

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2017
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1
CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager
Leonard Addison, Director of Public Works
David Morris, Chief of Police
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk
Paul Smith, Finance Director

Call to Order

Mayor Archer called the legislative meeting to order at 8:04 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 Dixon.
Vote: 6-0 (favorable)

Presentations

- Oath of Office for Election Judges
Mayor Archer administered the oath of office to: Chief Election Judge Geraldine Gee, Deputy Election Judge Joseph Mooney, Ward 2 Election Judge Sarah Zolad, Ward 3 Election Judge Karyn Howard, Ward 4 Election Judge Kelly Garcia Reyes and Ward 5 Election Judge John Drew.

- Arbor Day Proclamation
Mayor Archer read the Arbor Day proclamation which designated April 19th as Arbor Day in Riverdale Park.

- Update regarding sculptural wayfinding stations for Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail, Hyattsville Community Development Corporation Executive Director Stuart Eisenberg
Mr. Eisenberg gave an update regarding sculptural wayfinding stations for the Rhode Island Avenue Trolley Trail. Mr. Eisenberg provided renderings of the sculptural wayfinding stations and recommended that they be placed in an optimal location within the Town's right-of-way. He stated that footers for the sculptural wayfinding station in Riverdale Park would need to be placed soon.

Discussion:

CM Lingua discussed other possible locations for the sculptural wayfinding stations.

Public Works Director Addison suggested that the sculptural wayfinding stations not be placed in the State Highway Administration's right-of-way. Mr. Addison also suggested that Mr. Eisenberg check to be sure that none of the potential location are in SHA right-of-way.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vernon Archer reported:

- Whole Foods Market will open on April 12th
- A VIP tour of Whole Foods Market has been scheduled for April 9th at 2 p.m. with an in-store reception to follow

Correspondence Summary

There was no correspondence summary.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Candidate filing deadline is April 6th at 5:00 p.m.
- Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 8th at 11 a.m. at Riverside Neighborhood Park
- Benecon and Chesapeake Insurance will present to the Mayor and Council on April 24th and staff hopes to have firm numbers for FY 18
- Staff will be meeting with SDAT this week
- Arbor Day activity scheduled for April 19th near the rain garden behind Riverdale Elementary School (time TBD)
- Update on Channel 10/71 PowerPoint project

Finance Report

As of 3/31/17 (subject to audit),

Revenue: \$ 5,298,817.06

Expenditures: \$ 3,972,077.31

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 6-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson stated that he also had questions for SDAT and he would discuss them with Town Manager Lestitian.

Fire Department Report

There was no Fire Department report.

Council Committee & Ward Report

CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1

CM Marsha Dixon reported:

- Starbucks (near Whole Foods) is open for business
- Whole Foods Market will open on April 12
- RPSC Earth Day event will be held on April 22
- Pepco and Arbor Day Foundation are offering free trees for residents

- Mike Fellow is seeking signatures on his change.org petition regarding the Circulator Shuttle
- Residents may contact her via e-mail, twitter and by phone

CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson reported:

- Mosquito reminder: it is the beginning of the season so please dump standing water
- Went to Starbucks on Saturday and it was wonderful!
- “Cut through” may re-open by mid-October but it is more likely to be mid-November

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- Glad to see PD was there bright and early to introduce themselves and welcome them to neighborhood
- CKAR CDC meeting will be held on April 4th at 7:00 p.m. There will be an advanced tour of Greater Riverdale Career Empowerment Center at 6:30 p.m.
- Official opening of Greater Riverdale Career Empowerment Center will be May 1st (time TBD)
- Reminder regarding mosquito season: do what you can to minimize water collection on your property

CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5

CM Colleen Richardson reported:

- April 20th Ward 5 walk- all are welcome to attend
- Has been an elected official for one year now!

CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

CM Alejandro Silva reported there were no complaints from Ward 6 residents at this time.

Public Comments

Christian Taylor, 12-year resident of Riverdale Park, stated that she was seeking permission to hold an event for former mayor Mike Herman who recently lost his home due to a fire. Council discussed the process for closing Town streets with Ms. Taylor and she agreed to return to Council when she had a date for the event.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Minutes from February 27, 2017 Special Legislative Meeting
2. Minutes from February 27, 2017 Work Session
3. Minutes from March 6, 2017 Legislative Meeting

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Richardson. Vote: 6-0 (favorable)

Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to approve a fence permit application for a 6-foot wooden backyard fence at 4604 Oliver Street (Ward 1)

CM Dixon made a motion to approve a fence permit application for a 6-foot wooden backyard fence at 4604 Oliver Street. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 6-0

Discussion:

CM Dixon stated that she had worked with the applicants to address their neighbor's concerns.

2. Introduction of Ordinance 2017-OR-01 regarding Weeds, Rubbish and Garbage Maintenance

CM Dixon made a motion to refer Ordinance 2017-OR-01 to the Legislative Committee for further review and defer introduction to a future meeting. CM Thompson seconded the motion. Vote: 6-0 (favorable)

3. Motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Defined Benefit Plan adopted in 2015

CM Thompson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Defined Benefit Plan adopted in 2015. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0. CM Richardson did not vote. (favorable)

4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2017-R-08 designating a continuous No Parking, No Standing and No Stopping Zone along the northbound lane of Taylor Road (Ward 3)

CM Lingua made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-R-08 designating a continuous No Parking, No Standing and No Stopping Zone along the northbound lane of Taylor Road (Ward 3). The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Lingua stated that the resolution would help to create a safe and organized system for drop off and pick up of kids at Riverdale Elementary School.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

CM Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Typed from notes by JEB.