



TOWN COUNCIL MEETING | SEPTEMBER 8, 2025

September 08, 2025 at 7:00 PM

4229 Edmonston RD, Bladensburg, MD 20710

MINUTES

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoflhVTBelD3c9oH8GYSW0g>

<https://www.facebook.com/Bladensburgmd>

1. Call to Order

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. Opening Prayer

Council Member Dixon led the opening prayer.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor James led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Agenda

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the agenda. Council Member Dixon made the motion, and Council Member Brown seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

5. Presentations

A. Patriotic Committee | Renee Green

Ms. Green presented the Patriotic Committee's report, highlighting the Independence Day celebration and the Peace Cross anniversary. She noted that the Veterans Day celebration is scheduled with a luncheon to follow. She also reported that the Maglev Train project has been canceled, and a celebration party is being planned.

6. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Regular Council Meeting July 14, 2025

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 14th Town Council session.

Council Member Blount made the motion, and Council Member McBryde seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

B. Approval of Special Town Council Meeting July 14, 2025

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 14th Special Council session. Council Member Dixon made the motion, and Council Member Blount seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

7. Public Comments

Susan McCutchen – Ms. McCutchen shared an update that the Magnetic Levitation Train (Maglev) project has been officially canceled by the Federal Railroad Administration. She also noted that on Monday, September 15, Senator Alonzo Washington, along with County Council Members Jolene Ivey and Calvin Hawkins, is organizing a celebration for community-elected officials.

8. New Business

A. ORDINANCE 05-2026 | FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR PY 51 CDBG FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$188,750.

Town Clerk Watson read Ordinance 05-2026 for the record. Mayor James called for a motion to approve. Council Member Dixon moved to approve the ordinance, and Council Member Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

B. ORDINANCE 06-2026 | FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY (GOCPP) GRANT, “BLADENSBURG POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAM” FOR THE SFY26 POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY, COMMUNITY, AND TRANSPARENCY GRANT (PACT) PROGRAM FOR \$65,000.

Town Clerk Watson read the Ordinance 06-2026 for the record. Mayor James called for a motion to approve. Council Member Blount made the motion, and Council Member McBryde seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

C. ORDINANCE 07-2026 | An Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Bladensburg to amend penalties, remedies, and fees to change or establish certain fines or fees; and generally relating to automated traffic enforcement systems.

Mayor James called for a motion to read an abbreviated version of the ordinance. Council Member Blount made the motion, and Council Member Dixon seconded it. Town Clerk Watson read the abbreviated version of the ordinance for first reading.

D. Resolution 02-2026 | A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BCCE PORT TOWNS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth read the abbreviated version of Resolution 02-2026. Council Member Blount was named as the Town Council representative. Town Clerk Watson read the resolution. Mayor James called for a motion to approve. Council Member Brown moved, and Council Member McBryde seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

E. CONTRACT APPROVAL | Approval for a Contract with Calvert Ready Mix, an amount not to exceed \$50,560.14 for Sidewalk and Curb Repairs using CDBG PY 50 Funds on Upshur Street.

Town Clerk Watson shared that this is Part 2 of the CDBG PY 50 funds. Mayor James called for a motion to approve. Council Member Blount made the motion, and Council Member McBryde seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

F. CONTRACT APPROVAL | Right of Way Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – State Highway Administration for US1, Annapolis Rd, and Kenilworth Ramps and adjacent areas.

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth explained that the MOU covers maintenance of the specified ramp areas. Mayor James called for a motion to approve. Council Member McBryde made the motion, and Council Member Brown seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

G. COUNCIL ACTION | Approval of the Change of Meeting Date from Monday, October 13, 2025, to Monday, October 20, 2025.

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth presented the request to change the October Council meeting from October 13 to October 20. Mayor James called for a motion to approve. Council Member Dixon made the motion, and Council Member Blount seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

H. COUNCIL ACTION | Review and Approval of Draft Legislative Priorities for Session 2026

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth requested formal approval of the 2026 Legislative Priorities. Mayor James called for a motion. Council Member Blount made the motion, and Council Member McBryde seconded it. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

I. INFORMATION MEMO | United States 250th Anniversary | Update September 2025

Mayor James shared the promotional video for the upcoming 250th anniversary celebration.

J. INFORMATION MEMO | Town Hall Update | Neighborhood Design Center | September 2025

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth presented the design concept for the new Town Hall and discussed the next steps in the project timeline.

K. INFORMATION MEMO | 2025 Election Update | September 2025

Town Clerk Watson reported that five candidates have been certified for the 2025 election. She reviewed ballot drop box locations and explained the voting process.

L. INFORMATION MEMO | Residential Parking in the Town of Bladensburg | September 2025

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth shared that the residential parking discussion will be elevated in priority for 2026, based on Council feedback during the work session.

M. INFORMATION MEMO | Strategic Plan Update | September 2025

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth provided an update on the Strategic Plan, noting the process of formally adopt an updated version in the future.

9. Staff Reports

Treasurer; Public Safety and Code Enforcement; Town Clerk; Public Works; Town Administrator

A. Town Treasurer – Mr. Tinelli

Treasurer Tinelli reported that the fiscal year closeout is underway, and final financials will be sent to the auditor. He also attended the MACo Conference.

B. Public Safety and Code Enforcement – Chief Collington & Supervisor Rinehart

Chief Collington noted his report is available online and acknowledged the Community Action Team for a successful National Night Out.

Code Enforcement Supervisor Rinehart reported ongoing outreach efforts for the unhoused and

referred them to external services. He also shared condolences for the passing of Ms. Moore and noted a farewell drive scheduled for Friday.

C. Town Clerk – Ms. Watson

Town Clerk Watson marked her one-year anniversary with the Town and thanked the staff and Council for their support.

D. Public Works – Report by Town Administrator

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth provided updates on recent Public Works projects and initiatives.

E. Town Administrator – Ms. Bailey-Hedgepeth

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth noted her full written report is available online.

10. Mayor and Council Reports (3 minutes each)

Council Member Kalisha Dixon (Ward 1):

Council Member Dixon reported attending National Night Out, the back-to-school giveaway, and a COG Webinar.

Council Member Trina Brown (Ward 1):

Council Member Brown thanked staff. She mentioned that she attended the backpack giveaway at Bladensburg Elementary and invited all residents to the community meeting on September 27.

Council Member Carrol McBryde (Ward 2):

Council Member McBryde mentioned she attended a COG meeting, the Autumn Woods giveaway, and volunteered with Bethesda Church.

Council Member Marilyn Blount (Ward 2):

Council Member Blount promoted the upcoming senior gathering at Harrison Park and recognized Wes Moore for his contributions.

Mayor Takisha James:

Mayor James shared that her written report is available online. She recapped summer highlights, how she represented MML at MACo, and thanked staff for the successful America in Bloom initiative.

11. Adjournment

Mayor James called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Blount moved to adjourn, and Council Member McBryde seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.