

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 11, 2016 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Bridgeman, 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 Hall moved to approve the December 2015 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **RECOGNITION OF RETIRED EMPLOYEES: Mr. Cornel Woods and Mr. Rodney Simms:** Mayor James thanked the former Public Works staff members for their years of service to the Town.
- VI. **THE HONORABLE DIANA FENNEL, MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES,** spoke about upcoming General Assembly legislation she will be supporting including the rights of citizens returning from incarceration, sales tax collection on internet sales, restriction on seizures, and the cost of education index. **Mayor James** asked for her support on SHA improvements on Quincy Street, a new library, and the Eco-District.
- VII. **MR. DAVID HARRINGTON, DIRECTOR, PRINCE GEORGE'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** spoke about his achievements for the Town and the perception that he was being attacked personally by a member of the Council on Facebook. He spoke about possible legal issues and presented the Mayor & Council with a proposed policy directed at Town media sites. There was some back and forth discussion on these issues.
- VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (two minutes per speaker)**

Mrs. Peck thanked the Town, community and partners for the support given to the B5 committee.

Ms. Melendez spoke about support for the Quincy Street Improvements and the need to lobby elected officials for their support.

Ms. Brown asked about plans for taxes cuts as proposed in Council Member Bridgeman's campaign literature.

Mr. Weitz asked for support for the public parking policies and hopes that these issues will be extended into the business areas.

Ms. McKenzie expressed concern about the Town addressing shootings, lack of programs for the youth.

- IX. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council gave reports on their previous month's activities and updates on happenings of note to the community.  
**Council Member Hall**  
**Council Member Mendoza**  
**Council Member Ficklin**  
**Council Member Bridgeman**  
**Mayor James**
- X. STAFF REPORTS** are available on the Website, electronically or at the Clerk's Office
- XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (none)**
- XII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS (none)**
- XIII. NEW BUSINESS (none)**
- XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:30 Council Member Hall moved to adjourn, Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk