

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
February 9, 2015 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**

**III. COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FOR FAMILY AND YOUTH VICTIM SERVICE ORGANIZATION:** Arlene Joelle introduced the purpose and function of her group and hopes to partner with the Town in the future.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT DURING WORKSESSIONS:** Mayor James had contracted the Maryland Municipal League for guidance on best practice for allowing public comments during the meetings. He was told that common practice among the State's cities and towns was to not have public participation in these meetings. The purpose of the sessions is to have a working business meeting between elected officials and staff. Council Member Ficklin moved to keep the Worksession protocol as it stands, as a meeting between Council and Staff, with no public comment; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously..

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Bladensburg Commons: Shelter Group, 58<sup>th</sup> Ave. Street Improvements:** Maria Miller reports, as part of the development, the Prince George's Department of Public Works wants temporary authority over design review and inspection for a portion of 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue for street and sidewalk improvements related to the new project. Carmen Gilmore reported that there has been an appeal of the Detailed Site Plan. Council Member Ficklin moved to approve temporary authority to the County for this project; Council Member Hall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**New Employee Evaluation System:** The Percentage vs. bonus system needs to be determined along with specific numbers for the percentage. This needs to be part of the budget determination. Council tabled a decision on salary increases until a future discussion. Employees participating in the upcoming training sessions will be told this has not yet been determined.

**Committee Policy: Request for Adoption:**

**Travel Policy:** After some discussion of certain components, Mayor and Council need further time to review the proposed policy.

**Communication Policy: Request for Adoption:** It was moved by Council Member Ficklin to adopt the policy; seconded by Council Member Mendoza and passed unanimously.

**Recreation Council Update:** CM Ficklin reported that the Rec Council needs guidance on what direction it will take but emphasized that it is a separate entity from the Town government.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

**Planning Committee Proposal:** Ms. Chris Melendez proposed a Town Committee to help support the Town leaders make recommends that would support moving forward with “Smart Development”. Mayor and Council concurred that this was a positive idea that can move forward.

**Funding for Port Towns’ CDC (Support Eco District):** Mayor and Council agreed that no funding would be allocated until a representative the PTCDC makes a formal presentation and request at a public meeint.

**Disposal of Vehicles:** Chief Owens requested authority to auction (Colonial Auction) two police vehicles and two public works trucks with high mileage. Council Member Brown moved to approve the sale; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Town Poet Laureate Nomination: Ty Gray-EL:** Mr. Gray-EL has decided to step back from this nomination.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:55 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