

Town of Riverdale Park
Work Session Minutes
September 25, 2017
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Mayor Alan K. Thompson
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4 (arrived at 8:00 p.m.)
CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5 (left at 9:00 p.m.)
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager
David Morris, Chief of Police
Leonard Addison, Director of Public Works
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk
Kevin Simpson, Development Services Director

Call to Order

Mayor Thompson called the work session to order at 7:30 p.m.

Presentations

Discussion with County Council Member Dannielle Glaros

County Council Member Dannielle Glaros discussed several County initiatives and projects:

- Purple Line construction updates
- East Riverdale Beacon Heights Sector Plan and the Town's comments
- Prince George's County Zoning Rewrite
- Workforce Development Initiative
- Update of Prince George's County Transit Plan
- Riverdale Elementary School playground
- Capital Bikeshare
- New tools to address abuse of home businesses
- Recent meetings regarding superconducting magnetic levitation (SCMAGLEV) system

The Mayor and Council had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss their concerns with CM Glaros.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Assessment Report: Eric Olson, Executive Director, College Park City-University Partnership

Executive Director Eric Olson gave an overview of the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Assessment Report for the Trolley Trail and the findings and recommendations in the Report. The Council and public had the opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Olson also introduced Abby Perrota who will be handling transportation issues with the College Park City-University Partnership.

Mr. Olson also discussed M-NCPPC's policy change regarding recreational use of trails and the installation of lighting.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Thompson reported that the 5th Annual Community Resource Day will be held on September 30th at the Christian Life Center on Taylor Road.

Public Comments

Gerron Levy introduced herself to the Council and residents as a candidate for Prince George's County Council At-large.

Town Manager's Report

Town Manager John N. Lestitian:

- Introduced Development Services Director Kevin Simpson
- Reported that two applicants for the Neighborhood Improvement Inspector position have accepted conditional employment offers and are expected to start by end of October (pending pre-employment screenings)
- Update regarding Park Tanglewood: meeting with County DHCD Director is scheduled for early October
- Website project moving forward
- Staff reached out to Riverdale Elementary School regarding ongoing construction project and offered support if needed
- Preparations for Riverdale Park Day continue

Council Committee & Ward Reports

CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1

CM Marsha Dixon deferred her report to the October 2nd legislative meeting.

CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2

CM Aaron Faulx deferred his report to the October 2nd legislative meeting.

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- Recent attendance at M-NCPPC Planning Board budget hearing and overview of comments offered
- Discussion regarding improvements at Herbert Wells Ice Rink

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4:

CM Christopher Henry deferred his report to the October 2nd legislative meeting.

CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

CM Alejandro Silva deferred his report to the October 2nd legislative meeting.

Discussion Items

1. Police Administrative Investigations and Policy

Chief Morris discussed modern day community policing philosophy and how police policy is created. Chief Morris gave an overview of the steps that are taken to ensure that Riverdale Park Police Department (RPPD) provides professional service to the community. Chief Morris also discussed the process by which internal and external complaints are handled.

CM Henry asked if RPPD had considered body cameras. Chief Morris discussed the benefits and challenges associated with the implementation of police body cameras. Town Manager Lestitian stated that staff would be coming back to Council with a proposal regarding body cameras in the current fiscal year.

CM Dixon asked how it was determined which agency or jurisdiction would investigate a complaint involving a RPPD officer. Chief Morris explained that most cases are investigated by Prince George's County unless the situation warrants that it should go to a different agency.

Resident Corey Bettenhauser stated that the next Chief's Community Advisory Committee meeting would be held on November 14th at Town Hall and he encouraged residents to attend to learn more about RPPD.

2. Salt Utilization Agreement between the Town and Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration for the distribution of Salt to the Town

Public Works Director Addison gave an overview of the Salt Utilization Agreement and stated that the Agreement would give the Town a third salt vendor in the case of an emergency. Director Addison also clarified that the Town does not have to pay anything unless it uses salt from SHA.

3. Fence Permit Request: 4805 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3)
4. Fence Permit Request: 4803 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3)
5. Fence Permit Request: 4801 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3)

Town Manager Lestitian gave an overview of the actions taken to reach the property owner with a potential property line dispute. CM Lingua stated that he had no issue with moving forward and the fence permit requests and they could be placed on the Consent Agenda provided that the property owner does not contact the Town prior to the September 30th deadline.

6. Housing and Neighborhood – Vision and Commitment

Town Manager Lestitian asked if there was any additional input from the Mayor, Council or public regarding the proposed vision for housing and neighborhoods. There was no additional input.

7. Minutes from August 28, 2017 Work Session

Mayor Thompson requested that Council send any comments or changes regarding the August 28th Work Session minutes to the Town Clerk.

8. Minutes from September 5, 2017 Legislative Meeting

Mayor Thompson requested that Council send any comments or changes regarding the September 5th Legislative Meeting minutes to the Town Clerk.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Mayor Thompson stated that the Town had received a request from the Litton Property regarding a revision to the division of parking spaces amongst their properties. Mayor Thompson stated that he did not believe that Council action would be needed as there would be no change to the overall number of parking spaces.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Typed from notes by JEB.