

**MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ANNEXATION OF QUINCY MANOR AND MONROE GARDENS  
JULY 5, 2012**

**Call to Order:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 10:35 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Moss, Town Attorney Colaresi, Director of Public Works McNamara, and Town Clerk McAuley.

Town Administrator Moss distributed *Annexation Briefing Notes* and it was explained that because of the requirement for 25% of registered voters to sign a petition for annexation, the annexation would be phased into four parts as each part becomes empty of residents and construction begins.

The Town Attorney advised that the Town should support the development plan. If there is any amendment to the Plan, the Town can comment on the change/take a stand pro or con.

Mr. Colaresi reminded all that any annexation of property must be contiguous to the Town's boundary.

The goal of this meeting was to authorize approval and signing of the *Annexation Agreement* pending the Owner's signature on Exhibit C of the agreement.

The Owner needs support of one of the contiguous government entities in order to get approval from MNCPPC.

Mr. McNamara reported that issues of concern at previous reviews have been revised/resolved on the Detailed Site Plan.

Mayor James stated he was in favor of the annexation as "opportunities and control".

Council Member Ficklin reminded everyone, that in its current condition, this area is a public safety concern.

Town officials expressed concern that efforts will be in place to assist displaced residents, through referrals, natural attrition and other means.

Mr. Colaresi said that this would be a opportunity for other contiguous areas to be annexed into Bladensburg, as this type of action often as a domino effect.

**Council Member George made a motion to move forward with the *Annexation Agreement* pending the Owner's signature on Exhibit B; Council Member Mendoza seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Adjournment:** At 11:27 a.m., Council Member **Mendoza** moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia McAuley", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION  
JULY 9, 2012**

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.

II. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Pastor Lear:** The Pastor informed the Mayor and Council about a high school program, called "Real Characters Making Right Choices", run by Mike Fisher. There was a short video showing the program. The cost to bring this to one of the schools would be \$900. The Council questioned the religious aspect of the program and will take the project under advisement.

**Bladensburg Recreation Council:** Council Members Brown and Ficklin are currently working on re-drafting the bylaws. Mr. Moss relayed that the municipal recreation councils were originally formed to work under the guidelines of MNCPPC but had no say in community center programs and no separate budget so there was a loss of interest. Council Member Ficklin asked that Town Attorney Colaresi review the document. Comments should be sent to Council Member Ficklin by July 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Port Towns' Community Development Corporation Invoice:** This invoice for \$5000 was not paid because the Mayor and Council previously had voted not to pay these funds until there was a signed MOU with deliverables. The current draft MOU from the PTCDC cited the Port Towns' Sectional Map Amendment as a roadmap and states the necessity for the sustainability of the organization. The Mayor called for a motion on the payment request, and Council Member George moved to approve \$5000 invoice; Council Ficklin seconded the motion and after some further discussion the motion was unanimously defeated.

**Bostwick:** Ms. McAuley gave an update on the North Chimney and porch pier repairs and the clean up/repairs progress from the Microburst.

**Street Sweeper:** There was only one vendor at the MML convention and there needs to be further cost estimates for purchase/lease/sharing/contracting. This will be further discussed at the September Worksession.

**Community Outreach:** In order to better disseminate critical emergency and other Town information, we need a better data base. The Town is reaching out to its residents and other interested parties for contact information that will be used for e mail, text, or auto dialing efforts to reach our citizens.

**Job Fair:** The September 29<sup>th</sup> event will focus on targeted local companies that are interested in hiring Town residents. The cost for the event is approximately \$4000 and it will also provide opportunities for job interview skills training.

At this point in the meeting the Council Room was evacuated as a safety precaution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat McAuley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Pat" being more prominent and the last name "McAuley" following in a similar style.

Pat McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
JULY 17, 2012 WORKSESSION  
(CONTINUATION OF INTERRUPTED JULY 9 MEETING)**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin and George present. Council Member Mendoza arrived momentarily.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval was tabled until the September Worksession.
- III. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Resolution 6-2012: Parkview Refinancing:** Council Member George moved to approve the Resolution in support of Parkview's Refinancing efforts; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Recognition of Microburst Assistance Persons:** This event will take place on August 22<sup>nd</sup> and will include a dinner and presentations to all who helped with this emergency situation. There will be one presentation for each "group".

**Support for Community Legacy Funding for the Collaboration of Municipalities:** This grant application is a continuation of Sgt. Flynn's efforts with the MEA grant funds directed as energy conservation for single family homeowners. The Mayor and Council approved support unanimously.

**Community Outreach Update:** Information was left at each door by student summer employees that includes the move to one day a week trash pickup. A form for communication preference(s) was also included.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Dept. of Natural Resources Grant Application:** Council Member George moved to approve applying for a grant for improvements to the Tot Lot in the Town Green; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion. Discussion: The costs for the improvements is \$110,00-\$119,000. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- V. **Adjournment:** There being no further business, it was moved and seconded, at 6:15 p.m., to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**JULY 9<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL MEETING WAS CANCELLED DUE TO SAFETY  
CONCERNS (SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE LEFT AT POST OFFICE)**

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve Worksession minutes from July 9 and 17, 2012; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Town Donation Policy (Town Atty. Colaresi):** Mr. Colaresi explained that the current Ethics Code forbids any solicitation, and the new Ethics Code is even clearer on this. No Town official can solicit gifts, only the Town can ask for sponsorships. Advertising an event or program is the best way to handle this and then businesses or other entities can voluntarily offer donations. In case of the need for emergency donations, a general notice can go out to the community.

**Recreation Council Review (Town Atty. Colaresi):** Mr. Colaresi asked whether the Town wanted to take on a separate Parks Department or to stick with "Plan A: to get the board going again, running separately from the Mayor and Council. In conjunction with the discussion was the concern that the Seal should not be used except as authorized. Misuse of the Town Seal should be a misdemeanor. Mr. Colaresi was research the Seal design.

**On Street Parking for Monroe Gardens:** Attorney for the project, Mr. Norman Riviera, reports that the Planning Board generally approves the project. Friends of Beaver Dam are against parking behind the buildings due to runoff into the creek. If the Town annexes the project the spaces can stay in the Town. Staying in the County would limit the number of units. The developers are asking for Town legislation of support so that at the time of annexation so that those spaces can be assigned to the project to keep 125 units. This option is best according to Mr. Riviera. Mr. Colaresi explained that the spaces would be dedicated to Monroe Gardens and he recommends this. Council Member George moved that Mr. Colaresi move forward drafting legislation supporting this; Council Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Street Sweeper Update:** Mr. Moss and Mr. McNamara went over the alternatives: purchas, which would be very expensive with upkeep, tipping fees, water costs, contract for outside firm, and potential partnership. Staff was asked to explore a street sweeping partnership with the County.

**Toys For Tots:** Council Member Ficklin did not yet have an update on the Program for 2012. The Toys for Tots programs is the entity that gets our local schools involved. Council Member Ficklin expressed his desire to see the program brought back to the Town level. Mayor James appointed Council Member Ficklin to manage the Town Holiday Toy Drive.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Write-Off Receivables Policy:** Treasurer Jackson explained that this policy establishes guidelines and principles for internal control, collection and write-off of accounts receivables. The policy is designed to comply with State Laws, Rules and Regulations. Mr. Jackson asked for Mayor and council comments no later than September 24, 2012.

**Resolution 7-2012: Support of Community Legacy Grant Application:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Resolution; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Project List:** Council Member Ficklin asked that this project tracking tool be reinstated. Mayor James directed Council Member Ficklin to develop the template and stressed that the list needs to be kept to major Town projects.

- V. **AJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 6:55, Council Member George moved to adjourn, Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**Town of Bladensburg  
Council Meeting  
September 10, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member George gave the opening prayer.
- III. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the June Council Meeting and June 4<sup>th</sup> and one July 5<sup>th</sup> Special Council Meetings as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS** included:

Council Member Mendoza reminded all of the 9/11 Anniversary and the District 47<sup>th</sup> picnic.

Council Member Ficklin discussed the Health Initiative and the Plans for Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday and Senior Olympics.

Council Member Brown spoke in gratitude about all the support after the Microburst event. She reminded all of Port Towns' Day.

Council Member George spoke about issues relating to the Peace Cross Memorial and Back to School safety awareness.

Mayor James talked about ongoing senior fitness events he is involved with.
- VI. **YOUTH SUMMER SURVEY PRESENTATION:** Teens involved in this program gave a presentation of their findings related to pedestrian access to and availability of healthy alternatives to eating and exercise in our community.
- VII. **RECOGNITION OF THE TOWN'S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYEES:** Town leaders recognized the outstanding group that were hired by the Town to assist in a number of projects. Each youth was given a Letter of Reference from Town Administrator Moss.
- VIII. **ADJOURNMENT FOR DINNER:** At 8:15 p.m., it was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to adjourn. A buffet dinner followed for all attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.
  
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve Worksession minutes from July 9 and 17, 2012; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
  
- III. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Town Donation Policy (Town Atty. Colaresi):** Mr. Colaresi explained that the current Ethics Code forbids any solicitation, and the new Ethics Code is even clearer on this. No Town official can solicit gifts, only the Town can ask for sponsorships. Advertising an event or program is the best way to handle this and then businesses or other entities can voluntarily offer donations. In case of the need for emergency donations, a general notice can go out to the community.

**Recreation Council Review (Town Atty. Colaresi):** Mr. Colaresi asked whether the Town wanted to take on a separate Parks Department or to stick with "Plan A: to get the board going again, running separately from the Mayor and Council. In conjunction with the discussion was the concern that the Seal should not be used except as authorized. Misuse of the Town Seal should be a misdemeanor. Mr. Colaresi was research the Seal design.

**On Street Parking for Monroe Gardens:** Attorney for the project, Mr. Norman Riviera, reports that the Planning Board generally approves the project. Friends of Beaver Dam are against parking behind the buildings due to runoff into the creek. If the Town annexes the project the spaces can stay in the Town. Staying in the County would limit the number of units. The developers are asking for Town legislation of support so that at the time of annexation so that those spaces can be assigned to the project to keep 125 units. This option is best according to Mr. Riviera. Mr. Colaresi explained that the spaces would be dedicated to Monroe Gardens and he recommends this. Council Member George moved that Mr. Colaresi move forward drafting legislation supporting this; Council Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Street Sweeper Update:** Mr. Moss and Mr. McNamara went over the alternatives: purchas, which would be very expensive with upkeep, tipping fees, water costs, contract for outside firm, and potential partnership. Staff was asked to explore a street sweeping partnership with the County.

**Toys For Tots:** Council Member Ficklin did not yet have an update on the Program for 2012. The Toys for Tots programs is the entity that gets our local schools involved. Council Member Ficklin expressed his desire to see the program brought back to the Town level. Mayor James appointed Council Member Ficklin to manage the Town Holiday Toy Drive.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS**

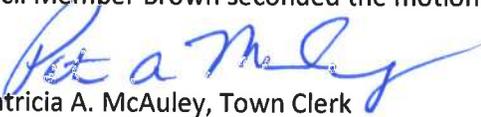
**Write-Off Receivables Policy:** Treasurer Jackson explained that this policy establishes guidelines and principles for internal control, collection and write-off of accounts receivables. The policy is designed to comply with State Laws, Rules and Regulations. Mr. Jackson asked for Mayor and council comments no later than September 24, 2012.

**Resolution 7-2012: Support of Community Legacy Grant Application:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Resolution; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Project List:** Council Member Ficklin asked that this project tracking tool be reinstated. Mayor James directed Council Member Ficklin to develop the template, be the point person for tracking, and stressed that the list needs to be kept to major Town projects.

V. **AJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 6:55, Council Member George moved to adjourn, Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION  
OCTOBER 8, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, and George present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the September 2012 Worksession Minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Grant Recipients:** Run Your Race Ministries' Barbara Miller reported on the partnership with the Magic Johnson Center to use the funding for a financial literacy program. Streetlights' Reverend Bobbi reported on the Crisis Ministry she will use the funding to support. Council Member George moved to approve the grant funds for both projects; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Legal Shield:** Nakita Quon gave a presentation on the services the company provides for individuals. She will be part of a group that will show their productions to employees on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Donation Policy:** Council Member George moved to approve the Donation Policy as presented by the Town Attorney; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion. Discussion: There was some clarification of unsolicited gifts. The motion passed unanimously.

**Accounts Receivable Policy:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Policy as presented by Town Treasurer Jackson; Council Member George seconded the motion. This policy sets a procedure for collection and records actual receipts. The motion passed unanimously.

**Project List:** Council Member Ficklin presented a Power Point on the re-established List. Council concurred that only major projects that involve significant planning, time and money should be on the document.

**On Street Parking Ordinance:** Council Member George moved to approve Emergency Ordinance 7-2012 that restricts parking on Quincy Street in front of

Monroe Garden Apartments; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

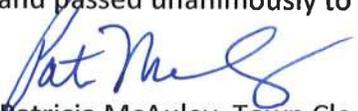
**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**Stormwater Deliberation/Decision for Prince George's County:** Council Member George moved to approve joining the County in Stormwater Remediation; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Change of November Meeting Dates:** Mayor and Council concurred that due to the Veterans' Day Holiday, the November meetings will be scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup>.

**V. Adjournment:** There being no further Worksession business, at 7:03 p.m. it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 8, 2012**

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin and George present. Council Member Mendoza was excused.

II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

III. **OPENING PRAYER** was given by Council Member George.

IV. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council Member George** emphasized the importance of voting.

**Council Member Brown** spoke about the Job Fair, new signs on Quincy Street.

**Council Member Ficklin** spoke about the Senior Olympics.

**Mayor James** announced the upcoming 5K race, early voting, and the schools' efforts to curtail truancy.

V. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates by Department.

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ordinance 6-2012: Ethics** – Town Clerk McAuley gave the first reading.

**Ordinance 8-2012: Town Seal** – Town Clerk McAuley gave the first reading.

(Council Member George was excused early.)

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

**Discretionary Funds:** Council Member Ficklin asked that \$75 of his funds be given to Hope and Restoration Ministries. Approval was moved by Council Member Brown, seconded by the Mayor and passed unanimously.

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

A citizen voiced concern that the change to once a week trash pickup would result in overflowing garbage and a rodent problem. She reported that she and neighbors could "smell" trash along Annapolis Road. The Town Administrator reported that Code Enforcement could notify persons to use cans with lids. The citizen asked that the policy be reviewed. (These comments took place during the Council reports.)

A citizen complained about a drainage issue on Quincy Street.

A citizen complained about car repairs taking place at a single family residence.

Pastor Lear reported poor lighting on Edmonston Road near his church.

- IX. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:55 p.m., it was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION  
NOVEMBER 13, 2012**

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George and Mendoza present.

II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the October 2012 Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

III. **PRESENTATIONS:**

**2012 Audit:** Mr. Lindsay of Lindsay and Associates reported that no problems were encountered with the audit; there were no significant policies that did not have an accounting basis; some journal entries were required and the audit was submitted to the State and other regulatory entities on time.

**Mike Fisher, Founder, Real Character,** presented his program that is geared toward at risk teams with both in school and weekend programs. He is interested in presenting his program to officials at Bladensburg High School and it was approved to ask the school to enter into a dialogue with him. This is not an endorsement of the program. Motion made by Council Member Mendoza, seconded by Council Member George and passed unanimously.

**Proposal for Town Marketing Plan: Aztec Group –** The representatives presented a power point presentation on the plan that included event planning, radio announcements and other promotional opportunities. The Town will take their plan and its costs under consideration for further discussion.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS:**

**9-2012: Amended Purchasing Ordinance:** Mr. Moss explained the need for changes that gives certain bidding opportunities under specific conditions for Town businesses. This will be voted on during the Council Meeting to follow.

**Mayor's Upcoming Trip to Nigeria:** The Council approved the Mayor's use of up to \$500 to include only coverage of travel insurance and travel phone communication.

V. **ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 7:10 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 13, 2012**

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin and Mendoza present. Council Members Brown and George were excused from the beginning of the meeting to attend part of an event sponsored by Delegate Ivey.

II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.

III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.

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

**Council Member Ficklin** reported on the upcoming Senior Olympics and Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.

**Council Member Mendoza** spoke on the Veterans' Day Commemoration and the controversy over Peace Cross as a Christian Symbol.

**Mayor James** remarked on the passing of Public Servant, Past Council Member from Colmar Manor, Francis Smith. He spoke about the Point Forward Day event at the Magic Johnson Center and National recognition of Dr. Thomas.

Council Members Brown and George joined the meeting.

**Council Member Brown** announced that she has accomplished Adult Certification for CERTS and lauded the team's efforts.

**Council Member George** talked about continuing clean-up efforts throughout Town and spoke about the recent elections.

V. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff reported on the past month's activities by Department.

VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**6-2012: Ethics Ordinance:** Following a summary second reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member George moved to repeal and reenact the Town's Ethics Ordinance to conform to State Law; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**8-2012: Town Seal Ordinance:** Following a summary second reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Brown moved to approve the ordinance; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**9-2012: Purchasing Ordinance Amendment:** Following a summary reading by the Town Clerk, Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the amended ordinance; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discretionary Funds:** It was moved by Council Member Ficklin, seconded by Council Member George, and approved unanimously to approve the Mayor's request that \$150 of his discretionary Funds be given to Emerson House.

Funding up to, but not to exceed \$500 was approved from Council Member Brown and George's Discretionary Funds for Thanksgiving Turkeys as needed.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** (This was out of sequence to the agenda). Mr. Bridgeman had a number of comments and concerns not limited to trash pickup, Peace Cross, and allocation of funds for the Mayor's upcoming trip. These questions will be address separately by the Council and Town Administrator as a follow-up after the meeting.

Ms. Laney had follow-up comments from her questions in October concerning once a week trash pick up. She also commented on the Job Fair and trees in an easement affecting her property. Staff will follow up.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 8:50 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk



THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

"A past to remember. A future to embrace."



## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR OF COUNCIL

### ATTENDEES

COUNCIL MEMBER TRINA BROWN  
COUNCIL MEMBER CRIS MENDOZA  
COUNCIL MEMBER WALTER FICKLIN  
COUNCIL MEMBER WALTER GEORGE  
MAYOR WALTER LEE JAMES, JR

SCHEDULED START TIME: **9:00AM**  
ACTUAL START TIME: **9:17AM**  
END TIME: **11:45AM**  
DATE: **November 24, 2012**  
LOCATION: **TOWN HALL**

### Resolution 8-2012

The Mayor and Council were presented with a proposal to support the Community Legacy Grant submitted by the Port Towns Community Development Corporation. The Mayor and Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 8-2012. The application presented by the Port Towns Community Development Corporation included a project to support the up keep of the George Washington House (AWS Office Space), a property located in the Town of Bladensburg. The Mayor and Council also believe that it is important to support the PTCDC as they go after funding to assist in making the organization financially stable. A motion was made by Council Member George to support Resolution 8-2012. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was five (5) yeas and (0) nays.

The Mayor and Council voted to discuss additional items outside of the one item posted regarding the Resolution 8-2012 as dictated by our Town Charter, which states that a super majority of the Council must vote in order to discuss additional items not reflected in the publicly posted meeting notification. The motion was made by Council Member Walter Ficklin and was seconded by Council Member George. The vote was five (5) yeas and (0) nays.

### Policy Surrounding use of Mayor and Council names

The Mayor and Council had a discussion surrounding the use of Council Members names on flyers and documentation that places the Mayor and Council in an obligating situation. The Mayor and Council came to a consensus that if we are sending out items that obligates that

Town in any matter; whether it is financially or a stance on an issue, it should be brought before the Mayor and Council for consideration. This does not include normal and regularly sent correspondence or e-mail of which the Mayor and Council has already taken a stance.

### **Recreation Council Update**

The Mayor and Council discussed the importance of having the Recreation Council in place. Council Members Ficklin and Brown are the leaders on this project. They informed the Mayor and Council that they would have a draft document outlining the role and responsibility of the Recreation Council in light of the change in the collection and soliciting of donations by town elected officials and staff by our February work session and a final draft to be considered for adoption at our March 2013 work session.

### **Town of Bladensburg's Door Decorating Contest**

The Mayor and Council voted to have our Community Resource Officer Audrey Hedgespeth to move forward with the Town's Holiday Door Decorating Contest; wherein each winner would receive a \$50 gift card. There will be two winners from each ward. There will be a winner from the houses (single family and townhomes) and a winner from the apartments (also to include condos). The motion was made by Council Member Ficklin and seconded by Council Member George. The vote was five (5) yeas and (0) nays.

### **Town's Ethics Committee**

The Mayor and Council voted based on the language cited in our Town's Charter that our legal representative (our town attorney) would serve as our Ethics Committee (Commissioner) until the Commission is put in place. The motion was made by Council Member Brown and seconded by Council Member Ficklin. The vote was five (5) yeas and (0) nays.

### **Organization Resolutions**

The Mayor and Council discussed the need to have resolutions in place that give clear and outlined guidelines establishing the relationship of a particular organization with the Town. Whether that organization is an extension of the Town or a separate organization that the Town supports. At this time there are two organizations for which the resolutions will be established. They include the Recreation Council and the Pastoral Lay Council. The reasoning for the discussion was to establish policies regarding the use of Town resources based on the stated and documented relationship of that organization with the Town.

### **Elected Official Compensation**

The Mayor and Council discussed the matter regarding the salaries of the elected positions in Town. There has been no consideration or dialogue regarding the Mayor and Council compensation for over ten (10) years. The Mayor and Council did not vote on this issue and will have further discussion and review of the matter.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Council Member Ficklin to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Council Member Mendoza. The vote was (5) yeas and (0) nays. The meeting was then adjourned.

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
WORKSESSION MINUTES  
DECEMBER 10, 2012**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, and George present. Council Member Mendoza arrived at 5:45 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Council Member George moved to approve the November Worksession minutes as presented; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Town Grant Reports:** Elizabeth Seton High School reported that its funding was used for new chairs for the recently build gym/auditorium. Friends of the Bladensburg Library reported its funding was used for its successful summer programming for pre-schoolers.

**Project List:** Council Member Ficklin gave a power point presentation on the goals and advantages of maintaining a project list. Clarification of the type of projects added to the list was discussed. Short term, low budget items should not be on the document.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Town Scholarship Program:** The Mayor reported that he would make a proposal for a program at a future meeting.

**Legislative Dinner:** It was recommended by the 47<sup>th</sup> Delegation that this type of legislative discussion should take place late spring/early summer and not when the General Assembly has already convened. Mayor and Council concurred that the Town needs to have a discussion with the Delegation separate from the entire Port Towns and/or PTCDC. There will be an upcoming meeting with Senator Ramirez to discuss the Town's priorities.

**Spring Job Fair:** There was discussion on whether this should be an annual event or held twice a year. The fall even appeared to be successful but there needs to be a follow-up on hiring as the result of the event and how to get more local businesses to participate.

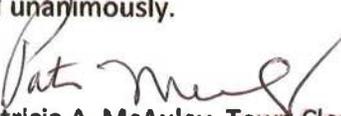
**NLC Star Program:** This program will give cities special recognition for participating in livability and sustainability efforts and evaluations in participating communities. It

was decided that the Town would re-look at the program after the first round of communities goes through this designation.

**Feugo:** This questionable "adults only" club is causing concern in Cheverly (whose Mayor asked the Town to take a stance) by avoiding shut-down by the County by constantly changing ownership names and other evasive actions. The Council determined it would not ask the owners to attend a Council Meeting; this could be perceived as an attempt to negotiate for support. Instead, the Mayor will write a letter asking that the business be shut down as it is detrimental to the family environment, economic development efforts and tourism potential that the Town is promoting for the greater community.

- V. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further Worksession business, at 6:45 p.m., Council Member George moved to adjourn; Council Member Brown seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 10, 2012**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Brown, Ficklin, George 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 George moved to approve the November Council Meeting as presented; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Council Member Brown reminded all about the importance of working smoke and carbon dioxide detectors. She participated in the Council's Turkey distribution efforts for those in need.

Council Member George spoke about remembering those in need during the holidays and told everyone to stay safe.

Council Member Mendoza thanked everyone who volunteered to help make the Yule Log festivities a great success.

Council Member Ficklin thanked everyone in the community for all their efforts and wished all Happy Holidays.

Mayor James spoke about his recent visit to Nigeria and followed by clarifying misconceptions that were brought up at the November Council Meeting.

1. *The Town does not support the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department. Fact: The Town has contributed generously to the BVFD including one two-year period where there was a \$40,000 donation. The Town does NOT support the Department charging for emergency services.*
2. *A large amount of funding was spent redecorating Town Hall. Some improvements were a matter of safety for our employees. All furniture was obtained by Prince George's County Surplus at no cost to the Town. The Town did pay for much needed painting.*
3. *One Day a Week Trash pickup is creating an abundance of waste, rodent issues, and odor. Town Staff has surveyed the Town and found no outstanding issues.*

In fact, because everything is collected all in one day, there is less disruption to a clean neighborhood streetscape. This issue will continue to be monitored.

**VI. STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave monthly updates by Department.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

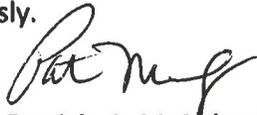
Council Member Brown encouraged all residents to give their information to the Town for its database so that they can receive timely notification of emergencies, special events, and more. This information will not be given out to any other source.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS:** There was no New Business.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Parkview Ladies thanked all for their special event. Newton Green resident reported that car vandalism has been resolved.

**X. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, at 7:40 p.m. Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member George seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk