

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
April 10, 2007, 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Gene Ambrogio, Councilman R. Wayne Winkler, Councilman C. Keith Back, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd; Joseph W. Norris, Acting Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk

Minutes:

Mayor Ambrogio called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM.

Matters of Council Discussion

Budget

Description: Mr. Norris will discuss FY08 budget items with the Council.

Mr. Norris advised the Council that amendments will be needed to increase water and sewer fees by 10% rather than 3% as proposed. He further advised that Maryland Environmental Service (MES) will be increasing their contract cost by 20% this year, and that the Town may need to explore looking for someone else to operate the Town's wastewater treatment plant.

Mr. Norris explained there was an additional item on the "Wish List" for which he did not have enough information, and advised he would bring this back to the Council after the new fiscal year. (\$80,000-\$89,000 – vacuum for high pressure cleaner, trailer-mounted.)

The Town Council agreed to include the following "Wish List" items in the FY2008 budget:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| \$104,000 | install 400 ground (radio read) meters |
| \$82,000 | 2 men with all benefits for sewer maintenance |

Tax differential meeting with County Commissioners

It was agreed that Mayor Ambrogio, Councilman Winkler, Councilwoman Mudd and Mr. Norris would attend the tax differential meeting with the County Commissioners on April 17, 2007, 3:00 p.m., at the County Government Building.

Electronically stored information

Description: Discussion of obligations that federal and state court procedural rules recently have placed upon litigants to preserve and make available during litigation electronically stored information. LGIT suggests that each local government promulgate a policy for the preservation of electronically stored information once the government receives notice of a potential claim or lawsuit. Staff recommends that the Town ask for the Town Attorney's assistance in preparing the document to create and adopt policies and procedures which are in conformance with the new state and federal procedural rules.

Council consensus: The Council agreed that staff will do the initial research and approved the assistance of the Town Attorney as needed.

Repairs to pavilion at Silver Linden Park; fence for Jamestowne playground project

Description: Mr. Norris will explain the repairs needed and the process he is following for having the repairs done on the pavilion at Silver Linden Park; and will recommend the Town pay for a fence and its installation around the stormwater management device as part of the homeowner-proposed playground project in Jamestowne.

Mr. Norris advised that Husick Construction will perform the repairs on the pavilion at Silver Linden Park, at a cost of \$3,850.

Mr. Norris provided a hand-out regarding the price (\$2,900) and work proposal for the fence at the stormwater management device in Jamestowne.

Council consensus: The Council agreed to pay for the fence and its installation at the stormwater management device in Jamestowne.

Matters of Information

Agenda items for joint meeting with County Commissioners, April 17, 2007, 4:00 p.m., at Town Hall

Town Council

County illegal immigrant policy
Washington Avenue sidewalk
Location for Library in La Plata

County Commissioners

Town Police/County Sheriff update
Sewer overflows – status of corrective action
Transportation plan status

GP Homes presentation to Town Council at April 17 work session

Following Mr. Norris' explanation that GP Homes wishes to make a half-hour presentation to the Town Council at their April 17 work session, and his suggestion to GP Homes that they wait until May when the new Council is seated, the Council agreed their presentation should be provided at a work session of the new Council in May.

Councilwoman Mudd expressed concern regarding pedestrians who are not using crosswalks correctly, noting they need to be informed they must step off the curb in order to have cars stop for them. Councilwoman Mudd also expressed concern regarding pedestrians who do not use the marked crosswalks.

James Goldsmith, 805 Washington Avenue, encouraged the Town Council to inform the County Commissioners that the Town has gone on record with the State regarding the bypass.

Future Work Session Topics (none)

There being no other business, Mayor Ambrogio moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. Councilwoman Mudd seconded the motion and it carried.

Submitted by:

Judith T. Frazier
Town Clerk