

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
July 15, 2008, 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Gene Ambrogio, Councilman James Goldsmith, Councilman Scot D. Lucas, Councilman Vic E. Newman; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Judith T. Frazier, Town Clerk; Joseph W. Norris, Treasurer; Robert F. Stahl, Jr., Director of Operations

Minutes:

Mayor Ambrogio called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Matters of Council Discussion

Presentation of Water and Wastewater upgrade status

Description: Discussion of current direction and efforts with MDE to secure permits for water and wastewater; design and development options; projected use of water and sewer capacity.

Mr. Stahl provided a PowerPoint presentation and handout regarding the status of the water and wastewater upgrade, including a brief description of the site and topography of the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Stahl noted the Town will explore adding a 1 million gallon capacity storage device for surge capacity to “hold and treat later”, which will be closed and glass-lined. During discussion, Mr. Stahl and Mr. Mears provided information regarding capacity for providing future sewer treatment for homes with failing septic systems annexations.

Legislative Action Request for the MML

Description: Discussion of requested legislation to amend the requirement to reduce by 25% the amount of impervious surfaces during redevelopment of a lot in a municipality; requesting that the standard be based on the number of dwelling units being constructed rather than on the area of the property.

Mr. Mears described the legislative action request and noted that MML requires the Town Council must concur to submit the request to MML, and that the date of the meeting that the Town Council endorsed the request must be included in the request.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed that the legislative action request be presented to MML.

Ordinance 08-11 New Irrigation System Installation

Description: Discussion of concerns expressed at the June 17 meeting and by others.

Donna Harrigan, of Automatic Rain Lawn Sprinklers, who spoke in opposition to the proposed ordinance at the June 17 meeting, presented to each Council member a large binder containing information pertaining to irrigation systems. An email dated July 2, 2008, was received from Darren Zwolinski, 105 Cover Crop Court, expressing concern regarding the proposed ordinance.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed they needed more time to review the information provided by Ms. Harrigan, and agreed to remove approval of Ordinance 08-11 from the July 22 agenda. A response will be drafted to Mr. Zwolinski, which the Town Council will review and approve.

Draft Ordinance: Purchasing – Competitive Bidding

Description: Amends Chapter 43 Purchasing, § 43-2C. – amends the list of entities from whom the Town may make certain purchases that are exempt from certain competitive bidding and advertising requirements, to include a purchasing cooperative or alliance that bids procurements on a volume basis for state and local governments.

Council consensus: Following discussion, the Town Council agreed to introduce the ordinance at the July 22 meeting.

Matters of Information

Proclamation – Neighborhood Speed Awareness Month – August 2008

Mr. Mears provided the Town Council with a copy of the draft Proclamation, which is to be on the July 22 agenda.

Dolly Drive turnaround easement and Dolly Drive deed

Mr. Mears advised that he was working with the owners of Dolly Drive for dedication of the road to the Town. This may be on the July or August regular meeting agenda.

Councilman Lucas and Mayor Ambrogio advised they would be attending the La Plata Volunteer Fire Department banquet.

There being no other business, Mayor Ambrogio moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. Councilman Newman seconded the motion and it carried. Following a short break, the Council moved into closed session.

Submitted by:

Judith T. Frazier
Town Clerk