



## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MONTHLY REPORT - October 2023

Dear Town Council, Residents, Business owners, and Employees of the Town of Bladensburg;



### **October 2023: Projects and Activities:**

**Sustainable Communities:** We continue to work on this update for the state, and information will be provided at the next Port Towns meeting.

**Cleanup Greenup - October 21, 2023:** Thank you, Mayor James and CM McBryde, for your work this past weekend. The Town looks great!

**Bostwick House:** The Town has been working collaboratively with Aman Trust to make strides in stabilizing the building. I will provide a comprehensive schedule and there will be a Council item to discuss the project at the November Meeting.

**CDBG PY 50:** A new round of funding has been announced. The Town is working on applications for the repaving of roads and the replacement of sidewalks. There is an item on the November 13 Council Agenda for support of the application.

**Economic Development Consultant Update:** We have met Jarryd Hawkins (High Street) regarding a number of economic development projects, including setting up a series of meetings with commercial property owners about Façade improvement pilots.

**Visit by Lt. Governor Aruna Miller:** On October 17, 2023, Lt. Governor Miller and her staff stopped by Town Hall to meet with Mayors and Administrators of the four Port Towns. At this meeting, we were able to share information about legislative and funding priorities with the State. It was a productive meeting and we have been able to share information on many great things that are going on and what we would like to see in the Port Towns.

**SAVE THE DATE: Swearing Ceremony – December 5, 2023** – I wanted to highlight this because we would like to have new photos taken of the Council and Staff. Ray will be making the arrangements, and if you have any questions, please let me know.

**Green Initiatives:** In preparation for the Town's Sustainability certification renewal, we have been working on a few items to place Bladensburg at the forefront of Maryland Communities. Below are some items that the staff has been working to implement;

- **Need a Tree?** The Town has partnered with CKAR on a Tree planting project to provide shade in urban areas. Here is a link to the Flyer that outlines the trees available and how you can have them planted on your property.



- **WE NEED YOU! Join the Green Team!** As part of our sustainability project, we will need your help on our Green Team. Members assist the Town in making Green Policy decisions and help us to spread the word about our events and initiatives.

**Flood Channel Project:** We are working on this project, and the next update will be at the Town Council Work Session on November 13, 2023, at 5:30 PM. We are working hard with the County to provide information on the flood channel project.

**We are Hiring!** I need your help; please promote that we are hiring. We have gotten some applications, but the response has been minimal. We continue to post this notice in our online newsletter, and I reached out to Employ Prince on social media that the Town is hiring for our Public Works teams. If you know anyone who may be interested in a part-time position, please let us know.



**Reminder! Security Camera Reimbursement Program:** The Town started advertising the program in early August, and information is on the website. We have also posted announcements on the Town's social media. The program is funded with \$50,000 in ARPA funds. This is estimated to assist 50 households in each ward. Please make sure to apply today!

#### **Upcoming Event Reminders:**

##### Town of Bladensburg:

- Thanksgiving Food Distribution – November 18, Bladensburg High School, 10 am – 12 pm
- Port Town Meeting – November 28, – 6 PM – Colmar Manor- Town Hall
- Yule Log – December 1, 2023 – 6 PM Town Hall
- Council Swearing in Ceremony - December 5, 6 PM– Town Hall
- Senior Gala – December 6, 11 AM – 2 PM – Bladensburg Recreation Center
- Winter Holiday Food Distribution – December 9, 10 am - 12 pm - Bladensburg High School, 9 am – 12 pm

I want to thank so many of you for your support over the last few months. We are working to make the Town better and more efficient.

If you have any issues, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully,

Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth  
Town Administrator