

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
January 7, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tabled for January Council Meeting.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Approval of 2008 Calendar: Persons should e mail updates to calendar to Town Clerk, including meetings, holidays, deadlines (newsletter). Calendar will be a continuously updated document. The Town Clerk will send the generic budget schedule to everyone for incorporation in the calendar.

State Pension Plan: Treasurer Torrence will perform expedited research on the additional payment requirement.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

Police Department Equipment Purchase: Council Member George moved to approve the vehicle purchase as outlined in the January 3, 2008 memo from Chief Moss to Mayor James. Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

COVAD to Verizon for Town Hall Internet Service: Vote on this will take place at the Monday Council Meeting.

V. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:

Staff answered questions related to staff reports. Council Member Watson requested enhancements to information in the Public Works report. Council Member George will work with Mr. Carmena on this.

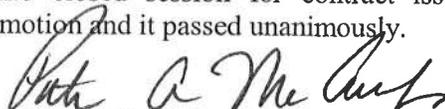
VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member George requested a Certificate of Appreciation for Manuel Gileman, Manager of WalMart for the Council Meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further Public Business, at 6:45 p.m. Council Member George moved to adjourn into closed session for contract issues; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
January 14, 2008**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all Council Members present.
- II. OPENING PRAYER FOLLOWED BY A MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF BLADENSBURG'S GOODWILL AMBASSADOR CHRIS NEEDHAM AND OUR STATE SSENTATOR GWENDOLYN T. BRITT:** Mayor James gave the prayer followed by a Moment of Silence.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor James gave the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Town Treasurer, Lauralucia Torrence.
- V. CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION:** Chief Moss presented Certificates to Officers for outstanding performance in carrying out their duties for the Department.
- VI. PRESENTATIONS:**

Inter-County Connector: Mr. Marvin Eason gave an update.

Health Tech Institute: Mr. Yemi Bamisaiye gave a brief description of the program.
- VII. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER WORKSESSION AND COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve both minutes as presented. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council reported on the previous month's activities and meetings, including announcement of the Holiday Decorations Contest winners from Council Member Watson and an upcoming press article on the Phoenix from Mayor James.
- VIII. STAFF REPORTS:** Staff presented reports on the previous month's activities by Department. Complete reports are filed in the Town Office.
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Vote on Switch in Internet Provide from COVAD to Verizon FIOS:
Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the switch; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- X. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- XI. PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.
- XII. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:45 p.m., there being no further public business, Council Member George moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
February 4, 2008 5:30 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza, and Watson present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member Watson moved to approve the January 2008 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Snack Vending Machine: Diane Griffin introduced Sophia Lopez, a vending machine contractor, who was interested in placing equipment in the municipal building. Council Members expressed concern about healthy snacks, placement, and any financial benefits to the Town. No decision was made.

Cleaning Contract: Ms. Diane Griffin expressed concerns about the cleanliness of the Town Hall, offices, restrooms and other public areas. The current contractor, Details, Unlimited, is not living up to expectations. Council Member Ficklin will develop a Request for Proposals and seek out bids for this service.

Recreation Council: There are questions about the procedures for selecting a Chairperson, conducting business and allocation of Recreation Council funds. Mayor James directed the Recreation Council to have a Board in place. Council Member Watson moved to approve \$10,000 guideline for the Recreation Council developing a budget for FY09. Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion. The motion was tabled. Prior to the next Recreation Council Meeting, there will be a taskforce appointed to formulate guidelines, including the Treasurer, Code Enforcement Director, and Council Member Mendoza.

Choices for Success: Jacqueline Sibert presented the current program that focuses on the middle school students. The program needs written support and more. Choices will be working with Rogers Heights Elementary School and Wm Wirt Middle School.

Credit Card Policy: Council Member George moved to approve the policy as drafted by Town Treasurer Torrence; Council Member Watson seconded the motion. Discussion: A number of amendments were agreed upon. Council Member George withdrew his current motion and moved to approve the policy with the agreed upon changes. Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Evergreen Cemetery: The Committee is comprised of Council Members Watson

and Mendoza, Tim McNamara, Pat McAuley, and citizen John Carlson. Most members spent time in January at the site, surveying the existing problems and planning a triage for rectifying them. Tires should be removed, brush cleared, fence repaired. Information on the Title is needed from the Town Attorney. Council Member George moved to approve \$3400 to replace the Gate. Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Grant Application: Town Treasurer Torrence has developed a grant application for organizations that wish to have the Town give funding support. Council Member George moved to approve the application as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously

Budget Enhancements: Town Treasurer Torrence asked all Department Heads to prepare a "wish list" for Department needs for FY09.

PTCDC Representation: CM Ficklin expressed concern that no Town Official is on the Port Towns Community Development Corporation is on the Board. Council Member Ficklin will take on that responsibility.

Grant Agreement with Redevelopment Authority: Council Member George moved to approve the draft agreement as presented. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Note: The Annapolis Road Gateway Committee is moving forward on schematics for presentation before the Redevelopment Board for approval.)

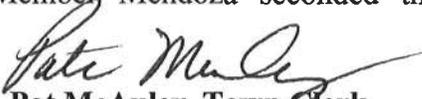
IV. NEW BUSINESS

Cinco de Mayo: Council Member George moved to support Council Member Mendoza moving forward in plans for a Town Celebration. Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: Staff field questions on their individual reports.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements were made of upcoming events.

VII. ADJOURNMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION: There being no further public business, Council Member George moved to go into closed session for contract discussion; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.


Respectfully submitted, Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

COUNCIL MEETING
February 11, 2008 7:00 p.m.

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER :** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening Prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION FOLLOWING FEBRUARY WORKSESSION:** Mayor James announced a closed session to discuss contract issues.
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the January Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council reported on previous month's activities including a Moment of Silence for the victims of the Kirkwood, Missouri City Hall shootings. Council reminded the citizens about the upcoming Black History Month Celebration and the upcoming Town Budget Process.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Town Management Staff presented reports of last month's activities by Department. Complete reports are available at the Town Office.
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - Introduction of Resolution 1-2008: Annexation of Newton Green Property:** Town Clerk McAuley gave a summarized version of the Resolution.
 - Vote on Agreement with Redevelopment Authority on Infrastructure Improvements on 57th Avenue:** Council Member Mendoza moved to move approve the agreement; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS**

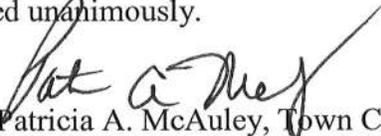
Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Mayor's request for \$500 from his discretionary funds for the Wm Wirt Middle School Choir. Council Member George Seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member George moved to approve Mrs. Barnes as a member of the Recreation Council; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT: There was considerable discussion and concern about the Prince George's County School policy that would allow for a Certificate of Completion in lieu of Graduation from High School

XI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 8:15 Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk.

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION AGENDA
March 3, 2008 5:30 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza, and Watson present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of the February Worksession minutes was tabled until the March Council Meeting.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Uses for Three Captains Site: The Management staff has visited the site and is in the process of preparing a report for review of Mayor and Council.

Budget Deliberation Schedule: Council Member George moved to approve the Budget Schedule as presented by the management staff; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Direction for Recreation Council: The Recreation Council will be directed to plan four recreational/community activities for the entire Town. Two will take place in Ward I and two will take place in Ward II. Additionally, non profit entities interested in receiving Town funds must complete the appropriate grant application and submit this to the Town Treasurer by March 30th.

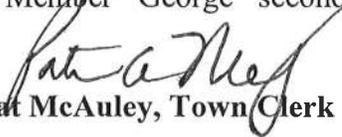
57th Avenue Infrastructure & Streetscape Improvements: The Town Engineer has asked for direction on the handicap ramps on the west side of 57th Ave. as part of the street paving project (PY33-CDBG). Council concurred that the design should include sidewalk ramps that will incorporate into the new streetscape design and the Town Engineer will be so directed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

V. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: Staff fielded inquiries related to their individual Department Reports.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements were made of upcoming events and news of general interest.

VII. ADJOURNMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION: Contract Negotiations: There being no further public business, at 7:00 pm, Council Member Mendoza moved to go into closed session; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.


Respectfully submitted, Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
March 10, 2008**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson arrived soon thereafter.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the Opening Prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **RECOGNITION OF CHRISTOPHER NEEDHAM'S LIFELONG CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE TOWN:** The Mayor presented Mr. Needham's family with a Proclamation and Award, expressing the Town's gratitude for his lifelong commitment to the community. The Council added their heartfelt words on Chris Needham.
- V. **RECOGNITION OF CORPORAL STONE:** Council Member Watson presented Corporal Stone with a Governor's Award for his volunteerism with the Anacostia Trail Heritage Area special events and projects.
- VI. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the February 2008 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the February Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:** Mayor James announced a closed session on February 29 to discuss personnel issues.
- VIII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Reports included: Council Member George attended the signing of Bostwick MOU between University of Maryland Preservation Program and the Town. He encouraged citizens to attend candidate forums for the District 5 Councilmember position. Council Member Mendoza thanked Ms. Griffin and McAuley, and all others who helped with Black History Month. He asked for volunteers to help with Cinco de Mayo. Council Member Ficklin spoke on goals for the Town. Council Member Watson reported on the NLC Conference, read a poem she had written about Chris Needham and talked about opportunities for health care information in the community. The Mayor concluded by explaining the newly adopted process for non profits to request grant funding from the Town.
- IX. **STAFF REPORTS:** Reports included – Public Works report on bulk trash pick ups, Finance reporting on the upcoming FY09 Budget process, Town Clerk reporting on the MOU signing with University of Maryland, Acting

Town Administrator spoke on the Team Management approach the Town is undertaking to make our outstanding service to the community even more exemplary and, as Police Chief, on incidents of interest to the community. The Town Attorney reported on efforts being made by the School Board to counsel students that were victims of the bus accident. Copies of complete reports are available in the Town Office.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Public Hearing for the Annexation of the Newton Green Property will be held on April 14, 2008, 6:30-7:00 p.m.

Adoption of Budget Schedule for FY09: Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the Budget Schedule as presented by Management Staff; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XI. NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments included thanks from the Needham Family and concern about the bright lights at Seton High School.

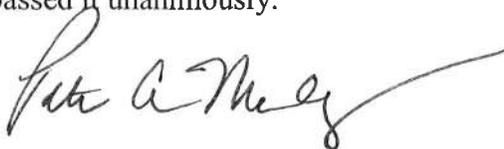
XIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further public business, at 8:20 p.m. Council Member George moved to adjourn into closed session for contract negotiations; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
April 7, 2008 5:30 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson present. Staff present were Chief Moss, Tim McNamara, Cia Torrence, Diane Griffin (Pat McAuley was excused), Rodney Sims, Joe Carmena, and Town Attorney Dan LaPlaca.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Watson moved to approve the March Worksession Minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **EVERGREEN CEMETERY UPDATE: John Carlson:** The University of Maryland archeology students have expressed interest in taking on this project. The archeologists did not want Public Works do disturb anything in the cemetery without any guidance from the students. Mayor James complimented Mr. Carlson for his interest in helping the Town.
- IV. **PRESENTATION OF TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S FY09 BUDGET: Acting Town Administrator Moss:** The FY09 draft budget was presented by Acting Administrator Moss for Mayor and Council's review. Ms. Torrence fielded questions from the Council.
- V. **CDC UPDATE: Kevin Williams:** Mr. Williams gave a power point presentation on the proposed Port Towns' Sector Plan. The 23 & 24 of April is the ULI grant workshop.
- VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Will be discussed at next meeting.
- VII. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- VIII. **CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** Staff fielded their inquiries related to their individual Department Reports.
- IX. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Announcements were made up upcoming events and news of general interest including Women's Day Event this weekend.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further public business, at 7:00 pm, Council Member Watson moved to close, Council Member George seconded the motion and passed it unanimously.



**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 14, 2008**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **RESOLUTION 1-2008: ANNEXATION OF NEWTON GREEN SENIOR HOUSING:** Council Member Watson moved to approve the Resolution as presented. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and passed unanimously.
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the March 2008 Council Meeting and April 2008 Worksession minutes as presented. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. **CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT:** Mayor and Council recognized the academic achievements of five Town seniors. Council Member Watson made the presentation to Geraldine Timberlake, Council Member Mendoza to Mary Winder, Council Member Ficklin to Josephine Green, Council Member George to Barbara J. Givens, and Mayor James to Clara Lindsely. Ms. Givens spoke about the people who have supported their efforts. Ms. Heather Illiff, District 2 School Board Representative announced a Prince George's County Public School Open House on April 22 from 9:30 to 2 p.m.
- VII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Reports included: Council Member George attended an event with the Governor concerning "Capital for a Day" in the Port Towns, participated in Teen CERTS training. Ms. Watson attended the Easter Luncheon at Parkview at Bladensburg, the Women's History Luncheon, ATHA meeting, Bladen Wood Association. She is serving on the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commemoration. Council Member Ficklin attended the Port Towns' CDC meeting. He complimented the Staff on the FY09 Budget presentation. Council Member Mendoza attended a conference with the Dominican Republic President in New York, representing elected officials of Dominican descent. On May 4th, there will be a Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Town Green. Mayor James thanked Parkview for hosting the Mayor's Breakfast. He elaborated on the Capital for a Day. The CSX Bridge will be named in honor of Senator Gwendolyn Britt. Mayor James has been appointed Deputy Director for Community Relations for Prince George's County.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS: Staff gave reports by Department. Complete reports are available at the Town Office.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Council Member Mendoza read a Proclamation, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, in remembrance of the Armenian Genocide at the beginning of the Twentieth Century. All concurred with the Proclamation.

X. NEW BUSINESS

Closed Session: Council Member Watson moved to go into closed session to discussion contract issues after the open meeting; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT:

A resident of Parkway Condominiums expressed deep concerns about continued fire outbreaks in one unit. This is a grave danger to the entire building. Acting Town Administrator Moss will investigate her concerns.

XII. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further public business, at 8:40 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
MAY , 2008**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Pro Tem Ficklin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members George, Mendoza and Watson present. Staff present were Chief Moss, Tim McNamara, Cia Torrence, Rodney Sims and Pat McAuley. Mayor James arrived shortly thereafter.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve April Council Meeting minutes as presented. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. PHOENIX APARTMENTS UPDATE:** Attorney Larry Taub announced that Federal Capital Partners is ready to submit a detailed site plan to the County that will add 22 apartments to the lower levels, previously retail space. They will be requesting a letter of support for the detailed site plan as presented.
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Archeological Study for Bostwick: The University of Maryland was submitted a proposal for this work. Council directed that Ms. McAuley move forward on a contract for this proposal.

Budget Recap: Council Member Ficklin asked for a fund request deadline waiver for Choices for Success, who did not get it application for grant funding to the Treasurer by the deadline. The Mayor explained that the Council has decided to not deter from the process, as it opens up arguments for other groups who did not meet the closing date.

The Mayor suggested taking \$1000 each from the PTCDC and Port Town's Day, and putting it toward Bladensburg's Community Day.

Port Town's Bus GL account should now be \$18,000. A copy of the MOU with Colmar will be reviewed. Alternative transportation options will be investigated. We are asking for ridership logs to determine if Town residents' usage matches with the reports generated.

Mayor James will send dates for future meetings that may be scheduled for any budget updates.

- V. NEW BUSINESS:**

Town Center Project: Updates – There is a need to look at a range of consultants with proven track records and to develop a strong contract. It was

suggested that there be more use of the PTCDC. The Leadership team will develop and presents recommendation for this process.

VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:

Thanks went to Rodney Sims for his leadership role in Public Works.

The ownership of the dioramas is still in question. The Town will continue to insure the exhibits.

There have been no further requests or actions related to Aman Trust's grant applications for Market Square.

VII. CALENDAR UPDATES: The Town Clerk requested all dates be forwarded for the master calendar.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ATHA has taken on the Route One Banner project and the Town will receive 22 banners for Alternate Route one.

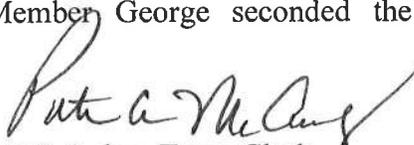
Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department is looking for substantial funding and will be meeting with the Mayor and Chief Moss on this in the near future.

The Bladensburg Police Department with support from other area jurisdictions apprehended a dangerous armed robber who was holding up students on the way to school. There will be a ceremony recognizing their efforts at the May Council Meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION:

There being no further public business, at 7:00 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel and contractual issues. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
MAY , 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Ficklin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members George, Mendoza and Watson present. Staff present were Chief Moss, Tim McNamara, Cia Torrence, Rodney Sims and Pat McAuley. Mayor James arrived shortly thereafter.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member Mendoza moved to approve April Council Meeting minutes as presented. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. PHOENIX APARTMENTS UPDATE: Attorney Larry Taub announced that Federal Capital Partners is ready to submit a detailed site plan to the County that will add 22 apartments to the lower levels, previously retail space. They will be requesting a letter of support for the detailed site plan as presented.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Archeological Study for Bostwick: The University of Maryland was submitted a proposal for this work. Council directed that Ms. McAuley move forward on a contract for this proposal.

Budget Recap: Council Member Ficklin asked for a fund request deadline waiver for Choices for Success, who did not get it application for grant funding to the Treasurer by the deadline. The Mayor explained that the Council has decided to not deter from the process, as it opens up arguments for other groups who did not meet the closing date.

The Mayor suggested taking \$1000 each from the PTCDC and Port Town's Day, and putting it toward Bladensburg's Community Day.

Port Town's Bus GL account should now be \$18,000. A copy of the MOU with Colmar will be reviewed. Alternative transportation options will be investigated. We are asking for ridership logs to determine if Town residents' usage matches with the reports generated.

Mayor James will send dates for future meetings that may be scheduled for any budget updates.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Town Center Project: Updates – There is a need to look at a range of consultants with proven track records and to develop a strong contract. It was

suggested that there be more use of the PTCDC. The Leadership team will develop and presents recommendation for this process.

VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:

Thanks went to Rodney Sims for his leadership role in Public Works.

The ownership of the dioramas is still in question. The Town will continue to insure the exhibits.

There have been no further requests or actions related to Aman Trust's grant applications for Market Square.

VII. CALENDAR UPDATES: The Town Clerk requested all dates be forwarded for the master calendar.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ATHA has taken on the Route One Banner project and the Town will receive 22 banners for Alternate Route one.

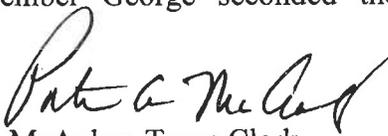
Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department is looking for substantial funding and will be meeting with the Mayor and Chief Moss on this in the near future.

The Bladensburg Police Department with support from other area jurisdictions apprehended a dangerous armed robber who was holding up students on the way to school. There will be a ceremony recognizing their efforts at the May Council Meeting.

IX. ADJOURNMENT FOR CLOSED SESSION:

There being no further public business, at 7:00 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to go into closed session to discuss personnel and contractual issues. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 12, 2008**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson was excused.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Mendoza gave the opening prayer.
- III. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **PORT TOWNS' SECTOR PLAN AMENDMENT:** Janine O'Connor, MNCPC, encouraged all to attend the six day charrette in mid June.
- V. **CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION:** Chief Moss presented certificates to Police Officers from Bladensburg and Mt. Rainier, and Department staff for outstanding work to apprehend an assailant who attempted five armed robberies against students going to Bladensburg High School.

Chief Moss presented a Certificate of Recognition to Lance Corporal Rashid who rescued a woman from a car accident, where the vehicle was in a precarious position.

- VI. **CONSTANT YIELD TAX HEARING:** Treasurer Torrence gave an explanation of the Constant Yield Tax and the necessity of the hearing to comply with State Law.
- VII. **FY 09 BUDGET INTRODUCTION:** Treasurer Torrence gave a summary of the proposed financially responsible budget.
- VIII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Council Member George spoke on public safety and the heroism of our police; Council Member Ficklin recognized past employees for their achievements; Council Member Mendoza thanked all those who participated in Cinco De Mayo; and Mayor James thanked all who have participated in community events, reminded all to vote in the special Congressional election and spoke briefly on the budget.

Council Member George requested that from his Council Project allotment, \$100 each would go to Pastoral/Lay Council, Choices for Success, Krewe of Ambition, Parkview, and Emerson House. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the request; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- IX. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates on the previous month's activities by department. Complete reports are available at the Town Office.

X. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.

XI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Council Projects: Council Member George moved to approve Council Member Ficklin's request for \$125 for Pastoral Lay Council and \$125 for Choices for Success; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 1-2008: Adoption of the FY09 Budget and Setting the FY09 Real Property Tax Rate: The Town Clerk performed the first reading.

XII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

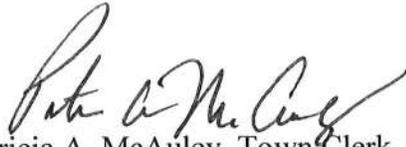
A citizen complained about excessive noise from loud parties and vehicles. The Town will revisit amplified music at its own community events.

A citizen was concerned about rent increases at Parkview. Acting Town Administrator Moss will research this issue.

Residents reported a large pothole on 57th Ave. near the streambed south of the high school. Staff will check this portion of the street. This road area is scheduled for repaving early this summer.

XIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further public business, at 8:40 p.m. Council Member Mendoza moved to go into closed session to discuss a contract; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 12, 2008**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson was excused.
- II. OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Mendoza gave the opening prayer.
- III. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. PORT TOWNS' SECTOR PLAN AMENDMENT:** Janine O'Connor, MNCPC, encouraged all to attend the six day charrette in mid June.
- V. CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION:** Chief Moss presented certificates to Police Officers from Bladensburg and Mt. Rainier, and Department staff for outstanding work to apprehend an assailant who attempted five armed robberies against students going to Bladensburg High School.

Chief Moss presented a Certificate of Recognition to Lance Corporal Rashid who rescued a woman from a car accident, where the vehicle was in a precarious position.

- VI. CONSTANT YIELD TAX HEARING:** Treasurer Torrence gave an explanation of the Constant Yield Tax and the necessity of the hearing to comply with State Law.
- VII. FY 09 BUDGET INTRODUCTION:** Treasurer Torrence gave a summary of the proposed financially responsible budget.
- VIII. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Council Member George spoke on public safety and the heroism of our police; Council Member Ficklin recognized past employees for their achievements; Council Member Mendoza thanked all those who participated in Cinco De Mayo; and Mayor James thanked all who have participated in community events, reminded all to vote in the special Congressional election and spoke briefly on the budget.

Council Member George requested that from his Council Project allotment, \$100 each would go to Pastoral/Lay Council, Choices for Success, Krewe of Ambition, Parkview, and Emerson House. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the request; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- IX. STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates on the previous month's activities by department. Complete reports are available at the Town Office.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business.

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

Council Projects: Council Member George moved to approve Council Member Ficklin's request for \$125 for Pastoral Lay Council and \$125 for Choices for Success; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

First Reading of Ordinance 1-2008: Adoption of the FY09 Budget and Setting the FY09 Real Property Tax Rate: The Town Clerk performed the first reading.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A citizen complained about excessive noise from loud parties and vehicles. The Town will revisit amplified music at its own community events.

A citizen was concerned about rent increases at Parkview. Acting Town Administrator Moss will research this issue.

Residents reported a large pothole on 57th Ave. near the streambed south of the high school. Staff will check this portion of the street. This road area is scheduled for repaving early this summer.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further public business, at 8:40 p.m. Council Member Mendoza moved to go into closed session to discuss a contract; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
June 2, 2008**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members George and Mendoza present. Staff present: Acting Town Administrator Moss, Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Town Clerk McAuley and Mr. Sims, Public Works. Council Members Ficklin and Watson arrived soon thereafter.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the May 2008 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Council Budget Recommendations/Adjustments: Council Member Mendoza moved \$3000 for seniors with \$1500 for Parkview due to lack of 501C3 designation; seconded by Council Member George and passed unanimously.

At the suggestion of the Mayor, an additional \$3000 will be added to community promotions general ledger account. This is so the Town can purchase commemorative "gift" items, such as mugs or backscratchers for guests and other visitors.

Capital for a Day: All agreed that the Governor and his staff must be made of the priority needs of Bladensburg. Mayor Adam Oritz, Edmonston, is apparently the point person for this event. Concerns were expressed about Bladensburg's possible exclusion from the planning. Mayor and Council will meet immediately after the June Council Meeting to prioritize issues that need to be presented to the Governor, Cabinet Members and other State Staff at the event.

Finger Printing Fee: Council Member Ficklin moved to approve raising finger printing fee to \$14.50 per card for non residents; the Town will continue to provide the service free of charge for residents. Seconded by Council Member George. Discussion: The Town currently charges less than other entities providing this service and it means taking a sworn officer off the street to administer this process. In time, civilians in the Department will be trained to accomplish this. It was suggested that the amount be changed to an even \$15.00. Vote: The Mayor and Council voted unanimous against the Motion. Council Member Ficklin amended the motion to approve \$15.00 per card for non residents. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Charter Amendments for State Retirement Fund Refinancing: Acting Town Administrator Moss presented two Charter Amendment Resolutions that will enable the Town to borrow sufficient funds to refinance the Town's buy in for the State Retirement System funding. These will be voted on at the June Council Meeting.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BUDGET:

The Worksession was temporarily adjourned for the Budget Hearing. There were no questions on the proposed FY09 Budget at this open session, it was adjourned and the worksession resumed.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Contract Review Process: Council Member Ficklin submitted a draft worksheet for reviewing Town Contracts. It was agreed that all contracts involving \$10,000 or more, as per the Town's Procurement Policy, will be reviewed by Management, using such a tool, for submittal to the Mayor and Council for review and approval.

Certificate of Recognition for Pastor Billingsley: Council Member Ficklin requested this award; he needs it by Saturday and will provide it to Town Staff so that this can be accomplished.

VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS

There was a question about a leaning tree at Elizabeth Seton and the status of 57th Avenue repairs.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

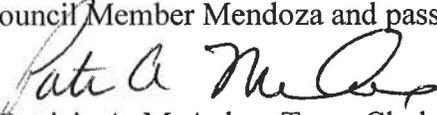
Walmart has 75 employment positions open.

Voting for special Congressional election is June 17th.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, at 7:20 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; seconded by Council Member Mendoza and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George and Watson present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Watson moved to approve the June 2008 Worksession minutes as presented.
- V. **“WHAT THE FLAG MEANS TO ME”:** Former Council Member Hoffman introduced the winners, who read their essays and received certificates of congratulations followed by Photos.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included:
Council Member George focused on Neighborhood Watch.
Council Member Watson spoke on the After School Summit on Capitol Hill
Council Member Ficklin spoke about the event honoring Pastor Billingy.
Mayor James spotlighted the summer camp programs at the elementary schools.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates by department. Full reports are available in the Front Office.
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Ordinance 1-2008: Second Reading and Vote on FY08 Budget and Tax Rate. Town Clerk McAuley read the Ordinance. Council Member George moved to approve 1-2008; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS**
Resolution 2-2008: Charter Amendment: Town Clerk McAuley gave a summary of the Resolution. Copies of the entire resolution were available to all in attendance. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve 2-2008; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

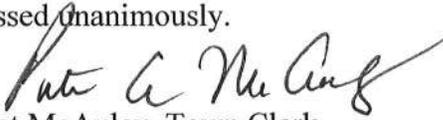
Resolution 3-2008: Charter Amendment: Resolution 2-2008: Town Clerk McAuley gave a summary of the Resolution. Copies of the entire resolution were available to all in attendance. Council Member Watson moved to approve 2-008; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Projects: Council Member Watson requested that her \$500 from the FY 08 Budget be given to the Prince George's County Elected Women's Scholarship Fund. Council Member George moved to approve; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT: The Mayor entertained comments and questions from the audience.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:20 p.m. Council Member George moved to go into Worksession to discuss Capital for a Day; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION AGENDA
July 7, 2008 5:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin and Mendoza present. Council Members George and Watson arrived soon thereafter. Staff attending: Acting Town Administrator Moss, Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Public Works Foreman Simms, and Clerk McAuley.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the June 2008 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. PRESENTATION BY APRIA GALLMAN (PEDALS, INC.):** Ms. Gallman gave a powerpoint presentation outlining the non-profit organization she is forming for teen girls to help them develop culturally, professionally, and educationally. She asked the Town officials to consider volunteering and possible some funding.
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Retroactive Approval for Council Projects-Shirts: Council Member Ficklin moved to approve Council Member Mendoza's retroactive request for purchase of Bladensburg shirts, not to exceed \$500, for FY08. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Contract with MD University for Archeological Project at Bostwick: Council Member George moved to approve the agreement presented with a few minor corrections; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

100 Best Communities: Council Member Ficklin gave a presentation on this national program aimed at public/private partnerships for the betterment of the youth in our community. Council lauded the program, but expressed concern that the staff is already inundated with crucial projects. Council Member Ficklin will take the lead on pursuing this designation.

Harassment Policy: Background: This draft policy has gone between the Town and Town Attorney for review for some time. LGIT, as the Town's liability carrier, has been adamant about the necessity of adopting a harassment policy. This enforces Federal and State mandates already in effect. The Police Department already has in place its own policy. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the draft policy as presented; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The final vote will be taken at the July Council Meeting.

- V. NEW BUSINESS**

Community Legacy Funding: Community Forklift: Background: Community Forklift received a loan through the State DHCD Legacy Program, that is managed by the Town as it was the lead applicant for the entire Port Towns during the 2004 round of funding. The State has now asked, as directed by the Governor's Office, that Community Forklift apply for the balance of its funds immediately. Ms. McAuley, who manages these Legacy Grants, asked for Council approval prior to sending in a "Request for Disbursement". The proposed work includes some ADA compliance. Forklift received a U&O without having to make these modifications. Council Member Watson affirmed that ADA compliance was a top priority for any funding program overseen by the Town. The Town is not liable for this facility and its use. We are only a reporting/funding conduit. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the request to DHCD to disburse funds into the Town's General Fund for Community Forklift's improvements; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Expectations for Privacy Policy: This policy clarifies the use of Town resources and equipment, such as computers, for conducting Town business. Council Member George moved to approve the draft policy as presented by the Town Management Team. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The final vote will be at the July Council Meeting.

Motion to Recess in August/Set Worksession for September: Council Member George moved to recess in August; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. This will be reaffirmed at the July Council Meeting. The September Worksession was scheduled for the 3rd at 5:30 p.m.

Funding for AWS Paddlesport Regatta: There was discussion concerning AWS not being part of the grant funding process through the Recreation Council. Council Member Mendoza moved to allocate \$100 of his Council Project funds for the event; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Council Member George moved to allocate \$100 of his Council Project funds for the event; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS

Council Member Ficklin requested a "snapshot" summary of open grants.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acting Town Administrator Moss submitted his self evaluation packet to the Mayor for the Mayor and Council's review and subsequent action.

The Mayor announced new principals for Bladensburg High School and William Wirt Middle School.

The Recreation Council will hold a carnival at BCC on August 11th.

Clerk McAuley reported that Walmart would like to give slightly damaged bikes to a worthy cause in Town. They will be asked to contact Acting Town Administrator Moss.

Council Member Ficklin requested a proclamation for Rev. Duvall's birthday celebration.

Acting Town Administrator Moss updated everyone concerning Ms. Barbara Givens' request for a bus for a birthday celebration. The request will go to the Recreation Council for its approval.

Police Chief Moss announced there would be Police Department Promotions Ceremony at the July Council Meeting.

Council Member George announced that the Seniors would finally be taking their trip to the Rod and Reel this week.

The bid for the 57th Avenue street improvements will be awarded to VMP Construction who came in with the low bid at approximately \$103,000.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: At 7:40 p.m., there being no further business, Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 14, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Watson, Mendoza and George, in attendance. Council Member Ficklin arrived shortly thereafter. Staff attending: Acting Town Administrator Moss, Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Acting Public Works Foreman Simms, and Town Secretary Griffin. The Town Clerk was on approved leave.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member Watson moved to approve the July 2008 Worksession Meeting minutes as presented; and Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION TO BLADENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT: The Bladensburg Fire Department was awarded \$41,000 as a contribution from the Mayor, Council, Citizens and Staff. Chief Fowler accepted the checks presented by Mayor James and Chief Moss. President David Sumner was also acknowledged. Chief Fowler stated that representatives from the Fire Department will be attending more Town Meetings and gave thanks on behalf of the entire Volunteer Fire Department. Pictures were taken with Mayor and Council, Leadership Team and all the Fire Department's Volunteers that were present.

OATH OF OFFICE: Brian Johnson took the Oath of Office the administered by Mayor James and his badge was placed on him by the Mayor. Officer Johnson signed his Oath acknowledging that he is now one of our very own Bladensburg Police Officers.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROMOTIONS: Corporals Stone and Cowling were promoted to Sergeant; both have been with the Bladensburg Police Department for over 19 years of service.

ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor James introduced Bladensburg High School's new Principal, Ms. Glynis Jordan. The Mayor also acknowledged Port Towns officials who were in the audience.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council Member George gave words of praise for Former Council Member Marion Hoffman, the Patriotic Committee, and a plea for the seniors to have more support and protection and for the community to get involved. Council Member George presented employment notifications for Census Bureau opportunities.

Council Member Watson gave many thanks for the Chris Needham Biggest Heart Foundation and thanked all participants for their roles in the outstanding Seniors' Ball. She also gave thanks to the fire police department, Rolling Pin Bakery and special thanks to the Leadership Team.

Council Member Ficklin also commended Former Council Member Hoffman for her ongoing and well deserved 4th of July Remembrance Day celebration. He also spoke about the MML Convention thanking all for their participation. Volunteers are needed for 100 Best Communities, in the USA; all are welcome to support. GET OUT AND VOTE was his final message.

Council Member Mendoza requested support for the upcoming Black History Day celebration. The celebration would be expanded to more than just Bladensburg, open to neighboring Municipalities in Prince George's County. All are welcome to come and join. He shared the great news that he and his wife are expecting a new baby.

Mayor James thanked all MML Booth operators from each Town. He and the Chief be focusing on Safety 1st. The annexation process of Newton Green Senior Housing property is complete. The partnership between the Town and University of Maryland Preservation Program at Bostwick is progressing well. The Town must focus on safety and cleanliness to make a positive statement as a Gateway to Washington D.C.

STAFF REPORTS: Staff gave updates by department. Full reports are available in front office.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Vote on Town Employee's Sexual Harassment Policy: Council Member George moved to adopt the Policy as presented; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Vote on Town Employees' Privacy Policy: Council Member Watson moved to adopt the Policy as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Motion to Recess in August: Council Member Mendoza moved to recess in August; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Rescheduling September 08 Worksession: Council Member Watson moved to reschedule the Meeting to September 3rd at 5:30; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

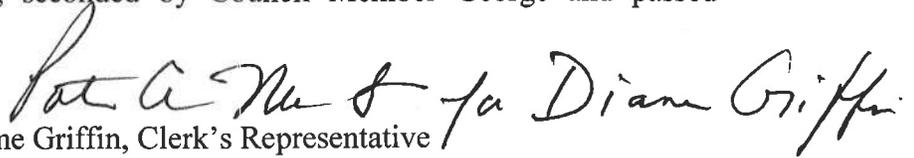
NEW BUSINESS: There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Mayor opened the floor for public comment.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 9:10 p.m. Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; seconded by Council Member George and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Griffin, Clerk's Representative

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat A. Mendoza for Diane Griffin". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Diane Griffin, Clerk's Representative".

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 26, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members, George and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson arrived at 5:45 p.m. Staff members present were Acting Deputy McNamara, and Town Clerk McAuley.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business.

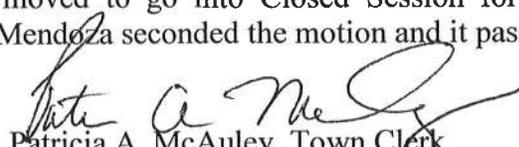
III. NEW BUSINESS:

Introduction of Ordinance 2-2008: Ordinance concerning General Obligation Financing or Refinancing of the Prepayment of Town of Bladensburg's Special Accrued Liability Contribution Owed to the State Retirement System: Town Clerk McAuley introduced the Ordinance. This Ordinance will be voted on at the September 8, 2008 Council Meeting.

Letter in Support of Prince George's County Sign Legislation: The Mayor requested that the Council send a letter of support, as presented, for County Legislation that would modify the definition of a billboard. This legislation would enable the Nellis Corporation to make improvements to its current freestanding sign at Capital Plaza. Council Member George moved to send the support Letter; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion. Discussion: It was clarified that the letter was to support the legislation, not this particular sign. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 5:50 p.m., Council Member George moved to go into Closed Session for a personnel issue; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
September 3, 2008 5:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson Present. Staff present were: Acting Town Administrator Moss, Acting Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Public Works Foreman Woods and Town Clerk McAuley.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the July 2008 Council Meeting; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Later in the worksession Council Mendoza moved to approve the August 26th Council meeting as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. WEBSITES FROM AMERICAN EAGLE:** Eric Elliot gave a presentation of his company's product and its capabilities.
- V. CHILDREN'S PROGRAM PRESENTATION:** Mr. Ed Hicks gave a presentation on his music program and was advised by Council that he might approach the local schools for space and support.
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- Role of Mayor Pro Tem:** Council Member Ficklin would like to see this role more defined and would like this discussion to be continued at a future worksession.
- Modification of Employee Performance Evaluation System:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the modification as presented in the September 3, 2008 document prepared by Management Staff; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- 100 Best Communities Update:** Council Member Ficklin will continue working on this designation for the Town.
- Capital for a Day Update:** Mayor James gave the most recent update on the September 17th event.
- MML Board Retreat Update:** Town Clerk McAuley reviewed the schedule for Friday's retreat.
- Bladensburg Charter:** Council Member Ficklin will provide a schedule for Charter review.
- V. NEW BUSINESS**

Abbreviated Business Session for Sept. 8th Council Meeting: There was a concurrence that due to the celebratory nature of the Meeting, staff's oral reports will be eliminated and Mayor and Council reports will be kept to a minimum. There will be a sign-up sheet for public comment and speakers will be limited to two minutes.

Preservation America Initiative: Council Members Watson and Mendoza agreed to work on this opportunity.

- VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** Staff answered questions by Department.
- VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Council Member Ficklin would like to discuss annexation as related to CDC support at the next worksession.
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** At 7:45 p.m., there being no further business, Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
September 8, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson was excused.
- II. OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the opening prayer.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION FOLLOWING AUGUST 26TH COUNCIL MEETING:** Mayor James announced this session for personnel reasons.
- IV. APPOINTMENT APPROVAL AND OATH OF OFFICE: TOWN ATTORNEY:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the appointment of Richard Colaresi as Town Attorney; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Mayor administered the Oath of Office.
- Richard T. Colaresi, Esquire
Karpinski, Colaresi & Karp, P.A.
120 E. Baltimore Street
Suite 1850
Baltimore, MD 21202
- V. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council gave abbreviated reports due to the recognition ceremony and celebration after the meeting adjournment.
- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Ordinance 2-2008: Concerning General Obligation Financing or Refinancing of the Prepayment of Town of Bladensburg's Special Accrued Liability Contribution Owed to the State Retirement System: Following the second reading by Town Clerk McAuley, Council Member George moved to approve Ordinance 2-2008; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were brief complimentary comments from the audience.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 7:15 Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION AGENDA
October 6, 2008– 5:30 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson arrived soon thereafter and Council Member George was excused. Staff in attendance were Acting Town Administrator Moss, Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Public Works Foreman Woods, and Town Clerk McAuley.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the September Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Community Legacy Grant: There were suggestions to apply for “green” improvement loans for homeowners, pedestrian lights for 57th Avenue, and for Town Center funding. Mayor and Council should let the Town Clerk know their preference(s) by Friday, October 10th.

Mayor Pro Tem: Council Member Ficklin had distributed information on the role of Mayor Pro Tem. This position review will be included in the Charter discussions. The Staff will prepare a timeline for Charter review process. The first step will be for Mayor and Council to individually review the document for suggested changes.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Fire Department Presentation: Following a meeting with the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department Board, Acting Town Administrator Moss and Deputy McNamara gave a presentation on a proposed expansion project that would benefit both the Department and the Town’s space needs. Mayor and Council gave them direction to move forward with this proposal.

Privacy Protection Policy: Following risk of a computer security breach, management staff presented Mayor and Council with a draft “Security of Personal and Town Data” policy. Following a discussion on who and what entities would fall under the policy, it was decided that there would be further review prior to adoption. This will be on the Council Meeting agenda.

Bladensburg Town Green Tot Lot: Following the Town’s discovery of damaged equipment, a playground equipment contractor reported that everything in the tot lot would have to be replaced as parts were outdated and unavailable. Cost of new play equipment is estimated between \$40 and \$50 thousand. Subsequent investigation and follow up from Public Works found that replacement parts are available and

costs is approximately \$1000. Further improvements to the playground will be pursued.

Scholarship Request for Bladensburg High School Nursing Student: Council Member Watson reported that the scholarship needs of this student have been met.

5-2008: Resolution to Support PTCDC Tax Credit Grant application: A more detailed description of the project was requested prior to vote for approval. This will be on the October Council Meeting agenda.

6-2008: Resolution to Support Maryland Humanities Council Maryland History Day Program in Prince George's County Schools: Council Member Watson moved to approve the Resolution as presented and read by the Town Clerk; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Halloween: 6-9 pm, October 31st: Council agreed with the time for Trick or Treat; the Police Department Satellite Office is planning something for Autumn Woods.

ATHA Board Alternate: Following a request from ATHA for alternates, Council Member Watson, Board Member, moved to approve Council Member Mendoza as her Alternate; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: There were no clarifications for staff.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Budget Hearing for Expansion of Bladensburg Community Center: Council Member Ficklin announced he planned on testifying at the October 7th hearing and encouraged other Council Members to join him. He had previously sent an e mail on the subject. Discussion centered on concerns that there were no site plans or other projections for the proposed expansion of the facility and that one person could not speak for the corporate body of the Town without concurrence. Council Member Ficklin retracted his intent to testify at the hearing.

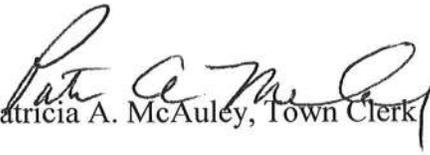
Website: Acting Town Administrator Moss announced we are withdrawing website development with the PTCDC because of service issues. Also the Town newsletter is delayed because of problems with Mr. Tirtanadi's computer.

Prince George's Wreath for Memorial events: Council Member Mendoza reported that it was in poor condition and requested that the Mayor follow up on a replacement.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 6:50 p.m., Council Member

Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
October 13, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **PRESENTATION:** The Mayor presented Dr. Thomas with an award for his work with the community in the area of martial arts and beyond.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 6, 2008 WORKSESSION MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** The following reports included-
Council Member Mendoza spoke about participation in Gorgeous Prince Georges Day.
Council Member Ficklin reported on his visit to Emerson House and urged all to vote.
Council Member Watson reported on the train, gang issues, meeting the Atlanta Mayor and the ATHA bike ride event.
Council Member George urged all to vote, congratulated the Town's Management Staff and reported on the Interim School Superintendant.
Mayor James reiterated the importance of voting.
- VI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updated by Department of the last month's activities. Copies of full reports are available in the Town Office.
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Resolution 5-2008: Support for CDC Grant Application: Council Member Ficklin moved to approve Resolution 5-2008; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

MNCPPC Preservation Easement for Bostwick (reaffirmation): Council Member George moved to approve the Preservation Easement with MNCPPC Historic Preservation Commission; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Security of Personal and Town Data Policy: Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the policy as presented; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS: There was no New Business.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT included thanks for the CSX overpass, praise for the Police and Fire Departments and concern that 54th Place needs better street lighting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION: There being no further public business, at 8:50 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
November 10, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDERL:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin, George, and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson was excused.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor James gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included:
Council Member George thanked all who voted and was grateful for a safe Halloween. **Council Member Mendoza** congratulated President Elect Obama and wished all a happy Thanksgiving. **Council Member Ficklin** served as an Election Judge, announced his Toys for Tots participation and urged the community to attend the Pastoral Lay Council's networking events. **Mayor James** commented on the election, attended Bladensburg High School's Homecoming and met with the seniors at Emerson House.
- V. **STAFF REPORTS:** Management Staff reported on the previous month's activities by department; copies of the reports are available in the Town Office.
- VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Resolution 7-2008: Mayor and Council Report for the Community Legacy Application from PTCDC and Partners: Following the reading of the Resolution by the Town Clerk, Council Member George moved to approve Resolution 7-2008; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- VIII. **INTRODUCTION OF JENNIFER AVELAR, SGA PRESIDENT, BLADENSBURG HIGH SCHOOL:** Ms. Avelar reported on the school's recycling initiative and she was encouraged by Council to get other municipal elected officials involved in the school.
- IX. **PUBLIC COMMENT** included inquiries about help with utility bills and parking on the High School property after hours for local residents.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:15 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION
November 10, 2008 6:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., with Council Members George, Ficklin and Mendoza present. Council Member Watson was excused as she was attended a National League of Cities Conference. Attending Staff Members were Acting Town Administrator Moss, Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Foreman Woods, and Town Clerk McAuley.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the October 13th Council Meeting as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Update and Results/Recommendations of the Committee Impaneled to Review the Economic Development Manager Applicants: Chief Moss gave a complete review of the entire process thus far, including the search committee's rating procedure and consensus on the candidate search. After discussion, Mayor and Council agreed that one candidate would simply get a letter thanking him for applying and the two other candidates would receive a similar letter but it would encourage them to reapply when a revised Request for Qualifications was formulated at a future date. Acting Town Administrator Moss will develop a list of pros and cons for having a "Town Center" to include municipal services as opposed to an "Economic Development Corridor" along the targeted area of Annapolis Road. This will be on the December Worksession agenda.

Timeline for Charter Review Process: Council Member George moved to approve the timeline as presented by the Management Team; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Town Clerk McAuley presented Mayor and Council with packets including the current Charter, and other supporting documentation.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

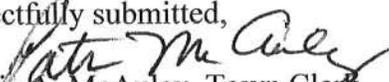
Town Observance of Inauguration Day: There was considerable discussion that included distribution of gift cards to employees with and without granting extra leave, liberal leave for Inauguration Day, and the financial impact of each scenario. The Mayor called for a motion and Council Member George moved to approve eight (8) hours of employee appreciation leave for FY09 to begin January 1, 2009; Seconded by Council Member Mendoza; the motion passed with Mayor James, Council Members

George and Mendoza in favor; Council Member Ficklin opposed. (note: this leave must be taken by June 30, 2009.)

Update on Cost Proposals for Mango Roof: Deputy McNamara distributed cost estimates for roof repairs and staff has determined a source for funding the repairs in the General Fund.

- V. **CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** There was consensus that we would forego this because of time constraints.
- VI. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** will be included at the end of the Council Meeting.
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 6:50 Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION AGENDA
December 8, 2008 6:00 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER :** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Council Members George, Mendoza, and Watson present. Council Member Ficklin was excused. Attending staff were Acting Administrator Moss, Deputy McNamara, Treasurer Torrence, Foreman Woods, and Clerk McAuley.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November Worksession and Council Meeting:** Council Member George moved to approve both minutes as presented; Council member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Bus Transportation Update, Proposed New Route: Council Member George met with County transportation officials and after surveying the area of the proposed route, they deemed it not feasible for a reroute. Mayor and Council concurred that the Port Towns bus should be used in a more efficient manner and will ask the County to provide financial assistance for this. There will be a meeting with Colmar Manor to address the issue.

Police MOU for all Port Towns: Chief Moss: All previous issues have been resolved and this agreement will provide for emergency calls only. There will be a formal signing at the Port Towns' Legislative Dinner in January.

Proposed Changes to Personnel Policy: Acting Administrator Moss: Management Staff presented an amendment to the Personnel Policy for Review. This will be voted on at a future Council Meeting.

Holiday Lighting Event: Chief Moss gave an update on the upcoming event that has been planned through the collaboration of staff, to include refreshments, childrens' gifts, ornament making session, caroling, lighting of the Town Green, Yule Log, and a visit by Santa on a Fire Truck.

MML Booth Briefing: Since this would be the fourth year of our participation, all concurred that we needed a "fresh" theme and it was agreed that due to the upcoming commemoration of the War of 1812, we should emphasize the historical significance of the Port Towns in relation to that time period and other significant events in our past.

Cleaning Service Contract: Deputy McNamara has negotiated with a new vendor for a much more comprehensive cleaning contract for our facilities. Cost per month will be \$1541.20 and will commence on January 12th 2009.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Council's Projects: Mayor James asked for approval of \$200 for Choices for Success and \$200 for Dr. Thomas' Tak Won do program. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the request; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further Worksession business, at 6:50 Council Member Watson moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

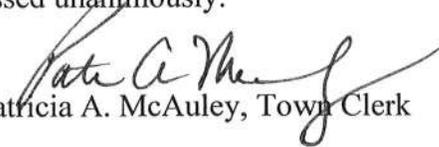
Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
December 8, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members George, Mendoza and Watson present. Council Member Ficklin was excused.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the Opening Prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **POLICE OFFICER SWEARING IN:** Police Officers Colbert and Rock were sworn in by Mayor James and welcomed by all.
- V. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included thanks for help with Thanksgiving Baskets, cautions about safety measures during the holidays and awareness of the globalization of our community interests.
- VI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave monthly Departmental updates; complete reports are available in the Town Office.
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Resolution 8-2008: Police Departments' Memorandum of Understanding between the Port Towns: After its reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member George moved to approve the Resolution supporting the Port Towns' Police Departments Memorandum of Understanding; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business
- X. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** A number of audience members thanked the Mayor and Council and Staff for their Service.
- XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** At 7:50, Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn into closed session to discuss legal issues; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk