

**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
DRAFT COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 12, 2023 7:00pm**

Public Access Virtual via live stream on the Town's Facebook and YouTube pages

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, Code Enforcement Officer Rinehart, Treasurer Tinelli, and Town Clerk Charnovich.

OPENING PRAYER

Mayor James asked Council Member Route to lead the opening prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor James asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member McBryde to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Council Member Brown. Mayor James indicated that two items were proposed to be added to the Agenda. A motion was made by Council Member Brown, which was seconded by Council Member Route, to add an Annexation Consultant RFP to the agenda. The motion passed 5-0. A motion was made by Council Member Blount, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde to add a Redevelopment Consultant RFP to the agenda. The motion was approved 5-0. The motion passed 5-0 to approve the amended agenda with the two additional items under new business.

APPEARANCES

Police Officer Benjamin Moon: Promotion from Police Officer to Private First Class

Chief Collington made a presentation regarding Officer Benjamin Moon who was promoted to the rank of Private First Class.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 13, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Blount to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Council Member Brown. Mayor James noted that at the top of page 3, the word associated should replace the word associate. The motion passed 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Town Clerk Charnovich indicated that he received no public comments to be read into the record.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Town Administrator Search Update

Mayor James provided an update on the Town Administrator search which was managed by a recruiting firm. Mayor James introduced the nomination of Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth to serve as the next Town Administrator. A motion was made by Council Member Blount, which was seconded by Council Member Route to appoint her as the next Town Administrator effected in July of 2023. The motion passed 5-0.

LGIT Board of Trustees Appointment

A motion was made by Council Member Blount to cast Bladensburg's vote for Lenny Pfeffer for the LGIT Board of Trustees, which was seconded by Council Member Route. The motion passed 5-0.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS

Ordinance 6-2023: To Adopt FY24 Budget and Set Real Property Tax: Second Reading

Town Clerk Charnovich read the second reading of Ordinance 6-2023 to adopt the FY24 Budget and Set the Property Tax Rate. A motion was made by Council Member Route to adopt the Ordinance, which was seconded by Council Member Brown. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor and Council Discretionary Funds for FY23

Council Member Route: Elizabeth Seton Hispanic Endowment program

Council Member Brown: Bladensburg International School

Council Member McBryde: Anacostia Watershed Society

Council Member Blount: Elizabeth Seton Hispanic Endowment Program and Barbara Givens GAAP Program

Mayor James: We Lead by Example Inc.

A motion is made by Council Member Blount, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde to approve this list at \$500 per organization. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor James called for a motion for staff to proceed with going to RFP for an Annexation Consultant. A motion was made by Council Member Brown, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor James called for a motion for staff to proceed with going to RFP for a Redevelopment Consultant. A motion was made by Council Member McBryde, which was seconded by Council Member Blount. The motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) Reports

Mayor James asked if anyone on the Council wanted to provide updates on COG Committees that are served on.

STAFF REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Town Treasurer Tinelli provided his report.

Chief Collington provided his report.

Officer Rinehart provided his report.

Town Clerk Charnovich forewent his Town Clerk and Interim Town Administrator reports.

Chief Sumner provided the Bladensburg Volunteer Fire Department Report.

Public Works Supervisor Hall was not able to attend the Council Meeting to present his report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Council Member Blount – Ward 2

Council Member Blount presented her report.

Council Member Route – Ward 1

Council Member Route presented her report.

Council Member Brown – Ward 1

Council Member Brown presented her report.

Council Member McBryde – Ward 2

Council Member McBryde presented her report.

Mayor James

Mayor James presented her report.

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.