

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
October 13, 2014 5:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all Council Members present.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Hall moved to approve the minutes of the September 2014 Worksession; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. TOWN AUDIT REPORT:** **Bob Diss, Lindsey & Assoc.**, presented the report on the FY2014 Audit. The firm gave the Town a clean unmodified opinion.
- IV. TOWN GRANT PRESENTATIONS**

Street Lights of Bethany: Rev. Bobby is using these funds to continue programs and partnerships especially dealing with domestic violence, homeless, and mental illness cases. Council Member Brown moved to disperse the grant funds; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

William Wirt Middle School: Mr. Barnes and Ms. Lisa Robertson will use the funds to support the band and orchestra programs including concerts and the SHARP program for free music lessons. Council Member Brown moved to approve the appropriation; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- V. ECO DISTRICT-Scott Herrick and John Thillmann, Landmark Atlantic Holdings, along with Bruno Carvalho, CGLA Landscape Architecture** are community developers who are interested in the Town and the Eco District and future opportunities. They presented a power point to introduce themselves in hopes creating a partnership.

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Performance Evaluations:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the new Evaluation System developed by the Singer Group; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Strategic Planning Proposal:** The Mayor and Council have the IGS proposal before them. IGS has considerable experience with the Town and Port Towns. It will take 15-20 more days to get an RPF out. The Mayor asked for an outreach to more consultants as a best practice. Mr. Moss will proceed in that direction.

**Parking Committee:** The Parking Committee will be put in place at the November Meeting.

**Council Meeting Format:** Council Member Mendoza asked for discussion about any proposed changes to meetings.

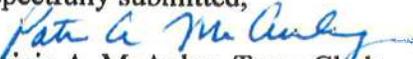
Mayor James suggested monthly community forums where meeting agenda items for Council Meetings would already be in place so the residents could comment on them ahead of time. Council Member Mendoza suggested that oral staff reports should only hit highlights from each department. Council Member Brown likes the formats as they stand. Staff reports are now on line. Discussion will continue at future meetings. Any proposed change in format would be started in January 2015.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

**Fire Department Request for Funds:** The Fire Department has requested funding \$850 the \$1000 in the Town's FY15 budget. Mayor and Council realize the important role the Department plays in our community. It is the only Department in the County with an all volunteer force. Council Member Mendoza moved to appropriate the additional \$850; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:45 Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
October 13, 2014 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order 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 Mendoza moved to approve the September Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **APPOINTMENT OF RECREATION COUNCIL MEMBER:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve Pat Williams to the Recreation Council; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- VI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS** included  
Council Member Hall is enjoying working with Beacon Lights' after school program.  
Council Member Brown urged everyone to turn out for the November elections  
Council Member Ficklin updated on the historic designation approval for Evergreen Cemetery.  
Council Member Mendoza attended the District 47 picnic and will be planting trees in the Town.  
Mayor James talked about the upcoming legislative initiatives including Marc Train service, cleaning the river, eco districts. He also wants the Town to have more "say" in what businesses set up shop in Town.
- VII. **STAFF REPORTS** are available on the Town's website and at the Town Clerk's office.  
Public Works  
Public Safety  
Code Enforcement  
Finance  
Town Clerk  
Town Administrator
- VIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**  
  
There was no Unfinished Business
- IX. **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**Donation to the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department:** Mayor James announced that during the earlier worksession, Mayor and Council approved an increase in the budgeted donation to the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department from \$1000 to \$1850.

**Council Projects:**

Council Member Mendoza asked that \$250 of his funds be given to the Police Explorers Program. Council Member Brown moved to approve the request; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Council Member Hall asked that \$300 of her funds be given to Street Lights of Bethany. Council Member Brown moved to approve the request; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business

**XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The Mayor entertained comments from the Audience. They included:

Mr. Carlson spoke about the great opportunities, past, present and future that the Town and community has with the University of Maryland and of major recent accomplishments of some of the students. Ms. Melendez addressed strategic planning and legislative priorities. Mr. Wertz commented on possible written reports by the Council. Ms. McCutcheon announced an upcoming anti-bullying workshop. Mr. McBride asked for radar on Spring Road and 55<sup>th</sup> and Annapolis Rd.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:20 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk