

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2016
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 Colleen Richardson, Ward 5
CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

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

Call to Order

Mayor Archer called the legislative meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Discussion:

Mayor Archer moved all of the reports to the end of the agenda, after legislative action items.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vernon Archer reported:

- Closed Session was held on March 7, 2016, to consider the acquisition or sale of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to such acquisition or sale; and to consult with legal counsel to obtain legal advice.
- Closed Session was held on April 4, 2016, to consult with staff, and legal counsel to obtain legal advice, about pending litigation regarding Greg's Towing.
- Discussion regarding potential Enterprise Zone, that will include Riverdale Park, to be on Council agenda in the near future
- Concerns regarding changes to the Purple Line. Purple Line team will meet with Council during Worksession on April 25th
- East Riverdale and Beacon Heights Sector Plan team will also present at Worksession on April 25th
- Discussion of recent meeting with Mayor Carey of University Park regarding pond collection system for Wells Run
- Impact of Federal Government purchase of USDA building on FY 17 Budget

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was included in the meeting materials.

Presentations

Riverdale Park Police Department Recognition

Mayor Archer and Chief Morris recognized Corporal Bustamante for 10 years of service, Officer Bao for his promotion to Private First Class and Sergeant Vitchock for his promotion to Sergeant Major.

Flexible Research Space, St. John Properties and University of Maryland

Carlo Cocella, Vice President of Administration and Finance at the University of Maryland, discussed their partnership with St. John Properties for a project comprised of three buildings in M-Square Research Park. One of the buildings will house College Park Academy. Rick Williamson, Senior Vice President of Leasing with St. John Properties, discussed their company and the Flexible Research and Development Space that is proposed for the project. The Council and staff had the opportunity to ask questions.

CM Thompson stated that he had some concerns regarding the architectural guidelines that currently exist for the property and suggested that a traffic study would be need for the school.

Public Comments:

Lora Katz asked about sustainability practices for the new buildings.

Prince George's County Zoning Rewrite Module 1

Chad Williams, M-NCPPC Project Manager, gave an overview Prince George's County Zoning Rewrite. He discussed the new zoning structure included in Module 1 as well as the timeline for additional modules. The Council and staff had the opportunity to ask questions.

Treasurer's Report

As of 3/31/16 (subject to audit),

Revenue: \$ 5,680,381.97

Expenditures: \$ 3,923,976.47

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

Town Administrator Report

Town Administrator Imhulse reported:

- Overview of Women's History Month Award recipients
- Upcoming MML Convention
- Financial Disclosure forms due to Town Clerk by Monday, May 2nd

Police Department Report

Chief of Police David Morris stated that Police Department and Code Enforcement report was included in the meeting materials. He also reported that the General Assembly Session was winding down but also ramping up and gave a brief update on the status of legislation.

Public Works Report

Director of Public Works Leonard Addison reported:

- Annual Community Clean-up is scheduled for Saturday, April 23rd. DPW will pick-up bulk trash items until 2 p.m. Residents can start putting items out on Friday, April 22nd. There will be no Saturday bulk trash drop-off in April.

- Earth Day event will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, April 23rd at Riverside Neighborhood Park
- County will be moving to once a week trash and recycling collection. Riverdale Park trash collection will not change however yard waste/recycling collection days may change.

Fire Department Report

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

Council Committee & Ward Report

CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Ward 1

CM Jonathan Ebbeler was unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson reported that his major focus had been the Charter Amendment Resolution regarding Council-Manager Form of Government.

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- CKAR will meet on April 5th at 7 p.m.
- Discussion regarding ATHA Governing Board meeting held on February 22nd
- ATHA Managing Board meeting will be held in April

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported that the next Public Works Committee meeting will be held on April 8th at 8 a.m. at Town Hall.

CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5

CM Colleen Richardson reported that she will coordinate her event with Riverdale Park Day.

CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

CM Alejandro Silva did not have a report.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items and Consent Agenda Items

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Minutes from March 7, 2016 Legislative Meeting
2. Minutes from March 28, 2016 Special 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. Charter Amendment Resolution 2016-CR-01 regarding Council-Manager Form of Government

CM Thompson discussed a recent article in Greater Maryland regarding College Park Mayor Andy Fellows. He also addressed several issues raised by residents regarding the Charter Amendment. He thanked residents for their comments and questions.

CM Thompson gave an overview of potential amendments to Resolution 2016-CR-01. He stated that he was still working on a few more potential amendments. CM Thompson reminded residents to contact him if they had any questions or comments regarding the Charter Amendment.

Mayor Archer discussed the clause regarding interference by Council and current Council practices. CM Henry stated that he had heard a lot of feedback from residents and requested clarification. The Council also discussed how a Town Manager would be selected.

Public Comments:

Lora Katz thanked CM Thompson and discussed her concerns regarding the vacancy clause, specifically excused versus unexcused absences.

Corey Bettenhauser asked if Chief Morris and Director Addison would be okay with the change in government.

2. Motion regarding Fence Permit Request for 5320 Patterson Street a 6 foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 4)

CM Henry made a motion to approve the Fence Permit Request for 5320 Patterson Street for a 6 foot wooden backyard fence from rear building line. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

The Council discussed the fence permit application for 5320 Patterson Street. It was noted that the project included a 4 foot wooden front yard fence and a 6 foot wooden backyard fence. The Council explained to the applicant that the 6 foot fence should start from back building line of the house. The applicant agreed to remove the 6 foot fence panels and replace them with 4 foot fence panels, from front building line of the house to back building line of the house in order to achieve compliance.

3. Motion to approve utility easement with Washington Gas Light at Lafayette Avenue

CM Thompson made a motion to approve utility easement with Washington Gas Light at Lafayette Avenue. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

4. Motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Dedication Plat for Lafayette Avenue to facilitate relocation of utilities and relocation of the Lafayette Avenue right-of-way

CM Thompson made a motion to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign a Dedication Plat for Lafayette Avenue to facilitate relocation of utilities and relocation of the Lafayette Avenue right-of-way. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

5. Send a letter of support with conditions to the Planning Board regarding Case # DPLS-423 (Departure of Parking and Loading Standards) a departure from required 15 parking spaces for expansion of existing business, by utilizing space in the existing basement for Rosenberg & Fayne, LLP (Ward 6)

CM Silva made a motion to send a letter of support with conditions to the Planning Board regarding Case # DPLS-423 (Departure of Parking and Loading Standards) a departure from required 15 parking spaces for expansion of existing business, by utilizing space in the existing basement for Rosenberg & Fayne, LLP. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

CM Henry made a motion to excuse CM Ebbeler from the meeting due to medical reasons. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Adjournment

CM Lingua made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 5-0 (favorable)

Typed from notes by JEB.