

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

Attendance

Vernon S. Archer	Mayor
CM Alice Walker	Ward 1
CM Kate Sharpe	Ward 2
CM David Lingua	Ward 3
CM Chris Henry	Ward 4
CM Tim Kimbrough	Ward 5

Town Administrator- Patrick J Prangley
Deputy Town Administrator- Penelope Mendoza
Chief of Police - Chief Teresa Chambers
Director of Public Works – Leonard Addison

The Legislative Meeting for the Town of Riverdale Park began at 8:12p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of reflection directed by Mayor Archer.

Approval of Agenda

CM Walker Motioned to approve the agenda.

CM Sharpe Second

Changes: CM Henry would like to add Resolution R9-4. CM Lingua would like to add Resolution 2009- and

Motion passes 4 – 0

Presentation - Abe Kalantary

Permitting has been approved.

- Variance required by Park & Planning – Will ask M-NCPPC to approve the 700 sq ft addition.
- Feb 18th hearing at 6pm – to pass variance with M-NCPPC.
- Appreciates Mr. Prangley and Mr. Addison for helping him with the permit process.
- Requesting the Town of Riverdale Park to write a letter of support for the variances required by Park & Planning.

CM Henry moved to approve the request for a letter of support for the variances required by Park & Planning for construction at Town Hall.

CM Sharpe second

Motion passes 5-0

Mayor's Report

- Last Friday the Mayor attended a meeting with Rep Steny Hoyer and other Mayors from the area to see how the American Recovery and Investment Act will help the area. In particular we are concerned about the bridge on Riverdale Road, both construction and redesign, and the storm water management system leading into the Anacostia River. The Mayor asked Mr. Prangley to take the lead in getting Reps. and municipalities together for a meeting to talk about a way forward for the storm water project.
- Next Tues mtg. w/Senator Ben **Cardin** about storm water management for the region.
- Feb 11th ado mtg. @ 7:30pm at Town Hall – Sister City mtg. w/Impala, Guatemala.

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- Noose incident from Dec 2007 – The Mayor reports that this incident has been settled

This concludes the Mayor's Report

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Prangley gave the Treasurer's Report:

Budget as of January 31, 2008: Revenue = \$3,420,878.20, Expenses = \$2,617,323.35

- The staff has continued to look for additional sources of revenue.
- Real Estate revenues are 90% in.

CM Sharpe move to approve per audit.

CM Walker second

Motion 5-0

This concludes the Treasurer's Report

Town Administrator's Report

- M Square Project – coming along.
- NOAA Center – Will be open in the spring.
- Newsletter – Most recent issue included an article on hiking and biking. Good information shared by park and planning.
- Working on ownership acquisition. There is some unfinished business but we are moving forward to completion.

This concludes the Town Administrator's Report

Police Department Report

- Chief Chambers referred to Tab 4 in the council's notebooks for the full report.
- Apartment Managers mtg. Feb 11th @ 11a.m. at Town Hall.
- Riverdale Elementary drop off and pick up zone – Crossing guards, public works and traffic study committee will be consulted.
- Two new police cars in Riverdale Park. Fuel efficient and less expensive models.
- Violent crimes are down 9%
- Property crimes are down 14%
- Overall crime in PG County is down 3.9%

Discussion: CM Kimbrough asked about the debris at 5414 Riverdale Rd. Police Chief Chambers will follow up on this issue. CM Lingua asked about moving the traffic study date to Feb 17th @ 7pm. Mayor Archer would like to have Mrs. Cantu involved in this meeting. Chief Chambers will talk about optional dates via e-mail. CM Sharpe would like to be included in this meeting as well.

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Code Enforcement Issues

This concludes the Police Department Report

Public Works Report

- Apologized missing last week's mtg. Reports were sent to council members and mayor.
- Tree Trimming – A contractor will be out trimming and replacing trees. Please remove vehicles so that the contractors will have access to work. Taylor Rd has experiences many water main breaks. WSSC has been contacted to make temporary repairs until permanent repairs can be made in the spring.
- Snow on Jan 27th – Streets were cleared of snow until rain started to freeze the streets around 2:30am. Many residents were able to remove their cars from the streets so that public works were able to get the streets open. 35 tons of salt and 30 hours later the streets of Riverdale Park were clear. Mr. Addison thanked the residents for being patient and staying off of the streets while work was being performed.
- Route 1 and Route 410 constructions – A median has been constructed. Re-striping will be performed soon.

Discussion: CM Sharpe asked about a no parking sign that needed to be reinstated by the Elementary School. Mr. Addison will follow up to make sure the sign is up. CM Walker inquired if residents are utilizing bulk trash pick up and if they are complying. Mr. Addison said that residents are complying. Code enforcement will enforce the rules trash becomes an eyesore. CM Henry asked the status of a fence....Mr. Addison responded that code enforcement will have to let him know and he will follow up on this. CM Henry asked if there is any violation for cars parked on the street that has dripping oil. Mr. Addison is not sure and will follow up.

This concludes the Public Works Report

Fire Department Report by Steve Lamphier

- The county is really hurting for ladder trucks. Hopefully the trucks will be up and running soon.
- Four day weekends are hard to cover due to time off and the furlough. Members of the fire department have had to take off of their full time jobs to cover day shifts on holidays.
- Fundraiser – Last Friday at ice rink was not advertised properly.
- No ambulance revenues since August 12th.
- Signed a contract to get a second pumper. The current pumper is 16 yrs old.

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- Smoke detectors should be in every household. There is no reason why everyone should not have a working smoke detector. Mayor Archer suggested Steve email to both him and Mr. Prangle about the smoke detectors so that it can get posted on the town's website and other public resources.

Discussion: CM Walker asked if funding for the fire department was included in the stimulus package that Congress has been deciding on. CM Henry asked the purpose of the ladder truck and the importance of having it up and running. Ladder trucks put out a larger stream of water that helps to reach higher buildings. The current truck is undergoing a transmission replacement.

This concludes the Fire Department Report

Deputy Town Administrator's Report

This concludes the Deputy Town Administrator's Report

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward 1, CM Walker, Economic Development

- **Cafritz** Development held an open house that talked about project plans. Residents from Riverdale Park were very positive about the project. The project has been reduced in scale since last summer from 12 stories and 12K units to 7 stories and 7K units. Concerns: traffic issues (traffic analysis). The developers have a firm pre lease commitment from Whole Foods. Hope to see continued improvement with this project.
- Church on Rt. 1 – There is a church that leases the basement of the post office in Riverdale Park. They had been operating without a permit. They have tried to obtain a permit for the church but have not been able to obtain it. If traffic in that area is a problem residents will need to notify the Riverdale Police Dept. immediately. Riverdale Police can not enforce any violations other than traffic and parking. Residents can document incidents with code enforcement and city council members as well as the city police. Residents can email complaints to codriverdalepk@comcast.net.
- House Fire on Queensbury – Once the fire investigator approves the removal of the debris the town will be able to clean up the property.
- Cool Cities Initiative – Are there ways to go green? We should have recycle cans for meetings and events.

This concludes Ward 1, CM Walker's Report

Ward 2, CM Sharpe, Finance Chairman

- Clean bill of health from auditors.
- Income tax revenue went down 5%. Trend will continue this year.
- Property taxes went up 20%. Hopefully this trend will remain positive.

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- Auditors were happy that the City of Riverdale Park instituted QuickBooks accounting system.
- In 2010 the Town will be facing some liability changes. Retirement benefits have to be looked at. This will be continually discussed during finance committee mtgs.

This concludes Ward 2, CM Sharpe's Report

Ward 3, CM Lingua, Public Works

- Public Works Mtg. will be held on Mon, Feb 9th 7:15pm.
- If you know that a house on your street has been vacated please contact code enforcement by phone or email at coderiverdalepk@comcast.net.

This concludes Ward 3, CM Lingua's Report

Ward 4, CM Henry, Public Safety

- Tough Economic Times – CM Henry thanked the following business for helping out residents during these hard times: Alamo and Christian Life Center Church fed 950 people during Thanksgiving and gave out 20+ food baskets during the holidays. CM Henry encourages the council to support the town during these hard times.
- Thanked Chief Chambers and Mr. Addison and their staff for their dedication to serve the Community.
- If residents witness any crimes please contact 301-927-4343.

This concludes Ward 4, CM Henry's Report

Ward 5, CM Timothy Kimbrough, Legislative

- CM Kimbrough has recently celebrated a 1 year anniversary serving as Council Member for Ward 5.
- CM Kimbrough personally thanks Mayor Archer for leadership in instituting the furlough to help cut town expenses and to prevent layoffs.
- CM Kimbrough thanked everyone involved in cleaning up the Riverdale Rd eyesore that became a hangout for lewd behavior.
- Thanks to Mr. Raymond Rivas (Manager of Park Tanglewood Apts.) for looking out for the neighborhood children.
- CM Kimbrough welcomed Rev. David Ejay and the congregation of Redeemed Christian Church of God at 54th Ave and Riverdale Rd has already brought positive acts in the community.
- Legislative Committee mtg. will be Wed., Feb 18th @ 7:30pm.

This concludes Ward 5, CM Kimbrough's Report

Ward 6, CM Keelah Allen-Smith, Public Affairs

This concludes Ward 6, CM Keelah Report

Public Comments

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Legislative Action

1. Approval – Minutes for January 5, 2009 regular legislative meeting.

CM Walker moved to approve the minutes for January 5, 2009 regular legislative mtg.

CM Sharpe second

Motion 5-0

2. To approve a 6ft. fence rear & side located at 6215 43rd St. for Steve and Kay Whitesell. (Ward 1)

CM Walker moved to approve a permit for a rear and side fence located at 6215 43rd Street

CM Henry second

Motion 5-0

3. To Approve Time (7am – 8pm) Date, (May 4, 2009) and Place (Town Hall) of Town election.

CM Sharpe moved to approve time, date and place of Town election.

CM Henry second

Motion 5-0

4. Request to increase Filing Petition Fee from \$10 to \$25.

CM Sharpe moved to approve the petition fee increase from \$10 to \$25.

CM Henry second

Motion 5-0

CM Sharpe amended the motion to Whereas the town's filing petition fee has not been adjusted in a number of years and whereas the fee needs to adjust in for inflation on a regular basis be it resolved that sec 29-11 of election code should be amended to delete "of \$10" and replace to read "will be set council at the Feb mtg."

Discussion: Section 29-11 should be amended. Mr. Prangle will try and put the language together for the motion.

5. Request for increase compensation for Chief Judge from \$200 to \$300.

CM Henry moved to increase compensation for Chief Judge from \$200 to \$300.

CM Sharpe second

Motion 5-0

6. Request for increase compensation for Judges from \$125 to \$200.

CM Sharpe moved to increase compensation for Judges from \$125 to \$200.

CM Walker second

Motion 5-0

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- 7. Request for increase on training and pre-election night from \$25 to \$50.**
CM Walker moved to increase fee training and pre-election night from \$25 to \$50
CM Sharpe second
Motion 5-0
- 8. Request to purchase voter notification cards.**
CM Walker moved to purchase voter notification cards.
CM Henry second
Motion 5-0
- 9. Approval of Candidates filing deadline.**
CM Sharpe moved to approve candidates filing deadline of COB April 9th.
CM Henry second
Motion 5-0
Discussion: The deadline is on April 9th by 5pm.
- 10. Approval of voting registration deadline.**
CM
CM
Motion
Discussion: The deadline cannot be set until the candidates have been submitted to the election board. There is a standard form given to each town by the board of elections. Mrs. Evans, board of elections, will be contacted and asked for a date and time for voter registration. Mayor Archer determined that there is no action that needs to go forward at this time.
- 11. Approval of Chief Judge, Deputy Judge and Judges of Election.**
CM Lingua moved to accept the nominations of Kay Marcos, Louis King and Micky Gee for Chief Judge, Deputy Judge and Judge accordingly.
CM Henry second.
Motion 5-0
Discussion: Mayor Archer nominated Kay Marcos, Louis King, CM Walker nominated Micky Gee.
- 12. Approval to use paper ballots at the upcoming election.**
CM Walker moved to use paper ballots at the upcoming election.
CM Lingua second
Motion 5-0
- 13. Resolution 2009-R-04 – Red light camera enforcement**
CM Henry moved to pass resolution 2009-R-04.
CM Sharpe second
Motion 5-0

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14. Resolution 2009-R-05 – A Committee for a Riverdale Park Dispute and Conflict

Resolution Fair.

CM Lingua moved to pass resolution 2009-R-05.

CM Henry second

Motion 5-0

New Business

• **Resolution 2009-R-06 – Resolution on Direction.**

CM Lingua moved to pass resolution 2009-R-06.

CM Walker second

Motion 5-0

Discussion:

Adjournment

CM Sharpe move to adjourn 10:12 pm

CM Henry second

Motion 4-0

Typed from live meeting 02-02-09.