

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
March 14, 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 February Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION FOR SNOW REMOVAL EFFORTS:** Mayor James recognized the Public Works and Code staffs for their snow removal efforts during the blizzard.
- VI. **SECTOR MAP AMENDMENT:** Samuel White, MNCPPC, gave an update on the progress of the Cheverly Sector Map Amendment, last amended in 1994. The Commission staff is in the process of preparing the written plan.
- VII. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Ms. Melendez stressed the importance of an updated Code that would have significant impact on economic development.

Mr. Weitz asked for improved communication with the Mayor & Council and requested a budget schedule.

Mr. Carlson spoke about Mr. James Gates and his impact on STEM programs in the community.

Ms. McCutcheon complimented the Town grant process.
- VIII. **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Mayor James spoke about the process of hiring a new Town Administrator and asked for the Council's approval on his appointment of Debi Sandlin. Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the appointment; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**IX. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS included:**

**Council Member Ficklin** attended the Seniors GED graduation, met with Secy Gill, attended the TNI and B5 meetings and Health Fair.

**Council Member Bridgeman** spoke on strengthening and supporting the Police Department and Code Enforcement.

**Council Member Hall** attended the Health Fair, the Eco City Farm event.

**Council Member Mendoza** attended Black History Month event and announced the upcoming District 47 reception.

**Mayor James** was the Master of Ceremonies for Black History Month event. He attended the meeting with Secy. Gill. He has been involved with meetings concerning Capital Plaza and the expansion of Walmart. He talked about the proposed "Bottle" bill before the General Assemble that would require bottle deposits in the County. He announced a Parking meeting for Ward II on March 22.

All citizens were reminded to check Bladensburg on their income tax returns.

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

**XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (none listed)**

**XII. FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**Council Project:** Council Member Hall requested approval for \$100 each for the following: Lead by Example, Teach Them to Fish, and the Magic Johnson Center. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the request; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Ficklin requested \$150 for B5. Council Member Hall moved to approve; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS (none listed)**

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:30, there being no further business, Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk