

Council of the Town of La Plata  
Town Hall, La Plata, Maryland  
Work Session  
October 18, 2011, 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Roy G. Hale, Councilman R. Wayne Winkler, Councilman C. Keith Back, Councilwoman Paretta D. Mudd, Councilman Joseph W. Norris; Daniel J. Mears, Town Manager; Michelle Miner, Assistant Town Manager

Town Staff: Robert W. Oliphant, Treasurer

Minutes:

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

### **► Matters of Council Discussion**

Mayor Hale provided a copy of a letter, addressed to him and the Charles County Board of Supervisors of Elections, which included a complaint regarding how signatures for a Petition for Referendum are being obtained. And informed the Council on the attendance of Councilwoman Mudd, Councilman Winkler and himself to the Clark Senior Center Dedication Ceremony.

- Town Project Updates

Mr. Mears provided updates for various Town projects including:

- Town Wi-Fi: System has consistent usage.
- Grant Applications: There were a few Beautification Grant applications, and; no Green Grant applications.
- Website Updates: There will be two new sections on the website, Sanitation and Finance. The Planning Department of Planning and Community Development is in the process of creating a Planning section.
- Special Events: The summer concert series was successful, and a survey is on the Town website requesting feedback and recommendations for next years schedule; the Chili Cook-off and yard sale had increased participation; the Fall Festival is this upcoming weekend and has thirty-six (36) craft vendors scheduled and will have an art cube; upcoming events include a Homeless Walk and the Olde Tyme Holiday Gathering.
- Tornado Anniversary: The Beautification Commission will have banners made to match the T-shirts; there will be a memory walk, and; there has been a tremendous response for purchasing T-shirts.
- Police Department: Security cameras will be installed at the WWTP; new Officer recruitment; the Explorers program is successful, and; the old public works building will be used for storage rather than expending funds on a new building.
- Planning Department: There is a Technical Review Team that reviews plans; staff is creating customer guides; the Planning Commission will review and possibly provide

comments regarding the County's Comprehensive Plan; the deadline is approaching for Verizon to finalize cable installation , per the Franchise Agreement; staff and the Planning Commission will review the Zoning Ordinance.

- Finance Department: The system conversion is ongoing, and now allows for online payments; this is the first full year audit under new system; the building permit module will be the next to be implemented; Town grants and bonds include the Willow Lane Pump Station Project, Sidewalk Curb Cut Project, Public Works Green Grant for a new Heating System.
- Public Works: The water meter project will begin in the early part of 2012; the WWTP construction project is underway; the Tilghman Lake Restroom facility is complete; the parking lot at Tighlman Lake has been approved; the County donated a generator to the Town and is now being used at well 11; the new Trash Containers will continue through the end of the year, and the computer systems have been installed in the trucks; the storm water GIS system is being created; a sewer line on St. Mary's Avenue and a storm drain on Washington Avenue required replacement following the hurricane and tropical storm.

### **► Matters of Information**

The Council expressed satisfaction with the paperless agenda deliver by using DropBox and the iPad 2.

### **► Future Work Session Topics**

- Credit Card Payments and Automatic Drafts
- Storm Water Management
- GP Homes
- Traffic/Bollards early in the new year
- Community Center in Heritage Green

There being no further business, Mayor Hale moved to adjourn the work session at 8:54 PM. Councilman Back seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

Submitted by:

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Michelle D. Miner, Assistant Town Manager