

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
September 11, 2017, 2017 5:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with Council Members Ficklin and Mendoza present. Council Member Bridgeman arrived at 5:48 p.m.; Council Member Hall was excused.
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 2017 Worksession Minutes:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- III. FITNESS PROGRAM:** Michael Thompkins, a fitness trainer, presented an opportunity for the Town Staff to get involved with a program that he runs. Mayor and Council requested that he provided an updated proposal.
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Resolution 1-2017: Grant Support for Community Legacy and MEA funding. Ms. McAuley reported that this Resolution was part of these agencies' requirements for the grant funds to be approved. It will be brought for a vote at the Council Meeting to follow.

University of Maryland Outreach Meeting: Ms. Sandlin Graduate students from the Real Estate department will conduct a community outreach meeting on Rte 450 economic development on September 19th. This will bring the Town's process up a level from the Sector Plan. They will report their goals and findings in January.

General Code Publishers: Mr. Rinehart reported that he and Ms. Sandlin spoke with representatives from this firm at the MML conference in June and they are prepared to assist the Town with a complete overview of the Code, with recommended updates and ensuring that there are no contradicts in the document. Council Member Bridgeman asked for an expansion of Code Enforcement in the revised Code. Community input will be invited in the revision process.

Police Department Expansion Update: Chief Stone reported that Code Enforcement will stay at its present location. The rest of the space will be occupied by the Patrol Division. Upgrades are in the FY 18 budget under Building Repairs. Public Works is doing a lot of the construction "in house". The building should be occupied in three months.

- IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Body Cameras: As part of the Police Department review, this purchase was considered beneficial and expected. Chief Stone said there is a proposal for twenty body cameras over a five year plan. The cost is \$62,000; \$700 per officer per year. When questioned about the Police Officers' Bill of Rights, Chief Stone reported that the officers wanted the cameras and the acquisition is in the budget.

Election Day Administrative Office Closing: Ms. Sandlin reminded everyone that staff, other than the Police Department, will be off on Town Election Day.

Support for Spa Spring Historic Designation: Mayor James reported that MNCPPC has this site on a list of resources that it is attempting to "clean up". Mayor James stated that the Council has an opportunity to support an historic designation for the site or removing it from the list while recommending an archaeological study prior to any construction on the property. The site is owned by MNCPPC and there is no longer any structure(s) there. It was suggested that a historical sign be installed. It was moved and seconded to support taking the Spa Spring off the resource list while ensuring that the Town be consulted prior to any development. Council Members Ficklin, Bridgeman and Mayor James in favor; Council Member Mendoza opposed. The motion passed.

David C. Harrington Park Dedication: There was a reminder that the dedication would take place September 21st, and the community is invited and encouraged to attend.

V. **ADJOURNMENT:** At 6:35 p.m., Council Member Mendoza moved to adjourn; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk