

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

**In Attendance**

Alan K. Thompson, Mayor  
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2  
CM David Lingua, Ward 3  
CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5 (left at 9:25 p.m.)  
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager

**Call to Order**

Mayor Thompson 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.

**Approval of Agenda**

CM Faulx made a motion to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

*Discussion:*

Mayor Thompson requested that the reports be moved to the end of the agenda.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Alan K. Thompson reported:

- Thank you to residents for sending him to MML Convention as it was very worthwhile.
- College Park Academy is under construction and will open in a few months. There will be preferred access to area students.
- Old Line Bank opened last week at Riverdale Park Station.
- Bridge construction is expected to be completed early/mid-November and bridge could be open by December
- Discovery District: discussion regarding Flex Space buildings

**Town Manager Report**

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Implemented police retention program and all four officers have expressed interest in participating.
- New fiscal year started on July 1 and staff are working to close out fiscal year 2017
- Recruitment as started for new and vacant positions with a positive response
- Have a happy and safe Fourth of July. Reminder to residents that General Government and Department of Public Works will be closed.

**Finance Report**

As of 6/30/17 (subject to audit),  
Revenue: \$ 5,815,453.76

Expenditures: \$ 5,159,484.95

CM Lingua made a motion to approve the Finance Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

### **Fire Department Report**

There was no Fire Department report.

### **Council Committee & Ward Reports**

#### **CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2**

CM Aaron Faulx reported:

- Thank you to citizens for opportunity to attend MML- was a great learning opportunity
- August 30<sup>th</sup> “Movies at the Mansion”
- Happy birthday to Town Clerk

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

CM David Lingua reported:

- CKAR CDC will meet on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 6801 Kenilworth Avenue
- Thank you to residents for opportunity to attend MML
- Discussion regarding Seat Pleasant program
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> ribbon cutting at Leroy Petry Honor Village- looking forward to welcoming new residents.
- Traffic concerns on Taylor Road
- Thank you for opportunity to represent Town on ATHA Governing Board
- Have a happy Fourth of July!

#### **CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5**

CM Colleen Richardson reported that there were a lot of issues at Park Tanglewood and little progress had been made. CM Richardson requested help from Council and Mayor Thompson stated that he would work with her. Town Manager Lestitian discussed a recent meeting with the Park Tanglewood building manager and stated that staff would work with Code Enforcement to schedule a walkthrough.

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

CM Alejandro Silva did not have a report.

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

Resident Lora Katz gave an update on the Town’s re-certification application for Sustainable Maryland. Mayor Thompson thanked Ms. Katz for her hard work.

Mr. Floyd Anthony apologized for a recent interaction with the Police Department and stated that the Town was a great community.

### **Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Street closure request for 5000 block of Queensbury Road on August 2, 2017, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for National Night Out (Ward 2)
2. Minutes from May 30, 2017 Constant Yield Public Hearing
3. Minutes from May 30, 2017 Special Legislative Meeting
4. Minutes from May 30, 2017 Work Session

## 5. Minutes from June 5, 2017 Legislative Meeting

CM Faulx made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. CM Silva seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

### **Legislative Action Item:**

1. Motion to send a letter to the Purple Line Team regarding preference of Art-in-Transit options for Purple Line Stations in Riverdale Park

CM Lingua made a motion to send a letter to the Purple Line Team regarding preference of Art-in-Transit options for Purple Line Stations in Riverdale Park. The motion was seconded by CM Silva.

CM Lingua made a motion to table the item for further discussion at a Special Legislative Session on August 28. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

#### *Discussion:*

CM Lingua discussed the results of the public survey regarding Art-in-Transit options for Purple Line Stations in Riverdale Park.

2. Motion to send a letter to the Purple Line Team regarding name of River Road Purple Line Station

No legislative action taken.

3. Motion to send a letter to the Prince George's County Planning Board and the Prince George's County Council regarding the Preliminary East Riverdale Beacon Heights Sector Plan

CM Lingua made to authorize CM Lingua and Town Manager Lestitian, in consultation with other members of the Council at their discretion, to draft and send a letter to Scott Rowe of the Community Planning Division of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission regarding the Town's position on the Preliminary East Riverdale Beacon Heights Sector Plan, covering topics discussed in the memo dated June 16<sup>th</sup>, to be delivered by close of business on July 5. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

#### *Discussion:*

CM Lingua discussed items that should be included in the letter.

4. Motion to fly the Star Spangled Banner from August 21<sup>st</sup> to September 18<sup>th</sup> in commemoration of the Battle of Bladensburg and the Battle of Baltimore

CM Lingua made a motion for the Town of Riverdale Park to fly the Star Spangled Banner from August 21<sup>st</sup> to September 18<sup>th</sup> in commemoration of the Battle of Bladensburg and the Battle of Baltimore. The motion was seconded by CM Richardson. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

5. Motion to approve a contract with Revize Software Systems for \$17,800 for new Town website

CM Lingua made a motion to approve a contract with Revize Software Systems for \$17,800 for a new Town website. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

*Discussion:*

Town Manager Lestitian gave an update on the status of the contract for the new Town website and stated that the cost of the project did not exceed the budgeted amount. Resident Lora Katz stated that she was looking forward to the new website and suggested that staff collect data regarding website use.

6. Motion to approve an agreement with Riverdale Park Farmer's Market, Inc.

CM Faulx made a motion to approve an agreement with Riverdale Park Farmer's Market, Inc. The motion was seconded by CM Richardson. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

*Discussion:*

Town Manager Lestitian discussed the need to formalize the relationship between the Town and Riverdale Park Farmer's Market, Inc. and to outline the roles and responsibilities of each party. Town Manager Lestitian discussed the memo prepared for the Council that outlines several aspects of the agreement.

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

### **New Business**

- Fence Permit for 4700 Ravenswood Road  
CM Faulx made a motion to approve a 6-foot fence behind the rear building line of the house at 4700 Ravenswood Road. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

*Discussion:*

CM Faulx explained that he and Mayor Thompson had met with the applicants regarding their fence permit request. CM Thompson stated that a variance would be required if the applicant would like to have the 6-foot fence in their side yard (facing Lafayette Avenue and beyond the rear building line of the house). Resident Lora Katz asked for clarification regarding the fence permit request. Resident Lora Katz also discussed the need for property owners to maintain the outside of their fences.

- CM Faulx made a motion to direct staff to send a letter to Aaron Marcavitch designating CM Lingua at the Town's representative on the ATHA Governing Board. The motion was seconded by CM Richardson. Vote: 3-0-2 (favorable, Mayor Thompson and CM Lingua abstained)

*Discussion:*

Resident Lora Katz asked CM Lingua to keep sustainability in mind in his role on the ATHA Governing Board.

- CM Lingua made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-R-11 reaffirming Riverdale Park's commitment to its Sister City Ipala, Guatemala. The motion was seconded by CM Richardson. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

**Adjournment**

CM Faulx made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)