

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008**  
**REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendance**

Vernon S. Archer            Mayor  
CM Alice Ewen Walker    Ward 1  
CM Kate Sharpe            Ward 2  
CM David Lingua          Ward 3  
CM Timothy Kimbrough    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- Director Leonard Addison

The Legislative Meeting for the Town of Riverdale Park began at 8:05p.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 Walker

Second – CM Allen-Smith

Motion passes 3 - 0

**Mayor's Report**

- Happy to report that CDBG application was approved for \$75K.
- Mayor Archer attended the Maryland Municipal League Conference where they covered the following:
  - Speed Camera options in school zones (25MPH)
  - Revenue options for initiative to study government (expanded taxing, licensing authorities, etc)
  - Energy Program – includes energy efficient audits and availability of low interest loans.
- Mayor Archer had a conversation with MML's researchers. Tom Reynolds was invited to the next work session to talk about how to keep costs down and to go over coding language.
- The following are concerns about the City's website:
  - Search engine is not up to date
  - Town Criers had not gotten indexed
- Bi-lingual attorneys available at the Hyattsville Library this Saturday from 11am – 1pm handling:
  - Divorce
  - Child Custody
  - Family Law
- A conference on immigration will be held at University of Maryland on December 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 5pm featuring:
  - Academia
  - Perspective of government in PG County
  - Perspective of immigrants in PG County
- Budget – Due to current economic woes Mayor Archer has been closely monitoring the budget. He is currently working to reduce spending and is not approving any overtime orders.
- Purple Line – There will be four hearings held over the next month. The two closest are in New Carrollton (Nov 15<sup>th</sup>) and College Park (Nov 19<sup>th</sup>). To participate in the purple line hearings please call 1-866-842-9283 to register to testify.

*This concludes the Mayor's Report*

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008**  
**REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

**Presentation of the Purple Line**

A representative from the DeMarche Alliance presented information about the purple line and their work behind it to the Mayor, Council and citizens of Riverdale Park.

**Town Administrator's Report**

- The grant for Maryland Avenue for \$75,000 looks favorable.
- The Town submitted an application for the storm water management system on Maryland Avenue.
- Veteran's Day celebration will take place at the Monument (mark train station) on November 11<sup>th</sup> and hosted by the US Army Brigade.
- A power point presentation on QuickBooks will take place at the next legislative session.

*This concludes the Town Administrator's Report*

**Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Prangley gave the Treasurer's Report:

Modified accrual report as of September 30, 2008: \$1,512,325.79 Revenues,

Budget as of October 31, 2008: Revenue = \$2,296,860.34, Expenses = \$1,437,433.81

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

CM Walker Second

Motion passes 5 - 0

*This concludes the Treasurer's Report*

**Police Department Report**

- Overall crime is down 6% from 2007 and 15% from 2006.
- The apartment managers meeting went well. Commitments were made on both sides to keep conversations going. It was agreed that the key to safety at the apartments is proper screening of applicants.
- Two robberies took place on the 5400 Block of Kenilworth Avenue.
- The PG County Vice Unit notified Riverdale Park Police of their presence on October 31<sup>st</sup>. Arrests were coordinated with town police.
- A reimbursement check (\$3,664) was received for the state training.
- The upcoming Chief of Police Conference will also be reimbursed by the state (travel and hotel).

*This concludes the Police Department Report*

**Public Works Report**

- Traffic Group Study – CM Walker asked about the costs involved. The contract estimates a cost of \$10K.
- Queensbury Road has been re-opened to westbound traffic. It has been recently striped and re-signed. It will be closed from 6am – 9am during the week.
- Leaf Season – There has been a schedule established to collect leaves for the Town of Riverdale Park residents:

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008**  
**REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

- A Days – Mondays and Thursdays
- B Days – Tuesdays and Fridays
- Bates will pick-up bagged leaves on Wednesdays
- No Collection on Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup> (Thanksgiving Day). Collection will resume on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

*This concludes the Public Works Report*

**Fire Department Report**

Mayor Archer announced that the firehouse president is on vacation and will not be in attendance. A report has been provided.

*This concludes the Fire Department Report*

**Ward and Committee Reports**

**Ward 1, CM Walker, Economic Development**

- CM Walker thanked Mr. Addison for providing an update for the study with the Traffic Group and for his help in reducing the trains' horn blowing in town.
- There was a speed hump installed on 41<sup>st</sup> Street.
- Queensbury Rd. was re-opened.
- Farmers' Market – The market's season has ended but the Farmers' Market will re-open on Thursday 11/20 for a special Thanksgiving edition. There will also be a Holiday Market on December 13 – 14.
- CM Walker wanted residents to be aware of grants and tax incentives for renovations of historic properties in the Town of Riverdale Park. There are workshops available for residents.
- Transit meeting about Route 1 commute:
  - Take a look at the bus system on Route 1
  - Look into University of Maryland Commuter bus being accessible for Town residents.
- Ward 1 block party last Saturday was a success. CM Walker thanked Heather Blanchard for her help coordinating.
- CM Walker attended the Urban Edge Conference where economic development in PG County was discussed.

*This concludes Ward 1, CM Walker's Report*

**Ward 2, CM Sharpe, Finance Chairman**

- Due to recent burglaries CM Sharpe gave the following advice to residents:
  - If you go away on vacation, notify the police department for routine patrols.
  - The police department has an engraver available to residents. Engraving personal items with your license number or address will help police in identifying stolen items.
- Purple Line – CM Sharpe will introduce legislation tonight.
- Donna Edwards Workshop – resources available to help residents deal with foreclosures and the tough economy.
- CM Sharpe was glad to hear of the progress the Town Administrator has made with the QuickBooks accounting system.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008**  
**REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

*This concludes Ward 2, CM Sharpe's Report*

Ward 3, CM Lingua, Public Works

- CM Lingua encouraged residents to recycle.
- There will be a public works meeting on November 25<sup>th</sup> @ 7:15pm.
- Riverdale Park Day – Many thanks to all who came out to support this event.

*This concludes Ward 3, CM Lingua's Report*

Ward 5, CM Timothy Kimbrough, Legislative

- No loitering – The residents of Riverdale Park want streets, sidewalks and parking lots clean.
- CM Kimbrough thanked the council for supporting his previously submitted legislation.
- CM Kimbrough stated that he is committed to keeping the Town of Riverdale Park clean.

*This concludes Ward 5, CM Kimbrough's Report*

Ward 6, CM Keelah Allen-Smith, Public Affairs

- Apartment Managers Meeting – CM Allen-Smith thanked property managers for participating in the meeting. It went very well.
- Veteran's Day Celebration – November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11am. CM Allen-Smith thanked Mr. Moffet for planning this event.
- There will be a Thanksgiving Dinner at the Alamo on Thanksgiving Day. Contact Pastor Ben Slye of the Christian Life Center for volunteering opportunities and donations.

*This concludes Ward 6, CM Allen-Smith Report*

**Public Comments**

Allan Thompson – “Please remember to vote!”

**Legislative Action**

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

CM Lingua motioned to approve the minutes.  
CM Walker second  
Motion passes 5 – 0

# 2 Approval of minutes for special legislative meeting for September 29, 2008

CM Lingua motioned to approve the minutes.  
CM Walker Second  
Motion passes 5-0

#3 Request for funds to be taken out of special interest account for purchase of winter articles by Christian Life Center for distribution at Annual Thanksgiving Dinner held at the Alamo.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008  
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES**

CM Allen-Smith motioned to approve a \$500 donation to the Christian Life Center  
CM Lingua Second  
Motion passes 5-0

Discussion: CM Sharpe inquired about the amount of the original budget for charity donations. There is \$1,500 available for charitable donations. CM Allen-Smith stated that the \$500 would go towards the purchase of coats for distribution at the Thanksgiving dinner. Mayor Archer stated that this donation would be a worthwhile way of helping out. This is the first year the Town of Riverdale Park has granted a cash donation for this event. CM Walker asked if the church could provide a receipt of purchase to ensure the donation was spent properly.

#4 To approve Ordinance Resolution 2008-OR-05 concerning obstructions to public places.

CM Kimbrough motioned.  
CM Walker Second  
Motion passes 4-1; CM Allen-Smith opposed

Discussion: CM Kimbrough distributed positive feedback from Fred Sussman that this resolution is properly formed.

#5 To approve Ordinance Resolution 2008-OR-06 concerning cutting of weeds at owners cost.

CM Kimbrough motioned to pass Ordinance Resolution 2008-OR-06 into legislation.  
CM Sharpe Second  
Motion passes 5-0

#6 To approve Charter Resolution 2008-CR-01 to amend article II, section 204 requesting the Mayor & Council to recess for the Month of August.

CM Lingua asked that this item be held until the December 1<sup>st</sup> legislative meeting.

**New Business**

- CM Sharpe moved to introduce a Resolution that the Council of Riverdale Park support the construction of the Purple Line Metro System.  
CM Walker Second  
Approved 5-0
- CM Walker moved to add a Resolution that the town write a letter to the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission on the FY 2010 CIP budget including renovations of the Riversdale Mansion, playground, and football field; support for the bike path/trolley trail and the dog park, and overall maintenance and security.  
CM Lingua Second  
Approved 5-0

Discussion: CM Walker will send town staff a draft of letter

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2008  
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

- CM Lingua asked CM Allen-Smith to talk about the results that came from the Apartment Managers Meeting. CM Allen-Smith answered that the apartment managers discussed topics of security, graffiti, and children loitering and have committed to continuing to meet on a bi-monthly basis.
- CM Lingua moved to consider that the next work session take place on the December 22<sup>nd</sup> instead of December 29<sup>th</sup>.  
CM Walker Second  
Approved 5-0

**Adjournment**

CM Sharpe moved for adjournment at 9:20pm  
CM Lingua Second  
Approved 6 - 0

Typed from live meeting on 11/03/2008.