

Town of Riverdale Park
Legislative Meeting Minutes
July 5, 2016
8:00 p.m.

In Attendance

Vernon S. Archer, Mayor
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1
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

Leonard Addison, Acting Town Manager and 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 8:04 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 revised agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 6-0 (favorable) CM Lingua did not vote.

Discussion:

Mayor Archer moved all of the reports to the end of the meeting except for the Fire Department's report. Public Comments would be moved to after the Fire Department's report.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Vernon Archer did not have a report.

Correspondence Summary

The Correspondence Summary was not included in the meeting materials. Mr. Addison stated that the Correspondence Summary would be sent to Mayor and Council via e-mail.

Presentations

Proclamation for William Wirt Middle School Soccer Team

Mayor Archer presented a proclamation to the William Wirt Middle School Soccer Team.

Treasurer's Report

As of 6/30/16 (subject to audit),
Revenue: \$ 6,679,562.24
Expenditures: \$ 5,329,762.36

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Town Manager's Report

Acting Town Manager Leonard Addison reported:

- There have been significant changes in General Government and staff is working diligently on the transition.
- Dog Park has been completed and staff is looking forward to working with the Committee
- Committed to a successful transition and ready to move forward to hire permanent Town Manager

Police Department Report

Chief David Morris gave a detailed overview of recent calls for service.

Public Works Report

Director of Public Works Leonard Addison reported:

- Bulk trash drop-off will be on July 16th and August 20th
- Mosquito Control Program is in effect and runs thru September 21. Spraying will be done on Tuesdays at dusk.

Discussion:

Thank you to DPW for graffiti removal in Ward 5.

Fire Department Report

Fire Department President Steve Lamphier reported:

- Congratulations to CM Dixon on her recent election
- Discussion regarding significant fire in first call area (Ravenswood Road)
- Recently hosted two classes from Riverdale Elementary School which was difficult because station is 100 percent volunteer
- Discussion regarding 5309 Riverdale Road and persistent false alarms in building. CM Richardson requested a meeting with building management and President Lamphier to work towards a resolution.
- Working with County regarding changes in command that started on July 1st
- Working with Mayor Archer regarding a letter/resolution towards paid fire fighters at the station during the day.

Council Committee & Ward Report

CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1

CM Marsha Dixon stated that she would reserve her report for the *Town Crier*.

CM Alan Thompson, Ward 2

CM Alan Thompson gave an overview of the workshops that he attended at the MML Convention and thanked residents and taxpayers for sending him.

CM David Lingua, Ward 3

CM David Lingua reported:

- Next CKAR meeting will be held on July 12th
- Overview of workshops attended at the MML Convention
- Discussion regarding vandalism at Riversdale Mansion. Reminded residents that “if you see something, say something”.

- Reminder regarding the closure of the soccer field at Riverside Neighborhood Park

CM Christopher Henry, Ward 4

CM Christopher Henry reported:

- Hope everyone had a good July 4th
- Issues reported regarding activity in the Alamo parking lot
- National Night Out will be on August 2nd, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Silk Tree Drive
- WSSC project has been completed and residents are hoping to have area backfilled
- Have a happy and safe summer!
- Kudos to Mr. Addison
- Thank you to Chief and Town Clerk

CM Colleen Richardson, Ward 5

CM Colleen Richardson stated that she would reserve her report for the September edition of the *Town Crier*.

CM Alejandro Silva, Ward 6

CM Alejandro Silva did not have a report.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items:

1. Street closure request for 5000 block of Queensbury Road on August 2, 2016, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for National Night Out (Ward 2)
2. Minutes from May 31, 2016, Constant Yield Public Hearing
3. Minutes from June 6, 2016, Legislative Meeting
4. Minutes from June 14, 2016, Special Legislative Meeting

CM Thompson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to approve a temporary business license and waiver from section 42-13(b)(1) and 42-13(b)(4) of the Town Code for JASO, Inc. to operate a flea market at 5413 Riverdale Road on Saturdays and Sundays until December 24, 2016 (Ward 4)

CM Henry made a motion to approve a temporary business license and waiver from section 42-13(b)(1) and 42-13(b)(4) of the Town Code for JASO, Inc. to operate a flea market at 5413 Riverdale Road on Saturdays and Sundays until December 24, 2016 (Ward 4). The motion was seconded by CM Richardson. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Henry noted that he had received positive comments from residents regarding the flea market.

CM Dixon requested clarification regarding the permit issued by the County as it appeared to not allow the flea market to open before 7 a.m. however the applicant was requesting to open at 6 a.m. The applicant explained that he had been working closely with the County inspector and that the County Inspector was aware that the flea market

opened at 6 a.m. for vendors to set-up. There was significant discussion regarding the permit issued by Prince George's County.

Lora Katz, Ward 1 resident, stated that she was looking forward to the flea market and thanked CM Dixon for looking closely at the details.

2. Motion to authorize Town staff to contact Neighborhood Design Center regarding beautification options for end of 47th Avenue to Town Center

CM Dixon made a motion to authorize Town staff to contact Neighborhood Design Center regarding improvements to the public space for the end of the 6300 block of 47th Avenue to Town Center. The motion was seconded by CM Thompson. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Dixon reported that a Ward 1 resident had requested beautification options for area. Mayor Archer explained the process for working with the Neighborhood Design Center.

Lora Katz, Ward 1 resident, stated that it was not a good return on the Town's investment and safety lighting was needed more in that area.

3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-OR-04 regarding Jey's Auto – Repeal of Authorization for Acquisition by Eminent Domain

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-OR-04 regarding Jey's Auto – Repeal of Authorization for Acquisition by Eminent Domain as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

The Council discussed the reason for the legislation. A technical amendment was made to correct the signature line on the legislation.

4. Motion to waive bid requirements and authorize the Acting Town Manager to enter into a contract for the purchase of 5 police vehicles from Hertrich and outfitted by Breckford to ride bids from State of Maryland and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's Counties

CM Lingua made a motion to waive bid requirements and authorize the Acting Town Manager to enter into a contract for the purchase of 5 police vehicles from Hertrich and outfitted by Breckford to ride bids from the State of Maryland and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's Counties. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

Chief Morris gave an overview of the request. CM Dixon requested clarification regarding the cost of the vehicles.

Heather Cronk, Ward 1 resident, asked if the Town could recoup some equipment costs by stripping the old vehicles and Chief Morris explained that is was dependent on how the vehicles were sold and the age/condition of the equipment.

5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-R-11 regarding Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise (RISE) Zone

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-R-11 regarding Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise (RISE) Zone as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson requested that the blank within the resolution be filled in with “75%” effective for 5 year period. CM Thompson gave an overview of his reason for the resolution.

The Council and public had the opportunity to ask questions about and discuss the RISE Zone with David Iannucci, of County Executive Baker’s Office, and Carlo Cocella, Vice President of Administration and Finance at the University of Maryland.

Public Comments:

Corey Bettenhauser, resident of Ward 1, clarified that tangible taxes would not be impacted by the RISE Zone tax credit, only real property tax.

Dannielle Glaros, resident and County Councilmember, gave an overview of County’s status regarding the RISE Zone process.

Heather Cronk, resident of Ward 1, asked for clarification regarding the tax credit time frame. Ms. Cronk also suggested that 50% would make more sense as well as including a preference for local hiring.

6. Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-R-12 regarding the use of Roberts Rules of Order

CM Thompson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2016-R-12 regarding the use of Roberts Rules of Order. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson gave an overview of Resolution 2016-R-12.

7. Motion to select Executive Search firm to select Town Manager and authorize Acting Town Manager to enter into a contract with firm to provide Executive Search services

CM Thompson made a motion to select Novak Consulting Firm as the Executive Search firm to select a Town Manager and authorize the Acting Town Manager to enter into a contract with the firm to provide Executive Search services, the cost to be not more than \$22,500. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

CM Thompson discussed why Novak Consulting Group was selected.

CM Dixon discussed her concerns regarding potential conflicts of interest with Novak Consulting Group providing executive search services for other municipalities in Maryland. The Council requested that Mr. Addison negotiate that the contract includes full disclosure of potential conflicts of interest during the entire term of the search for the same position with local governments within a 50 mile radius of Riverdale Park.

Lora Katz, Ward 1 resident, asked if the firm would take a portion of the selected candidate's salary. CM Thompson explained that the Town paid all fees, not the candidates.

Heather Cronk, Ward 1 resident, requested that Novak Consulting Group utilize strategies for creating a diverse pool of candidates.

8. Motion to send letter of support for Food Truck Hub for University of Maryland Venture District

CM Lingua made a motion to send letter of support for Food Truck Hub for University of Maryland Venture District. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Discussion:

David Engle and Chris Szeluga discussed the need for a Food Truck Hub in M-Square. The Council requested that the applicants work with the Riverdale Park Food Truck Hub at Town Center Market and be mindful of residents living near M-Square. Mr. Engle and Mr. Szeluga stated that they have been working with the Riverdale Park Food Truck Hub coordinator.

- ~~9. Motion to approve Mayor's nomination to fill vacant Ethics Commission seat~~

10. Motion to appoint Leonard Addison as Acting Town Manager from August 2, 2016, until Town Manager is appointed

CM Lingua made a motion to Leonard Addison as Acting Town Manager from August 2, 2016, until Town Manager is appointed. The motion was seconded by CM Henry and set salary of \$250 per day up to 5 days a week during this time period. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Unfinished Business

- CM Lingua made a motion to install a crosswalk from the northeast corner of Lafayette Avenue and Queensbury Road to the northeast corner of Lafayette Avenue and Queensbury Road. The motion was seconded by CM Henry.

Discussion:

CM Lingua stated that the intersection was discussed during the Ward 2 Public Safety Walk. CM Dixon suggested that a traffic study may need to be conducted. Mayor Archer discussed his concerns.

Mayor Archer made a motion to postpone the discussion to a definite time, September 6th Legislative meeting. CM Thompson seconded the motion. Vote: 6-1 (favorable) CM Lingua voted against the motion.

New Business

- CM Lingua made a motion to fly the Star Spangled Banner in lieu of the Stars and Stripes from August 22nd to September 19th in commemoration of the Battle of Bladensburg and the Battle of Baltimore. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

- A mandatory referral hearing will be held regarding two properties that University of Maryland is developing in the Venture District that are not consistent with the design guidelines adopted in the TDDP. CM Thompson made a motion to authorize him to speak on behalf of Town Council at the July 28th hearing. The motion was seconded by CM Henry. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)
- CM Henry made a motion to allocate \$100 to assist with the Ward 4 National Night Out event. The motion was seconded CM Lingua. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)
- Discussion regarding possible closing of REI in College Park
- CM Dixon requested that the Council and public receive an update regarding the County Zoning Rewrite at the September legislative meeting.

Adjournment

CM Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:04 a.m. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua. Vote: 7-0 (favorable)

Typed from notes by JEB.