



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING | MAY 12, 2025

May 12, 2025 at 7:15 PM

4229 Edmonston RD, Bladensburg, MD 20710

### MINUTES

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoflhVTBeID3c9oH8GYSW0g>

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

#### 1. Call to Order

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:31 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 Dixon moved the motion; CM McBryde seconded it. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

#### 5. Presentations

##### A. Recognition of Staff | Municipal Clerk Week, Police Week, and Public Works Week

Town Administrator Bailey Hedgepath presented three proclamations recognizing Municipal Clerks Week, Police Week, and Public Works Week.

##### B. Patriotic Committee | Renee Green

Ms. presented upcoming patriotic events, including the Memorial Day ceremony on May 26, 2025, at 11:00 a.m., featuring the Pearl Harbor Memorial rededication; the Independence Day celebration on July 2, 2025, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m.; and the Peace Cross 100th Anniversary ceremony on July 12, 2025.

## 6. Approval of Minutes

A. **Town Council Meeting Minutes** | April 14, 2025

B. **Town Council Special Meeting Minutes** | April 14, 2025

Approval of the minutes was moved to the June 9th Council meeting

## 7. Public Comments

Mr. Weitz thanked the Town for hosting Bostwick Day and suggested improvements to accessibility.

## 8. Unfinished Business

A. **ORDINANCE 11-2025** | AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG TO AMEND § 76-4 OF THE TOWN CODE: BUSINESS LICENSE AND PERMIT FEES AND ADDS AN ALARM REGISTRATION FEE. **SECOND READING.**

Mayor James called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 11-2025. Council Member Dixon moved to approve the ordinance, and Council Member Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. **ORDINANCE 12-2025** | AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG TO REPEAL AND REENACT CHAPTER 50, "PROPERTY MAINTENANCE" IN ITS ENTIRETY, TO REPEAL CHAPTER 68, "HOUSING STANDARDS" IN ITS ENTIRETY, AND TO ADOPT CHAPTER 49 "RENTAL HOUSING". **SECOND READING.**

Mayor James called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 12-2025. Council Member McBryde moved the motion, which was seconded by Council Member Dixon. The motion passed unanimously.

C. **ORDINANCE 13-2025** | AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG TO AMEND CHAPTER 112, "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC". BY ADOPTING §112-14, "STOP SIGN MONITORING SYSTEMS IN SCHOOL ZONES" TO AUTHORIZE USE OF STOP SIGN MONITORING CAMERAS IN SCHOOL ZONES. **SECOND READING.**

Mayor James called for a motion to adopt Ordinance 13-2025. Council Member Brown moved the motion, which was seconded by Council Member Blount. The motion passed unanimously.

## 9. Financial Business

- A. BUDGET ORDINANCE NO: 01 – 2026 |** AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY THE REAL PROPERTY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RATES AND APPROPRIATE AND ADOPT THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND, FOR THE 2026 FISCAL YEAR OF JULY 1, 2025, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026. **FIRST READING.**

Town Administrator Bailey Hedgepath read Budget Ordinance 01-2026, outlining the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. This marked the first reading of the ordinance.

## 10. New Business

- A. Resolution 25-2025:** A Resolution of the Town of Bladensburg Celebrating Municipal Clerk's Week from May 4, 2025, to May 10, 2025.

This was acknowledged during the opening presentations of the meeting.

- B. Resolution 26-2025:** A Resolution of the Town of Bladensburg Celebrating National Police Week, May 11 - 17, 2025 and Expressing Gratitude to the Bladensburg Police Department. (2 minutes)

This was acknowledged during the opening presentations of the meeting.

- C. Resolution 27-2025:** A Resolution of the Town of Bladensburg Recognizing Public Works Week, May 18 - 24, 2025.

This was acknowledged during the opening presentations of the meeting.

- D. Resolution 28-2025:** A Resolution of support for an application for grant funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for a Chesapeake Bay project.

Town Administrator Bailey Hedgepath provided an overview of Resolution 28-2025. Mayor James called for a motion to adopt the resolution. Council Member Dixon made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. Resolution 29-2025:** A Resolution in support of the operating assistance grant application for technical assistance funding through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD).

Town Administrator Bailey Hedgepath provided an overview of Resolution 29-2025. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the resolution. Council Member McBryde made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member Blount. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. CONTRACT APPROVAL:** Approval of a contract for repairs to Bostwick House - Wash House Stabilization, using MNCPPC Historic Preservation funds.

This item was moved to the June 9th Council meeting for further consideration.

- G. CONTRACT APPROVAL:** Approval for a contract with Hyp-Tro Building Services, LLC for Janitorial Services.

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. Council Member Blount made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed unanimously.

- H. CONTRACT APPROVAL:** Approval of a contract with NovoaGlobal for Stop Sign Camera Program in the Town of Bladensburg.

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. Council Member McBryde made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member Dixon. The motion passed unanimously.

- I. CONTRACT APPROVAL |** Approval of a contract with MuniCollect for Collection Services for the Town of Bladensburg.

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the contract. Council Member Dixon made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed unanimously.

- J. Discretionary Funds FY 2025 |** Town Council Awards – April / May 2025

Mayor James called for a motion to approve the use of her discretionary funds to support the 'Lead by Example' initiative. Council Member McBryde made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member Blount. The motion passed unanimously.

- K. Soaring Eagle Scholarship FY 2025 |** Town Council Awards – May 2025

Town Administrator Bailey Hedgepath provided an overview of the scholarship program and noted the students who were referred for the scholarship. Mayor James called for a motion to approve the scholarships. Council Member Dixon made the motion, which was seconded by Council Member McBryde. The motion passed unanimously.

## **11. Staff Reports**

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

**A. Town Treasurer | April 2025**

Town Treasurer Tinelli presented the financial report, noting that the Town is currently operating at a deficit and is awaiting upcoming tax disbursements.

**B. Public Safety and Code Enforcement | April 2025**

Chief Collington gave a speech thanking the officers. His complete report is available online.

**C. Town Clerk | April 2025**

Town Clerk Watson provided a brief update on the Board of Supervisors of Election and advised that her full report is available online.

**D. Public Works | April 2025**

Public Works Supervisor Hall provided an update on the Public Works building. His full report is available online.

**E. Town Administrator | May 2025**

Town Administrator Bailey Hedgepath provided an update on Town Hall and advised that her full report is available online.

**12. Mayor and Council Reports**

**Council Member Kalisha Dixon – Ward 1**

Council Member Dixon advised she attended the Eggstravaganza event.

**Council Member Carrol McBryde – Ward 2**

Council Member McBryde advised that she attended the Eggstravaganza event, the Bostwick House event, and the business owners meeting.

**Council Member Marilyn Blount – Ward 2**

Council Member Blount thanked everyone for the Easter Egg Hunt event and noted that she will be attending the upcoming safety meeting.

**Mayor Takisha James**

Mayor James attended several events, including the Port Towns meeting. She also encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming mental health event.

**13. Adjournment**

CM Brown called for a motion to adjourn. CM Blount moved the motion; CM Dixon seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm