

**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG**  
**DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 14, 2022 7:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor James called the all-virtual meeting to order. Members of the Council in attendance were Mayor James and Council Members Blount, Brown, McBryde, and Route. Town Administrator McGrory, Town Treasurer Tinelli, Chief Collington, Officer Rinehart, and Town Clerk Charnovich were also in attendance.

**II. OPENING PRAYER**

Mayor James asked for a moment of silence for Mrs. White, a long-time resident of the Town of Bladensburg. Mayor James asked Council Member McBryde to say the opening prayer. Council Member McBryde asked for everyone to remember former Mayor Kevin Ward.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**V. APPEARANCES**

Mayor James indicated that due to the virtual nature of the meeting, the traditional way of recognizing promotions could not occur. Mayor James asked Chief Collington to present the employee promotions and new employees for the police department.

**A. Employee Promotions:**

- i. Sergeant Maria Ramirez
- ii. Sergeant Patrick Thompson
- iii. Corporal Dwayne Humphries
- iv. Corporal Cedric Tanksley
- v. Corporal Darryl Thompkins
- vi. Acting Corporal Jerrold Pickering
- vii. PFC Ty Tinsley
- viii. Merxis Perdomo – Police Emergency Communications Dispatcher
- ix. Ray Jeffries – Administrative Aide C.A.T.

**B. New Employees:**

- i. P/O Asia Thornton
- ii. Tomi Toliver – Code Enforcement

## **VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor James indicated that the minutes would be tabled to the March Council Meeting.

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Town Clerk Charnovich read 4 comments into the public record from the following residents: Reggie Bagley, Steve Weitz, Susan McCutchen, and Carletta Lundy.

## **VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. State of Maryland Bond Bill Recommendation: Bladensburg Municipal Center
  - i. Information Sheet
  - ii. Fact Sheet

Town Administrator McGrory explained the process for this bond bill submission. Another deadline is on March 7 to submit the fact sheet for this project. Town staff are exploring ways to finance a new municipal center, as well as meeting with the Town Engineer and an architect to discuss preliminary concept plans. A motion was made by Council Member Brown, which was seconded by Council Member Route. The motion passed 5-0.

## **IX. FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

- A. Budget Matters
  - i. Fiscal Year 2022 Budget
    - 1. Ordinance 01-2022: Fiscal 2022 Budget Amendment – Second Reading & Consideration (including revenues and expenditures from American Rescue Plan, etc.)

Town Administrator McGrory asked Town Treasurer Tinelli to explain the budget amendment related to the American Rescue Plan Act. Town Clerk Charnovich proclaimed the second reading of the Ordinance into the record. A motion was made to adopt the Ordinance by Council Member Brown, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed 5-0.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Employee Bonuses

Town Administrator McGrory explained this agenda item related to pandemic employee bonuses for those who have served throughout the pandemic. Town Administrator McGrory asked that the motion include all employees for the Town of Bladensburg. A motion was made by Council Member Route, which was seconded by Council Member Brown to approve the pandemic bonuses. The motion passed 5-0.

Town Administrator McGrory asked Chief Collington to present 2 employee bonuses to 2 police department members who go above and beyond in the course of their duties. A motion was made by Council Member Route to approve the 2 bonuses, which was seconded by Council Member Brown. The motion passed 5-0.

**B. Bostwick House Restoration Maryland State Capital Budget Request**

Town Administrator McGrory explained the current status of the Maryland capital budget request for the Bostwick House and asked that the Council formalize the approval of the submission to the state of Maryland. A motion was made to approve by Council Member Route, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed 5-0.

**C. Walkable Watershed Grant Opportunity – UMD EFC**

A motion was made by Council Member Route to partner with the University of Maryland Environmental Center for the Walkable Watershed Grant opportunity, which was seconded by Council Member Blount. The motion passed 5-0. Council Member Route volunteered to be the point person for this grant opportunity.

**D. Urban Tree Canopy Grant Opportunity – Free Trees through Chesapeake Bay Trust (Central Kenilworth Ave CDC)**

Town Administrator McGrory explained this grant opportunity to purchase trees. A motion was made by Council Member Brown, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde to participate in this grant opportunity. The motion passed 5-0.

**XI. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Public Works; Treasurer; Public Safety; Town Clerk; Town Administrator**

Town Administrator McGrory presented the Public Works Report on behalf of Purnell Hall.

Town Treasurer Tinelli provided his report.

Chief Collington provided his public safety report.

Chief Sumner also provided a public safety report on behalf of the Bladensburg Fire Department.

**XII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

- A. Council Member Blount – Ward II – Council Member Blount did not provide a report this month.
- B. Council Member Route – Ward I – Council Member Route provided a report.
- C. Council Member Brown – Ward I – Council Member Brown provided a report.
- D. Council Member McBryde – Ward II – Council Member McBryde provided a report.
- E. Mayor James – Mayor James provided a report.

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

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

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