07 budget, were received from Hunt Ford in the amount of \$40,710.11, Darcars Ford, Inc. in the amount of \$41,449.00, and Prince Frederick Ford in the amount of \$45,700.00, and advised that Mr. Schroeder recommends accepting the quote from Hunt Ford.

Council consensus: The Town Council agreed to award the bid to Hunt Ford at the August 8 meeting.

Two snow plows

Ms. Miner advised that a price quote was received from Mid-Atlantic Waste System for two snow plows, each costing approximately \$7200. Ms. Miner noted that purchase of the snow plows was included in the FY07 budget.

Council consensus: The Town Council agreed to award the bid at the August 8 meeting.

Information regarding private clubs – provided by Buddy Hindle, American Legion Post 82

During discussion, it was noted that the information provided by the American Legion does not appear to apply as a definition of private club.

Council consensus: The Town Council agreed to ask the Town Attorney to prepare amending legislation to provide for a definition of private club, that no social clubs open to the general public be exempted from the smoking ban legislation, and that he review the liquor regulations language referred to in the two ordinances provided by the American Legion. They further agreed to include this on the August 15 work session agenda.

Ms. Miner provided an update on the Willow Lane Sewer Shed Rehabilitation project and noted a grant for this project has been received.

Councilman Winkler led a discussion about the Town history books and the LPBA brochures, and recommended that the Town history book be updated.

Future Work Session Topics

There being no other discussion, Councilman Winkler moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 PM. Councilman Back seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote. The Council moved into closed session.

Submitted by:

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Judith T. Frazier  
Town Clerk