

**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**Legislative Meeting Minutes**  
**July 2, 2018**  
**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  
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager  
David Morris, Police Chief  
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk  
Kevin Simpson, Development Services Director

**Call to Order**

Mayor Thompson called the Legislative Meeting to order at 8:02 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 agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

*Discussion:*

CM Lingua requested that a moment of silence be observed for those killed in *Capital-Gazette* shooting.

**Moment of Silence**

CM Lingua led a moment of silence for those killed in the *Capital-Gazette* shooting.

**Correspondence Summary**

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Alan K. Thompson reported:

- Bridge and connection is now open
- Recent retirement of two Town staff members
- Upcoming visit to Ipala, Guatemala as part of Sister Cities Program
- Overview of article in Washington Post regarding William Wirt Middle School and gang activity
- Discussion regarding lawsuits involving the Town
- MML Summer Conference overview
- Traffic light at East-West Highway and 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue is now operational
- Habit Burger will open on July 11<sup>th</sup> and a fundraiser for the Fire Department will be held on July 8<sup>th</sup>

- 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Farmers Market was last week
- Happy birthday to former Mayor Vernon Archer and Town Clerk

### **Town Manager Report**

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Overview of recent stakeholders meeting regarding William Wirt Middle School
- Community Walks will be held on July 21 and August 8. Community Walks also include micro clean-ups
- Town Hall and DPW will be closed on Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>
- Family Movie Night will be held on July 18 at Riverside Neighborhood Park
- National Night Out will be held on August 7<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m.
- Update regarding Riverdale Elementary School Playground
- Street Overlay Project is near completion
- Discussion regarding recent meeting with Town Engineer
- Summer Youth Employment Program has started and the students are doing a great job!

### **Finance Report**

As of June 30, 2018, subject to audit:

Expenses: \$ 180,762

Revenue: \$ 417,687

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)

### **Fire Department Report**

Deputy Fire Chief Dave Sutton reported:

- Reminder to be cognizant of the signs of heat stroke
- Fireworks are illegal in Prince George's County
- Upcoming Habit Burger fundraiser on July 8<sup>th</sup>
- Overview of awards received during the Fireman's Convention
- Continuing to seek volunteers

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

#### **CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1**

CM Marsha Dixon reported:

- Attended MML conference in June
- Will work with staff in coming months regarding voter registration changes
- Habit Burger opens on July 11<sup>th</sup>
- Happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July

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

CM Aaron Faulx reported:

- Thank you to residents for opportunity to attend the MML Conference
- Overview of the William Wirt Middle School roundtable discussion

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

CM David Lingua reported:

- CKAR CDC will meet on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6801 Kenilworth Avenue

- Upcoming July 23<sup>rd</sup> Purple Line meeting is open to the public- encouraged residents to attend
- Have a safe and happy summer!
- School is out for the summer so be sure to watch for kids when driving

#### **CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4**

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- Recognized the efforts of those who participated in the petition for referendum
- Reminder to stay hydrated and keep an eye out for neighbors
- Have a safe July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday!
- Thank you to Director Addison and Lt. Col. Timmons for their loyal and dedicated service

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

CM Colleen Richardson was unable to attend the meeting as she was sick.

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

CM Alejandro Silva wished everyone a happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

Mayor Thompson requested the Council's availability for an Executive Session and Special Legislative Meeting on July 23, 2018. The Council confirmed that they will meet on Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. for an Executive Session and at 8:30 p.m. for a Special Legislative Meeting.

#### **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 Application: 6308 47th Avenue; wooden backyard fence exceeding 4 feet in height
2. Minutes from May 21, 2018 Work Session
3. Minutes from June 4, 2018 Legislative Meeting

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

#### **Legislative Action Items:**

1. Motion to approve Mayor's nominations for Board of Code Appeals
  - o Swearing-in of Board of Code Appeals Members

CM Lingua made a motion to approve the Mayor's nominations for the Board of Code Appeals. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

#### *Discussion:*

Mayor Thompson outlined the qualifications for each of the nominees to the Board of Code Appeals: Ryan McAlister, Lora Katz, Sarah Billington and David Sutton.

Mayor Thompson swore-in the newly appointed members of the Board of Code Appeals.

2. Motion to approve revisions for awarding Town grants

Development Services Director Kevin Simpson gave an overview of Legislative Action Item 2.

CM Dixon made a motion to direct staff to approve the awardees of the economic development and community development grant programs. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 4-0-2 (favorable, Mayor and CM Henry abstain)

CM Dixon made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-12 (with attached exhibit A). The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 4-0-2 (favorable, Mayor and CM Henry abstain)

3. Motion to approve revised position description for Public Works

Town Manager Lestitian stated that Legislative Action Item 3 would be moved to the Special Legislative meeting on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

### **New Business**

1. Fence Permit Application: 5307 Taylor Road; 6-foot vinyl backyard fence

The applicants, Ken Burge Jr. and Rebecca Burge, gave an overview of their request. They explained that their yard was adjacent to a bike path and people were often walking through their yard and they wanted a fence for safety and security reasons.

CM Lingua stated that he had visited the property and provided a description of the Burge's property and surrounding properties. CM Lingua stated that the applicants had the materials on hand to construct fence and had requested that the Council take action as soon as possible.

Ms. Kay Troup of 5311 Taylor Road discussed her concerns regarding the fence. Ms. Troup requested that the applicants move their proposed fence 6 inches to allow for access behind the accessory buildings on her property. Ms. Troup also requested 48-hour notice for the trimming of any vegetation along the property line. The applicants agreed to the requests.

CM Faulx made a motion to approve the special exception for a six-foot vinyl backyard fence at 5307 Taylor Road with the conditions that a six-inch easement be granted for the fence bordering the accessory structures (located at 5311 Taylor Road) and 48-hour notice be given prior to the trimming of vegetation along the property line. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

2. Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement

Mayor Thompson stated that he would have edits to staff over the next few weeks. CM Lingua stated that the statement was good and he expected to have edits for staff as well.

### **Adjournment**

CM Henry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)