

**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 3, 2022 7:00pm**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James called the meeting to order. Those in attendance were Mayor James and Council Members Blount, Brown, McBryde, and Route. Also in attendance were Chief Collington, Town Treasurer Tinelli, Code Supervisor Rinehart, and Town Clerk/Interim Town Administrator Charnovich.

OPENING PRAYER

Council Member McBryde said the opening prayer and called for a moment of silence for David C. Harrington.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor James asked Council Member Brown to lead all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Brown to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Council Member Route. The motion passed 5-0.

APPEARANCES

Mohamed Sheikh, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator with Prince George's County Park and Planning: Health and wellness program presentation

Mr. Sheikh was in attendance to share information on Prince George's County Park and Planning Programs.

Outstanding Business Owner Recognition: Eloisa Guzman for 25 years of exemplary service in the Bladensburg community

Ms. Guzman had technology challenges and was not able to join the meeting. In her absence, Mayor James shared some accomplishments of business owner and Town resident, Eloisa Guzman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Route, which was seconded by Council Member Blount to approve the minutes. Mayor James asked for a correction in the section Changing the October Council Meeting Date. The second of the motion is to be changed to Council Member Blount. The motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Town Clerk Charnovich indicated that he had not received any public comments to be read into the record.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MDOT 769C: Quincy Street

Mr. Charnovich provided an update on this proposed State Highway Administration temporary/permanent project.

57th Avenue Project

Mr. Charnovich provided an update on the design for this project. He indicated that the project was not able to be completed by the beginning of the school year, but he said that the plan is going to merge the safety lighting project with the paving project on 57th Avenue.

Rain Barrel PILOT Program

Mr. Charnovich provided an update on a PILOT rain barrel program, which will be in partnership with Green Mechanics.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

ARPA Funding Update

Mr. Tinelli provided an update on ARPA funding spending.

Mr. Charnovich read a budget amendment Ordinance (first reading) into the record that would allocate \$300,000 additional dollars for rental assistance. The Ordinance would be considered for adoption at the November 14, 2022 Council Meeting.

Mayor James explained the food assistance program for an annual Thanksgiving meal distribution that would feed approximately 400 families in the community. The distribution will be on November 19, 2022. Council Member Route asked that it be considered to provide an administrative fee to each the NOW Foundation and the Victory Grace Center. A motion was made by Council Member Route, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde to approve an amount of \$12,208 plus \$1500 each as an administrative fee for each the NOW Foundation

and Victory Grace Center. An amendment was made to the motion capping the administrative cost at \$2500 per Non-Profit organization if a statement of accounting is provided. The motion passed 5-0.

Candidate Search for Town Administrator Position

A motion was made by Council Member Brown, which was seconded by Council Member Blount to enter into a formal Agreement with Mercer Group to undertake the search to fill the Town Administrator position. The motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

STAFF REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Treasurer; Public Safety & Code Enforcement; Town Clerk & Interim Town Administrator;
Public Works

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Council Member McBryde – Ward II

Council Member McBryde provided her report.

Council Member Blount – Ward II

Council Member Blount provided her report.

Council Member Route – Ward I

Council Member Brown provided her report.

Council Member Brown – Ward I

Council Member Brown provided her report.

Mayor James

Mayor James provided her report.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Route, which was seconded by Council Member Blount to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

