

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

Attendance

Vernon S. Archer	Mayor
CM Alice Ewen Walker	Ward 1
CM Alan Thompson	Ward 2
CM David Lingua	Ward 3
CM Chris Henry	Ward 4
CM Raymond Rivas	Ward 5

Town Administrator- Patrick J Prangley

Police Department – Chief Chambers

Director of Public Works – 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.

Approval of Agenda

CM Rivas Motioned to approve the agenda.

CM Walker Second

Motion passes 4-0.

Discussion: Mayor Archer would like to move the two presentations and Ward 6 vacancy before his report. Add Item #6 Ward 6 Vacancy and Item #7 Special Election under Legislative Action Items. CM Thompson moved to amend the agenda to move the council committee and ward reports after Public Comments and Legislative Action Items. CM Walker Second. Motion passes 4-0.

Presentation on preliminary plan of Subdivision M-Square by Tom Haller and Irene Redmiles from the University of Maryland.

- The Litton Re-subdivision Plan was explained to the Mayor and Council because the Town of Riverdale Park will have to consent to a subdivision application that will ask for an increase in density that will spill into the Town.

Certificate of Appreciation presented to David Matthew for his Police Banner.

- Police Chief Chambers presented David Matthew with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Town of Riverdale Park and the Police Department.

Mayor's Report

- The State has reduced our highway user fund and state aid to the police (\$245,000/approx 5% of total budget).
- Ward 6 will be declared vacant. CM Allen-Smith has moved out of Ward 6.
- Mayor Archer would like to present two candidates for the next Town Administrator at 7:30pm tomorrow.
- Closed session meeting tomorrow on the former trail right of way.
- Riverdale Day – October 3rd. Thanks CM Rivas for leading efforts.
- Saturday, September 26th - Sister City will help landscape around Town Hall. Volunteers are needed.

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- September 19, 2009 @ 10a.m. – Public Hearing to gather public input on how to proceed with Community Center Project.

This concludes the Mayor's Report

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Prangley gave the Treasurer's Report:

Modified accrual report as of July 31, 2009: \$1,113,338 Revenues,

Budget as of August 31, 2009: Revenue = \$305,065, Expenses = \$697,442.

CM Thompson move to approve Treasurer's Report subject to audit.

CM Walker Second.

Motion passes 5-0

This concludes the Treasurer's Report

Town Administrator's Report

- Communications and Data System has been up and running which will assist in the operation of QuickBooks.
- Party of Record – Preliminary plan of subdivision and revisions to detailed site plan - EYIA
- Rhode Island Ave improvement project – Contract Deadline Dec 31, 2009
- Opti-traffic – The town attorney will review the language pertaining to the training and the logging in provision.

This concludes the Town Administrator's Report

Police Department Report

- Hard copies and E-copies were distributed to Mayor and Council last week.
- Stop work order on a fence at one of the apartment buildings
- Code Enforcement has been spot checking various businesses and dance halls.
- The Satellite Office in Town Hall with PG County Dept of Environmental Services has been going great.
- NIXEL – Advertised in Town Crier. Corp. Alexander will go to each business in town to communicate this to residents.
- Grants – Received \$261K (includes: Records Mgmt., Bicycle Acquisition Program, One Community Police Officer)
- Neighborhood Police Support – Corp. Alexander is available to perform residential and commercial security surveys, free of charge.
- Bi-Annual Crime Report compared to last year – Violent Part 1 Crimes are down 36% from 2008 and 42% from 2007, Property Part 1 Crimes are down 34% 2008 and 52% from 2007. Overall Part 1 offenses are down 34.4% from 2008 and 49.6% from 2007. As we interact more with the community percentages may rise because more crimes will be reported.

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Discussion: Mayor Archer thanked everyone at the police department and Council for a great Night Out.

Code Enforcement Issues

This concludes the Police Department Report

Public Works Report

- Billing Practices for abandoned properties – Public Works, with Code Enforcement, is trying to recoup money for work that has been done to abandoned properties.
- Department of Public Works made Audrey Bragg resident of the month. She volunteered her time to help beautify the town.

This concludes the Public Works Report

Fire Department Report

- August – 109 incidents in the area, 209 incidents outside of the area, 0 significant incidents.
- CM Henry called about hydrant testing. WSSC is very good about letting our public safety communications know when a hydrant is down. CM Henry asked is the Town of Riverdale Park could institute some form of testing. TBD.
- Riverdale Heights Station is 100% volunteer.
- Ambulance Billing – Progress is being made but has been extremely slow. The County has collected only 16% of the billing as of January to June.
- Lost Ambulance – Company 55 had a call to Company 44's area (by DC line). The ambulance took 30 minutes to get there. They were following a combination of maps and GPS and were directed in the wrong way. Steve apologized.

Discussion: CM Lingua asked what can be done so that the lost ambulance situation won't happen again. CM Henry expressed appreciation for Company 55's hard work and blamed the incident on lack of manpower and resources.

This concludes the Fire Department Report

Deputy Town Administrator's Report

This concludes the Deputy Town Administrator's Report

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward 1, CM Ewen Walker, Economic Development Committee

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- Renovation of the Riverdale Park Playground (west side of train tracks). Thanked CM Eric Olson for finding the funding to get this project. Children from the area were involved in the selection of equipment.
- Last days of Farmer's Market (Thursdays from 3pm – 7pm). Special Guest on October 8th – Celebrity Chef from Top Chef TV show.
- Thanked Mayor and town staff and attorney for keeping work on the trails going forward.

This concludes Ward 1, CM Ewen Walker's Report

Ward 2, CM Thompson, Finance Chairman Committee

- FY 08/09 Audit is going on in October – CM Thompson requested information on benefits spending from town staff.
- Town Administrator search – Excited with candidates.
- Proud of Audrey Bragg from Ward 2 for obtaining Resident of the Month award.
- Littering – CM Thompson would like coordinate with Park Police to gain control of the littering issue.
- Recycling in public spaces – CM Thompson asked Mr. Addison if it were logical to utilize recycling bins alongside the public trash receptacles. Mr. Addison replied that the majority will use the recycling bins as trash cans.
- CM Thompson noted that this is Mr. Prangley's last legislative meeting. Thanked him for his work.

This concludes Ward 2, CM Thompson's Report

Ward 3, CM Lingua, Public Safety Committee

- CM Lingua will announce a Public Safety mtg soon.
- Thanks those that came out for the National Night Out.
- Talked to District County CM Olson about the Riverside neighborhood park and its use.
- Ward 3 resident Robert Fuerst Sr. passed away at the age of 86. Mr. Fuerst served on the council, as treasurer, Lion's Club and his country in WWII. He was a good example in the community and will be greatly missed.

This concludes Ward 3, CM Lingua's Report

Ward 4, CM Henry, Public Works Committee

- Met with the Dir. Of Public Works about providing plant pots to help enhance the beautification the town. They talked about banners that will make the town look more attractive and cameras for protection of town residents.
- Kudos to Corp. Alexander for taking the initiative during National Night Out. Thanks the Mayor and Council for support.
- Kenilworth Corridor – Development of a single family home displayed no permit signs.

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- Homes are selling. CM Henry welcomed new neighbors.
- Would like to see fire hydrant testing.
- Agrees that this town needs a Community Center in place for the residents and children. Looking forward to the Community Center Advisory Committee.
- CM Henry brought in his consolidated tax statement as instructed by town staff.
- CM Henry inquired about what will follow the approval of 2009-OR-02 Ordinance Resolution concerning a School Zone Speed Monitoring System.

This concludes Ward 4, CM Henry's Report

Ward 5, CM Rivas, Community Affairs Committee

- Thanked residents for coming out to National Night Out.
- Response to crime in Ward 5 has been speedy. CM Rivas thanks Riverdale police for their quick response every time.
- Volunteers needed for Riverdale Day – Mtg Oct.14th @5:30pm.

This concludes Ward 5, CM Rivas's Report

Ward 6, CM Keelah Allen-Smith, Legislative Committee

This concludes Ward 6, CM Keelah Report

Public Comments

Legislative Action

1. Approval of minutes for July 6, 2009 regular legislative meeting.

CM Henry moved to approve the minutes for the regular legislative meeting on July 6, 2009.
CM Thompson Second
Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: Changes – page 2/bullet 5 - Carlos Hernandez, page 5/Ward 2 – This concludes Ward 2 CM Thompson's Report, page 4/Fire Dept. Report – Steve Lamphier, page 6/Public Comments/bullet 1 – Marie Novicky,

2. Approval to support the variance request V-51-09 located at 5012 Nicholson Street for Sharon & Kemo Edwards.

CM Lingua moved to approve the variance request V-51-09 located at 5012 Nicholson Street for Sharon & Kemo Edwards.

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CM Thompson Second
Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Lingua stated all drawings are in order. There is no reason to disapprove.

3. Introduction to 2009-OR-02 Ordinance Resolution concerning a School Zone Speed Monitoring System.

CM Lingua moved to introduce Ordinance Resolution 2009-OR-02 concerning a School Zone Speed Monitoring System.

CM Thompson Second
Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Lingua read Ordinance Resolution 2009-OR-02 into the record.

4. Introduction to a Resolution 2009-R-09 concerning Town Debt Policy for the Town of Riverdale Park.

CM Thompson moved to adopt Resolution 2009-R-09 concerning Town Debt Policy for the Town of Riverdale Park.

CM Henry Second
Motion passes 5-0

5. Introduction of Resolution 2009-R-10 concerning the Community Center Advisory Committee.

CM Thompson moved to adopt Resolution 2009-R-10 concerning the Community Center Advisory Committee.

CM Walker Second.
Motion passes 5-0

6. Declaration of vacancy for Ward 6.

CM Thompson moved to declare the vacancy of the seat for Ward 6 of the Town of Riverdale Park.

CM Henry Second
Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: Council has declared Ward 6 seat vacant. Mayor Archer stated that a special election to fill Ward 6 seat will be held within 30 - 45 days. Thursday, October 22nd gives Council maximum opportunity to fill the Ward 6 seat. Residents have until Sept 28th to submit a valid petition.

CM Thompson moved to set the date for the special election to fill the vacancy for Ward 6 for Thursday, October 22nd.

CM Walker Second.
Motion passes 5-0.

CM Lingua motioned to use paper ballots for the special election on October 22, 2009.

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CM Thompson Second.

Motion passes 5-0.

If no residents come forward by Sept 28th the special election will be canceled and the vacancy would be re-advertised.

New Business

- CM Lingua moved to transfer the parking restrictions originally scheduled for the 4700 Block of Nicholson Street for Aug 29th to Sept 26, 2009.

CM Thompson Second

Motion passes 5-0

- CM Henry thanked Mr. Prangley for all the good work the he has done for the town. "I think that you were an outstanding Administrator. I know I will miss you and the town will miss you. I hope that your replacement can measure to at least half of what you have done for this town. Outstanding sir. Thank you sir."

Unfinished Business

Adjournment

CM Lingua move to adjourn 10:45 pm

CM Thompson Second

Motion passes 5-0

Typed from tape 09-06-09.