

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2018
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Mayor Alan K. Thompson
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1 (arrived at 8:09 p.m.)
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4
CM Hala Mayers, Ward 6

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager
David Morris, Police Chief
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk
Kevin Simpson, Development Services Director
Paul Smith, Director of Finance and Employee Services
Ivy Lewis, Director of Public Projects and Services

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 Lingua made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Presentations

Swearing-in of Ward 6 Council Member Hala Mayers

Mayor Thompson administered the Oath of Office to CM Hala Mayers.

Municipal Government Works Month Proclamation

Mayor Thompson read the proclamation declaring November as Municipal Government Works Month in English and Spanish.

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson reported:

- Condolences to CM Richardson on the recent loss of her mother
- Teachers from Ipala, Guatemala will be arriving next week and host families are needed
- Update regarding Greg's Towing lawsuit
- Purple Line Construction Update: periodic closings along Riverdale Road and temporary bridge near I-295
- Election Day: reminder for everyone to get out to vote tomorrow!

Town Manager Report

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- Reassessment of Real Property is underway and notices will go out to real property owners in the coming months. The Town will receive information regarding the Constant Yield Tax Rate in February. Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) has informed staff that there may be a substantial number of appeals this year due to new construction in the area.
- Veterans Day Ceremony will be held on November 11 at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Memorial
- Upcoming closings of Town Hall and Department of Public Works: November 12 (Veterans Day), November 22 and 23 (Thanksgiving)

Finance Report

As of October 31, 2018, subject to audit:

Expenses: \$ 393,190

Revenue: \$3,394,934

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

The Fire Department report was included in the meeting materials.

Council Committee & Ward Reports

CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1

CM Marsha Dixon reported:

- Overview of recent PGCMA meeting: discussion regarding Traffic Relief Plan and presentation by CEO of Mission of Love Charities
- Encouraged residents to consider hosting a teacher from the Town's Sister City, Ipala, Guatemala
- Reminder to get out to vote tomorrow!
- 7-Eleven will be coming back to M-UTC on November 7th

CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2

CM Aaron Faulx reported:

- Field of Dreams charrette will be held on November 17th and everyone is encouraged to attend. An online survey will also be available.
- Welcome to Ivy Lewis, Director of Public Projects and Services
- Welcome to Ward 6 CM Hala Mayers
- Reminder to get out to vote tomorrow!

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- Welcome to CM Mayers and Director Lewis
- CKAR CDC will meet on November 12 at 6801 Kenilworth Avenue from 7 to 9 pm
- Thank you to staff and sponsors for Riverdale Park Day- reminder that the 2019 event was moved to June
- Reminder that volunteers are needed for the Centennial Committee

- Overview of workshops attended during MML Fall Conference

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- October 20th Community Walk went well
- Thank you to all veterans for their service
- Welcome to Director Ivy Lewis
- Get out to vote tomorrow!
- Have a happy Thanksgiving!
- Madison Hill Homeowners Association will meet on Saturday November 10th.
- Thank you to residents

CM Hala Mayers, Ward 6

CM Hala Mayers stated that she was looking forward to representing Ward 6.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

Resident Lora Katz of 4507 Riverdale Road requested animal crossing signs near Rivertech Court.

Resident Bob Smith of 5001 Riverdale Road reported that he had over 400 trick-or-treaters and the parents and kids were wonderful. Mr. Smith stated that it was an exceptional evening.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Street closing of Natoli Place from Queensbury Road to Lafayette Avenue at Veterans Memorial Park from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon on November 11, 2018 for annual Veterans Day Ceremony (Ward 1)
2. Minutes from September 24, 2018 Work Session
3. Minutes from October 1, 2018 Legislative Meeting

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

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Lieutenant Robert Turner and Gentry Jones, Jr. to the Defined Benefit Plan Board of Trustees

CM Lingua made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Lieutenant Robert Turner and Gentry Jones, Jr. to the Defined Benefit Plan Board of Trustees. CM Faulx seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Swearing-in of Defined Benefits Board of Trustee members

Mayor Thompson administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant Robert Turner and Gentry Jones, Jr.

2. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-OR-12 regarding revisions to Ethics Ordinance

CM Lingua made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-OR-12 regarding revisions to Ethics Ordinance. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Lingua provided an overview of the ordinance.

3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-OR-13 amendments to Chapter 23 Charges and Fees

CM Henry made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-OR-13, amendments to Chapter 23 Charges and Fees. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Discussion:

CM Henry gave an overview of the ordinance.

4. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter regarding the 2040 Maryland Transportation Plan (MTP) Draft Plan

CM Lingua made a motion to direct the Town Manager to send a letter tremendously similar to the letter included in the meeting materials to Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) pertaining to the 2040 Maryland Transportation Plan (MTP) Draft Plan. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 5-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

- Update on defeasance and reallocation of 15-year and 30-year CDA loans (*no legislative action required*)

Town Manager Lestitian gave an update regarding the schedule for requested legislative action relating to the defeasance and reallocation of the Town's 15-year and 30-year CDA loans. Town Manager Lestitian reported that closing was projected to be by the end of the calendar year, possibly December 27th.

Mayor Thompson gave an overview and history of the loans.

- Update and review of draft Voter Registration form (*no legislative action required*)

CM Dixon stated that a draft Voter Registration form was included in the meeting materials for the Council and public to review.

Mayor Thompson stated that the Voter Registration form looked reasonable and he would review it more thoroughly in the coming days.

CM Lingua asked if the form would be translated into Spanish. Mayor Thompson stated that the translation would be done by the University of Maryland, which was consistent with most Town forms.

Resident Sheila Smith of 5001 Riverdale Road, asked if copies of the forms would be made available to the public. Town Clerk Barnes stated that copies were available with the meeting materials and on the Town's website.

- Mayor Thompson provided an overview of a recent meeting with the Boring Company, a company proposing an underground transportation system from Washington DC to Baltimore. Mayor Thompson asked the Council where they would like to see stations located in Riverdale Park. CM Lingua suggested Town Center and near the Purple Line stations. CM Faulx asked if there was a timeline for the project and Mayor Thompson replied 3 to 5 years.
- Mayor Thompson discussed a proposed resolution from the Prince George's County Municipal Association regarding regional transportation issues and plans. Mayor Thompson stated that he would circulate the resolution to Council once he received it.

Adjournment

CM Faulx made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 4-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)