

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
April 10, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Bridgeman, Ficklin, Hall and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Ficklin gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was recited.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 20, 2017 Council Meeting:** Council Member Hall moved to approve the minutes as recited; Council Member Ficklin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION:** Mayor James announced that there was a closed session concerning personnel issues on April 5<sup>th</sup> and he reiterated that the Town practices non-discriminatory hiring practices.
- VI. **APPROVAL OF POLICE CHIEF AND OATH OF OFFICE:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the Mayor's appointment of Tracy Stone as Chief of Police; Council Hall seconded the motion and by roll call vote, it passed unanimously.
- VII. **TNI Transition Team Update: Ms. Sharon Westman** spoke about maintaining partnerships and re-branding Bladensburg.
- VIII. **"The Bus" Service Request for Newton Street Update: Mayor James** received word from the County Department of Transportation that the buses in that area cannot be re-routed. He recommended citizens in that neighborhood use Call A Bus, and he will continue this dialogue with the County.
- IX. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (three minutes per speaker):** The Mayor entertained input from the audience.

- X. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** Mayor and Council gave updates on meetings and issues that surfaced during the previous month.

**Council Member Hall**

**Council Member Mendoza**

**Council Member Ficklin**

**Council Member Bridgeman**

**Mayor James**

- XI. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave updates on previous month's departmental activities.

**Public Safety**

**Public Works**

**Code Enforcement**

**Treasurer**

**Town Clerk**

**Town Administrator**

- XII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Vote on Absentee Ballot Process Ordinance 1-2017:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Ordinance as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Council Member Hall-Aye, Council Member Ficklin-Aye, Council Member Bridgeman-Nay, Council Member Mendoza-Aye, and Mayor James-Aye. The motion passed 4 to 1.

**Vote on Campaign Finance Ordinance 2-2017:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the Ordinance as presented; Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Council Member Hall-Aye, Council Member Ficklin-Aye, Council Member Bridgeman-Nay, Council Member Mendoza-Aye, and Mayor James-Aye. The motion passed 4 to 1.

- XIII. **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

**Approval of Lindsay Associates as FY 17 Town Auditor:** Council Member Mendoza moved to approve the firm for the audit; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and by Roll Call Vote, the motion passed unanimously.

**XIV. NEW BUSINESS (none scheduled)**

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:35 p.m., Council Member Hall moved to adjourn; Council Member Bridgeman seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. McAuley, Town Clerk