

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
January 10, 2011 5:30p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order with Council Members George, Mendoza and Watson present. Council Member Ficklin was excused.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bladensburg Elementary School Request for Grant Funding: Bernadine Reid, Reading Specialist, reported that the Town Grant of \$1000 will be used for an upcoming Reading Fair, the date yet to be announced. By consensus, Mayor and Council approved the disbursement of funds.

Green Street/Peace Cross: Informational: Town Administrator Moss gave an update on the project, including upcoming decisions that the Council will need to consider, including another "Green Street" complementary project on 48th and Quincy Street. In conjunction with this, the University of Maryland studio project for the Market Square Redevelopment will be scheduled as a presentation in the near future.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

FY 12 Proposed Budget Discussion: Points included the following:

Elimination/Reduction of Council Projects Funding: The Council continued discussion on policies set forth including requiring funding only to non-profits and funding for senior events in a fair way to include all Town seniors;

Reduction of Travel Funding: This line item will be discussed during the budget process, to consider Mayor and Council limited to one or two travel events per year and/or cost sharing;

PTCDC Funding: Council expressed concerns over the shared costs of the PTCDC among the Port Towns, PTCDC use of Town facilities and utilities, and deliverables from the PTCDC to the Town.

Senior Events Funding: see above.

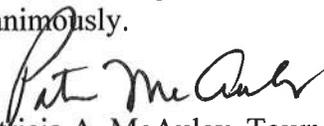
Purchase of Three Radios for Code: Town Administrator Moss reported on communications issues, where Code Enforcement Officers needed to be in touch with Police and the new system does not allow for this without the proper radio equipment issued to them. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the purchase of three new radios for the Code Enforcement Officers; Council Member

George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Monthly Town Clean-ups: Council Member George suggested that the Town put on monthly all Town cleanups on the third Saturday of each month, in tandem with bulk trash. Mayor and Council volunteered to spearhead these events and to get the clean ups “up and running” by March. Clarification: Public Works does not normally work on the third Saturdays. Bulk Trash pickup is done by the trash contractors.

- V. **CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** In response to a Council inquiry about towing services, The Town is currently looking into a new towing company. Code Enforcement is also working to ensure that all towing contractors doing business in Town have a Town Business License.
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:45 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 MINUTES
January 10, 2011 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:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The December 2010 Council Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.
- VII. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council gave reports of the previous month's activities, meetings and other updates.
- VIII. STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates of the previous month's activities by Department. Copies of all reports are available in the Town Clerk's office.
 - Public Works**
 - Public Safety**
 - Code Enforcement**
 - Finance**
 - Town Administrator**
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.
- X. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- XI. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mayor James opened up for comments from the audience.
- XII. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8: 15 p.m., it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
February 14, 2011 5:30p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., with Council Members Ficklin, George and Watson present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the January Worksession minutes as presented. Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Undaunted Taskforce Letter and ATHA Plan for Battle of Bladensburg Bicentennial: Ms. McAuley and Odette Ramos, ATHA consultant, gave an overview of the draft plan. Mayor and Council will review document to incorporate wording that ensures communication and concurrence on major decisions and contracts from Bladensburg, Colmar Manor and Cottage City.

Mr. Harrington's Consultant Proposal: This will be discussed at a closed session.

Vacation of Property: Bates: Tabled awaiting further documentation from Bates.

Green Initiative Legislation before General Assembly: Mr. Moss gave a brief overview of the legislation. There are similar bills in both Senate and House of Delegates. He asked that any comments be forwarded him by the following Monday at 5 p.m.

Employee Health Insurance: The Management Team has been working on cost saving options for health insurance while still maintaining the quality of coverage currently available to employees. It has been determined that an alternative HSA plan through our current broker will be made available to staff. This plan will save the Town money on premiums and may be phased in as coverage for all employees at next year's renewal time.

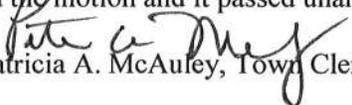
IV. NEW BUSINESS

PGCMA Update: Council Member Watson: Michael Hermann has been named Executive Director of PGCMA. The organization will be focusing on getting more municipalities involved.

First Tier Suburbs: Council Member Watson: Ms. Watson is Vice Chair of this NLC committee. The group is focusing on code and zoning.

Schedule for Market Square Studio Presentation: The group agreed on March 1 at 6:00 p.m. for this presentation.

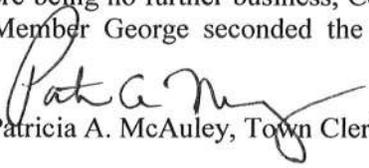
- V. ADJOURNMENT:** At 6:45 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 14, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin and George present. Council Members Mendoza and Watson were excused.
- II. OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. RECOGNITION OF "TOYS FOR TOTS" PARTICIPANTS:** Dawn Stem, Program Director for Toys for Tots, Prince George's County, was recognized for her outstanding outreach efforts to get toys to the Bladensburg children in need, who might not have any presents without the program.
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the January Council Meeting minutes as printed; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**
Council Member Ficklin spoke about his trip to Africa and how it gave him a renewed appreciation of the services we expect as citizens here.
Council Member George talked about the tragedy in Tucson and how elected leaders need to turn the bad to good by making neighborhoods clean and safe.
Mayor James gave kudos to employees who put an extraordinary effort in helping the residents of Emerson House in the wake of the recent fire and power outage.
- VII. STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates on the previous month's activities by Department. Copies of reports are in the Town Clerk's office.
Public Works
Public Safety
Code Enforcement
Finance
Town Clerk
Town Administrator
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Ordinance 2-2011: Budget Amendment for Radio Upgrades: Following the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member George moved to approve Ordinance 2-2011; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- X. PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.
- XI. ADJOURNMENT:** At 7:55 p.m., there being no further business, Council Member Ficklin moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
March 14, 2011 5:30p.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 Ficklin moved to approve the February Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Community Health Partnership Initiative: Council Members Ficklin and Mendoza have been participating as the Town representatives in the initiative and reported on the project. The participants have agreed that all programs should have measured outcomes and must work from a Port Towns community demographic baseline. They are awaiting grant funding approval for programming.

Port Towns CDC: There have been some concerns about the expectations and receivables from the PTCDC to the Town, so Council concurred that the Mayor will ask for a meeting of the Port Towns Mayors to collaborate to determine a consensus of issues, concerns, and/or recommendations that will be brought to the PTCDC Executive Board. All Council concerns should be given to the Mayor and Town Administrator by the close of business, Monday, March 21.

FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) as it Apply to Town: Town Administrator Moss distributed a paper outlining updates to the FMLA and explained how they could impact Town staff. Critical information included the timeline(s) as required by law. Town Attorney Colaresi has given legal opinion on the Town's compliance and how this codification takes the Town out of the process of what could be construed as subjective decisions.

Eco-Environmental Park Concept & Legislation: Mr. Moss reported on an interest in locating such a project in the Port Towns, possibly the Bladensburg industrial area. There is potential funding for a research project that would focus on real business inventory, waste output, and vacancies. More information will follow.

Bates Vacation (paper road): Required paperwork that was not available at the February Worksession has been received by counsel for Bates. Council Ficklin moved that the Town has no issues with vacating Windom

Place (paper road) so that Bates trucking will have an easement on said property with a covenant that there shall be no improvements other than landscaping. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Budget Hearing for County Recreation & Community Centers: Mayor and Council concurred that Officer Allison Dugas will represent the Town and testify at the hearing.

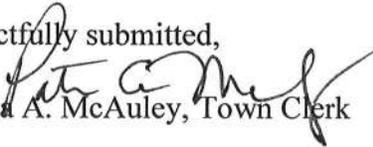
Pastoral Lay Proclamation: It was agreed that information for the document will be forwarded to the Town Clerk in the next day or two so she can draft the proclamation.

V. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: Town Clerk McAuley gave an update on the 57th Avenue Pedestrian Lighting project. Treasurer Jackson gave an explanation on the Mayor & Council discretionary fund and travel spreadsheet that was in his report. The Mayor's travel budget was eliminated to incorporate the funds into training for the Harvard leadership program he will attend this spring.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Council Member Mendoza announced upcoming Cinco de Mayo on April 30th.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further worksession business, at 6:45 p.m., 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
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2011 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 George gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- IV. **CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION:** Mayor James presented Dorothy Benjamin and Grace Turner with Certificates for their community spirit and their involvement with the seniors in Bladensburg. The Council then gave accolades appropriate to each lady's accomplishments.
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the February Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member George spoke about the perception of a clean Town is important to make people feel safe and to instill community pride. He announced his cleanup days that will be the third Saturday of each month, April-October.

Council Member Mendoza talked about the very successful Black History Month Celebration at the BCC. He thanked all who participated.

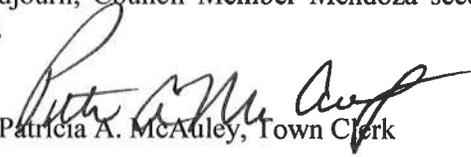
Council Member Watson gave congratulations to the senior citizens who received a GED through the support of Seton High School. She announced that scholarship applications for Prince George's Elected Women.

Council Member Ficklin gave an overview of the PT Community Health Initiative in partnership with Kaiser Permanente. He is involved as a member of this taskforce.

Mayor James congratulated the senior graduates. He thanked all for the Black History Month event, talked about the upcoming Town Budget process, and announced the efforts coming forth for the War of 1812/Battle of Bladensburg commemoration.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave last month's update by Department. Copies of the reports are available in the Town Office.
 - Public Works**
 - Public Safety**
 - Code Enforcement**
 - Finance**
 - Town Clerk**
 - Town Administrator**
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.
- IX. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- X. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mr. King, Bladenwoods, expressed appreciation for the Police Report and suggested that it be put on Channel 71.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:15 p.m., 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 MINUTES
April 11, 2011 5:30p.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 Mendoza moved to approve the March Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously
- III. **NLC/TECH/MICROSOFT STATE GOV'T AFFAIRS:** Guest Presenter Anne Gavin gave a presentation on Microsoft cloud service and its potential benefits to the Town's IT system by use of the internet. Council Member George moved to have the leadership team to meet with these Microsoft representatives and see if it is feasible to move forward; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IV. **BUDGET PRESENTATION:** Mr. Moss & Mr. Jackson gave a power point presentation of the proposed FY 2012 budget for the Council's review and input. The leadership team is suggesting some change in the way the Town grants funds to non profits/senior facility events.
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Approval of Contracts for 57th Avenue: Town Clerk McAuley reported that the Town has two contracts to complete this project: concrete footing and foundation, VMP (\$20,900) and electrical, G-11 Enterprise (\$33,500).. Because the contracts exceed \$10,000, Mayor and Council approval is required by Town statute. Council Member George moved to approve the contracts as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Green Street-Green Jobs Honor for Port Towns: Mr. Moss updated the Mayor and Council on an upcoming EPA event that will honor our community. A plaque, with the Port Towns' Mayors' signatures will be presented at that time thanking the agency for the opportunities we were given.

Budget Amendments for Police Vehicles & Curb Painter: Mayor and Council concurred that funding would come out of the general fund and will be voted on as an emergency ordinance at the Town Council Meeting that follows.

Discussion of Branding/Business Cards: Mr. Moss asked if the Council had made a decision on a choice of a new business card design that incorporates our website branding. Council preferred choices 1 and 5 and asked for a sample to be printed. The Mayor suggested that staff get costs for doing cards in Braille.

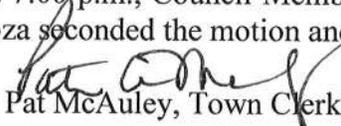
VI. NEW BUSINESS

Community Networking Meeting: CM Ficklin would like these meetings to be reinstated and he will work with the Town Administrator to plan upcoming events.

VII. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: Due to time limits, it was requested that clarifications be sent directly to staff at a later date.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements will be made after the Council Meeting

IX. ADJOURNMENT: At 7:00 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 11, 2011 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. Council Member Watson left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Fickin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **CERTIFICATE OF CONGRATULATIONS: Jamal Saunders, State Wrestling Champion, BHS:** The Mayor presented Mr. Saunders with the award and Council Members offered words of congratulations to this outstanding young athlete. Mr. Saunders then gave thanks to his family and his faith for his opportunities to excel.
- V. **EMERSON HOUSE RESIDENTS Recognize Town Officials and Staff:** Residents and EH staff presented the Town leadership with an award thanking all who helped in the fire/power outage that required temporary displacement of a number of residents.
- VII. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the March Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VIII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**
Council Member Ficklin encouraged people to get involved in leadership and politics;
Council Member George spoke about the recent tragedies in the community;
Council Member Mendoza thanked all who helped with the cleanup;
Mayor James reminded that we all have the potential of being victims of crimes, and he talked about his uplifting trip to the C Stem event in Houston, where Bladensburg students were award winning participants.
- IX. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave reports by Departments. Copies are available in the Town Clerk's Office.
Public Works
Public Safety
Code Enforcement
Finance
Town Clerk
Town Administrator
- X. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.
- XI. **NEW BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2-2011: Budget Amendment for Police Vehicles & Curb Painter: After the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member George moved to approve Ordinance 2-2011; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. A copy of the ordinance is available in the Town Clerk's Office.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT: A resident complained about a particular ice cream truck playing loud music, particularly out of season holiday songs. In answer to an inquiry, Crossroads is still in operation, but since November it has been a catering venue and carryout instead of a nightclub.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:25 p.m., 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 MINUTES
May 9, 2011 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. **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND PROJECT IN BLADENSBURG:** Dr. Jim Cohen spoke about the Planning studio project being undertaken by students starting in June 2011. This project will do an analysis of opportunities for active living and healthy lifestyles in the Port Towns' community.
- III. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the April worksession minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Budget Update: The Town Treasurer has incorporated the first round of Mayor and Council's amendments into the draft budget. He reviewed the requested changes that he as added to the document.

Green Street: Pedestrian Street Light Issues/Community Theme Requested by SHA: The Town has requested that the State Highway Administration incorporate pedestrian lighting, street lights, permeable sidewalks and ADA compliance into its Green Street plan. Mayor and Council should forward any thoughts on this to the Town Administrator by this Thursday.

Town Injured Leave/FSHA Policy: Changes have been made to the policy to bring it into compliance with Federal Law. The Town Attorney has reviewed the proposed changes and his edits have been incorporated into the document.

- V. **NEW BUSINESS**

Savwatt – Letter of Intent/Lighting Proposal and Partnership: The Town will send a letter of intent to move forward on pedestrian lighting with Savwatt.

Amendment to Procurement Policy to Consider Green Aspects in Bids/RFPs: Considering the Town's recent "green" efforts, the management staff recommends changing the procurement policy to incorporate opportunities for choosing green businesses in selection of contracts. This

proposed amended ordinance will be presented at the Council Meeting to follow.

Dedicated Tax Revenue Program: Council Member Ficklin proposed that the Town could raise its real property tax rate $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per hundred dollars assessment in order to fund a future capital project(s). The Council may consider this at a later date.

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

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: The Pastoral Lay Council is resuming monthly meetings.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 6:45 p.m. 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
COUNCIL MEETING
May 9, 2011 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 George gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **CONSTANT YIELD HEARING:** Town Treasurer Jackson conducted the Hearing. This is required by State mandates to enable the Town to keep its current real property tax rate, instead of lowering the rate to receive revenues that are a constant yield from the previous fiscal year.
- V. **INTRODUCTION:** The Mayor introduced Ray Smith, National Harbor Chapter of the National Association for the Blind. His group promotes resources for the sight impaired in Prince Georges County.
- VI. **POLICE PROCLAMATION:** Mayor James gave a proclamation declaring the week of May 15th, National Police Week, 2011.
- VIII. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the minutes of the April Council Meeting and a Mayor and Council Budget Meeting as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member Watson reported that the Prince George's County Elected Women's Scholarship Fund had 72 excellent applicants. She gave an update on the Pastoral Lay Council.

Council Member Ficklin spoke about entrepreneurial networking opportunities. He attended the Emerson House concert and Parkview Easter Dinner. A community networking event is scheduled for June 15th at 8:30 a.m.

Council Member George gave an update on the Community Clean-up and the opportunity it gave to get to know people in the community while making our Town look nice.

Council Member Mendoza thanked the staff and local businesses for another successful Cinco de Mayo.

Mayor James talked about his experiences as "Student for a Day" at Bladensburg High School and his WWII bowling efforts with the Emerson House Team. Later in the meeting, team members presented him with a trophy.
- X. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave reports by Department. Copies are available in the Clerk's Office.
 - Public Works**
 - Public Safety**
 - Code Enforcement**
 - Finance**
 - Town Clerk**
 - Town Administrator**

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no Unfinished Business.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 3-2011: First Reading of Proposed FY2012 Budget and Tax Rate:
The Town Clerk performed the First Reading.

Ordinance 4-2011: (Emergency) Amendment to the Purchasing Ordinance:
The Town Clerk performed the Reading. Council Member George moved to approve the Ordinance as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

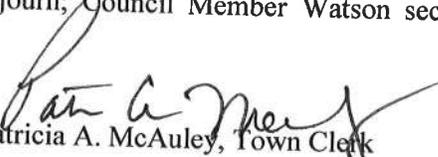
Resolution 1-2011: Support for a Local Awardee of a MDDHCD Business Grant Recipient: Following the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the Resolution; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Savawatt: As concurred at the Worksession, Council Member Watson moved to send a letter of intent to the company to move forward on pedestrian lights as part of the Green Street streetscape.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT: The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
June 13, 2011 5:30 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order with Ficklin, George and Watson present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. **ATHA UPDATE/PRESENTATION:** **Aaron Marcavich, Executive Director** updated all on the changes in management plan that have been incorporated. He also gave an update on the role ATHA is playing in the Battle of Bladensburg Commemoration including a marketing strategy and special events planning. Support from the Port Towns is critical to the success of this promotion of our history.
- III. **“ENVISION”:** **Cheryl Harrington, MNCPPC** gave an overview of this program and the “action agenda” that will be incorporated into this planning process.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Worksession and Budget Meeting:** Council Member Watson moved to approve the minutes of both meetings as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Budget Update: Treasurer Jackson reported that all changes to the FY12 budget made by the Mayor and Council have been incorporated into the document. \$25,000 has been added for police radio maintenance.

Green Street: Green Surfaces Grant: This grant followed our competitive bid process and the sole applicant was the Anacostia Watershed Society. This \$15,000 award will be divided between the Port Towns by project. Council Member George moved to approve AWS as the contractor for the grant; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Resolution to Amend Personnel Manual: Council Member George moved to approve the changes to the Personnel Manual as presented to ensure the Town’s compliance with Family Medical Leave, Injured Workers’ and other related Federal mandates; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Recertification of Participation in Prince George’s County’s CDBG Program for the Next Three Federal Fiscal Years: Council Member Watson moved to approve participation in the program; Council Member

George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

LGIT By-Laws Amendment: Council Member Ficklin moved to approve a Certificate of Agreement to incorporate certain changes into the Local Government Insurance Trust as recommended by its Board of Directors; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

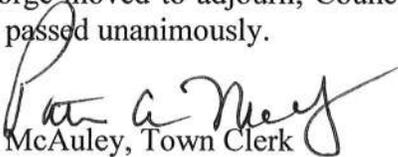
Proclamations for July 4th: Council Member Watson moved to approve proclamations for those honored; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Clarification: issuance of proclamations is upon Mayor and Council approval.

VII. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: It was requested that Council contact individual staff for specific questions.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Council Member Ficklin requested healthy snacks at Town meeting events.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further worksession business, at 6:45 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2011 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. **RECOGNITION OF THE MEXICAN CONSULATE:** Mr. Gomez thanked the Town officials for all that they do for the Latino community and he was thanked for participating in our special events and his service to his constituents.
- V. **“WHAT THE FLAG MEANS TO ME”:** Students read their essays, were awarded Certificates and had a photo op with the Mayor and Council and Mexican Consulate.
- VI. **APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES OWENS, CHIEF OF POLICE AND OATH OF OFFICE:** Council Member George moved to confirm Charles Owens as Chief of Police; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the Mayor Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VIII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member Watson spoke about the Memorial Day Ceremonies and the Prince George’s Elected Women’s Scholarships, one of which went to a Bladensburg Student.

Council Member Ficklin attended the Caribbean Festival and asked that the remainder of his discretionary funds be distributed to the following: \$25-Ucap, for homeless females, \$75-Port Towns Youth Council, \$25-Bladensburg High School, \$25-Rogers Heights Elementary School, \$25-Bladensburg Elementary School, \$25-Elizabeth Seton High School. Council approved by consensus. Council Member Ficklin then departed from the meeting.

Council Member George spoke about the monthly clean-ups and the opportunity to do something good for the Town while getting to know the residents.

Mayor James talked about the Town’s strength in our diversity, the new lights
here
On 57th Avenue, the meeting with SHA, and the Attorney General’s event

concerning the health of the Anacostia River.

IX. STAFF REPORTS: (Available at the Town Clerk's Office)

Public Works

Public Safety

Code Enforcement

Finance

Town Clerk

Town Administrator

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

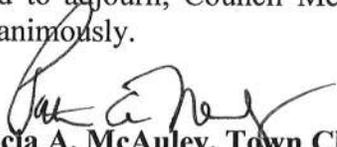
Ordinance 3-2011: Second Reading and Vote to Approve Proposed FY2012 Budget and Tax Rate: Council Member George moved to approve Ordinance 3-2011; Council Member Watson seconded the motion. Discussion: The tax rate and adoption of the budget are traditionally included in the same Ordinance. Vote: Mayor James, Council Member George in favor; Council Member Watson opposed.

Ordinance 4-2011: Emergency Ordinance for FY2011 to Include Town's contribution for the 57th Avenue Pedestrian Light Project: Council Member George moved to approve the budget amendment to cover the Town's costs for the 57th Avenue Pedestrian Lights Project; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT: The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**SPECIAL MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
JUNE 14, 2011 2:00 P.M**

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. and asked the Town Clerk to call the Roll:

Mayor James: present
Council Member George: present
Council Member Mendoza: present
Council Member Ficklin: absent
Council Member Watson: absent

Ordinance 3-2011: Adoption of FY12 Budget and Real Property Tax Rate:

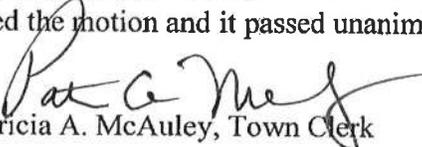
Mayor James asked if there were any questions/concerns about the budget. There were none. Council Member George moved to approve ordinance 3-2011; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mayor and Council Travel:

Council Member Mendoza moved that any travel by Mayor and Council must be approved by Council at an Open Meeting; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

There being no further business, at 2:05 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 MINUTES
July 11, 2011 5:30p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order with Council Members Ficklin, George, Mendoza and Watson present.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Community Grants: Treasurer Jackson distributed a spreadsheet listing all the grant recipients and their application compliance ratings. Council Member Mendoza moved to evenly divide the grant budget amount of \$5000 between the six applicants that qualified with the requirements (\$833 each). Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Battle of Bladensburg Funding: There was considerable discussion on how ATHA fits into the grant process, if at all. Various members of the Battle of Bladensburg Taskforce have made presentations at previous meeting, with requests for funding support. It was moved by Council Member George to request a definitive list of what any funds authorized by the Mayor and Council would be specifically used for. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Adjournment into Closed Session: At 6:10 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn into Closed Session to receive legal advice from Town Attorney Colaresi. Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. At 6:35 p.m., Council Member George moved to reopen the Worksession; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Mexico Lindo Zoning Change Application: Town Administrator Moss reported that we have notified the MNCPPC that we wish to be a party of interest and he will keep the Mayor and Council updated.

Bostwick Painting Contract: Council Member George moved to approve the proposal from Colossal Painters to paint Bostwick; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Funds for this purpose were appropriated in the FY12 Budget.

- VII. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** There are no updates on the State redistricting process. We are still pursuing annexation of the Quincy Street development project.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: At 6:58 p.m., 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
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2011 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. **SMART METERS: Ken Farrell, PEPCO:** Mr. Farrell gave a presentation of the new meter deployment that will provide accurate, reliable service with two-way communication. The exchange in Maryland is starting in 2011 and will continue into 2012.
- V. **ECO FARM PROJECT: Margaret Hubbard** gave an update on the project that will include a student intern program.
- VI. **POLICE OFFICER AYOUB: OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor James administered the Oath of Office to Officer Ayoub.
- VII. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW DISPATCHER:** Karina Cruz was introduced and welcomed as the newest member of the Town staff.
- VIII. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the minutes of the June Worksession as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member George moved to approve the minutes of the June Council meeting as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting (June 14) of Mayor and Council; the motion was approved with Mayor James, Council Members Ficklin, George and Mendoza in favor, Council Member Watson opposed.
- IX. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUGUST RECESS:** Council Member Watson moved to recess in the month of August; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- X. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:** Mayor James announced that there was a closed session earlier in the evening to discuss legal issues.
- X. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member George attended the MML convention and continued his monthly Town Cleanup event. August will bring a special Anacostia River project.

Council Member Mendoza coordinated the 4th of July Peace Cross event and continued meeting with the Community Wellness committee.

Council Member Watson attended the MML convention and was moved that the Town honored Chris Needham's memory on the 4th of July.

Council Member Ficklin is co-hosting with the PTCDC, another community networking event.

Mayor James traveled to the Catoclin Mountains for a 4H event.

- XI. STAFF REPORTS:** Written copies of reports are on file in the Town Clerk's Office
- Public Works**
 - Public Safety**
 - Code Enforcement**
 - Finance**
 - Town Clerk**
 - Town Administrator**

- XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.

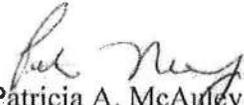
XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Request for Travel Approval: Council Member Watson requested approval for two trips, one in August, one in September to attend NLC committee meetings. Council Member George moved to approve; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by role call vote.

- XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Mayor entertained comments from the Audience.

- XV. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:55 p.m., 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
WORKSESSION
September 12, 2011 5:30 p.m.**

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

- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the July Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- III. **Grant Presentations: Elizabeth Seton, AWS, Friends of the Library:** Representatives from these three organizations gave brief presentations on their plans for use of the Town's grant funding and all three projects were approved unanimously.

- IV. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Travel Accountability Form and Process: Treasurer Jackson presented a proposed form that would ensure accountability when using Town funds for travel. Council suggested that an extra signature line be added as a "Council Witness" to the Mayor's approval signature.

Zoning Text Amendment for Farm @ Autumn Woods: Town Administrator Moss explained the necessity for this amendment so that a eco-farm can be located in a vacant area of land donated for this use by the owners of the Autumn Woods Apartments. This project continues the Town's green initiative.

- V. **NEW BUSINESS**

Protocol for Invitations to Public Officials as Guest Speakers/Primary Draws for Town/Community Events: Due to the upcoming 2012 national election cycle, there may be opportunities for the Town to host a number of elected officials at specific Town events. These officials will have the expectation, during campaign time, that such events will draw a sufficient number of people to make their visits worth wild during that busy season. It is with this in mind, that management staff recommends a Town "protocol" for issuance of such invitations. The Town Administrator asks that input be received by September 23rd.

Council Discretionary Funds: Baron Howard and PT Boys and Girls Club: There was discussion that because these two grant applicants did not follow procedures set out by the Town, they were not entitled to any grant funding this fiscal year. It was suggested that Mayor and Council could allot money through discretionary funds, but no one elected to do this.

MEA, EmPower Clean Energy Communities Grant: Town Administrator Moss reported that this meets the required notification for this grant opportunity for a

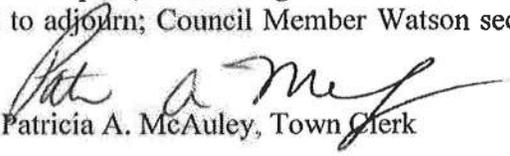
coordinator for energy audits for seniors. There was Council consensus to proceed.

Discretionary Funds: Council Member George requested that \$100 of his funds be awarded to the Port Towns' Boys and Girls Club; so moved by Council Member Ficklin, Seconded by Council Member Watson and passed unanimously. Council Member Watson requested \$50 of her funds for Keep Prince George's Beautiful; So moved by Council Member Ficklin, seconded by Council Member George and passed unanimously.

VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS: Mayor James requested that Council refer questions to Department Heads.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.

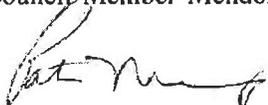
VIII. ADJOURNMENT: At 6:50 p.m., there being no further Worksession business, Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Watson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.


Respectfully submitted, Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
September 12, 2011 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the July Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Council Reports were waived due to the recognition event for community leaders, following the meeting.
- VI. STAFF REPORTS:** Staff reports were waived due to the above.
- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- Green Policy:** Council Member George moved to approve the Policy as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Resolution 3-2011: Sustainable Communities:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve Resolution 3-2011; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Ordinance 5-2011: Budget Amendment for Two Police Cars:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve Ordinance 5-2011 as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Public Comment was waived.
- IX. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 7:30 p.m, 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
October 10, 2011 5:30 p.m.**

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

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

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Revisit VIP Invitation Protocol: It could be assumed that prominent elected officials and other high profile invitees have a certain expectation of a receptive audience and well planned event. Council Member Brown moved that prior to inviting high profile officials to Town events, the request should be brought before the Mayor and Council. Role Call Vote: Mayor-Aye; Council Member Brown-Aye; Council Member Mendoza-Aye; Council Member George-Aye; Council Member Ficklin was not present for the vote.

MOU with ATHA: Battle of Bladensburg: Mayor and Council should direct any input to Ms. McAuley by Friday. The MOU will be on the November Worksession agenda for vote of approval.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Request to Go "Paperless" for Meeting Packets: In our efforts to go green, make information dissemination more efficient, and become more mobile, the Town Management Team recommended that Mayor and Council be provided with "tablet" devices, thus eliminating red packets and the volumes of paper involved with their distribution. After discussion about a number of products, it was decided that the Town would purchase iPads for Mayor and Council. There will be a signed policy attached to the distribution including use of the equipment for Town Business only. Information would be downloaded from WiFi Hotspots.

Budget Amendment for Livescan Grant by GOCCP: Council Member George moved to approve 6-2011; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. This expense is balanced by a grant revenue.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Council approved by Consensus, a proclamation requested by Ray Smith

for a White Cane event.

Council Member Brown will serve on the Board of the PTCDC representing the Town.

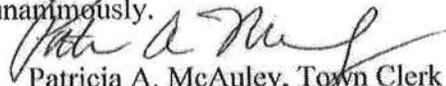
VI. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Bladensburg High School ROTC wants to adopt 57th Avenue as a beautification project.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further Worksession business, at 6:30 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

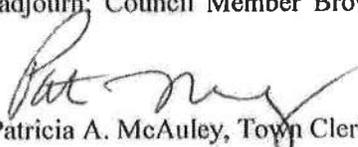
Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
October 10, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the September Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED MEETINGS:** The Mayor announced there Two closed sessions to discuss legal/contractual issues.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**
Because of the celebratory nature of the meeting, there were no reports.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:**
Because of the celebratory nature of the meeting, there were no oral reports.
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Green Surface Grant Update: Ms. Lisa Lincoln, environmental consultant gave a power point update on the Green Surface project.
- IX. **GREEN and HOLISTIC TOWN AND PARTNERS RECOGNITION:** The Mayor and Council gave recognition to and celebration of Bladensburg's "Green" and holistic initiatives and the partners who are helping to make them happen.
- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:40 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
November 14, 2011 5:30 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown and Ficklin present. Council Member George arrived at 5:50 p.m. and Council Member Mendoza was excused.

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council Member George moved to approve the October Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Brown Seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

FY 12 Audit Report: Diane Mock: The Auditor reported the for FY11 there was an increase in assets, a number of new environmental projects, no new debts, revenues were on point and a healthy fund balance. Suggestions included developing an accounting manual and ensuring that personal property tax payment abatements are recorded monthly in the system. She reviewed the audit document and the management letter. Copies of both are available for review in the Town Administrative Office.

Follow-up Recommendation for Employee Compensation: Town Administrator and Treasurer: It was recommended, because of the healthy fund balance, that employees be given a "bonus" equivalent to what they would have received as a merit raise for the first half of FY12. This would be an approximate payroll increase of 2%. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve this action; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Credit Card Proposal: Treasurer: Mr. Jackson is researching an American Express Corporate Credit Card system for the Town Officials that would incorporate spending controls and data management tools. Mayor and Council would be issued cards with spending limits. Mr. Jackson will investigate the GSA Smart Pay Program and this topic will be on the December Worksession agenda.

Green Team Update: CM Ficklin and Town Administrator: The Team has held two very productive meeting and has established a Mission Statement and Goals.

ATHA MOU: Battle of Bladensburg: Town Clerk: Ms. McAuley received no changes from the Council and requested approval of this document that will allow ATHA to oversee the management and funding of the commemoration while keeping the Town of Bladensburg involved and aware of all activities, projects and monies for the Battle of Bladensburg two hundred year anniversary. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the MOU; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Update on Community Networking Project (VIP Invite List): CM Ficklin, Town

Administrator): Council Member Ficklin reported that there will be an expectation of future deliverables for these meetings. He asked for approval of the VIP invitation list for the next event. Council Member George moved to approve the list; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Update on MDDHCD Sustainability Grant Application: Town Administrator Moss reported that three Bladensburg project applications have been submitted through the PTCDC. This is the formerly Community Legacy program. The Town's application is for the green observation roof atop one of the Ernest Maier Buildings. They are partnering with the Town on this project.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

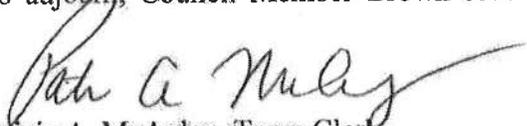
Toys for Tots Update: Council Member Ficklin reported that all applicants must apply through the Toys for Tots website and all inquiries should be directed there.

Contract for Paint Removal/Primer: Bostwick Stable: Council Member George moved to approve the Colossal Contractor's proposal; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. **CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** Staff clarified questions about departmental reports, including the status of the WSSC pipe replacement project (they have been repeatedly requested to make the surface of Annapolis Road more drivable.)

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:50 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
November 14, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin and George present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the October Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **PROCLAMATION: National Federal for the Blind:** Mayor James presented a Proclamation in support of this outstanding organization.
- VI. **PRESENTATION BY COLLINGTON SENIOR LIVING**
- VII. **OATH OF OFFICE: OFFICER Osanyinpeju:** Mayor James administered the Oath of Office to the new officer.
- VIII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** The Mayor and Council gave monthly updates that included but were not limited to:
Council Member Brown spoke about her goals and areas of particular interest and concern that she will pursue in her newly elected role.
Council Member Ficklin spoke about Toys for Tots required internet registration.
Council Member George spoke about the HIV testing event at Autumn Woods.
Mayor James also spoke about the event.
- IX. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff presented Departmental Reports; copies are available in the Clerk's Office.
Public Works
Public Safety
Code Enforcement
Finance
Town Clerk
Town Administrator
- X. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Resolution 4-2011: Sustainable Communities Grant Application Support: Following the reading by the Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve Resolution 4-2011; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
Resolution 5-2011: Eco Farm Support: Following the reading by the Clerk of Resolution 5-2011, in support of a zoning text amendment to allow agriculture use of land on the Autumn Woods property, Council Member Ficklin moved to approve; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- XI. **NEW BUSINESS**

Approval of Contract with Prince George's County DHCD for PY 37 Quincy Place: Council Member George moved to approve the contract; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

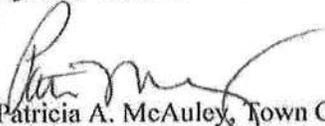
Proclamation for Maryland's Municipal Government Month: The Town Clerk read the Proclamation in support of the Maryland Municipal League's program.

Pastoral/Lay Council: Council Member Ficklin agreed to represent the Mayor and Council.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments included a sign issue on 52nd Avenue, annexation, and a potentially dangerous tree.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 8:45 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn, Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
December 12, 2011 5:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, and Mendoza present. Council Member George arrived at 5:45 p.m.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the November Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Barbara Miller: Grant Recipient Presentation: Mrs. Miller explained that her program included helping people in the community gain employment and taught people English in the Workplace. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the \$833 grant funding; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Upshur Street/Alt. Rte 1 Safety Issues: AWS: Representatives from Anacostia Watershed Society presented schematics for closing off Upshur Street at the east side of Baltimore Avenue to through traffic with a landscaped buffer and allowing the west side to be used as an entrance to the Balloon Park lot. The east ingress onto Upshur is the site of continuous accidents and is a real threat to the structure of the George Washington House. The Council will take this under advisement and vote on whether to approve this closure at an upcoming meeting.

Monroe Gardens Update: Norman Riveria: Mr. Riveria reported that the property owners are continuing to move through the approval and permitting process for this site. The decision to annex will be the onus of whoever ends up as the developer for the multifamily townhouse project.

Corporate Credit Card Policy: Treasurer Jackson presented his draft policy for Mayor and Council review. He requested input from the elected officials and the policy will be placed on the January Worksession agenda for a vote for/against approval.

State Ethics Law Update: Town Administrator: Mr. Moss reported that like many Towns in the State with similar demographics, Bladensburg was not granted an exemption from the State Ethics Law.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

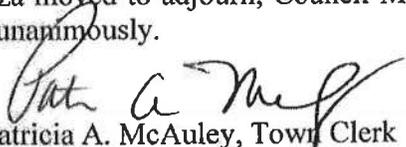
Pension Financing: Treasurer: Mr. Jackson has been investigating refinancing

the Bond Issue for the retirement fund, through the original issuer, SunTrust Bank. A lower interest rate on repayment will save the Town considerable money. Mayor and Council concurred that the Town Treasurer should move forward with this transaction.

Proposed Prince George's County Bag Law: Mr. Moss advised that the Mayor and Council may wish to take a stance on this proposed law that would charge .05 for each bag given to a customer at a retail store in the County. This law complements our Town "Going Green" initiative however many senior citizens have expressed concern that this could be a hardship. This will be on the January Worksession agenda.

- V. **CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** The Mayor requested that Council address inquiries directly to individual management staff persons.
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further worksession business, at 6:50 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

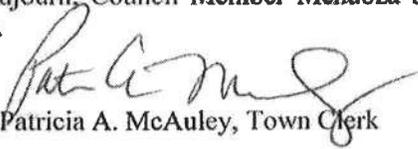

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING
December 12, 2011 7:00 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
- II. OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the opening prayer
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the November Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:**
Council Member Mendoza thanked all who expressed concern over his recent illness, those who put together the Yule Log event, attendees at the Pearl Harbor Day Observance. There will be a fundraiser for the Monroe family fire.
Council Member Brown participated in the creek cleanup, requested that the Town address lighting issues along 52nd Avenue, and spoke about the smoke detector give away.
Council Member Ficklin reported on the upcoming Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration at Emerson House, his participation in Toys for Tots, and the community networking event. **Council Action:** He asked that \$25 gift cards for the seven Town schools be approved through his discretionary funds. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve; Council George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
Council Member George participated in the creek cleanup.
Mayor James attended Thanksgiving celebrations at all three senior buildings, the Yule Log event, and creek cleanup. He requested that citizens call Town Hall with comments about double tracking trains and reported that the Town had a good financial audit.
- VIII. STAFF REPORTS:** Copies of Reports by Department are available from the Town Clerk.
Public Works
Public Safety
Code Enforcement
Finance
Town Clerk
Town Administrator
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no unfinished business.
- X. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- XI. PUBLIC COMMENT:** A resident of Newton Green asked about who was responsible for bulk trash pickup at the facility. It is the building's management that is responsible. All wished Mr. Herndon a happy birthday and thanked him for his dedication as a volunteer Town bus driver.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk