

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2009
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

Attendance

Vernon S. Archer	Mayor
CM Alice C. Ewen	Ward 1
CM Alan Thompson	Ward 2
CM David Lingua	Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry	Ward 4
CM Raymond Rivas	Ward 5
CM Keelah Allen-Smith	Ward 6

Town Administrator- Ms. Sara Imhulse

Police Department – Chief Teresa Chambers

Director of Public Works – Mr. Leonard Addison

The Legislative Meeting for the Town of Riverdale Park began at 8:07 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of reflection directed by Mayor Archer.

Mayor Archer nominated Keelah Allen-Smith to take back the Ward 6 seat.

CM Thompson moved to nominate Keelah Allen-Smith to serve the remainder of her term.

CM Ewen Second

Motion passes 5-0

CM Allen-Smith took her seat on the Council immediately.

Presentation on Audit – by Bob Diss with Lindsey & Associates

- Lindsey & Associates performed the audit and found no errors or irregularities while performing the audit.
- CM Thompson asked about the Capital Projects Fund which shows a deficit. Should the Town transfer monies from the general fund and what is the recommended time of doing so? Mr. Diss responded that the Town can transfer funds at any time.

Approval of Agenda

CM Thompson motioned to approve the agenda.

CM Lingua Second

Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Thompson moved to remove Item #2 from the agenda. It was discussed previously.

Mayor's Report

- Tomorrow the Mayor will have a 4:30pm meeting w/Jan **Townsend** about improvements to Kenilworth Avenue.
- Wednesday @7pm in College Park the Mayor will meet with representatives from CSX about the three track system to be installed in the area.
- Thursday, 7pm Engaged University Bldg on 62nd Ave. – The Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Committee Mtg.
- November 17th @ 7:30pm– Wells Run, Redesign & Restoration mtg.

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- November 18th @4pm – Expansion of non-profits at Town Center mtg. sponsored by Eric Olson's office
- Steve Lamphier, President of the fire department is expecting to hear final wording from a creditor regarding cosigning the loan for the pumper fire truck.
- November 11th @ 11am – Veteran's Day Memorial Celebration.

This concludes the Mayor's Report

Treasurer's Report

Sara Imhulse submitted the Treasurer's Report previously.

CM Thompson moved to approve the treasurer's report subject to audit.

CM Ewen Second

Motion passes 6-0

This concludes the Treasurer's Report

Town Administrator's Report

- Sara has distributed the auditor's report to Mayor and Council. This report will be explained by Bob Diss of Lindsey & Associates.

This concludes the Town Administrator's Report

Public Works Report

- Mr. Addison submitted the Public Works report to Mayor and Council last week
- The leaf collection has started. Residents can bag leaves and put it out on the recycle pick-up day. Bates Trucking will pick them up. On November 15th you can pile you leaves up and the Public Works will vacuum them up.
- Thanksgiving falls on a Thursday which is a trash collection day. Please DO NOT put out your trash on that day or Friday. Trash will be picked up the next collection day (Monday).
- Dept of Public Works has a guide book that is currently in print and available at Town Hall. This book will help residents figure out whom to contact for assistance.
- Lights on Riverdale Road – The Department of Public Works is working to put all of the lights on a photosensitive system.
- Tree planting – The Dept of Public Works has been planting trees as part of PG County Day activities.
- Banners have arrived for Baltimore Avenue. There maybe some slight adjustments made to the banners before they are put up.

Discussion: CM Henry asked Mr. Addison about the status of the security and equipment for his facility. Mr. Addison replied that 'we are moving forward'.

This concludes the Public Works Report

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Police Department Report

- The Code Activity log and vacant home list were submitted last week.
- Problem Oriented Policing Conference (Anaheim, CA) – Started this morning. We have 6 employees, including our Code Enforcement Manager, who are attending at NO COST to the Town of Riverdale Park. They will submit reports upon returning from the conference.
- NIXLE.com – Sign up to receive immediate notification when something urgent is going on in the Town of Riverdale Park. Today there was a ‘silver’ alert which referred to a senior citizen.
- PFC Clay Alford was recently award Traffic Safety Specialist 1, 2 & 3. There was only one officer, a traffic officer, prior to PFC Alford who had received this award.
- Corp. Roland Alexander just completed DARE training, a program that helps to boost the self esteem for children in the community.

Code Enforcement Issues

This concludes the Police Department Report

Fire Department Report

This concludes the Fire Department Report

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward 1, CM Ewen, Economic Development Committee

- Groundbreaking ceremony will be held at the Riverdale Park Playground sometime in December.
- Town Staff are meeting with Park and Planning Staff about our future Bike Trail. The trail is a top priority of the Council.
- November 18th Town Center Mtg. – CM Ewen will attend.
- Festival of Lights – scheduled for December 12th. A reminder to residents to please have your lights up and on by this date.
- Pat Prangley’s Retirement party – CM Ewen attended. It was an awesome event.
- Sorry to be out of town during the Veteran’s Day Celebration.

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- This is a great time to plant trees. The state of MD is providing a \$25 rebate to residents. There are coupons available at Town Hall.

This concludes Ward 1, CM Ewen's Report

Ward 2, CM Thompson, Finance Chairman Committee

- Pleased to attend Mr. Prangle's retirement party.
- Attended a Purple Line Hearing in College Park. The Council's letter as to where the station should be placed. There are some big changes planned for the intersection of East West Highway & Kenilworth Ave.
- Attended Traffic Study Committee meeting last month. CM Thompson passed on notes to staff.
- Attended Ward 2 Block Party. People seemed quite happy. About two dozen people came out.
- Halloween –
- Public Urination – This issue was brought up on Town Talk today. It would be nice to bring this type of issue up to the Town Police first.
- Financial report was submitted to the State last Friday. Congratulated and thanked staff for all the hard work they put into it.
- Finance Committee Mtg. – Nov 18th @7:30pm

This concludes Ward 2, CM Thompson's Report

Ward 3, CM Lingua, Public Safety Committee

- Welcomed new Town Administrator Sara Imhulse.
- Thanked Chief and officers for providing a safe Halloween. No incidents reported.
- Public Safety Committee Mtg. – CM Lingua would like to schedule a meeting. Asked folks to check their schedule and send him preferred dates within the next 24 hours.
- Festival of Lights – Really great event. Encouraged people to step up and volunteer.

This concludes Ward 3, CM Lingua's Report

Ward 4, CM Henry, Public Works Committee

- Attended Pat Prangle's retirement party. Good luck to you Pat!
- Welcomes Sara Imhulse. CM Henry looks forward to working with Sara regarding the annexation of our adjoining neighbor on Good Luck Rd.
- CM Henry has been absent from the Council for about a month due to a conflict in work schedules.
- Thanked Mr. Addison for the landscaping of the Town of Riverdale Park as well as stepping in to help fill for the vacant Town Administrator's position while in transition.
- Thanked the staff for his birthday cake. "It was very thoughtful and kind of you."

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- A beloved member of the community lost their property due to the present economic situation.
- There was a theft of four wheels on a car from a resident who resides in CM Henry's neighborhood. These types of thefts are occurring between the hours of 4-5 a.m. happening in the wee hours of the morning. If a resident notices suspicious behaviors please report it to the police.
- Welcomed CM Keelah Allen-Smith back to the council.
- CM Henry suggests that when there is a special legislative meeting an e-mail as well as a phone call go out as a reminder.
- CM Henry just celebrated his 50th birthday!

This concludes Ward 4, CM Henry's Report

Ward 5, CM Rivas, Community Affairs Committee

- Welcomed Sara and thanked her for keeping him in the loop as far as e-mails of information that has been forwarded almost daily.
- Festival Lights – Mtg. on November 10th@3:30pm at Town Hall. Thanked Jim Coleman for putting together list of to do's for the event.
- Still looking for volunteers for the Recreation Board.
- CM Rivas thanked Council for input for the events calendar that he is putting together.
- Welcomed Keelah Allen-Smith back to the Council.
- Halloween was a success. No one got into any trouble.

This concludes Ward 5, CM Rivas Report

Ward 6, CM Allen-Smith, Community Affairs Committee

- Thanked the Mayor and Council for nominating her to come back into her Council seat.
- Welcomed Sara Imhulse.

This concludes Ward 6, CM Allen-Smith Report

Public Comments

Legislative Action

1. Approval of minutes for October 5, 2009 regular legislative meeting.

CM Thompson moved to accept the minutes.

CM Lingua Second

Motion passes 6-0

Discussion: CM Ewen noted that on page 1 Ipala is spelled incorrectly.

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2. Approval for date & time on the Holiday Market to be held at the town center on Saturday, December 12, 2009 from 12:00pm until 8:00pm and the festival of lights from 5:30pm until 8:30pm.

CM Ewen motioned to approve the date & time on the Holiday Market to be held at the town center on Saturday, December 12, 2009 from 12:00pm until 8:00pm and the festival of lights from 5:30pm until 8:30pm.

CM Henry Second

Motion passes 6-0

Discussion: CM Lingua asked resident Jim Coleman if he needed addition time on Friday to set up. Jim stated that it would be a good idea to close off a portion of the parking lot around 2pm. Mr. Addison suggested that the parking lot be closed off during the morning so that cars that are parked for commuting won't be in the way. CM Henry asked if there was a Plan B for heating. Jim responded that the stone fire and the mushroom heaters will both be used.

3. Approval of time & date for the children's Christmas party to be held at town hall on December 5, 2009 from 3:30pm – 5pm.

CM Rivas motioned to approve time & date for the children's Christmas party to be held at town hall on December 5, 2009 from 3:30pm – 5pm.

CM Allen-Smith Second

Motion passes 6-0

Discussion: CM Lingua stated that the party would start around 3pm and would last for approx 1.5 hours. A puppet show and pictures with Santa were done in past years. Mayor Archer stated that the Town Crier will need to go out a little earlier so that the public can be informed of this event. Mayor Archer also instructed Sara to make sure the Elementary School is notified.

4. Motion to suspend requirements for competitive bidding for speed camera services.

CM Thompson motioned to suspend the charter requirement that all contracts more than \$20K be put out for competitive bidding for the Opti Traffic Item #5.

CM Lingua Second

Motion passes 6-0

Discussion: CM Thompson, after hearing a report on speeding from Chief Chambers, considers this an emergency situation. Chief Chambers reported that more than 3000 vehicles a day traveled over 12 miles per hour above the speed limit.

5. A resolution authorizing red light and speed enforcement camera program.

CM Lingua motioned to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into an agreement with Opti Traffic speed and enforcement services.

CM Thompson Second

Motion passes 6-0

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Discussion: CM Lingua read the agreement with Opti Traffic. Sara Imhulse explained to Council that the Town will be responsible for the citations and that Opti Traffic will be working on behalf of the Town. Mayor Archer stated that the Code Enforcement office will oversee this project and that one additional staff will be hired to manage the citations.

New Business

- Work Session on Monday, December 28th will be moved to Monday, December 21st @ 8pm.
- Thanksgiving Festival in combination with the Alamo Restaurant and the Christian Life Center will NOT take place this year due to economic woes. Mayor Archer talked to the Christina Life Center who suggested that the Town donate funds (approx \$5K) to help make this event happen. An alternative event may take place where meal baskets may be distributed to the community. CM Henry, Ewen Walker and Lingua all agreed that the Council will allow a \$500 contribution from a community fund. There maybe an alternative event planned to serve the community.
- CM Thompson presented Resolution 2009-R-16 authorizing the Town to enter into a certain equipment lease purchase agreement with Kansas State Bank of Manhattan.
CM Thompson moved to approve resolution 2009-R-16.
CM Ewen Second
Motion passes 6-0

Discussion: Payments – 32,639.88 (8 biannual payments). Mayor Archer clarified that waiving the bidding is due to the fact that finding a lending institution for these relatively small amounts of money has been hard for the Town. The Town will figure out how to get some of the smaller capitol items off of the list in order to get into the financing game.

- CM Lingua asked that since CM Henry was absent and CM Allen-Smith was not on Council that the Bulk Trash code item be brought back up for discussion at the December Legislative Meeting. Mr. Addison will provide copies of the Bulk Trash code item to Council.
- CM Thompson would like to see a legislative action regarding speed hump placement on Lafayette between Sheridan and Summerset Streets due to speeding on that street.

Unfinished Business

Adjournment

CM Henry move to adjourn 9:55 pm
CM Allen Smith Second
Motion passes 6-0
Typed from tape 11-02-09.