

**Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2017
8:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

Alan K. Thompson, Mayor
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4 (left at 9:15 p.m.)
CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5 (left at 9:15 p.m.)

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

Call to Order

Mayor Thompson called the legislative meeting to order at 8:18 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 revised agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Faulx requested that Legislative Action Item 2 be removed from the agenda. Town Manager Lestitian stated that staff would notify the Board of Zoning Appeals.

CM Lingua requested that Legislative Action Item 4 be moved to the Special Legislative Meeting on December 18th.

Presentations

Recognition of Teachers from Ipala, Guatemala

Mayor Thompson presented the teachers from Ipala, Guatemala, the Town's Sister City, with a certificate.

The teachers presented Mayor Thompson and former Mayor Archer with a small gift from Ipala to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the Sister City relationship.

Recognition of Riverdale Park Sustainability Committee

Mayor Thompson presented members of the Riverdale Park Sustainability Committee (RPSC) with a certificate recognizing their efforts in re-certifying the Town as a Sustainable Maryland Community. The RPSC presented Mayor Thompson with a plaque from Sustainable Maryland Certified recognizing the Town's re-certification.

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson reported:

- Appreciative of his family more than ever
- Hope that the holidays are great for everyone
- Reminder to residents to keep an eye out for members of the community who might need assistance during the holiday season

Town Manager Report

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Town received Premier Partner Workplace Safety Award from Chesapeake Employers Insurance
- Overview of the Town's upcoming holiday events

Finance Report

As of November 30, 2017, subject to audit:

Expenses: \$419,860.83

Revenue: \$996,192.69

CM Lingua made a motion to adopt the Finance Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

Town Manager Lestitian gave an overview of the finance report prepared for the Mayor and Council.

CM Henry asked if progress had been made in auctioning off some of the police cruisers. Chief Morris reported that 5 or 6 have been sold already through GovDeals and the next group will be sold once the new police vehicles have been received.

CM Henry asked how much had be spent on Capital Improvement Projects so far this year. Town Manager Lestitian stated that he would forward the requested information.

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:

- Due to a technical glitch, Ward 1 report was not in the Crier but will be working with staff to get the report out to residents by other means.
- Discussion regarding potential legislation to allow all residents to vote and request for input from residents
- District Taco will open on December 11
- Thank you to staff for all of their hard work during the year
- Happy holidays to everyone!

CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2

CM Aaron Faulx reported:

- Recently attended a Sustainable Maryland resiliency training
- Ward 2 Community Walk was held on November 20 and went well- thank you to those who participated and looking forward to future community walks
- Along with CM Dixon, seeking Council support for a mural project under the overpass from East-West Highway and Lafayette Avenue, request that staff reach out to SHA to seek approval
- Community dialogue regarding Field of Dreams, a great opportunity for beautiful green space
- Pocket park on Ravenswood Road and 48th Avenue

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- CKAR CDC meeting will be held on 12/5 at 7 p.m. at 6801 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 203
- Thank you to staff for Children's Holiday Party and Build-a-Bear event
- Happy holidays!

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- Season's greetings!
- Ward 4 Community Walk will be rescheduled
- New Dunkin Donuts in Ward 4 and questions regarding permits and Council review
- Discussion regarding deficiencies within the Town: signs that are crooked (Kenilworth Avenue and East-West Highway and signs in front of Town Hall), Dupont Circle (leaves need to be removed and cannon needs to be painted)
- Discussion regarding parking permit renewals
- Question regarding parking of commercial vehicles on Town streets and clarification of definition of commercial vehicles (over 26,000 lbs)
- Overcrowded parking on Ravenswood Road, Madison Street, and 51st Street
- Request for defibrillator at Town Hall
- Request for a detailed report of number of parking citations issued and income incurred

CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5

CM Colleen Richardson stated that she would have a report at the December 18 meeting.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

Resident Karon Henry of Madison Hill in Ward 4 thanked CM Henry for his service as Ward 4 Council Member and Madison Hill Homeowners Association President. Ms. Henry discussed her concerns regarding leaf collection, code enforcement, and police presence in Madison Hill. Ms. Henry also stated that she would like to see other ways of getting information out to residents.

Resident Corey Bettenhauser, of the 4500 block of Riverdale Road, announced that the next Chief's Community Advisory Committee meeting will be held on January 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall and invited residents of Madison Hill to attend.

Resident Corey Bettenhauser requested an update on the replanting of trees removed by Pepco along the Trolley Trail.

Resident Corey Bettenhauser asked what new restaurant will be opening in Ward 1. Town Manager Lestitian stated that he had met with the investor and owner but an official announcement would not be appropriate at this time.

Resident Greg Hitz of the 4700 block of Ravenswood Road thanked everyone and stated that his interactions had always made him proud to live in Riverdale Park. Mr. Hitz also stated that he supported the mural project in Ward 2.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Parking restrictions in Town Center for Farmers Market (Ward 1)
2. Minutes from October 30, 2017 Work Session
3. Minutes from October 30, 2017 Special Legislative Meeting
4. Minutes from November 6, 2017 Legislative Meeting

CM Dixon made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. CM Lingua seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Legislative Action Items:

1. Variance Request: 1-foot side street yard depth for the dwelling, 7.9% net lot coverage and 1-foot rear lot line setback for an accessory building for 5610 Taylor Road (Ward 3)

CM Lingua made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to the Board of Zoning appeals recommending approval of the variance requests for 1-foot side street yard depth for the dwelling and 1-foot rear lot line setback for an accessory building and disapproval of the variance request for 7.9% net lot coverage for 5610 Taylor Road. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 4-0-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Lingua stated that he had met with the property owner they have adjusted their plans and will no longer need the net lot coverage variance (reduced by 1300 square feet which will bring it under).

2. ~~Variance Request: 8 feet side yard width and 7% net lot coverage for 4802 Sheridan Street (Ward 2)~~
3. Motion to approve closure of Rhode Island Avenue between Queensbury Road and Riverdale Road on December 16, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for Holiday Market (Ward 1)

CM Dixon made a motion to approve the closure of Rhode Island Avenue between Queensbury Road and Riverdale Road on December 16, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for Holiday Market. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 4-0-0 (favorable)

4. ~~Motion to authorize Mayor and Town Manager to execute documents to charter Boy Scout Troop 252~~
5. Motion to authorize Town Manager to execute an agreement with Opto-traffic for reimplementing of Automated Red-Light Camera Enforcement

CM Lingua made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to execute an agreement with Opto-traffic for reimplementation of Automated Red-Light Camera Enforcement. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Lingua gave an overview. Chief Morris stated that the cameras would be in place by the end of January and placement would be based on crash test data. Town Manager Lestitian stated that staff would get information out to the public so that they were aware that this is happening.

6. Motion to authorize Town Manager to execute the Municipal Curbside Recycling Agreement with Prince George's County

CM Faulx made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to execute the Municipal Curbside Recycling Agreement with Prince George's County. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 4-0-0 (favorable)

7. Motion to adopt 2018 Council Calendar

CM Dixon made a motion to adopt the 2018 Council Calendar. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Unfinished Business

PGCMA Legislative Dinner

CM Lingua stated that the Prince George's County Municipal Association's (PGCMA) legislative dinner would be held on Wednesday and he was unable to attend. Mayor Thompson stated that he would attend but he would be late due to another commitment that evening.

Prince George's County Zoning Re-write

Mayor Thompson stated that he had been reviewing sections of the Prince George's Zoning Re-write that mostly impact Riverdale Park. Mayor Thompson stated that he was hoping to have a more focused draft on December 18th so that Council can adopt formal position at that meeting.

New Business

1. Vision for Environmental Sustainability
Town Manager Lestitian discussed the input that has been received by staff thus far. Town Manager Lestitian stated that he would bring back a draft resolution on December 18.
2. Rodent population discussion
CM Lingua discussed recent complaints regarding rats in Ward 3. Town Manager Lestitian discussed the infestation in that area and outlined the actions taken by the Town.

Adjournment

CM Dixon made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)