

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2015
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor
CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2
CM David Lingua, Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4
CM Eber Rosario, Ward 5
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

Sara Imhulse, Town Administrator
David Morris, Chief of Police
Leonard Addison, Director of Public Works
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Archer called the legislative meeting to order at 8:07 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. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson.
Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson, on behalf of CM Ebbeler, requested that Consent Agenda Item 1 be moved from the Consent Agenda to the Legislative Action Items. Mayor Archer stated that it would be the first Legislative Action item discussed. Mayor Archer also noted that the presentations would be postponed.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vernon Archer reported:

- Working with DPW and other groups to institute a pollinator protection policy
- Executive Session to discuss the 7-Eleven project will be held on October 19 at 8 p.m.
- Update on 7-Eleven project: Planning Board's formal action was passed on October 1
- Unfortunate to cancel Riverdale Park Day; chances for rain dates were extremely limited. Will work with staff to possibly schedule a rain date in the future
- Maryland Court of Appeals has denied the case regarding the M-UTC Zoning of the Calvert Tract and there appears to be no further avenue to challenge the zoning of the Calvert Tract
- Troops First variance request was denied and the applicant will adjust plans to be compliant with County standards

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials. CM Thompson requested a copy of item 6.

Treasurer's Report

As of 9/30/15 (subject to audit),
Revenue: \$ 1,518,519.59
Expenditures: \$ 1,217,090.26

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:

- Thank you to the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to attend the ICMA conference in Seattle
- Discussion regarding ICMA vendor, Buxton. Would like invite them to a future meeting to discuss their services.
- Overview of speakers from ICMA conference
- TIF bonds were issued for bridge over CSX tracks. Thank you to Lindsay Rader and Alan Cassen
- Thank you to General Government staff and Director Addison

Discussion:

CM Lingua asked how the services that Buxton provides would relate to the Route 1 Corridor Study.

Police and Code Report

Chief of Police David Morris reported:

- Attended the Maryland Chiefs of Police & Maryland Sheriff's Association Annual Professional Development Seminar with Lt. Col. Timmons. Overview of seminars offered.
- Interviews held for the vacant investigative position. Three officers interviewed for this position before an interview panel made up of senior investigators from outside agencies. Officer Baio was selected.
- RPPD participated in a joint-jurisdictional sobriety checkpoint on Kenilworth Avenue
- Promotional testing for the rank of Corporal will take place on October 27, 2015. Two officers are testing for the promotion.
- Riverdale Park is going purple in October to raise awareness regarding domestic violence in our community. DPW has illuminated the Police Department, Town Hall and the MARC Station in Town Center with purple lights. Residents are encouraged to participate and support this effort by lighting up their porches and windows in purple.
- Update regarding installation of the CAD (Computer Aid Dispatch) system
- Ward 3 Public Safety Community Walk will take place on November 14, 2015

Public Works Report

Director of Public Works Leonard Addison reported:

- Thank you to General Government staff for doing a great job while Town Administrator was on vacation

- Bulk trash drop-off will be held on Saturday, October 17 at DPW
- Will be replacing wood doors at the train station with steel doors and frames due to ongoing vandalism. Replacement is expected in the next two weeks.
- Discussion regarding the need for cameras at the train station
- Benches are being replaced throughout Town
- Let DPW or your CM know if you want a tree planted near your home. Tree planting will begin in mid to late fall.

Discussion:

CM Thompson thanked Director Addison for following up on streetlight outages in Ward 2.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department's report was included in the meeting materials. President Lamphier was unable to attend the meeting.

Council Committee & Ward Report

CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson reported:

- Update regarding the Dog Park
- Residents on Queensbury Road and Riverdale Road have reported car break-ins. Please be vigilant.
- Was very disappointed by decision of Planning Board with regard to the 7-Eleven project. Will be working hard on appeal.
- M-UTC meeting will be held on October 7. The Cafritz team will be attending.
- Disappointed in cancellation of Riverdale Park Day- missed out on annual funnel cake!

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- Glad that the Town is able to afford staff development opportunities
- CKAR CDC will meet on 10/6 at 7 p.m. Will take comments from Ward 6 residents to the next meeting
- Sad to lose Riverdale Park Day to inclement weather- hopefully the weather will be better next year!
- Meeting held tonight with residents along Longfellow Street to discuss their stormwater management issues

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- Thank you to Chief Morris and Town Administrator Imhulse for continued professional education and encouraging the same from staff.
- Thank you to RPPD for efforts in keeping the roadways safe (sobriety checkpoints)
- Ward 4 resident questions regarding WSSC project and noise
- Request for DPW to send a crew out to check on trees that are covering lighting and possibly preventing lights from illuminating

CM Eber Rosario, Ward 5

CM Eber Rosario reported:

- Thank you to RPPD for increased presence in Ward 5

- Resident complaints regarding parking issues. May need to look for other ways to address parking problems in apartment lots. Will attend the next Public Works Committee meeting.

CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

CM Alejandro Silva reported:

- Concerns from resident of 5323 Gateway Drive regarding recent water main break near their home
- Request that RPPD look into unattended vehicles in Ward 6. Residents report that people are sleeping in vehicles.
- Letter regarding day laborer facility from residents in Ward 6 requesting that the Town not support the placement of a day laborer center in Ward 6.

Discussion:

Mayor Archer requested clarification from CM Silva regarding placement of the day laborer center. CM Silva stated that residents do not want it placed in Ward 6 or near the recreational areas as discussed at the recent Council worksession.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Minutes from September 8, 2015 Legislative Meeting

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

Legislative Action Items

1. Curb cut request for new single-family house on 6317 47th Avenue (Ward 1)

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the curb cut request as submitted by the applicant. CM Lingua seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson discussed the placement of trees with the applicant. CM Thompson also verified with the applicant that the sump would not discharge into the street and that the driveway is adequate distance from the property line. CM Thompson told the applicant that the Council appreciated his willingness to research alternate siding options and permeable paving options for driveway.

2. Motion regarding Fence Permit Application for 4707 Sheridan Street a 6 foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 2)

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the Fence Permit Application for 4707 Sheridan Street for a 6 foot wooden backyard fence with the change that the 4 foot section currently marked on the plans be extended to the existing fence post, approximately 22 feet from sidewalk line. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson discussed the reasons for his motion.

The applicant, Todd Mizis, discussed the reason why a fence was needed and why he did not seek a permit prior to building the fence. Colleen Doyle, a neighbor of Mr. Mizis, confirmed his comments regarding his other neighbor's house and the need for a fence. They were both encouraged to make Code Enforcement aware of their concerns.

3. Motion regarding Resolution 2015-R-13 regarding Smart Energy Policy
4. Motion regarding Resolution 2015-R-14 regarding Transportation Petroleum Reduction Policy

CM Thompson made a motion to combine Legislative Action Items 3 and 4 for simultaneous approval. CM Lingua seconded the motion. Vote 5-0 (favorable)

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2015-R-13 regarding Smart Energy Policy and Resolution 2015-R-14 regarding Transportation Petroleum Reduction Policy. CM Lingua seconded the motion. Vote 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson discussed his concerns regarding the Town's expected growth and an overall increase in consumption regardless of measures taken.

Devan Willemsen, Maryland Smart Energy Communities Program, discussed how the baseline for consumption/usage is calculated and how communities are evaluated for grants.

Town Administrator Imhulse discussed why the policies were before the Council for adoption.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Adjournment

CM Lingua made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)