

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2017
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor
Alan K. Thompson, Mayor-Elect
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1
CM-Elect Aaron Faulx, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4
CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5 (left at 9:20 p.m.)
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

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

Call to Order

Mayor Archer called the legislative meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Swearing-In Ceremony

Ms. Rita Robinson, representative of Sydney J. Harrison, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County swore-in Mayor Thompson and Council Members Dixon, Faulx, Lingua, Henry, Richardson and Silva.

Approval of Agenda

CM Henry made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 6-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Presentation:

Subdivision of parcels on University Research Court, Thomas H. Haller

Mr. Haller discussed the plans to re-subdivide the original Riverside Subdivision.

Mayor Thompson asked for clarification regarding the number of square feet that had been constructed and the number of square feet remaining. Mr. Haller provided the information.

CM Dixon requested information regarding the location of the pocket park and the next steps for the Council following Mr. Haller's informational presentation. Mr. Haller explained that there would be a Planning Board Hearing on June 15, 2017. CM Dixon also discussed her concerns regarding the marketing of the project location as the "Greater College Park area" when it is located in Riverdale Park.

CM Lingua asked where the bike share would be located in relation to the food truck hub. CM Lingua stated that open space was also an amenity. CM Lingua provided historical information regarding the relationship between Riversdale Mansion and University of Maryland College Park.

CM Silva requested more information regarding the food truck hub. Mr. Haller explained that the number of food trucks were limited to two or three and they would be stationary.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson reported:

- Election:
 - Thank you to Mayor Archer for being a great friend and political ally for decades.
 - Thank you to residents for providing feedback during the door to door visits while campaigning. Several opportunities for improvement were frequently cited such as code compliance and vacancies in Town Center.
 - Requested that residents, staff and council are patient as this is his first time as Mayor.
 - Thank you to members of the Council.
- Cafritz
 - Bridge completion is expected in the mid-fourth quarter.
 - M-UTC recently approved reduction in parking in garage
 - Lots of restaurants coming to Riverdale Park Station
 - Trolley Trail is expected to open in late summer and permanent location a year from now
 - Staff will be working to get an accurate assessment on revenue expected from development
- Purple Line
 - Ongoing lawsuit but may see construction soon
 - Discussion regarding the naming of stations in Town. M-Square Station may be changed to River Road Station- recommended that Town takes a position on the new name
 - Town should also consider taking a position in July on the art proposals for stations in Town
- Creation of Economic Development Committee: CM Dixon will draft a charge for the Committee and bring it to the June 19 Work Session for discussion.

Town Manager Report

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Human Resources related forms have been distributed to Council and are due back to staff by June 19. Staff is available to answer questions.
- Discussion regarding concerns related to the East Riverdale Beacon Heights Preliminary Sector Plan and reference to recent e-mail to Mayor and Council. Staff will arrange for M-NCPPC staff to present to Council on June 19
- Town Attorney Fred Sussman will attend the Work Session on June 19 to present an orientation for elected officials
- Updated budget books that reflect the changes made by Council will be available on June 19
- Congratulations to new administration

Finance Report

As of 5/31/17 (subject to audit),

Revenue: \$ 5,441,949.16

Expenditures: \$ 4,773,712.38

CM Lingua made a motion to approve the Finance Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 6-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department's report was included in the meeting materials.

Council Committee & Ward Reports

CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1

CM Marsha Dixon reported:

- Recently attended Chief's Community Advisory Committee meeting- encouraged residents and Council Members to attend future meetings
- Congratulations to Mayor and Council- looking forward to working with everyone!
- Requested that residents continue to send comments regarding tree trimming ordinance
- On the Agenda will be held at Starbucks
- Ward 1 Community Public Safety Walk will be held in in July- date TBD
- Legislative Committee: plans to update proposed ordinance regarding Weeds, Rubbish and Garbage Maintenance and bring it back to June 19 Work Session
- Excited to have money allocated in the budget for economic development

CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson reported:

- Honored to serve as Ward 2 representative- thank you to residents in Ward 2 for the opportunity to serve!
- Thank you to Mayor Thompson for encouragement and support
- Thank you to parents and wife, Mara, for support and encouragement

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- CKAR CDC will meet on June 6 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- ATHA Governing Board will meet June 21 at 6:30 p.m.
- PGCMA breakfast meeting will be held during the MML Summer Conference
- Thank you to Ward 3 residents for coming out to vote- humbled to serve residents again
- Greater Riverdale Empowerment Center is open and Culinary Arts Training Center will open soon
- Would like to continue to serve as ATHA Governing Board member
- Congratulations to colleagues!

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- Thank you to Ward 4 residents
- Thank you to Mayor Archer
- Looking forward to working with Mayor Thompson
- Thank you to Town Staff for their service
- Mr. Lestitian has done a great job

- Thank you to Council for support- looking forward to serving with you!

CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5

CM Colleen Richardson reported:

- Congratulations to Mayor Thompson and Council Members
- Thank you to Ward 5 voters

CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

CM Alejandro Silva reported:

- No report from Ward 6 residents
- Congratulations to Mayor Thompson
- Thank you to Ward 6 residents for the trust they have in him

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Fence Permit Request: 4802 Longfellow Street, 6-foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 3)
2. Fence Permit Request: 4903 Oglethorpe Street, 6-foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 3)
3. Fence Permit Request: 5908 Riverside Drive, 6-foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 3)
4. Fence Permit Request: 5802 Taylor Road, 6-foot backyard fence (Ward 3)
5. Minutes from April 24, 2017 Work Session
6. Minutes from April 24, 2017 Special Legislative Meeting
7. Minutes from May 1, 2017 Legislative Meeting

CM Lingua made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. CM Dixon seconded the motion. Vote: 6-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Legislative Action Item:

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-OR-02 regarding the FY2018 Budget

CM Lingua made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-OR-02 regarding the FY2018 Budget. CM Henry seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Lingua read the ordinance into the record. CM Lingua also thanked the staff for their hard work and effort.

2. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-OR-03 regarding application fees for business licenses

CM Dixon made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-OR-03 regarding application fees for business licenses. CM Henry seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Dixon gave summary of the ordinance and reported that no changes had been made to the ordinance after introduction.

3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-OR-04 regarding annual license fee for multifamily rental dwellings

CM Lingua made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2017-OR-04 regarding annual license fee for multifamily rental dwellings. CM Henry seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Lingua gave an overview of the ordinance.

4. Motion to approve Municipal Participation Agreement with Prince George's County for Storm Drainage Improvement Project on Longfellow Street (Ward 3)

CM Lingua made a motion to approve Municipal Participation Agreement with Prince George's County for Storm Drainage Improvement Project on Longfellow Street. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Lingua gave an overview of the motion and thanked Mr. Addison for his work in bringing the project to fruition.

5. Motion to adopt Mayor's nominations for committee assignments and Council vice-chairman

CM Henry made a motion to adopt Mayor Thompson's nominations for committee assignments and Council vice-chairman. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 6-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Mayor Thompson read the committee nominations and noted that CM Dixon was moved from the Community Affairs Committee to the Finance Committee. Mayor Thompson explained that the nomination process was both difficult and involved but the outcome was good. CM Lingua stated that he was appreciative of Mayor Thompson's nomination.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

- CM Faulx made a motion to approve a street closure on Sunday, June 18 from 1 p.m. to 6:30 pm for the 4800 block to the 4900 block of Queensbury Road for a block party requested by Sister Ada of Sacred Hearts Nursery School. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Lingua requested that staff check to be sure that bus routes will not be impacted by the road closure.

- CM Henry discussed an excavation project on Good Luck Road that has impacted residents of Madison Hill. Town Manager Lestitian stated that Town staff would follow-up and work with CM Henry to address the issue.
- CM Lingua suggested that the Town should solicit input/feedback from the public regarding the name of the Purple Line Station in preparation for the Council's discussion at the July 3 Legislative Meeting.
- CM Lingua also suggested that the Town should solicit input/feedback from the public regarding the design concepts for art at the Purple Line Stations in preparation for the Council's discussion at the July 3 Legislative Meeting.
- CM Henry requested further information regarding the Human Resources forms distributed to Council.
- CM Henry made a motion to nominate CM Lingua to serve on the ATHA Governing Board. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson and CM Lingua abstained)
- CM Lingua reported that Ward 3 residents had approached him regarding sidewalks along 48th Avenue, Taylor Road and Oglethorpe Street. CM Lingua requested that a copy of sidewalk plans/policies be sent to all Council. Mayor Thompson stated that sidewalks are also included in the Capital Improvement Plan in the FY2018 Budget.
- Mayor Thompson requested permission from the Council to write letter to express the Town's position on the subdivision of properties in the Discovery District based on informal feedback from members of the Council. CM Lingua made a motion to grant permission to Mayor Thompson to express the position of the Town in the matter of the subdivision of properties in the Discovery District if needed. The motion was seconded by CM Henry Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained).

Adjournment

CM Dixon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 5-0 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)