

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
July 13, 2015 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 Ficklin moved to approve the minutes of the June Council Meeting as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Brown moved to approve the minutes of the March 24' 2015 Special Meeting of Mayor and Council; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Brown moved to approve the minutes of the May 30, 2015 Special Meeting of Mayor and Council; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

V. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Mendoza attended the MML Convention and attended a session on Police Body Cameras.

Council Member Hall continues her work with the Empowerment Program. She attended the Convention and went to classes on Red Light Cameras, and Sign Regulations.

Council Member Brown attended sessions on Planning Board Training, Zoning, Land Management Tools, and Fiscal Benefits at the Convention. She gave a wrap-up of the 2015 General Assembly legislation. She gave a summary of the previous month's PIAs.

Council Member Ficklin talked about the Autumn Woods Partnership, the Fatherhood Initiative, attending the Habitat for Humanity Breakfast, and his letters to the Secretaries of various State Departments.

Mayor James reported that FY 2015 ended on a strong note. He spoke about the upcoming Strategic Planning with Management Partners, the opportunity for 60 new townhouses in Ward II, vacant properties and the MML Convention.

VI. STAFF REPORTS are available on the Website, electronically or at the Clerk's Office

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no Unfinished Business.

VIII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Funding for Port Towns' Community Development Corporation: Council Member Mendoza moved to approve \$5000 for the PTCDC; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Artistic Empowerment: Council Member Ficklen moved to approve \$150 toward administrative and insurance costs; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 1-2015: Support for Community Legacy Grant Application: Council Member Brown moved to approve the Resolution as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

Mayor's Projects: Council Member Brown moved to approve \$500 of the Mayor's funds for WEPATI; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Comments included:

Mr. Carlson: lack of opportunity for public comments;

Mr. Weitz: fiscal responsibility concerns;

Ms. Melendez: issues with bus contract;

Ms. Laney: restaurant issues, ethics;

Ms. Saunders: concerns about Town taking on public transportation;

Mayor: secret recordings of public meetings, PIAs.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, at 8:10 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