



# TOWN OF BLADENSBURG COUNCIL MEETING | OCTOBER 14, 2024

October 14, 2024, at 7:00 PM

4229 Edmonston RD, Bladensburg, MD 20710

## MINUTES

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**Attendance:** Mayor James, CM Brown, CM Blount, CM McBryde, CM Dixon, TA Bailey Hedgepeth, TC Watson, Treasurer Tinelli, Chief Collington, PW Supervisor Hall and CE Supervisor Rinehart.

### 1. Call to Order

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

### 2. Opening Prayer

Councilmember Dixon gave 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. CM Blount moved the motion, CM Dixon seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0

### 5. Presentations

#### A. Congressman Glenn Ivey Office Presentation | Joseph Pruden

Joseph Pruden presented on behalf of Congressman Glenn Ivey on the Military Service Academy recommendations and the youth program on building technology. He also mentioned Congressman Ivey's recent accomplishments.

#### B. Bladensburg Police Department | Promotions - Chief Collington

Sergeant Ryan Harris

Sergeant Mahir Ayoub

Corporal Darryl Thompkins

Chief Collington presented the promotions to the officers and Mayor James administered the Oath of Office.

## 6. Approval of Minutes

### A. Town Council Meeting Minutes | September 9, 2024

Mayor James requested a motion to approve the September 9th, 2024, council minutes. CM Blount moved the motion, CM McBryde seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### B. Town Council Closed Session Summary | September 12, 2024

Mayor James requested a motion to approve the Closed Session September 12, 2024, minutes. CM Brown moved the motion, CM Dixon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### C. Town Council Closed Session Summary | September 24, 2024

Mayor James requested a motion to approve the Closed Session September 24, 2024, minutes. CM Brown moved the motion, CM Blount seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## 7. Public Comments

A. Jose, a student from Bladensburg High school, shared his concerns about being unenrolled from school and his desire to return to school this school year.

B. Ms. McCutchen gave an update on the Northeast Maglev Project.

C. Ms. Lundy wanted to express her concern about vehicle theft and vandalization. She asked residents to always report crime.

D. Ms. Green reminded everyone of the Veterans Day event, followed by a luncheon at the American Legion. She also made a request to the Council to increase the town's contribution to the luncheon to accommodate rising cost.

## 8. Financial Business

A. **Ordinance 04-2025** | An Ordinance to Enact the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget Process.

Ordinance 04-2025 was tabled and will be brought back at the November 2024 Council Meeting.

## 9. New Business

- A. Ordinance 03-2025** | An Emergency Ordinance of the Council of the Town of Bladensburg Granting a renewal of the cable franchise to comcast of Maryland, LLC, and authorizing a franchise agreement.

Town Clerk Watson read the Ordinance. The ordinance grants a renewal of the cable contract and authorizes a franchise agreement. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the ordinance. CM Brown moved the motion, CM Blount seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Resolution 03-2025** | A Resolution authorizing the Town Administrator to apply to Prince George's County Department of Housing and Community Development on behalf of the Town of Bladensburg for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for PY 51 for Infrastructure Projects.

Town Clerk Watson read the Resolution. Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth added that the Town has been successful in the last year with grant applications and receiving funding. She provided a summary of said grants. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the resolution. CM Dixon moved the motion, CM Blount seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Resolution 04-2025** | A Resolution authorizing the Town Administrator to apply to Chesapeake Bay Trust (CBT) on behalf of the Town of Bladensburg for the Prince George's County Stormwater Stewardship Grant Program is funding for Town Projects.

Town Clerk Watson read the Resolution. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the resolution. CM Blount moved the motion, CM Dixon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Resolution 05-2025** | A Resolution authorizing the disposition of surplus vehicles.

Town Clerk Watson read the Resolution. Chief Collington provided details of the process that will take place and mentioned that the revenue that this would bring to our budget would be

beneficial. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the resolution. CM Dixon moved the motion, CM McBryde seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. **Contract Approval** | Approval of a Contract with CRS Roofing Services for roof repairs to Town Hall and the Code Enforcement Building –in an amount not to exceed \$48,650.00.

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth explained the proposal and process. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. CM Brown moved the motion, CM McBryde seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. **Board of Supervisors of Elections (BOSOE) Update** | Election 2025

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth provided a summary of what has been done so far in the BOSOE Meetings and shared a presentation to the Council. BOSOE member Lundy and Sanders presented more details to the Council regarding the new elections process, including the election Candidate Handbook and the Judge’s Manual.

- G. **America in Bloom** | 2024 Evaluation Report

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth mentioned that the final report was submitted to the Council. Public Works Supervisor Hall and Marketing Specialist Jefferies attended the conference for America in Bloom and the Town of Bladensburg received an award at the conference.

- H. **Bostwick House Update** | October 2024

Town administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth shared a power point presentation with updates to Bostwick House.

- I. **COG Update** | October 2024

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth mentioned the participation of Town Clerk Watson at the COG meetings.

- J. **Legislative Priorities** | 2025

Mayor James thanked the staff for putting together the presentation for the Legislative meeting held last Friday.

## **10. Staff Reports (3 minutes each)**

**Treasurer Report** - Treasurer Tinelli discussed the first quarter of FY 2025. He explained he is still closing- out FY 2024 and working with the auditors. He presented a table to the Council that reflected the budget.

**Public Safety Report**- Chief Collington gave kudos to the officers that were promoted tonight. He also provided a summary of the calls that were received this month and discussed vehicle theft and what the department is doing to prevent these incidents. He also mentioned the vigil that will be held and the trunk or treat event that will be taking place.

**Code Enforcement Report**- Code Enforcement Supervisor Rinehart mentioned mattress covers are available for purchase for \$5. He also provided a summary of the number of abandoned vehicles for the month.

**Town Clerk Report** – Town Clerk Watson advised the Council that she attended her first Maryland Clerks association meeting. She also joined the Maryland Clerks Associations and the International Institute of Clerks Association. She attended the Greenbelt volunteer fire department meeting as well as the COG meeting.

**Public Works Report**- Public Works Supervisor Hall provided an update on the 57th Ave project and they have been working with Pepco to check lights and make sure that the town is billed correctly.

**Town Administrator Report**- Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth advised the Council that she submitted her report, and it can be found online.

## **11. Mayor and Council Reports**

**Council Member Brown – Ward 1**- CM Brown congratulated the police officers who were promoted. She attended the PGCMA monthly board meeting and monthly meeting, the Chesapeake Bay Trust meeting, Port town's quarterly meeting, council retreat, and the quarterly community meeting. She also attended the municipal planners open house port towns sector plan final interaction in Collage City legislative priority meeting. CM Brown finished by saying hello

**Council Member Dixon – Ward 1**- CM Dixon congratulated the police officers who were promoted this evening. She attended the CBCBPC annual forum, the CoG meeting, the Mexico Independent celebration, Colmar manor Hispanic Day, PGCMA meeting, public safety meeting, the port town sector plan meeting, the employee's taco treats event and the domestic violence awareness event

that was on October 5. She gave thanks to everyone that came out. Lastly, she attended her community walk. She walked Tilden and 52nd street.

**Council Member McBryde – Ward 2-** CM McBryde stated that she would forgoes her report.

**Council Member Blount – Ward 2-** CM Blount stated that she would forgoes her report.

**Mayor James-** Mayor James mentioned her report was available online for any resident to read. She mentioned that she, Senator Augustine and Chief Collington were made aware of a liquor board hearing for a business located outside of the town in Prince George County. Between herself, Senator Augustine and Chief Collington, they testified in support of Prince George's County Police Department request that the board revisit the business's liquor license due to safety concerns for residents in the surrounding area. She thanked the Chief and Senator Augustine. She also had the opportunity to have some FaceTime with Governor Moore and provided him with information on the town's legislative priorities right after it passed.

## **12. Adjournment**

Mayor James called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. CM Brown moved the motion, CM Dixon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.