

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
June 9, 2009, 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Roy G. Hale, Councilman R. Wayne Winkler, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd, Councilman Joseph W. Norris; Michelle D. Miner, Assistant Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk

Town Staff: Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer; Robert F. Stahl, Jr., Director of Operations; Danielle Mandley, incoming Town Clerk; William F. Eckman, Chairman, Water and Sewer Advisory Committee

Minutes:

Mayor Hale called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Ms. Miner announced that Danielle Mandley was selected to be the new Town Clerk.

Matters of Council Discussion

Proclamation for Neighborhood Speed Awareness Month – August 2009

Description: Discussion of the draft proclamation. If the Town Council wishes to continue this education program, the proclamation would be placed on the July 28 agenda for adoption.

During discussion, Councilwoman Mudd asked that Neighborhood Speed Awareness Month – August 2009 and the National Night Out events scheduled for August 4 be heavily advertised. Councilwoman Mudd further suggested that the Town plan to hold a National Night Out event on the Town Hall grounds in 2010.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to put the Proclamation for Neighborhood Speed Awareness Month on the agenda for the June 23 regular meeting.

Legislative Action Request for the Maryland Municipal League (MML)

Description: Discussion of requested legislation to address the conflict between the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the requirement to reduce the amount of impervious surfaces during redevelopment of a lot in a municipality and Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) promoting Smart Growth with higher construction densities within Priority Funding Areas (PFA); requesting that the standard be based on other criteria within PFA rather than on the area of the property.

Mr. Eckman provided a PowerPoint presentation and a revised version of the 2010 MML Legislative Action Request form, and explained the purpose of the requested legislation to address the conflict between the MDE requirement to reduce the amount of impervious surfaces and MDP's promoting Smart Growth with higher construction densities in PFA.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to support and submit the Legislative Action Request to MML. They noted it must first be reviewed and signed by Mr. Mears, who will send it to MML.

MISSION system

Description: Mr. Stahl will present new information regarding the MISSION system, a computer monitoring system for Town wells and water towers, and now one sewage pumping station.

Mr. Stahl provided a PowerPoint presentation to explain the MISSION system installed to monitor Town wells, water towers, and a sewage pumping station. Mr. Stahl noted that the Town's budget includes funding for additional monitoring and that eventually all 16 stations will be included.

Mr. Stahl and Mr. Eckman provided information regarding work being done with Spatial Systems to provide GIS mapping for locations of all water lines, sewer lines, and manholes in the Town, which will be used to prepare the modeling system that the Town Council has requested.

Rev. Powell's letter

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

Mayor Hale advised that he and Councilwoman Mudd met with Rev. Powell, who clarified that his program to provide guidance and education for youth is similar to but independent of the Boys and Girls Clubs organization. Rev. Powell is asking the Town to write a letter of support that he can take to the community to gain support for his program.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to invite Rev. Powell to provide a written outline and presentation at the July 21 work session.

Matters of Information

- Comprehensive Plan and Comprehensive Rezoning Map – schedule of adoption

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed they want to see the PowerPoint presentation at their July 21 work session, and to receive the draft text and maps as soon as it is possible for staff to provide them.

Future Work Session Topics

Other business

There being no other business, Councilman Winkler moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 PM. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it carried.

Submitted by:

Judith T. Frazier
Town Clerk