

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

Attendance

Vernon S. Archer Mayor
CM Alice Ewen Walker Ward 1
CM David Lingua Ward 3
CM Chris Henry Ward 5
CM Keelah Allen-Smith Ward 6

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

The Legislative Meeting for the Town of Riverdale Park began at 8:15p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of reflection directed by Mayor Archer.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda – CM Lingua
Second – CM Allen-Smith
Motion passes 4 - 0

Mayor's Report

Would like to report that the town audit is complete. The current financial situation is that we have a \$252,000 general fund balance (money left over from previous years).

Some financial highlights that everyone is already aware of:

- MD Dept. of Assessment and Taxation has certified that the town's tax base has increased significantly, mostly due to the annexed areas. M square has already yielded an extra \$85,000 in tax revenue.
- Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization study results will be issued soon and will assist with the redevelopment of the Kenilworth Ave. corridor.
- Town privatized refuse collection saving over \$200,000 annually.
- Potomac Development is developing on East- West Hwy.
- Douglass Development has obtained a tenant for Town Center.
- EYA redevelopment for townhomes planned for 4500 block of Madison St. but a few years away.
- Cafritz family property moving forward for possible development.
- KSI working with Univ. of MD on possible development of homes in the old NOAA building site.

A surplus of \$252,000 is less than 3 weeks of operating budget and mayor would like to have at least a 2 months reserve. Even if emergency fund is added, we would still be short. Mayor addressed his concerns in his last report in the Crier. Mayor is currently in process of meeting with senior staff to look at how to reduce the budget/deficit and will come back with suggestions at the next work session.

This concludes the Mayor's Report

Treasurer's Report

Profit and Loss budget versus actual is available today. Meeting with auditors next week to make reports easier to read. We will have copies of the audit available to the public.

Actual revenues through October 31, 2008 \$2,762,719.85; Disbursements \$1,804,193.62

Ending balance \$2,983,357.15

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

CM Walker motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

CM Lingua Second

Motion passes 3 – 0; CM Allen-Smith away from seat

This concludes the Treasurer's Report

Town Administrator's Report

Full report provided last week at work session, but would like to highlight that the town keeps looking for opportunities and resources to bring in more revenue.

This concludes the Town Administrator's Report

Police/Code Departments Report

- Chief Chambers reminded Mayor and Council that full report is included in their packets.
- Code office now has direct line (240) 898-2500 and messages can be left on that line.
- Crime update – the person arrested for the “dumpster rape” in 3/08 has been positively identified by DNA test results as the perpetrator for this and other rapes in the area.
- Good news! Captain Timmons has been selected to attend FBI national academy training for 10 weeks starting in April 2009. Congratulations Captain Timmons!
- Crime Reports now has a link available on the Town's website
- Recommendation when ordering new cars for police fleet to go with white. Other colors tend to change or are different shades in following years, but white is always white.

This concludes the Police Department Report

Public Works Report

- Mr. Addison reminded Mayor and Council that full report is included in their packets.
- Reminder – No trash pick-up on Christmas day which falls on a Thursday. Next trash collection will be on Monday, 12/29.
- Reminder – Residents must first call Bates for bulk trash pick-ups on Wednesdays, they can't just put trash out without calling. The number to call is (301) 773-2069. Residents may also drop off bulk trash at Public Works on Saturdays between 9am – 2pm.
- The leaf collection schedule is in the Town Crier. Vacuuming on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and bagged leaves pick-ups on Wednesdays. Residents have been very good about this.

This concludes the Public Works Report

Fire Department Report.

- President Steve Lampheer stated that he provided a written report to Mayor and Council at the beginning of tonight's meeting.
- Renovations to kitchen are still ongoing and the building is scheduled for a new roof soon.
- On Dec 24th the dept. will be taking the trucks out through the town with Santa Claus.
- Ambulance billing still in talks with County, will keep Town posted.
- Update on the conditions of two firefighters that were hurt recently in a fire on 57th right outside the town borders. Mr. Lampheer will continue to keep the town posted of any changes and also mentioned that you can always check their website for the latest news.

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

This concludes the Fire Department Report

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward 1, CM Walker, Economic Development

- CM Walker reminded residents of the festival of lights and the holiday market on the 13th and 14th.
- Reminder- Meeting on the Cafritz property Saturday 12/13, 9am at Riverdale Elementary.
- Had a chance to stop by Rancho Grande, a new restaurant in town which looks very nice and has good food. Encourages residents to come out and support them.
- Attended a meeting at University of MD last month where Governor O'Malley spoke and mentioned Crime Reports and also credited the town with getting it going in the area.
- CM Walker asked Chief Chambers if the town could do what Edmonston does with their foreclosures by putting liens on the properties for PW abatement. Mayor Archer replied that what Edmonston is doing is standard practice and the Town already does this.
- Supportive of cutting back on our finances, one area that should improve is our accounting. With the implementation of QuickBooks, hopefully it should be easier to get things done and that should free up more staff hours.

This concludes Ward 1, CM Walker's Report

Ward 3, CM Lingua, Public Works

- Next public works committee meeting on Monday January 12th @ 7:15pm. No meeting Dec.
- Festival of lights and holiday market coming up, thanks to Mr. Addison for all the help with preparations.
- Thanks to Chief Chambers for all the Code efforts on the property on 58th and Taylor.
- Have noticed around town that some houses with additions now have short chimneys, can Code please take a look those violations.
- Safe Holidays to all! Reminder that there will be no trash pick-up on New Year's Day also.

This concludes Ward 3, CM Lingua's Report

Ward 4, CM Chris Henry, Public Safety

- Welcome to our new Police Officer Joe Blanco.
- Thanks to Penny Mendoza and the children who did the clean up near Town Center.
- Reminder that the Senior Holiday Party is on Dec. 18th at noon at Crescent Cities.
- Kudos to Mr. Addison for pruning the trees in the neighborhood and kudos also to Bates and their employees for doing a great job with the trash pick-up.

This concludes Ward 5, CM Kimbrough's Report

Ward 6, CM Keelah Allen-Smith, Community Affairs

- Will be attending the next Apartment Managers Meeting on Dec. 12th and encourages any resident with a concern to contact her prior to the meeting.
- Thank you to all who came out to the Veteran's Day Celebration – thanks to Mr. Moffet for his help planning this event.
- Thanks to Pastor Ben Slye of the Christian Life Center and the Alamo Restaurant for hosting Thanksgiving Dinner.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

- Thanks to Mr. Addison, most of the lights that were reported out on Kenilworth Ave. have been fixed.
- Happy Holidays to all!

This concludes Ward 6, CM Allen-Smith Report

Legislative Action

1 Approval of minutes for regular legislative meeting for October 6, 2008.

CM Lingua motioned to approve the minutes.

CM Allen-Smith second

Discussion: Mr. Prangley asked for the amount of \$75,000 for the Md. Ave. grant to be added under the administrator's report.

Motion passes 4 – 0

2 Request for Town Hall and Public Works to close on December 26th, 2008.

CM Allen-Smith motioned

CM Lingua Second

Discussion: Closed with pay? Maybe liberal leave like a weekend would work better.

Amendment made by CM Henry to make it liberal leave to all non-emergency personnel.

Seconded by CM Walker

Amendment passes 4-0

Further discussion: should be noted that this applies to this year 2008 only.

Motion passes 4-0

#3 Approval for Charter Resolution 2008-CR-01 concerning Council Members taking the month of August off.

CM Lingua motioned for approval

CM Henry Second

Amendment by CM Lingua clarifying the wording for simplicity

Seconded by CM Walker

Amendment passes 4-0

Motion passes 4-0

New Business

- Request to designate the parking lot at Town Center “No Parking” on the 6200 Block of Rhode Island ave. from 7am Friday 12/12 – Midnight Saturday 12/14 for the holiday market and set up.

CM Lingua motioned

CM Walker Second

Motion passes 4-0

Adjournment

CM Walker moved for adjournment at 9:17pm

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2008
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

CM Henry Second
Approved 4 - 0