

**Town of Bladensburg  
Worksession Minutes  
January 14, 2013**

- 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 December 2012 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **Unfinished Business:**

**Town Grant Presentation:** Dr. Thomas spoke about how the grant award had helped enable his anti-bullying campaign program. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve releasing the funds; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Elected Officials' Compensation:** Mayor James introduced the plan for an increase in the compensation for the Mayor and Council. He felt this should be related to the actual costs of maintaining residency in the Town as required by the Charter. Council Member George stated that the compensation related to the hours put in by the Council was very minimal. Council Members Brown and Ficklin agreed. Council Member Mendoza reminded the rest of the elected body that each person knew what the compensation was when they ran for office and the Town pays more to the Council than Cheverly. Mayor James wanted the citizens to weigh in on this and suggested a public hearing on the issue.

**Town Charter Update:**

**Mayor's Term Length:** This needs to be done through a Charter Change. MML Staff reports that State municipalities are evenly divided between two and four year terms.

**Mayor and Council Duties and Responsibilities:** Mayor James concurred with the Town Clerk's recommendation that these be put in the form of a policy as the Charter should not go into this type of detail. A policy makes duties easier to amend. There will be a continuation of this discussion.

**Mayor and Council Ethics Ordinance:** There was a reminder that forms are due in on January 31, 2013. There was also a reminder that an Ethics Commission must be appointed and Mayor James reported that he already has some ideas on potential candidates.

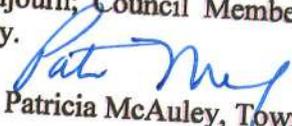
**Town of Bladensburg Scholarship:** Mayor James proposed instituting such a program and suggests that each Council Member "donate" part of his or her professional development allocation to this (\$1000.). Council Member George moved to approve the scholarship program. Discussion: Mayor James continues to work on a detailed draft plan for the program and will present it at an upcoming meeting, so the motion was tabled.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS:**

The Town does not have control over zoning so an appropriately zoned business can come into a location without needing Town approval. Zoning is under Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Mayor asked for better communication about new businesses coming into Bladensburg.

V. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 6:55 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 14, 2013**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m., with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION:** Mayor James gave accolades to Mrs. Dowe, long time Secretary at Bladensburg Elementary School who is transferring to Barack Obama Elementary School. This was followed by remarks from the Council, her colleagues and citizens whose lives she has touched.
- V. **RECOGNITION OF SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY EFFORTS:** Bladensburg's Green Team and other individuals supporting the Town's sustainable goals were thanked for their on-going efforts to achieve this designation.
- VI. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS: (Brief)**  
Council Member George thanked all for support during the loss of his mother.  
Council Member Mendoza wished all a Happy New Year.  
Council Member Ficklin invited all to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.  
Council Member Brown wished all a Happy New Year.  
Mayor James spoke about support for the BHS ROTC, announced that the Town will be starting the FY 14 Budget preparations, and the February Worksession and Council Meeting dates are changed to February 4, 2013.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Oral reports were omitted due to the length of the agenda. Copies are available in the Town Clerk's Office.
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**  
  
**Approval of CDBG PY38 Grant Agreement:** Council Member Brown moved to approve the Mayor signing the agreement; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed with Mayor James, Council Members Brown, Ficklin and Mendoza in approval; Council Member George not present in the Council Room.  
  
**Approval of Maryland Historical Trust 2013 Grant Application:** Council Member Brown moved to approve support for the application; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. **New Business:**

**Bag "Tax" Bill:** Council expressed concern that people of food stamps and other assistance would not be able to afford the .05 surcharge. Council Member Brown suggested, if the Bill passed, to have a means of providing bags for those people who would have a hardship with the new law. A citizen wondered if certain people could be exempt from the tax. Other meeting participants spoke on stewardship of the environment. Further discussion was tabled until the Mayor and Council can read and review the legislation.

**Black History Month:** Council Member Brown invited all to the Town's Celebration.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Decatur Baptist Church:** Pastor Lear invited all to join in this event.

X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:30 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  
February 4, 2013 5:30p.m.**

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

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Brown moved to approve the January 2013 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**COG: Mr. Paul DesJardin and Mr. Chuck Beers** gave a presentation on the "Region Forward" program. Mayor and Council felt that they would like to revisit potential participation in this program after reviewing results in other COG member governments.

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**NPS Signage for Bostwick: MOU:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town, National Park Service, and ATHA; Council Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**ETHM & Town Collaboration:** Mayor James presented an overview of the goals for the proposed partnership. Council Member George moved that Bladensburg would set the guidelines and timeline for moving forward with the collaboration; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion. Discussion: Council Member expressed concerns that the Town "was not here yet" to agree to this partnership. Mayor James explained that was one purpose of the motion, to address these concerns. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

**Employee Evaluation System Update:** Following considerable discussion about development of a new package with new timelines, keeping personalities out of evaluations, and the need for consistent training, and more of an automated system, Council Member Ficklin moved to return to the previous evaluation system from the calendar to the fiscal year; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion. The motion was amended to add that this will be followed by with research into a new system for the future. Management Team will bring examples of other systems.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**New 7-11s in Town:** Mayor and Council expressed concern that there are two 7-11 businesses coming to Bladensburg and they were not aware of this. One will be in the old Murray's store, and the other will be in the old Blockbusters.

**Solid Waste Transfer Station at Kenilworth and Lawrence:** The Mayor of Cheverly has requested that the Town take a stand against this proposed usage. The location is not in a municipality but is close to the Anacostia River. There will be a meeting set up to better understand the implications of this facility.

**EndTime Harvest Ministries and Bladensburg Collaboration:** Council Member Brown suggested moving forward with the goal of establishing this in the upcoming year with the understanding that the Mayor and Council have more information on the partnership proposal. Council Member Brown moved to have a separate meeting with Rev. Addison to further explore the proposal; seconded by Council Member George and passed unanimously.

**County Bag Bill:** The Mayor reported that the Town has been asked to support the bill. There would be a .05 charge for each non recycling bag given out a certain retail establishments like grocery stores. This will have to go before the Maryland General Assembly for approval. Discussion will continue at the Council Meeting to follow.

- V. **Adjournment:** There being no further Worksession business, at 7:00 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 MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2013 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 George moved to approve the February Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **PROCLAMATION: ADIRONDACK TREE SERVICE** was thanked for its service following the June 2012 microburst and named the Official Bostwick Tree Service.
- VI. **PROCLAMATION: DOMINICAN HERITAGE MONTH:** Mayor James gave the Proclamation celebrating the Country's History.
- VII. **BLADENSBURG ROTC** was recognized for Adopt A Highway for 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- VIII. **MNCPPC PRESENTATION: MS. WILLIAMS-JENNINGS, PLANNING DEPARTMENT** gave an overview of the updating of the long range General Plan and the Vision for the County.
- IX. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**  
Council Member Brown reported on the upcoming Black History Month event and the Prince George's Elected Women's Scholarship Program.  
Council Member George spoke about the Council of Governments and his participation in one of its committees.  
Council Member Mendoza attended the District 47 Reception in Annapolis.  
Council Member Ficklin spoke about "Living the Dream".  
Mayor James met with Senator Ramirez and Delegate Ivey. He spoke about the renovations at Parkview, the start up of FY 2014 Town Budget process, and the passing of Dan Jackson, a valued member of the community.
- X. **STAFF REPORTS (Available at the Town Clerk's Office)**  
Public Works  
Public Safety  
Code Enforcement  
Finance  
Town Clerk

Town Administrator

**XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Black History Month Funding:** Council Member Mendoza moved to move \$3500 from the Recreation Council to help fund the Black History Month Celebration on February 23<sup>rd</sup>; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**XII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Mayor and Council Discretionary Funds:** Council Member Mendoza requested \$150 for a Flag and its accessories and \$50 for Keeping Prince George's County Beautiful; Mayor James requested \$100 each for Bladensburg Elementary School's Spirit and Environmental Clubs; Council Member Brown requested \$250 for Bladensburg High School's ROTC. Council Member George moved to approve the requests; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comments from the audience included a request for more Police presence at Newton Green, a push for laws capping rents for seniors, and more senior activities at the Community Center.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:55 p.m., Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
March 11, 2013 5:30p.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 Ficklin moved to approve the February Worksession Minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Recreation Council and Pastoral Lay Council:** Mayor James stated that as a follow-up to a previous Council meeting, the Town needs resolutions to establish the Recreation Council and Pastoral Council as separate entities from the Town Government. Council Member Ficklin reported that the Pastoral Lay Council may decide on a name change and may be disaffiliated with the Town. The Mayor asked for Council to e mail him thoughts so that appropriate resolutions can be instituted.

**Safe Routes to School and Transportation Alternative Programs:** Town Administrator Moss reported a successful meeting with our State Delegation and Maryland State Highway Administration concerning the dangerous pedestrian routes along Quincy Street/48<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Mayor and Council need to review the report, concur with the findings and send it to the Delegation for its support. We are not under the current round of funding. The report will be forwarded before the end of March.

**Visitors' Center Usage Report:** Mayor and Council envision a tenant that will bring the Town revenue while supporting the community through a program such as one supporting our youth. The Neighborhood Design Center has done preliminary drawings for the space; an RFP will be advertised, with the Town looking at the market rate, SF, for the area.

**Proposed Prince George's Regional Hospital Location:** The Mayor reported that the County is looking at four alternative locations. There will be a shuttle bus system to ensure those using public transportation have access to the proposed facility. The County asks the Town to weigh in on a preferred location decision.

**Support for DOE Grant Challenge:** This is a COG initiative and they are asking for a letter of support. There may be grant opportunities down the road for the Town. Council Member Brown moved to send a letter of support; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

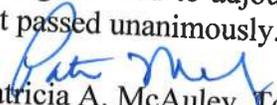
**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**Star Spangled Grant Application for African American History Month, 2014:** Council Member George moved to pursue funding for the Town's Black History Month in 2014, related to the role of African Americans in this area during the War of 1812; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**V. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** Questions were directed to Department Heads.

**VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** There were announcements of upcoming events.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:50 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 AGENDA  
MARCH 11, 2013 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order with Council Members Brown, Ficklin and George 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 Brown moved to approve the February Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **ATHA UPDATE:** Aaron Marcavitch, Director gave an update on the Battle of Bladensburg Commemoration plans that included a walking tour, streetscape improvements, special events including a parade. ATHA has been granted \$125,000 for special events from the Star Spangled Commission.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included:
  - Council Member Ficklin** participated in the Rogers Heights Science Bowl and the 47<sup>th</sup> District Meeting.
  - Council Member Brown** reminded all about the critical need for smoke detectors and gave information about free ones available through the Fire Departments.
  - Council Member George** reported that the monthly Clean-up program will start in March.
  - Mayor James** talked about the four potential hospital locations, the Black History Month event, and the upcoming Town Budget process for PY 14.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updated by Department.
  - Public Works**
  - Public Safety**
  - Code Enforcement**
  - Finance**
  - Town Clerk**
  - Town Administrator**
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  - Vote to Move Forward with Charter Amendment to Change Mayor's Term from Two to Four Years:** Council Member George moved to proceed with the process to make the Charter Amendment; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**Emergency Ordinance 1-2013: Budget Amendments:** Council Member George moved to approve the Ordinance as presented by the Town Clerk; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Approval of Bostwick South Chimney Restoration Bid:** Council Member George moved to approve the bid as submitted by the Wayne Group; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Grant Disbursement:** Mr. Jenkins gave a brief presentation on the fund use for the Port Towns' Boys and Girls Club. Council Member George moved to disburse the funds; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:30 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  
April 8, 2013 5:30 p.m.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the March 2013 Worksession Minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **PRESENTATION:** **Carlyncia Peck, Artistic Entertainment** gave an overview of her company, a full service entertainment firm, that provides performing arts outreach in the community.
- IV. **FY 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET:** The Town Administrator and Town Treasurer gave a PowerPoint overview of the proposed FY14 Town Budget with projected revenues and expenses along with priority goals and objectives as directed by the Mayor and Council.
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ethics Commission:** Names for the Ethics Commission will be presented at the May Worksession. Resumes' of potential Commissioners should be forwarded to the Mayor.

**Port Towns' Day:** A meeting of some the Port Towns' Mayors concluded that the PTCDC should be focused on economic development and not a one-day festival. Bladensburg and Colmar Manor are on board for the Towns to take over the event. They want to hear from the other two Towns. All Towns should financially support this endeavor. Mayor James expressed concern that Port Town Day costs had been inflated by the PTCDC. He will request an accounting of actual expenses.

**Mayor and Council Compensation:** Mayor James reported that the Council has had ongoing discussions about a compensation increase for some time and are looking forward to the community's input at a public meeting.

**Summer Youth Employment Program:** Town Administrator Moss will have a timeline prepared for the hiring process. Again this year, Dana Duncan will be coordinating the process.

**Proposed Use for the Visitors' Center Space:** Mr. Moss reported that an RFP went out for the space. We have one interested party: Lizet Tax Service wishes to lease half the space. They would like an answer by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Council will

discuss and get back to Mr. Moss.

**Bladensburg Library:** There will be an upcoming meeting with Councilmember Harrison about the possible temporary location of the library and the library priorities for the surrounding municipalities.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

Ms. Blakely asked for suggestions on how to stock the Newton Green Library. It was suggested to contact the Rotary Club.

Ms. Langley asked if there had been any reconsideration of the once a week trash pickup. Town Management reported that the current program was working well and saving the Town money.

Ms. Peck inquired about Town sign standards and the overall appearance of the commercial areas. Some blighted buildings in the area are perceived to be in Town but are in an unincorporated area.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:55 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 MINUTES  
APRIL 8, 2013 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 March 2013 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included:
  - Council Member Mendoza announced upcoming Earth Day and Cinco de Mayo celebrations.
  - Council Member Ficklin attended the District 47<sup>th</sup> weekly meeting in Annapolis.
  - Council Member Brown reinforced the County Fire Department's smoke detector give-away.
  - Council Member George needed volunteers for the monthly Town cleanup event.
  - Mayor James reported on the Council's budget deliberations, Mayor's Day of Recognition at Rogers Heights ES, the STEM event in Houston, Bladensburg Library Temporary move, and opportunities to join the 4 H event near Camp David.
- VI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Monthly reports are available in the Town Clerk's office.
  - Public Works
  - Public Safety
  - Code Enforcement
  - Finance
  - Town Clerk
  - Town Administrator
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
  - Resolution 1-2013: Charter Amendment to Change Mayor's Term from Two to Four Years:** After the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Mendoza moved to approve Resolution 1-2013; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no new business.
- IX. **PUBIC COMMENTS:** The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.

- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:30 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 13, 2013 5:30p.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 Ficklin moved to approve the April 2013 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Crossroads:** An architect, working for the new owners, presented schematics for the proposed use of the property: a multipurpose entertainment, meeting venue that included elevations and various space designs. Plans include a roof venue and insulation applied to the exterior. Currently the building does not meet codes for such use.

**Job Fair:** The Mayor and Council expressed interested in an event that would stress job readiness programs. There were questions about the event being the best use of public funds, return on investment, and the potential for partnering. There was not support for another outsourced event. There was concurrence that the Town should engage in partnerships to hold job fair opportunities. Any thoughts should be forwarded to Council Member Ficklin or Mr. Moss by Friday.

**Budget Items and Review:** Discussion included raised salaries for Mayor and Council, Town Gateway signs and two Town circulator buses. There was considerable discussion on contractual part-time drivers and schedules.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

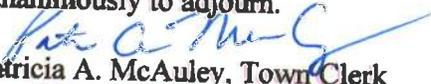
**Joining I Net:** It was recommended by the Management Staff that the Town should now join the County's I Net. This internet system allows the Town access to County and State data. There is a start up and annual cost that are determined by population. This system would be a considerable improvement over the Town's current access. There will be a Resolution introduced at the Council Meeting supporting the Town joining the I Net.

**Maryland Smart Energy Awards:** Mr. Moss announced the Town's recognition for Smart Energy initiatives.

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Council Member Ficklin requested that the Project List be on the June Worksession agenda.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:50, it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 13, 2013 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:** There was a Moment of Silence in memory of Officer Brian Johnson.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the April Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **CONSTANT YIELD PUBLIC HEARING:** Treasurer Jackson conducted the hearing that is mandated by State Law, when the Real Property Tax rate will produce a certain amount of increased income over the Constant Yield Tax Rate. There were no comments.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council Member George announced his resignation from the Council, effect on this date, because he is no longer a resident of Bladensburg. Mayor and Council, individually gave Council Member George praise and thanks for his service to the Town. Members of the 47<sup>th</sup> District Delegation joined in commending him as a public servant, along with members of the audience.

Council Member Mendoza reported on the successful Cinco De Mayo event and his attendance at the service for Officer Johnson.

Council Member Ficklin attended Rogers Heights' Career Day and a meeting of the BHS ROTC.

Council Member Brown announced that she is a PGCMA officer in the upcoming year. She also announced document shredding event at Willow Oaks.

Mayor James attended a Mayors' Day of Recognition. He encouraged people to call the School Board to keep ROTC in Bladensburg High School. He has been involved in Immigration Reform meetings at the White House. The question of a Mayor and Council compensation increase will be on the October Town Election ballot. Recent Council discussions included the opportunity for two circulator buses for the Town, Gateway signs, rent control for seniors, and commercial signage.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff reports are available at the Town Clerk's office.
  - Public Works
  - Public Safety
  - Code Enforcement

**Finance**

**Town Clerk**

**Town Administrator** reported on Eco-Districts modeled on the Portland Concept and recent FEMA changes to the area's flood plain with new maps.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ordinance 2-2013: Adoption of the FY 14 Town Budget and Real Property Tax Rate:** Town Clerk McAuley gave the first reading.

**Resolution 2-2013: For Approval To Join "I Net":** Following the Clerk's reading, Council Member George moved to approve Resolution 2-2013; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

Council Member Ficklin asked that the balance of his **discretion funds** (\$225) be used for Caps and Gowns for Bladensburg High School Seniors who need help paying the costs. Council Member Mendoza made a motion to approve; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member George asked that his balance (\$286) be used for the same purpose. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve; Council Member Brown seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Community Clean Up:** Council Member George announced that he would continue to assist with this program and he initiated.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The Mayor opened up the floor for public comment.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Council Meeting business, at 8:30 p.m., it was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
June 3, 2013 5:30p.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.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the May Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **A-Plus Kids:** A presentation was given on a youth program whose educational component is involves teaching broadcasting skills. The program sponsors need a location and funds to expand to Bladensburg. The Council will have further discussion at a later date.
- IV. **HIPAA/HITECH Risk Analysis Proposal:** Rob Campbell presented his services for writing a policy for the Town. This concerns breaches of personal medical information of employees. Because of the Town's health insurance system protocol, this may no even be a threat. This will be discussed at a later date.
- V. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ethics Commission:** The Mayor advised that the Council needs to decide how many persons should serve on the panel, who they should be, and other criteria such as being a Town resident. Council asked the Town Administrator to look at the criteria used by other Maryland municipalities.

**Charter Amendment for Non Binding Ballot Questions:** This will be tabled until July.

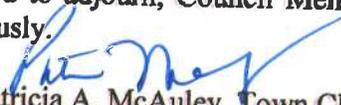
**Project List:** It was agreed that the document needs to be "tweeted" if it is to be a useful management tool. Council Member Ficklin is the coordinator for updating and distributing the list with support from staff.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

**FY 2014 Town Grant Applications:** Treasurer Jackson sent out 21 grant notices and received 11 applications. Mayor and Council will meet in the near future to determine the awards.

**Mayor and Council Pay Increases:** After discussions with the Treasurer, the Mayor has determined that any increases would be more in line with \$800.
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:45 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  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
June 3, 2013 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 Mendoza present.
- 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 May Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING:** Mayor James announced that there was a special meeting of Mayor and Council on May 27, noon, to discuss the FY 14 Budget.
- VI. **"WHAT THE FLAG MEANS TO ME":** Essay winners from Town elementary schools read their essays and were given congratulatory certificates from the Mayor and Council.
- VII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

Council Member Brown welcomed back displaced residents of Bladenwoods. She spoke about summer safety.

Council Member Mendoza thanked participants in the Memorial Day Commemoration. He attended the most recent TNI meeting.

Council Member Ficklin attended an event for Pastor Duvall, a Newton Green event and Roger's Heights Field Day.

Mayor James met with local business owners, attended the Caribbean Festival, and addressed a senior citizen transportation issue by acquiring two buses as Town Circulators. He also spoke about the many scholarship opportunities for college students in the area.
- VIII. **STAFF REPORTS** were waived. Copies are available through the Town Clerk.
- IX. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ordinance 2-2013: Adoption of the FY 14 Town Budget and Real Property Tax Rate: Second Reading and Vote.** The Town Clerk read the Ordinance; Council Member Ficklin moved to approve; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Emergency Ordinance 3-2013: FY 13 Budget Amendment:** Following the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve Ordinance 3-3013; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- X. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business.
- XI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** A number of people expressed concern about the proposed increase in salaries for the Mayor and Council as shown in the FY 2014 Budget. The Mayor explained that a more modest increase was now being considered for approximately \$700-800 dollars. This may be put as a non binding ballot question for the October Town Elections.

There was also concern about the speeding on Tilden Road.

- XII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:35 p.m., 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  
WORKSESSION MINUTES**

**July 8, 2013 5:30p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., with Council Members Brown and Ficklin in attendance. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Brown moved to approve the June 2013 Worksession Minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Bostwick: Planning for the Future:** Mr. Moss and Ms. McAuley gave a presentation on a review of past and current restoration efforts, and the need for setting a plan for Bostwick that would include a Board to govern it's future, a vision for the property and a mission statement. Council Member Ficklin moved to direct Mr. Moss and Ms. McAuley to move forward on outlining a plan for appointing the proposed Board; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Charter Amendment for Non Binding Ballot Questions:** The Mayor explained the purpose of the amendment, the ability to get citizens to way in on certain important issues. The Resolution will be introduced and voted on at the Council Meeting to follow.

**Project List:** Council expressed frustration in the current state of the Project List. This includes certain topics that should or should not be on the document and lack of updated information. The Mayor asked Council Member Ficklin to continue to take the lead on this.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**August Recess:** Council Member Ficklin moved to a recess from Worksession and Regular Council meetings in August; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Police Chaplain:** Pastor Lear has volunteered for this position. Council requested that a document containing qualifications, duties and responsibilities be prepared prior to approving a person for this post. The Chief agreed to a general order for this. There will be vote on the issue at a special meeting in August.

- V. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** The Staff entertained questions

on their Departmental Reports.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:40 p.m., Council Member Ficklin 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 MINUTES  
July 8, 2013 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order with Council Members Brown and Ficklin 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 June 2013 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING:** The Mayor announced there was a special meeting of Mayor and Council on June 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the allocation of funds for the Town Grants.
- VI. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF AUGUST RECESS:** The Mayor announced that the Council approved an August recess at the Worksession earlier this evening.
- VII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council Member Ficklin:** Mr. Ficklin attended the July 4<sup>th</sup> ceremony. He announced that he had not endorsed Mr. Bridgeman as a Mayoral candidate. He also attended the Annual Maryland Municipal League Conference.

**Council Member Brown** welcomed the audience and reported that she was now the Treasurer of the Prince George's County Municipal Association.

**Mayor James** was a "public works employee" for a day. He noted that the Town is in need of new flags for Annapolis Road. He is working on a bus route for the upcoming arrival of two buses from the County. He announced the upcoming "Walkers Wear White" rally, National Night Out and Port Towns' Day.
- VIII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave reports by Department.
  - Public Works**
  - Public Safety**
  - Code Enforcement**
  - Finance**
  - Town Clerk**
  - Town Administrator**
- IX. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Resolution 3-2013: Charter Amendment to Enable Non-Binding Ballot Questions:** Following the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve the Charter Amendment Resolution; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 4-2013: Mayor and Council Salary increases:** The Town Clerk gave the first reading of the ordinance.

**X. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business.

**XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There was a question concerning the dollars involved in the Mayor and Council pay raises.

There was concern that the ROTC would be eliminated at Bladensburg High School.

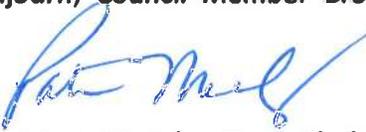
A citizen asked about providing residents with large tote trash containers and using a leaf shredder for Fall cleanup.

The Mayor mentioned requiring a background check for all candidates for the Town Elections.

There was concern about the Town's liability with a shuttle bus service.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
September 9, 2013 5:30p.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.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Brown moved to approve the July 2013 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. PRESENTATION MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION:**  
**Ms. Nichele Parker, Program Manager:** Ms. Parker reported that Town of Bladensburg has been used as a Statewide example for many programs.
- IV. TOWN GRANT PRESENTATIONS:** Capital Scholars reported its funds were used for its summer after school program. Bladensburg Boys and Girls Club requested that its grant be used for securing space for its Cheerleaders.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Playground Bids for Town Park Behind Town Hall:** Council Member Brown moved to approve the bid from Gametime/West Rec Incorporation for the Town "Tot Lot"; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Bostwick Board of Directors:** This proposal will be put on the October Worksession agenda as Council needed more time for review.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**14 Passenger Van:** Staff will research costs and proposed purchase will be on the October Worksession agenda.

**Request to Write Off Bad Debt:** Treasurer Jackson reported that there were outstanding invoices due from eight former businesses that were no longer in operation, making collection impossible. This will be on the agenda as a budget amendment for the October Council Meeting.

**New HVAC for Public Safety:** Mr. McNamara announced that the Police Department required installation of a new system.

**Policy on Pregnancy/Disability to Address Federal and State**

**Mandates:** This policy reflects new mandates in Federal and State laws that will be in effect October 1, 2013. Council Member Brown moved to approve the policy; Council Member Mendoza

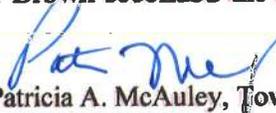
**Review of Resolutions for Council Meeting:** Mr. Moss gave a brief synopsis of the Resolutions that would be presented at the Council Meeting following the election as they are time sensitive at, in some cases, lengthy.

**Port Towns' Day Recognition:** This item will be discussed at a Special Meeting.

**Surplus Property:** Chief Owens announced there were three police vehicles that need to go to auction. There are also two salt spreaders that are surplus. The Mayor directed Mr. Moss, in compliance with Town law, to take the opportunity to rid the Town of any unusable property.

**VII. Adjournment:** at 6:15 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA  
September 9, 2013 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Brown and Ficklin present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member gave the opening prayer
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the July Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING:** Mayor James reported that there was a Special Meeting of Mayor and Council on August 29<sup>th</sup>.
- VI. **APPOINTMENT OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION:** Mayor James introduced the proposed members of the Town's Ethics Commission. There are: Vanessa Jenkins, Shirley King and Ruby White. Council Member Brown moved to approve the appointees; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS:** Mayor James gave the Oath of Office to incoming members of our Police Force.
- VIII. **PRESENTATION OF PEDESTRIAN POLICY:** Rev. Addison's Port Towns' Youth Council presented the Pedestrian Safety Policy that they developed for the Town during their Summer Program.
- IX. **Grant Recipient Presentation:** Dr. Thomas presented his Tae Kwan Do Program's goals and the Treasurer was directed to disburse his grant funds.
- X. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included  
Council Member Brown spoke about the dinner recognizing the return of BladenWoods residents who were displaced after the microburst.  
Council Member Ficklin gave words of encouragement.  
Mayor James spoke about obtaining larger trash containers for the once a week pickup. He attended an event with Senator Cardin.
- XI. **STAFF REPORTS** are available in the Town Clerk's Office.
- XII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**  
  
**Resolution 4-2013: Bladensburg Renewable Energy Policy:** Following a summary reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.  
  
**Resolution 5-2013: Bladensburg Energy Efficiency Policy:** Following a summary reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Ficklin moved to approve; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Resolution 6-2013: Community Legacy Clean and Green Project:** Following a summary reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Ficklin moved to approve; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Resolution 7-2013: Community Legacy Municipal Collaboration Project:** Following a summary reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 8-2013: Workplace Wellness:** Following a summary reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Council Discretionary Funds:** Council Member Ficklin asked that \$25 of his funds be given to each of the seven schools that serve the Town and S.O.M.E.; Council Member Brown added \$25 for each school also. Council Member Brown moved to approve the allocation; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The Mayor entertained comments from the audience.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:45 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
October 14, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the September Worksession minutes as presented. Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **VETERANS' DAY:** **Marion Hoffman** reviewed the logistics for this remembrance.
- IV. **TOWN GRANT PRESENTATIONS:**
- Friends of the Bladensburg Library** used its Grant funds for continuation of the summer program and some ESOL classes. **Mr. Thomas Foley** reported that new policies such as no cash payments for overdue books place a hardship on patrons. Mayor and Council moved to approve disbursement of the grant funds.
- William Wirt Middle School's Lisa Walters, PTA,** reported that funds were used toward the CSTEM program. Disbursement was approved.
- Run Your Race Ministries, Barbara Miller,** used funds for job training, including computer skills. Disbursement was approved.
- Elizabeth Seton High School, Sister Ellen Marie Hager,** reported the school used its funds to help upgrade kitchen equipment to be in compliance with Health Department Codes. Disbursement was approved.
- V. **ANNEXATION:** **Norman Rivera,** representing the developer for Quincy Manor, presented a plan including 20 acres of apartments that are slated for redevelopment to include a vision that 1.9 acres that currently belongs to MNCPPC that will be the site for a new Bladensburg Library with mixed housing. The developer will need the Town to Partner with him and will need a Resolution to this effect. Mr. Rivera will outline a process to get the proposed partnership moving. This will include a transfer of property from MNCPPC to the Town. It is important to have a meeting of all parties scheduled for November 2013. Council Member Hall moved to move forward in this process; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Van Purchase:** Staff reported that, based on a State contract, a 12 passenger

van would cost between \$32-35 thousand dollars. Council agree to table this purchase.

**Bostwick Board:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve moving forward with the proposed outline, presented by Ms. McAuley, for appointing the Board, with a changed timeline; Council Member Hall seconded the proposal and it passed unanimously.

**Trash collection:** Mr. McNamara has secured a proposal from Bates Trucking, to collect refuse, twice a week, on Tuesday and Friday. Bulk Trash pickup would be once a week (Friday) by appointment. Yard waste (Friday) and recycling (Wednesday) would be once a week. All single family homes would receive a 96 gallon tote container. Council Member Brown moved to go forward with the contract beginning January 1,2014; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**PTYC Pedestrian Policy:** Council agreed to table this policy.

**Town Ethics Rules and Guidelines:** Town Attorney Colaresi reviewed the policy and modified it to be in compliance with the Town Charter (changing the term of the Ethics Commission from one to three years). Council Member Mendoza moved to approve this change; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

**Date Change for November meetings:** Council concurred to change the November meeting to the first Monday in November because of conflicts with the Veterans' Day holiday and upcoming NLC conference that follows.

**Mayor Pro Tem:** The Town Administrator presented the upcoming schedule for the Council's information.

VII. **CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** Staff responded to Council's questions on monthly reports.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession minutes, at 6:50 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  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
October 14, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Brown moved to approve the September Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **APPOINTMENT OF PASTOR LEAR AS POLICE CHAPLAIN:** The Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Pastor Lear.
- VI. **OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW POLICE OFFICER:** The Mayor administered the Oath of Office to Officer Ramirez.
- VII. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**  
Council Member Mendoza stated that the election brought good changes for the future.  
Council Member Brown thanked the Mayor and Council and Staff who work as a team-family.  
Council Member Ficklin encouraged citizens to use the abundance Town resources.  
Council Member Hall thanked everyone who supported her election.  
Mayor James reported on his attendance at the Walking Summit, Urban Farm event, Bladensburg Day, and Helping Hands giveaway.
- VIII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff reports are available in the Town Clerk's Office.  
Public Works  
Public Safety  
Code Enforcement  
Finance  
Town Clerk  
Town Administrator
- IX. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**  
  
**Ordinance 5-2013: Budget Amendment:** Following the reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve the emergency ordinance as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- X. **NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business.
- XI. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The Mayor entertained questions and comments from the audience. Mr. Weltz spoke on appreciation for Public Works.
- XII. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:10 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  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
November 4, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** It was moved and seconded to approve the October Council Meeting minutes as presented.
- V. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council gave reports on the events they attended during October, current projects they are involved in and other news of interest to the community.

**Council Member Hall  
Council Member Mendoza  
Council Member Brown  
Council Member Ficklin  
Mayor James**

- VI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave reports by Department updating the community on activities and news of interest during the month of October. Copies are available through the Town Clerk's Office.
  - Public Works**
  - Public Safety**
  - Code Enforcement**
  - Finance**
  - Town Clerk**
  - Town Administrator**
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - Proclamation: "Municipal Government Works":** Mayor James gave the Maryland Municipal League's annual proclamation celebrating the City and Town Governments in Maryland.
- IX. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor James entertained comments from the audience.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the Council Meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION AGENDA  
November 4, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the October Worksession Minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. AUDIT REPORT: Lindsey and Associates:** Bob Ditz, representing the firm, reviewed the 2013 Audit which found the Town in good financial order.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**PTYC Pedestrian Policy:** Following considerable discussion on commitments and responsibilities involved in adopting the proposed policy, it was decided to further review the expectations involved and to revisit the document after further scrutiny.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Open Meetings Act: Virtual Class for Certification:** Current State Law now requires municipal governments to have one primary certified person knowledgeable about the Act in order to advise the governing body. Ms. McAuley is now the primary Certified person and Mr. Moss is the secondary contact. They both completed Institute for Government Services' on line course and recommend that the Mayor and Council take the opportunity to take class in order to update and refresh their knowledge of the Act.

**Temporary Increase for Credit Card Limits for Mayor and Council:** Mayor James asked the Council to consider raising the limits during the National League of Cities Conference in Seattle, to cover unforeseen expenses during the conference. Council Member Mendoza moved to increase the limit to \$3000 until November 23<sup>rd</sup>; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**VII. CLARIFICATION OF STAFF REPORTS:** Council directed questions to department heads.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 6:30 p.m., Council Member Hall 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  
November 4, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** It was moved and seconded to approve the October Council Meeting minutes as presented.
- V. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council gave reports on the events they attended during October, current projects they are involved in and other news of interest to the community.

**Council Member Hall  
Council Member Mendoza  
Council Member Brown  
Council Member Ficklin  
Mayor James**

- VI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave reports by Department updating the community on activities and news of interest during the month of October. Copies are available through the Town Clerk's Office.
  - Public Works**
  - Public Safety**
  - Code Enforcement**
  - Finance**
  - Town Clerk**
  - Town Administrator**
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - Proclamation: "Municipal Government Works":** Mayor James gave the Maryland Municipal League's annual proclamation celebrating the City and Town Governments in Maryland.
- IX. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor James entertained comments from the audience.
- X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the Council Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION AGENDA  
December 9, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the November Worksession as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. TOWN GRANT REPORTING:** Rev. Bobbi praised Ms. Duncan for her work with the community and reported on how the grant money helps meet the needs for job training and other services. Council Member Hall moved to approve disbursement of the grant funds; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. UNDAUNTED TASKFORCE UPDATE:** Aaron Marcavitch gave an update of all the activities that are planned for 2014 and made a request that the Mayor and Council consider making a monetary contribution of \$2500 to sponsor a section of the Waterfront Park festivities on the Day of the Battle Commemoration. Council Member Brown expressed concern over the cost of fireworks planned for that evening. Savings will be looked into.
- VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- PTCY Pedestrian Policy:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the amended policy that included “facilitating healthy activities”; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- Trash Contract Update:** Mr. McNamara reported that a new contractor, Bates, would provide twice a week pickup, bulk pickup every Wednesday. Yard Waste, due to County mandate, must now be placed in cans or paper sacks. A new date for the trash contract is now April 1, 2014.
- MOU A Plus Kids:** This agreement would promote increased media visibility for the Town while creating a learning experience for the youth involved with the program. Council Member Hall moved to approve the agreement; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VII. NEW BUSINESS**
- Sustainable Community Area:** Mr. Moss explained that a resolution supporting the Sustainable Community Area in the Port Towns is required by MDDHCD in order to qualify for certain funds and it will be presented at the Council Meeting

for approval.

**Health Insurance Budget Amendment Update:** Treasurer Jackson reported that the Town has changed to renewal update to December 1, 2013 to recoup some of the cost savings. At this time no changes will be made to employee contributions. There will be an emergency ordinance presented at the Council Meeting to adjust the 2014 Budget.

**Motion to go into Closed Session:** Council Member Ficklin moved to go into closed session to discuss contract issues; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Motion to go back into Open Meeting:** It was moved, seconded and approved unanimously, to adjourn the Closed Session and return to the Worksession.

**VIII. Adjournment:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:55 p.m., Council Member Brown moved to adjourn; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
December 9, 2013 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, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Hall gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the November 2013 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council Member Ficklin** gave Season's Greetings and thanked the staff for a productive 2013.  
**Council Member Hall** gave thanks for the opportunity to be highlighted in the newsletter.  
**Council Member Mendoza** talked about his experience with Veterans' Day in his recent visit to Canada.  
**Council Member Brown** reported on her participation in the National League of Cities Conference and noted that she had been elected the Region 3 for the NLC's National Black Caucus.  
**Mayor James** attended the NLC Conference and participated in a panel discussion on Walkability. He participated in a Housing Initiative Partnership event, Veterans' Day, and a program on homeless issues.
- VI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff reports are available in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. McNamara took opportunity during this time to reflect on his years with the Town, the friendships, projects seen to fruition and other highlights of his tenure here in the Town.

**Public Works**  
**Public Safety**  
**Code Enforcement**  
**Finance**  
**Town Clerk**  
**Town Administrator**
- VII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** There was no Unfinished Business.
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 10-2013: Sustainable Communities Area:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve Resolution 10-2013; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Ordinance 7-2013: Budget Amendment:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve Emergency Ordinance 7-2013 (Health Care Costs); Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- IX. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** A citizen thanked the Town for continuing to recognize historic/patriotic commemorations. He thanked the Police for setting up a speed monitor on Taylor Street. A resident complained about the proliferation of mice in the neighborhood. There were some questions about recycling leaves.

X. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:10 p.m., Council Member Brown moved to adjourn; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia McAuley, Town Clerk