



TOWN OF BLADENSBURG COUNCIL MEETING | JANUARY 13, 2025

January 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM

4229 Edmonston RD, Bladensburg, MD 20710

MINUTES

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

1. Call to Order

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm

2. Opening Prayer

Council Member McBryde led the 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 Brown moved the motion; CM Dixon seconded the motion. Minor corrections to the Agenda. The motion passed 5-0.

5. Presentations

A. Promotion and Recognition of Police Officers moving to the rank of Private First Class |

Presenter Chief Tyrone Collington, Bladensburg Police Department

Chief Collington led the promotion and recognition of five police officers.

B. Patriotic Committee | Presenter Renee Green

Ms. Greene provided a patriotic update, announcing that The Peace Cross will celebrate its 100th anniversary in July 2025. An event will be planned to commemorate this milestone.

Anyone interested in helping with the planning is encouraged to contact Ray Jeffries at the Town Hall.

Ms. Greene also shared that the Boy Scouts are nearing completion of their work on the Pearl Harbor Memorial. Additionally, they need to raise an extra \$250 toward the memorial. Donations for the memorial are still being accepted.

6. Approval of Minutes

A. Town Council Minutes | December 9, 2024

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the December 9 2024, Minutes. CM Dixon moved the motion; CM McBryde seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

B. Town Council Public Hearing Minutes | December 19, 2024

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the December 19, 2024, Minutes. CM Dixon moved the motion; CM Blount seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

7. Public Comments

Ms. McCutchen suggested reaching out to the candidates for the Maglev project. She also provided information on where to sign up for updates regarding bills.

Mr. White expressed his appreciation to Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth for her efforts in assisting with the repair of the streetlights. He also thanked the Public Works team for their work on snow removal and leaf vacuum services.

8. Unfinished Business

A. ORDINANCE 09-2025 | AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A FRAMEWORK FOR PROPER TREE MAINTENANCE – SECOND READING

Town Clerk Watson read the second reading for the Ordinance.

Mayor James called for a motion to adopt the Ordinance. CM Dixon moved the motion, and CM McBryde seconded it. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

9. Financial Business

A. FY 2026 Budget Overview | FY 2025 Budget Update

Treasurer Tinelli shared the budget presentation and gave an update regarding the audit.

10. New Business

- A. Resolution 13-2025 | A Resolution changing the Town's Resident Agent to Regine Watson, Town Clerk.

Town Clerk Watson read the Resolution for the record, which is a request to file a change with the State of Maryland. The change will remove the previous Resident Agent and designate Ms. Watson, the current Town Clerk, as the new Resident Agent.

Mayor James called for a motion to adopt the Resolution. CM Blount moved the motion, and CM Dixon seconded it. The motion passed unanimously 5-0.

- B. Resolution 14-2025 | Appointment of BOSOE Members for 2025 - 2027

Mayor James shared that this item will be tabled until the February Council meeting.

- C. Resolution 15-2025 | Appointment of Ethics Commission Members for 2025 - 2027

Town Clerk Watson mentioned that a recommendation was made for all new appointees to undergo an interview process before the Council makes appointments. This recommendation was approved during the work session.

- D. NFWF Urban Forestry Update | January 2025

Town administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth shared the recommendations from the presentation that was given by Urban Forestry during the work session.

- E. Bostwick House Update | ULI Report Final – January 2025**

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth provided a brief public overview report for Bostwick.

- F. Legislative Session Update | January 2025**

Mayor James noted that during the work session, Mr. Perez and Mr. Brown provided updates on legislative matters.

- G. PEPCO | Street Light Update – January 2025

Mayor James mentioned that a detailed update was provided during the work session. Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth indicated that efforts to address the streetlight issue with Pepco will continue, with another update to be shared later.

11. Staff Reports (3 minutes each)

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

A. Town Administrator Report | January 2025

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth shared that she met with NDC to discuss the town hall design and also submitted her written report for the record.

B. Town Clerk Report | January 2025

Town Clerk Watson provided an update on the Carecen Grand Opening. She also mentioned that the Business Roundtable is scheduled for next week, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM.

C. Town Treasurer Report | January 2025

Treasurer Tinelli presented his report to the Council and is available online. He also noted that they are in the process of completing the audit.

D. Public Works Report | December 2024

Public Works Supervisor Hall provided his update to the Council.

E. Public Safety Report | January 2025

Chief Collington shared that there were 1,017 calls for service in December. He also acknowledged January 9th as Law Enforcement Appreciation Day and expressed gratitude to the officers for their hard work.

Code Enforcement Supervisor Rinehart offered his condolences to the Montgomery County Fire Department following a line-of-duty death. He also provided an update on removing signage

12. Mayor and Council Reports (3 minutes each)

Council Member McBryde – Ward 2 - CM McBryde reported that she attended the food distribution event and assisted with the "Shop with a Cop" initiative. She also expressed her gratitude to Mr. James and the Sheriff's Department for their generous donation.

Council Member Blount – Ward 2- CM Blount expressed thanks to the Bladensburg Police Department for their efforts, Town Staff, CM Dixon and also gave kudos to the Mayor for her assistance at the Senior Gala.

Council Member Brown – Ward 1- CM Brown thanked the council for all the accomplishments achieved in 2024. She shared that she attended several activities in December and expressed her gratitude to the residents who participated in those events.

Council Member Dixon – Ward 1- CM Dixon reported attending many meetings and events.

Mayor James- Mayor James expressed gratitude to CM Blount for her contributions to the Senior Gala and for her ongoing support of the senior community. The Mayor also attended the MML State of Municipality event, along with several other events throughout December. Her full report has been posted on the town's website.

13. Adjournment

Mayor James called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. CM Brown moved the motion, and CM Dixon seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm