

Council of the Town of La Plata
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland
Work Session
December 13, 2011, 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Roy G. Hale, Councilman C. Keith Back, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd, Councilman Joseph W. Norris; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Danielle Mandley, Town Clerk

Town Staff: Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer; David M. Jenkins, Director of Planning and Community Development

Minutes:

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

► **Matters of Council Discussion**

- Sign Ordinance Review

Mr. Mears provided a summary of the Planning and Community Development staff memo regarding changeable copy signs, which was included in the meeting packets.

During the review of the sign ordinance the Council expressed concern with certain elements of the existing sign ordinance and the effects the regulations may have on small businesses.

Council Consensus: Following discussion the Council agreed to (1) introduce legislation to change the provisions of the sign ordinance related to electronic signage to allow for messages to change once every five minutes, and (2) to consider a review of the sign ordinance in its entirety.

- FY 2012/2013 Budget Priority Setting Schedule

Mr. Mears provided options for how the budget priority setting workshops might be conducted, and requested Council consideration regarding preferred dates and times.

Council Consensus: Following discussion, the Council agreed to (1) continue with the same format for the budget priority setting as last year (2) schedule a Council and staff retreat at the Melwood Retreat Center for January 28, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

► **Matters of Information**

- The Planning Commission will make a recommendation for appointment of a new member.

- Advertising has begun to fill the vacant Special Events Coordinator position.

► **Future Work Session Topics**

- Budget Priority Setting
- Traffic Calming

There being no further business, Councilman Back moved to adjourn the work session at 7:31 PM. Councilman Norris seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Submitted by:

Danielle Mandley
Town Clerk