

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2015
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor
CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1
CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4
CM Eber Rosario, Ward 5

Sara Imhulse, Town Administrator
Lt. Rob Turner, Riverdale Park Police Department
Leonard Addison, Director of Public Works
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Archer called the legislative meeting to order at 8:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by a moment of reflection.

Approval of Agenda

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua.
Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vernon Archer reported:

- Arts Council will meet on July 7 and are seeking new members
- Overview from the May Worksession regarding the Quiet Zone
- Discussion regarding Route 1 Work Group to address regional issues

Presentation

Tree City Presentation, Horace Henry, Maryland DNR Forest Service

Mr. Horace Henry of Maryland DNR Forest Service presented Mayor Archer with the Tree City USA award. Mayor Archer thanked the Department of Public Works for their efforts.

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials.

Treasurer's Report

As of 6/30/15 (subject to audit),
Revenue: \$ 5,915,090.84
Expenditures: \$ 4,887,589.33

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Town Administrator's Report

Town Administrator Sara Imhulse reported:

- Quite Zone Notice of Intent has been issued which will start the process as discussed at the May Worksession.
- Purple Line Transit Oriented Development Study is now available. Copies were provided to the Council.
- Park and Planning Community Planning Department has initiated the kick-off for the East Riverdale and Beacon Heights sector plan. The kick-off for the public will be in the fall.
- Discussion regarding feedback on County zoning ordinance re-write.

Police and Code Report

Lieutenant Turner reported:

- NNO will be held on August 4th at Riverdale Elementary School and will include an Open House of the Riverdale Park Police Station.

Public Works Report

Director of Public Works Leonard Addison reported:

- Bulk trash drop off on July 18th and August 15th
- Banners will be replaced in Town Center
- Welcome signs will be replaced around Town
- Update regarding paving in Town
- Overview of tree planting in Town: 50 trees planted in spring, estimate 50 trees to be planted in the fall

Discussion:

CM Lingua discussed his concerns regarding flooding along Longfellow Street. He stated that he was appreciative of the response from DPW and inquired about the timing of improvements. Mr. Addison gave an overview of the process for making the needed improvements.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department's report was included in the meeting materials.

Council Committee & Ward Reports

CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1

CM Jonathan Ebbeler reported:

- Discussion regarding concerns with the FY 16 Budget
- Future legislation regarding incentives for tenants in Town Center
- Working through leasing efforts with Douglas Development
- Plan to hold regularly scheduled Economic Development meetings

CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson reported:

- Thank you to citizens for the opportunity to attend the MML Annual Convention. Attended sessions relating to police body cameras, dealing with civil unrest, big data in a small town and new technology for pavement repair.
- Update on Dog Park: an advisory committee will create rules for the park.
- Received notice that Pepco tree trimming will take place within next 10 days

- Meeting with Mayor and former County Council Member Olson regarding new incentives for M-Square area
- Incoming County environmental regulations relating to driveway sealer and grocery bags
- Thank you for concerns regarding son's health

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- CKAR meeting on July 7th at 6801 Kenilworth Ave, Suite 200 at 7 PM
- Sustainable Community Designation
- ATHA will relocate this year to the Arcade building in Hyattsville
- ATHA will be focusing on promoting bike tourism and update of signage in Town
- First Friday events at Community Forklift: Open House August 7th from 6-8pm
- Planning of Town Centennial
- Overview of sessions attended at the MML Annual Convention

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported that he looks forward to working with staff, Council, Police Department and Public Works again.

CM Eber Rosario, Ward 5

CM Eber Rosario reported that he had attended the MML Convention and found it to be very informative.

CM Rosario also thanked the voters in Ward 5 and stated that he looks forward to the next two years on Council.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

Sue Sheehan of 4707 Tuckerman Street discussed concerns regarding the maintenance of the Field of Dreams.

Ms. Sheehan discussed the traffic on Lafayette and Tuckerman, trash/debris/overgrowth along the railroad side and the shrubbery needed to be trimmed at Mabel Munch Park. She was also concerned about the handicapped parking near a fire hydrant at Town Hall.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Street closure request for 5000 block of Queensbury Road on August 4, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for National Night Out (Ward 2)
2. Minutes from May 16, 2015 Public Hearing for FY 16 Budget
3. Minutes from May 26, 2015 Public Hearing for Constant Yield
4. Minutes from June 1, 2015 Legislative Meeting

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 4-0 (favorable) Abstained: CM Ebbeler

Legislative Action Items

1. Motion regarding Fence Permit Application for 5305 Quintana Street, a 6 foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 4)

CM Henry made a motion to approve the fence permit application for 5305 Quintana Street, a 6 foot wooden backyard fence. The motion was seconded by CM Ebbeler. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

2. Motion regarding 7 Eleven project, SP-150003 (Ward 1)

CM Ebbeler made a motion to disapprove the special permit application. CM Henry seconded the motion. CM Thompson stated that a draft resolution regarding SP-150003 had been included in the meeting materials and made a friendly amendment to replace the motion with Resolution 2015-R-11. CM Ebbeler and CM Henry agreed to the friendly amendment. Thus, the motion was amended to adopt Resolution 2015-R-11. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Ebbeler gave an overview of Resolution 2015-R-11 and the Planning Board process. CM Thompson suggested several minor technical changes which were accepted by CM Ebbeler as friendly amendments.

CM Lingua and CM Henry also made minor technical changes to the resolution, which were accepted by CM Ebbeler as friendly amendments. Mayor Archer was given leeway to make further changes as needed.

Jo Arnout, 46th Avenue, discussed concerns about the process and the possibility of the Planning Board taking action contrary to desires of residents who live in the area.

Town Administrator Imhulse discussed the Planning Board process and how residents can get involved.

Sandy Silverman, 45th Place, discussed the need for a traffic study to evaluate the impact of additional traffic on residential streets in the neighborhood.

Melina Flores, 46th Avenue, expressed her concerns regarding a home daycare in the area. She also discussed her concerns regarding stormwater management.

Arlene Christianson of University Park encouraged residents to register as persons of record and to review the Planning Board rules regarding testimony.

A resident of University Park discussed his concerns regarding the proposed 7 Eleven and suggested the possibility of working with the property owner to find alternative uses for the property.

3. Motion to approve the Mayor's nominations for committee assignments

CM Ebbeler made a motion to approve the Mayor's nominations for committee assignments. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Mayor Archer gave an overview of his committee assignments.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

CM Ebbeler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Typed from notes by JEB.