



# TOWN COUNCIL MEETING | NOVEMBER 10, 2025

November 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM

4229 Edmonston RD, Bladensburg, MD 20710

## MINUTES

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### 1. Call to Order

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 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 McBryde made a motion to approve the agenda, which Council Member Blount seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

## 5. Presentations

### A. Presentation | Town Clerk Regine Watson

Mayor, council, and town staff presented a plaque to Town Clerk Watson and expressed deep appreciation for her departure, recognizing her significant contributions to modernizing records, grant processing, fleet management, and community relations during her tenure from August 2024 to November 2025.

### B. Presentation | Police Department Recognitions

Acting Chief Frishkorn recognized police staff and others who responded to the fatal car crash that occurred on October 18, 2025, noting heroic efforts in a chaotic scene involving 14 injured people, including children, with special recognition to various officers.

### C. Presentation | Patriotic Committee Renee Green

Ms. Green shared details about the Veterans Day ceremony at the Peace Cross at 11am, following a luncheon at Colmar Manor. She also shared details about the Pearl Harbor celebration on December 7, 2025.

**D. Presentation | Municipal Government Works Month (3 minutes)**

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth read the proclamation to recognize November as Municipal Works Month. This is an MML initiative that the Town celebrates every year.

**6. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Town Council Meeting Minutes | October 20, 2025 (2 minutes)**

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2025, Work Session. Council Member Dixon made a motion to approve the minutes, which Council Member McBryde seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

**7. Public Comments**

Susan McCuthchen- Requested that the Mayor and Council bring up the Community sign-on letter regarding data centers, specifically the data center in Landover, MD, and read the reasons as to why this construction should be stopped.

**8. Unfinished Business**

**9. Financial Business**

**A. Ordinance 08-2026 | An Ordinance to enact the fiscal year 2026-2027 Budget process and codify the town council and public participation process.**

Ms. Watson gave the final read of Ordinance 08-2026, which concerns the budget dates presented to the Mayor and Council by Treasurer Mr. Tinelli. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the Ordinance. Council Member Dixon made a motion to approve, which Council Member Brown seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

**10. New Business**

**A. Council Presentation | Flood Mitigation Project: Edmonston Channel and Quincy Run – Public Outreach – November 2025 Update**

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth gave a brief explanation of this project and mentioned that the whole presentation is available online.

**B. Council Presentation | Department of Environment and Clean Water Partnership Grant | Tree Canopy Update – November 2025 (5 minutes)**

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth gave a brief explanation of this project.

Mayor James called for a motion to approve moving forward with this partnership. Council Member Dixon made a motion to approve, which Council Member McBryde seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

**C. Council Action | Funding Request for Ambulance Staffing Stipend | Bladensburg Fire Department – FY 2026**

Town administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth and Treasurer Mr. Tinelli shared that the ambulance stipend would help the fire department to incentivize volunteers to work separately. This would also add additional sessions on the ambulance and help expand ambulance services. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the \$20,000 funding request. Council Member Blount made a motion to approve, which Council Member McBryde seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5–0.

**D. Council Action | Approval for a contract with Fleur de Lis L.L.C. for on-call Commercial Real Estate Advisory Services for signature and execution by Town Administrator. (3 minutes)**

Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth shared that this is for on-call services.

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. Council Member McBryde made a motion to approve, which the Mayor seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 4–1.

**E. Council Action | Approval of a Contract with Calvert Ready Mix, an amount not to exceed \$50,560.14 for Sidewalk and Curb Repairs using CDBG PY 51 Funds for Taussig Street.**

Town Clerk Ms. Watson and Public Works supervisor Mr. Hall gave a brief summary of the contract details. This is for CDBG PY 51 Project funds for additional sidewalk replacement on Taussig with Calvert Ready Mix for \$50,560.14

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. Council Member Dixon made a motion to approve, which Council Member Blount seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5-0.

**F. Resolution 07-2026 | A Resolution of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, establishing and approving the schedule of fees and fines for various municipal services and violations**

Town administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth described this resolution, which sets the fees and fine collection amounts. Town Clerk Ms. Watson read the abbreviated version of this resolution into the record.

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. Council Member Blount made a motion to approve, which Council Member McBryde seconded. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5-0.

**G. Information Memo | United States 250th Anniversary | Update November 2025 (5 minutes)**

Town administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth gave a brief Update on the 250th anniversary celebration.

## **11. Staff Reports**

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

**A. Town Treasurer Report | October 2025**

Town Treasurer Tinelli expressed cautious optimism about the fiscal year, now one-third complete, citing strong tax payment inflows and a stable economy despite national uncertainties such as the congressional shutdown. He noted potential risks from inclement weather, which can add at least \$8,000 per day in costs, underscoring the importance of contingency planning. The Town is actively engaging auditors and expects a report by the December meeting to ensure financial transparency and accountability.

**B. Public Safety | October 2025**

Acting Chief Frishkorn reported significant crime reductions and increased enforcement efforts from September to October 2025: violent crime down 62.5% year-to-date, 21.7%, property crimes down 68.2%, and arrests up 71.4%, reflecting effective policing strategies

Code Enforcement reported an increase of 32 abandoned vehicles in residential areas over the past month, attributed in part to higher Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration fees that discourage tag renewals. Despite this, abandoned vehicle counts are down overall from last year, indicating some progress in enforcement and community cooperation.

**B. Town Clerk | October 2025**

Ms. Watson expressed her gratitude to the Town of Bladensburg for the opportunity to serve as the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Administrator.

**D. Public Works Supervisor | October 2025**

Public Works reported preparations for the upcoming leaf collection, starting November 12, timed to coincide with peak leaf fall after Thanksgiving to improve efficiency.

**E. Town Administrator Report | November 2025**

Mrs. Bailey-Hedgepeth's report included the Legislative Update, the Green Team Update, the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Update, the Bostwick House Update, and information regarding the DRAFT ALPR Agreement with Red Speed. Her full report is available online.

**12. Mayor and Council Reports (3 minutes each)**

**Council Member Trina Brown** – Ward 1- CM Brown thanked Ms. Watson and police staff for all of their hard work. She also attended the domestic violence awareness event.

**Council Member Kalisha Dixon** – Ward 1 CM Dixon thanked Ms. Watson and police staff for their fantastic work. She also attended the COG meeting, the Port Towns meeting, the Bladensburg Waterfront Festival, and the Bladensburg cleanup day.

**Council Member Carrol McBryde** – Ward 2- CM McBryde attended the Elizabeth Seaton event, the Bladensburg day event, and she also attended the green teams meeting.

**Council Member Marilyn Blount** – Ward 2- CM Blount wished Ms. Watson the best and will miss her. She also invited seniors to the upcoming senior gala on December 11, 2025. She also attended Bladensburg Day.

**Mayor Takisha James**- Mayor James thanked the staff, Ms. Bailey Hedgepeth, Acting Chief Frishkorn, and Officer Reinhart. They met with members of the Prince George's County public

school system to talk about the bus lot in the industrial park and their request for dedicated parking spaces. She also thanked Ray Jeffries for helping to work with Mr. Hawkins and Mrs. Bailey Hedgepeth on the Business Roundtable meeting. She expressed her excitement for the outcome of Bladensburg Day and thanked the police department for stepping up to handle all of the intersection traffic control. She also attended the MML Fall conference.

### **13. Adjournment**

Mayor James called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Dixon moved to adjourn, and Council Member Blount seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.\_\_\_\_\_.