

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2014
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor
CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1 (arrived at 8:08 p.m.)
CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

Sara Imhulse, Town Administrator
David Morris, Chief of Police
Leonard Addison, Director of Public Works
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Archer called the legislative meeting to order at 8:07 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of reflection.

Approval of Agenda

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler.
Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

CM Thompson made a motion to reconsider the agenda and amend the agenda to address the Legislative Action Items before the Mayor's Report. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler.
Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Mayor Archer requested that Legislative Action Item # 2 be addressed before Legislative Action Item # 1.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vernon Archer reported:

- Overview of the Final Audit Report- a clean bill of financial health for the Town
- RFP for engineering of Town Hall project will go out by Friday
- Reminder that the Town is moving towards a completed sidewalk network
- Movement towards the CSX Quiet Zone
- Public Works received a waiver for Surface Water Discharge Permit for Industrial Activities due to an improvement in practices in and around the facility.

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials. CM Thompson requested a copy of item 2. CM Lingua requested a copy of item 4.

Treasurer's Report

As of 12/31/13 (subject to audit),

Revenue: \$ 4,184,314.88

Expenditures: \$ 2,449,195.85

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Sara Imhulse reported:

- Town Hall and Public Works will be closed on January 20, 2014 to observe the Martin Luther King Holiday
- Overview of December events: Toys for Tots, Senior Luncheon and Employee Holiday Party
- Thank you to the Mayor and Council for the employee gift cards
- Thank you to the Council and Staff for their hard work over the last year

Discussion:

Implementation of electronic meeting packets and Dropbox.

Police and Code Report

Police Chief David Morris reported:

- Relatively quiet Christmas and New Year
- Communications Center renovations almost complete
- Example of citizen vigilance and community policing
- Follow-up on Council e-mail regarding Code related issues

Discussion:

CM Ebbeler thanked the Police Department for participating in Wreaths Across America.

Public Works Report

Public Works Director Leonard Addison reported:

- Happy New Year!
- Saturday drop-off: January 18, 2014
- Public Works will be closed on January 20, 2014 to observe the Martin Luther King Holiday. Trash will be collected on January 20th.
- Reminder that leaf collection ends on January 15, 2014. After that date, leaves should be bagged and put out on Wednesday with regular yard waste. Forty-five tons of leaves have been collected so far.
- Reminder to dress appropriately during upcoming weather events.
- Reminder to observe the Code and park on the even side of the road during snow events so that the roads can be plowed properly.
- Update on lighting at intersection of Queensbury and Lafayette

Discussion:

CM Ebbeler thanked the Public Works Department, on behalf of his constituents, for planting trees. CM Lingua inquired about the status of the Town's salt supply.

Fire Department Report

Mayor Archer, on behalf of President Lampier, reported:

- Staffing remains an issue during the workday.
- Elections were held on December 12 and there were no senior officer changes.
- Participated in holiday events: delivery of food baskets and Toys for Tots.
- Update on aerial tower project.
- New ambulance will arrive in February.

Council Committee & Ward Reports

CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1

CM Jonathan Ebbeler reported:

- Happy New Year!
- Update on Town Center
- Green Team is preparing for their submission to Sustainable Maryland Certified
- Working with Hyattsville and Edmonston regarding a Quiet Zone at the Decatur Street Crossing
- Two applications have been received for the signage grant program

CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson reported:

- Happy New Year!
- Thank you to Town staff and volunteers for the holiday events
- Will follow-up with Park and Planning regarding the Dog Park MOU
- Review of the Town's financial status at the six month mark
- Potential progress on the size of the roundabout

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- Happy New Year!
- The Maryland Milestone 2014 calendars are now available

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- Happy New Year!
- Thank you for the toys for children in the community
- Thank you to the RPVFD for coming through the community on Christmas Eve.
- Thank you to Public Works Director Addison and team for the fantastic work they do.
- Thank you to Chief Morris for keeping the community safe
- Thank you to Town Administrator Imhulse for her hard work and dedication
- Public Works Committee Meeting on January 31, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

There were no additional public comments.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Minutes from the December 2, 2013 Legislative Meeting

Legislative Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2014

Page | 3

CM Ebbeler made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to authorize TIF bonds for bridge

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to authorize TIF bonds for bridge as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

CM Thompson made a motion to amend the legislation as introduced such that the phrase “(ii) demolition and clearing associated with preparing the site to construction the CSX Crossing, including demolition of a building located on the site;” which appears (1) in the carryover paragraph of the WHEREAS clause at the top of page 3 of Ordinance 2013-OR-09 and (2) in Section 2(c) on page 6 of Ordinance 2013-OR-09 be amended to read as follows: “(ii) demolition and clearing associated with preparing the site to construct the CSX Crossing, including any demolition of a building that directly facilitates the construction of the CSX Crossing.” The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson gave an overview of Ordinance 2013-OR-09. CM Thompson stated that the amendment will provide greater clarification.

Mr. Alan Cason, a representative of Calvin Cafritz Enterprises, thanked the Mayor, Council and staff for the time and attention given to this matter.

2. Motion to allow a summary of Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to be published in the Town Crier rather than the full ordinance

CM Lingua made a motion to allow a summary of Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to be published in the Town Crier rather than the full ordinance. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Mayor Archer discussed why the motion was needed.

3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-OR-10 regarding temporary parking permits

CM Henry made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-OR-10 regarding temporary parking permits as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 3-1 (CM Lingua opposed; motion fails)

CM Henry made a motion to make the following technical amendment: in the fifth line of the “BY” paragraph on page 1 of the proposed Ordinance, strike “January 2008” and substitute “June 2013”. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

CM Henry made a motion to make the following technical amendment: in the third line of the "SECTION 1" paragraph on page 1 of the proposed Ordinance, strike "January 2008" and substitute "June 2013". The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

CM Henry made a motion to make the following technical amendment: in the first line of paragraph "(3)" on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, strike the "("; and in the fifth line of that same paragraph strike the ")"; and strikeout all text beginning with "Permits for" in the first line of that paragraph down through and including "for temporary permits." in the fifth line of that paragraph. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Town Administrator Imhulse explained that the amendment was needed in order to retain consistency and to correct an error that was made during the drafting of the ordinance.

CM Henry made a motion to make the following amendment: in the second through fourth lines of paragraph "(E)" on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, strike beginning with "THE DAY" down through and including "GOVERNMENT" and substitute "CHRISTMAS, NEW YEAR'S DAY, THANKSGIVING, LABOR DAY, MEMORIAL DAY AND THE FOURTH OF JULY". The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 3-1 (CM Lingua opposed; motion passes)

Discussion:

CM Ebbeler requested that the Fourth of July be added to the list of holidays. There was no objection to adding the Fourth of July to the list of holidays.

CM Lingua discussed a constituent concerns regarding parking permits during holidays. CM Thompson clarified that Ms. Malcolm's concern was regarding parking issues due to use of the park.

Mayor Archer noted that Thanksgiving was not included on the list. CM Henry stated that the exclusion of Thanksgiving was an error. CM Ebbeler did not object to adding Thanksgiving to the list of holidays.

CM Henry made a motion to make the following amendment: immediately following the last line of paragraph "(E)" on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, insert the following new paragraph: (F) THE TOWN MAY REVOKE A TEMPORARY PARKING PERMIT IF: (I) THE PERMIT APPLICATION CONTAINS A MATERIALLY FALSE STATEMENT; (II) THE PERMIT IS USED FOR COMMUTER PARKING; OR (III) THE PERMIT IS SOLD, REASSIGNED OR REPRODUCED. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Henry discussed the reason for the amendment. CM Lingua requested that "ASSIGNED" be replaced with "REASSINGED". Town Administrator Imhulse clarified

that Temporary Parking Permits are not currently assigned to a specific vehicle. There was no objection to the replacement of “ASSIGNED” with “REASSIGNED”.

Resident Joseph Dien clarified his comments from a previous meeting.

CM Henry made a motion to make the following amendment: in the first line of paragraph “(A)” on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, strike “40” and insert “30”; and in the third line of that same paragraph, strike “41st” and substitute “31st”. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 3-1 (CM Lingua opposed; motion passes)

Discussion:

CM Henry discussed the reason for the amendment as well as the results of his research of parking regulations in other communities. CM Ebbeler requested clarification regarding the number of parking permits allowed currently. CM Lingua stated that he would advocate for keeping the number of temporary visitor permits at 40. The Council discussed the additional costs associated with issuing temporary visitor parking permits. CM Lingua discussed his concern regarding additional fees for residents. CM Ebbeler proposed that the amendment be revised to state “30” instead of “24” and “31st” instead of “25th” as a compromise. CM Henry and CM Thompson did not object.

CM Henry made a motion to make the following amendment: in the third line of paragraph “(B)” on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, strike “ONE CALENDAR DAY” and substitute “48 CONSECUTIVE HOURS”; and in that same line, add “AND TIME” after “DATE”. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Henry discussed the reason for the amendment. CM Ebbeler suggested that the language “AND TIME” be inserted after “THE DATE”. CM Henry did not object.

CM Henry made a motion to make the following amendment: strike and replace paragraph “(C)” on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, with “(C) IN THE MADISON HILL PERMIT PARKING AREA, A RESIDENCE MAY RECEIVE NOT MORE THAN 10 TEMPORARY VISITOR PERMITS FOR USE ON THE SAME DAY WITH DISCRETION TO BE GIVEN TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND OR MAYOR FOR EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.” The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Henry discussed the reason for the proposed amendment. Mayor Archer discussed the parking situation in other areas of Town and asked whether the restriction was needed for town-wide legislation. There was a significant amount of discussion regarding the proposed amendment. CM Ebbeler proposed that the amendment be revised to state: “In the Madison Hill permit parking area, a residence may receive not more than 10

temporary visitor permits for use on the same day with discretion to be given to the Town Administrator and or Mayor for extraordinary circumstances.” CM Henry did not object.

CM Henry made a motion to make the following amendment: immediately following the last line of paragraph “(E)” on page 2 of the proposed Ordinance, insert the following new paragraph: (F) IN THE MADISON HILL PERMIT PARKING AREA A TEMPORARY VISITOR PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE PARKING OF A VEHICLE ONLY IN A DESIGNATED MADISON HILL TEMPORARY PERMIT PARKING ZONE. THE LIMITS OF EACH SUCH ZONE SHALL BE DESIGNATED AND POSTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. THE TOWN SHALL NOT ISSUE TEMPORARY VISITOR PERMITS BEYOND THE AMOUNT OF DESIGNATED SPACES AVAILABLE FOR THAT DAY. DISCRETION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR AND OR MAYOR FOR EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES.” The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. CM Henry withdrew his motion and there was no objection from CM Ebbeler.

Discussion:

CM Henry discussed revisions to the language of the proposed amendment. CM Ebbeler suggested further revisions and did not object to the overall revision of the proposed amendment. The Council discussed logistical challenges and possible solutions associated with the proposed amendment. Mayor Archer discussed his concerns regarding the designation of temporary permit parking zones. There was significant discussion regarding the designation of parking zones.

4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2013-R-26 regarding support of the Prince George’s County Municipal Collaboration FY 2014 MEA EmPOWER LMI Communities Grant Application and DHCD Sustainable Communities-Community Legacy Grant Application

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2013-R-26. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Town Administrator Imhulse gave an overview of the resolution. The Council had the opportunity to ask questions.

5. Motion to introduce Ordinance 2014-OR-01 regarding chain link fences

CM Ebbeler read Ordinance 2014-OR-01 regarding chain link fences into the record.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business discussed.

New Business

CM Henry stated that the Public Works Committee would discuss changing the language on the Snow Emergency Signs.

CM Ebbeler asked about the status of the Caputo covenants.

Adjournment

CM Ebbeler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

Typed from notes by JEB.