

**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**Legislative Meeting Minutes**  
**September 2, 2014**  
**8:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance**

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor  
CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1 (arrived at 8:21 p.m.)  
CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2  
CM David Lingua, Ward 3  
CM Raymond Rivas, Ward 5 (arrived at 8:05 p.m.)  
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

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 8:03 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 Lingua.  
Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

*Discussion:*

All reports were moved to the end of the agenda.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Vernon Archer reported:

- Overview of recent meeting with County Executive Baker
- Discussion regarding pedestrian fatality at Riverdale Road and 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The Town asked SHA to review a similar incident two years ago and the Town will be going back to SHA to request that they reconsider the accident history of the crossing and demand that action be taken to protect pedestrians.

**Presentation**

Presentation of proclamations to the teachers who traveled to Ipala, Guatemala

Mayor Archer presented proclamations to the teachers who traveled to Ipala, Guatemala in July.

Prince George's County Zoning Rewrite

Leslye Howerton gave an overview of the process and timeline for the County's Zoning Rewrite. The Council had the opportunity to ask questions.

## **Correspondence Summary**

The Correspondence Summary was sent via e-mail to the Council.

## **Treasurer's Report**

As of 8/31/14 (subject to audit),

Revenue: \$ 270,564.40

Expenditures: \$ 698,569.53

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

## **Town Administrator's Report**

Town Administrator Sara Imhulse reported:

- Ordinance 2014-OR-07 regarding General Business Licensing will take effect at the end of September.
- Summer Intern Program went well this year. Thanked the Council for including the program in the budget.
- The next Riverdale Park Day Planning Committee will be held on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Riverdale Park Day will be held on October 4, 2014 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- The MML Fall Conference will be held September 11-13 in Annapolis.
- Will attending the annual ICMA Conference beginning on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **Police and Code Report**

Chief of Police David Morris reported:

- National Night Out was a success. Thank you to the attendees and vendors!
- The new school year has started and we are working with Riverdale Elementary School staff regarding traffic.
- Will be attending the Maryland Chiefs and Sheriff's Conference with Lt. Col. Timmons.
- Community Roll Call will be held on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Town Center Market.
- Working to schedule a Property Managers meeting
- Will participate in

### *Discussion:*

CM Rivas discussed issues regarding bus transportation for students and instances of bullying. Chief Morris stated that Pastor Slye will be hosting a Youth Forum on October 10<sup>th</sup> and bullying will be one of the topics covered.

## **Public Works Report:**

Public Works Director Leonard Addison reported:

- Bulk trash drop-off will be held on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>
- Pepco will be trimming trees in Wards 4, 5 and 6 to clear their lines
- National Night Out was excellent!
- Working to replace the lights in the Police Department through Pepco's LED light conversion program
- DPW Summer Cookout went well
- Safety alert: pay close attention while driving as school is back in session
- Mosquito Control program ends on September 18<sup>th</sup>

- Working to correct drainage issues
- Working on three street projects Riverdale Road, 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Silk Tree Lane

*Discussion:*

CM Thompson requested an update on status of WSSC utility projects and the Pepco tree trimming schedule.

## **Council Committee & Ward Reports**

### **CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1**

CM Jonathan Ebbeler reported:

- North section of Trolley Trail is moving ahead and should be completed in 12-18 months.
- Press Release next week regarding Sustainable Maryland Certification
- Cafritz Project: Whole Foods is still expected to open next year.
- Received notification of a Boil Water Advisory for Prince George's County
- Excelon filed an application to merge with Pepco
- Town Center Market signage completed (signage grant recipient).

### **CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2**

CM Alan Thompson reported:

- Enjoyed National Night Out!
- Ward 2 burglaries seem to have stopped. A neighborhood watch program has been created. Email [ward2cw@yahoo.com](mailto:ward2cw@yahoo.com) to get involved.
- Community Roll Call will be held on 9/16 at Town Center Market at 7 p.m.
- TDDP Public Hearing on 9/16 at 7 p.m. in Upper Marlboro
- Farmer's Market is held on Thursdays from 3-7 p.m. and everyone is encouraged to visit.

### **CM David Lingua, Ward 3**

CM David Lingua reported:

- The next CKAR meeting will be held on 9/9 at 7 p.m. at 6200 Riverdale Road
- ATHA/MD Milestones concluded 4 years of work with the Battle of Bladensburg reenactment. Thank you to Aaron Marcavitch and Ann Katz for their hard work.
- Celebration of the Battle of Baltimore will be held in two weeks.
- Discussion regarding lights near the railroad crossing

### **CM Raymond Rivas, Ward 5**

CM Raymond Rivas reported:

- Thank you to the volunteers that participated in National Night Out.
- Volunteers are needed for Riverdale Park Day. Please contact CM Rivas, Nova Johns or Jessica Barnes.
- The next Riverdale Park Planning Committee meeting will be held on 9/4 at 5:00 p.m.
- Discussion regarding bullying and theft in Ward 5.

### **CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6**

CM Alejandro Silva reported that the recent pedestrian accident is a great concern to Ward 6 resident as a lot of children cross the street in that area.

## **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items**

There were no public comments on non-agenda items or consent agenda items.

## **Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Street Closure: 5000 block of Nicholson Street and 5800 block of Riverside Drive from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for Riverdale Park Day on October 4, 2014 (Ward 3)
2. Block Party Request: 43rd Street Between East-West Highway and Queensbury Road on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Ward 1)
3. Block Party Request: 4800 block of Queensbury Road on Saturday, September 20, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Ward 1)
4. Minutes from the July 7, 2014 Legislative Meeting
5. Minutes from the July 21, 2014 Special Legislative Meeting
6. Minutes from the August 25, 2014 Special Legislative Meeting

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 2014-OR-07 regarding General Business Licensing

CM Ebbeler made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2014-OR-07 regarding General Business Licensing. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Mr. Spirapoulos outlined his concerns with Ordinance 2013-OR-06 concerning Town business licenses. CM Ebbeler stated that Ordinance 2014-OR-07 addressed his concerns regarding business licensing.

Mr. Michael Herman thanked the Mayor and Council for their responsiveness to the concerns expressed by the business community. Mr. Herman suggested that the Riverdale Park Business Association be utilized in the future as a sounding board for legislation impacting businesses.

2. Introduction of Ordinance 2014-OR-08 regarding FY 15 Budget Amendment #1

CM Thompson read section one of Ordinance 2014-OR-08 regarding FY 15 Budget Amendment #1 into the record.

3. Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to send a letter to Planning, Zoning and Economic Development (PZED) Committee regarding CB-42-2014, Single Family Neighborhood Stabilization Overlay Zone

CM Lingua made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to send a letter to Planning, Zoning and Economic Development (PZED) Committee regarding CB-42-2014, Single Family Neighborhood Stabilization Overlay Zone. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

CM Thompson made a motion to amend the previous motion to authorize the Town Administrator to send a letter substantially similar to option C with the addition of a paragraph before the final paragraph (the paragraph starting with the words “thank you”) summarizing why the Town is opposed to the legislation. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

*Discussion:*

CM Lingua gave an overview of the versions of the letter included in the meeting materials. The Council discussed several revisions to the letter to be sent to the Planning, Zoning and Economic Development (PZED) Committee.

4. Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with ATHA for administration of MDOT Maryland Bikeways Program grant

CM Lingua made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with ATHA for administration of MDOT Maryland Bikeways Program grant. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

5. Motion to approve a request from MTA for design exemptions of minimum grade at Quesada Road; minimum cul-de-sac radius at Patterson Street; sidewalk at Quesada Road Connector; and sidewalk buffer at Quesada Road; and waive minimum street standards due to a finding that these design exemptions are necessary to address serious environmental concerns to the surrounding community (Ward 4)

CM Thompson made a motion to approve a request from MTA for design exemptions of minimum grade at Quesada Road; minimum cul-de-sac radius at Patterson Street; sidewalk at Quesada Road Connector; and sidewalk buffer at Quesada Road; and waive minimum street standards due to a finding that these design exemptions are necessary to address serious environmental concerns to the surrounding community. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

*Discussion:*

There was significant discussion regarding the request for design exemptions.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business discussed.

**New Business**

There was no new business discussed.

**Adjournment**

CM Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

*Typed from notes by JEB.*