

Town of Riverdale park
Monday, November 1, 2010
Regular Legislative Meeting Minutes

Attendance

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

Town Administrator- Ms. Sara Imhulse
Police Department – Chief Teresa Chambers
Director of Public Works – Leonard Addison
Fire Department – President Lamphier

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 Henry motioned to approve the agenda.
CM Thompson Second.
Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Ewen would like to strike Item #5 from the agenda. CM Thompson second.

Mayor's Report

- State Highway provided suggestions for Queensbury. They will synchronize the lights at Route 10 for better traffic flow. There will be a second left turn lane (North bound). They will put up Do Not Walk intersection signs as well. They are proposing changing the lighting system.
- Presentation from M-NCPPC for a dog park at Monday's meeting. Proposals were given for improvement of the main soccer field/football field by fencing it. In addition t They want to expand the parking lots and put in bleachers to enhance the main playing fields.
- Public Hearing – Possible sale of the Boys n Girls club at 6204 51st Ave. There is a concern from the Boys N Girls Club that there should be no sale until a bigger facility is sought.
- Sister City's teachers were well received last month by a wide variety of groups. Mayor Archer hopes this will continue for many years to come.
- Holiday Market- Planning continues. Mr. Coleman will provide details.
- Access to UM Shuttle – Administrator Imhulse will provide details.

This concludes the Mayor's Report

Treasurer's Report

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As of October 31, 2010: Revenue = \$3,764,244.43, Expenses = \$1,428,566.30.

CM Thompson moved to approve the treasurer's report subject to audit.
CM Ewen Second
Motion passes 5-0

This concludes the Treasurer's Report

Town Administrator's Report

- **Thanked everyone for assisting with the Sister City visit.**
- Veteran's Day - Short ceremony at Town Hall. Refreshments will be served.
- Shuttle UM – Only available to residents of College Park for now. There are many municipalities that are interested in amending the legislation so that all residents can ride the shuttle (for a fee). Council will provide a resolution.
- ICMA Conference – Best practices and ways to approach problem solving. Administrator Imhulse would like to hear from residents about what they would like to see improved in the Town of Riverdale Park.

This concludes the Town Administrator's Report

Police Department Report

- International Association of Police Conference last week. Learning to better use license plate recognition technology. Learned concepts of fairness and neutrality. Chief Chambers came back with lots of ideas and will pursue new grants to achieve them.
- The department received \$6K in grants and reimbursement of \$8K+ for a conference.

Discussion:

Code Enforcement Issues

This concludes the Police Department Report

Public Works Report

- Information regarding upcoming holiday. Trash collection will not be affected on Veteran's Day. There will be NO trash collection on Thanksgiving Day. Trash will be collected on Nov 31st. Bulk Trash
- Completed fall flower planting. Started process of planting trees. Mr. Addison is looking at planting in Beale Park and throughout the Town. The process should take a week or two.

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- Leaf Collection – Starts November 15th thru Jan 15th. We will follow the old trash collection schedule. All of the details are in the Town Crier. Leaf collection will be performed on Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri at curbside.

Discussion: CM Lingua asked if the leaf equipment has been out on dry runs. Mr. Addison replied that the equipment is working fine. CM Thompson asked about the tree at 4811 Tuckerman Rd. Mr. Addison contacted Pepco and will follow up on that.

This concludes the Public Works Report

Fire Department Report

- Railroad Crossing – Thanked those involved in this project. It is a much smoother ride for the fire department.
- We are approaching 4K incidents for the year. This is a record amount of responses for the fire department.
- Volunteers will staff the fire station during Veteran’s Day and Thanksgiving Day.
- Keeping volunteers around is a challenge.

Discussion: CM Henry asked ‘How is the climate and staffing at the fire house?’ Chief Lamphier replied that everything is going well. CM Henry asked ‘How are you coping with the addition calls this yea?’ Chief Lamphier stated that there are ‘good’ things that are happening like the new pumper and are looking forward to the new ambulance. Mayor Archer thanked the Chief and his employees for their hard work and hanging in there through rough times.

This concludes the Fire Department Report

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward 1, CM Ewen, Economic Development Committee

- Very interested in hearing responses from Administrator Imhulse’s responses from her conference.
- Interested in hearing comments about the Boys N Girls club and weather the new facility will meet the needs of the community. If the sale goes through with M-NCPPC CM Ewen would like to see restrictions but on it. CM Ewen is not supporting the sale to the highest bidder if it leads to development of the existing park area, she would like it to remain open space.
- Dog Park plan seems to be moving forward. Residents have been inquiring about a dog park for a while.
- Riverdale Park Day – Thanked CM Rivas for putting it together.
- CM Ewen hosted someone from the exchange program with the sister city and enjoyed it.

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- Excited about the trees being planted this fall by Public Works.
- CM Ewen stated that Council needed a little more time to review the Ordinance 2010-OR-09.

This concludes Ward 1, CM Ewen's Report

Ward 2, CM Thompson, Finance Chairman Committee

- Finance Committee will meet November 16th @7:30pm.
- Hosted and exchange teacher from the sister city. CM Thompson said it was fun to communicate with gestures and practice his Spanish.
- Party Oct 24th – Caught up with his neighbors at an impromptu party in his neighborhood. Thanked Public Works department for providing chairs at the last minute.
- Sale of property on 51st Ave. – CM Thompson would like to hear comments from Ward 2 residents.
- Halloween – Glad to see a few police cars driving around during the evening. Thanked everyone who decorated and gave out treats.
- Everyone have a safe and peaceful Thanksgiving.

This concludes Ward 2, CM Thompson's Report

Ward 3, CM Lingua, Public Safety Committee

- Kenilworth Ave Revitalization Meeting – November 9th@7:00pm at the Multicultural Center
- Please vote!
- Riverdale Park Day – Residents of Ward 3 had a great time and it was a great location this year. Thanks to CM Rivas.
- CM Lingua gave the exchange teachers from the sister city a tour of the Riverdale Mansion. Thanks to Riverdale Mansion for hosting a dinner for them. The exchange teachers were impressed that Town Hall meetings were publically broadcasted.
- Thanked Chief Chambers and staff for being out on Halloween night.
- Congratulation to Lt. Andrew Powell for recent promotion from Sergeant.

This concludes Ward 3, CM Lingua's Report

Ward 4, CM Henry, Public Works Committee

- Public Works Meeting on January 7th.
- Tomorrow is Election Day. Please vote!
- Thanked CM Thompson, Administrator Imhulse... for meeting all of our initiatives this year. Excited about the Christmas in April initiative.
- Testing for Emergency Snow Signs will be performed soon.

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- Speed Cameras – The Town is not geared to make a profit off of people. The cameras are set up from 6am - 8pm (Mon thru Fri). The cameras are there for safety.
- Railroad Crossing – Looks and feels great!
- Congratulations to Lt. Powell on his promotion.
- Thanks to Town Staff. CM Henry appreciates all of their helpfulness.
- Election signs should not stay up too long after the election. Mr. Addison is looking forward to recycling some of the signs for their wood planks.
- CM Henry would like Code Enforcement to peruse local businesses to see what signs need to be updated and/or repaired.
- CM Henry decided to pause on the resolution of illegal signage.

This concludes Ward 4, CM Henry's Report

Ward 5, CM Rivas, Community Affairs Committee

- Thanked everyone who participated in Riverdale Park Day.
- CM Rivas read his Ward 5 report for the public.
- Festival of Lights – CM Rivas would like everyone to participate by decorating your homes.
- Thanked the kids of Riverdale Park. CM Rivas had NO incidents.
- Older women in CM Rivas' building have been robbed (4 in one month). Most residents in Ward 5 are scared to report the incidents to the police. They report the robberies to CM Rivas instead. Chief Chambers suggested having Corp. Alexander come out and talk to CM Rivas about these incidents.

This concludes Ward 5, CM Rivas Report

Ward 6, CM Allen-Smith, Legislative Committee

CM Allen-Smith was not in attendance.

This concludes Ward 6, CM Allen-Smith's Report

Public Comments

- Jim Coleman (4911 Somerset Rd.) – First meeting on Nov 8th 6pm for Festival of Lights and Holiday Market. Expenses will be kept at the same level as last year. Vendor fees will go up. Mr. Coleman hopes to receive more donations this year. The Holiday Market and Festival of Lights will be held on Saturday, December 11th noon – 8pm. Festival of Lights 5:30pm – 8pm. Mayor Archer suggested that Jim use Liberties Promise (high school volunteers) who are looking for community service hours.
- Melissa Avery (4810 Riverdale Rd.) – Melissa is the President of the Historical Preservation Council and is working on reviving the organization to restore the history of Riverdale Park. Melissa also stated that she opposes the sale of the Boys & Girls Club. She stated that the building was put up and dedicated in the name of a man who

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lost some of his family on the railroad tracks (where kids used to play before they erected the Boys & Girls Club). Mayor Archer was very enthused to hear about the Preservation Council and their work. He stated that the goal of the Council is not to get rid of a building or piece of land but to create a set of enclosed public space that provides an opportunity for the current community. Mayor Archer asked that Melissa share meeting dates with the Council and Town Crier so that those interested in learning more about the history of Riverdale Park can attend.

Legislative Action

1. To approve minutes October 4, 2010, regular legislative meeting.

CM Lingua moved to accept the minutes.

CM Thompson Second

Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Thompson – pg 4 under Ward 2 Report “I am pleased to be...”

2. To approve minutes for October 25, 2010, special legislative meeting.

CM Thompson moved to accept the minutes.

CM Lingua Second

Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: Votes should be changed to one (1) less on each vote.

3. To take action on a building permit at 5316 Riverdale Road to install a 6ft fence.

CM Thompson moved to approve the building permit at 5316 Riverdale Road to install a 6 ft fence.

CM Ewen Second

Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Thompson stated that this fence would be a good idea for partition between two neighbors who don't get along, and the fact that it was a cast-iron fence meant the neighborhood would still have an open feel and allow communication between neighbors.

4. To take action on a building permit at 5400 Powhatan Road to install a 6ft fence.

CM Henry moved to approve the building permit at 5400 Powhatan Road to install a 6ft. fence.

CM Ewen Second

Motion passes 5-0

New Business

- Correspondence Summary – Mayor Archer would like to establish a routine way of archiving correspondence that the Mayor, Council and Town Staff use and distribute to

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the public (hard copy or electronic). CM Ewen stated that it doesn't bother her that Correspondence Summary is a standing agenda item that doesn't get reported. Administrator Imhulse stated she would be happy to report on the Correspondence Summary. Mayor Archer stated that in the 1980's ... but that also is a reflection of the technology of the times. CM Thompson stated that the way that Correspondence Summary was used long ago is now the equivalent to how Council uses e-mail. Jim Coleman thinks that there should be a Project Update during the Town Hall Meetings. Melissa Avery stated that it is very important to keep an archive of correspondence from prominent residents/people from Riverdale Park. CM Ewen and Mayor Archer thought that Mr. Colman's idea of a Project Update was a good one but is not really sure if that is an agenda item to be adopted. A written report in the Town Crier may be a good idea for the Project Update.

- Request formal Letter to Delegation – As of December, Mayor Archer would like to make a former request for Capital Funding. Council will need to make a decision of how much of a match they would provide the state.
 - How much are we going to come up with ourselves? There's a \$200,000 seed fund that the Town can ask the state to match. Administrator Imhulse stated that whatever funds the Town asks to match the Town will have to have the funds available at the time of the bill passing. The Town will have up to 10 years to spend the money.
 - First action is to alert the Delegation of the Town's intention to ask for funds. The Town will have to submit a monetary ask by the end of January.
- CM Thompson moved to close Town Center for the Holiday Market on Friday, December 10th @ 9am thru Saturday, December 11th @ 9pm
CM Ewen Second.
CM Lingua amended to 6am Friday, December 10th thru 10pm Saturday, December 11th
Motion passes 4-0
- **CM Lingua asked a question about the status of a building permit.**-Administrator Imhulse replied that the permit has been signed, the resident was contacted that they can remove the sticker and that the resident is free to pick up the permit from Town Hall.

Unfinished Business

Adjournment

CM Lingua moved to adjourn 10:20pm
CM Thompson Second.

Typed from live meeting 11-01-10.