

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
WORKSESSION MINUTES
July 9, 2018 5:30 p.m.**

- I. CALL TO ORDER:** At 5:30 p.m., Mayor James and Council Member Dorsey were the only Council persons present. Due to a lack of a quorum, the meeting was not called to order until 5:44 p.m. when Council Member Bridgeman arrived.

II. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MML Conference: Summary reports by Attendees: Mayor James gave an overview of the workshops and events she attended during the Maryland Municipal League June Conference, held annually in Ocean City. Her detailed synopsis is included in the Mayor's June report available at the Town Clerk's office or on the Town website. Council Member Bridgeman did not prepare a report for this Worksession but stated he will have a PowerPoint prepared for the September one.

Ernest Maier Signage Proposal: Brendan Quinn, owner of Ernest Maier, presented schematics of proposed signage for his business. The signs will be graffiti proof.

He announced he has purchased the Crossroads property and hopes to put historic images of Bladensburg on the perimeter fencing. He has no immediate plans for the old restaurant itself, as he is awaiting a final court decision on Peace Cross. All entrances to the property will be blocked by the end of this year.

Mr. Quinn as engaged a University of Maryland student to write a business plan for a trade school to help attract younger workers and to create more job opportunities for local residents. No funding will be put into this project until there is a definitive plan in place.

Council Member Ficklin arrived at 6:05 p.m.

- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 2018 Worksession:** Council Member Ficklin moved to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS CONTINUED:

Paving of 58th Avenue & Emerson Street: PW Foreman Hall presented three proposals (VMP, MT Langley and Beltway Pavers) for repairs for road failures at this location. The heavy use by Metro and school buses in this area

has resulted in significant damage to the road structure. Each contractor provided his recommendations on specifications and costs outlined in their proposals. Based on the scope outlined in the proposals, Mr. Hall recommended VMP, as this contractor has an excellent track record of doing street improvements and other projects for the Town.

Peace Cross Update: Mayor James reported that she has reached out to Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission to request assistance in finding a Pro Bono attorney to represent Bladensburg in this court case.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Town Laptop Use Policy: Mayor James presented a proposed policy for the Council's consideration and approval. Council Member Bridgeman requested time to review the draft. There were no other comments and the issue was tabled until the next Worksession. The Mayor reiterated that Town issued lap tops were for Town business and it had been brought to Town staff's attention someone had been downloading materials from unauthorized sources.


PY 43: Bid Opening/Contractor approval: Town Clerk McAuley reported the Town Engineer had reviewed all the bid documents and recommended the Town approve the low bid from E&R. The Town received three bids for this project. This will be voted on at the Council Meeting to follow.

August Recess: Council Member Ficklin moved to recess from the Council Worksession and the Council Meeting in August; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion. Council Members Ficklin and Dorsey and Mayor James voted yea; Council Member Bridgeman voted Nay and the motion passed three to one.

Portable Sign: Chief Stone reported the sign will be used for communicating public safety information and special events. The funding will be appropriated from Highway User revenues and the cost will be a maximum of \$17,000 for one sign. The Treasurer has put this expense in Capital Outlay. Council asked staff to get prices on speed cameras and a portable light tower.

V. ADJOURNMENT: At 6:52, Council Member Ficklin moved to adjourn; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia A. McAuley
Town Clerk