

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2019 7:00 P.M.**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council Members Bridgeman, Dorsey, Lundy and Mendoza present.
- II. **OPENING PRAYER:** Council Member Dorsey gave the opening prayer.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Police Explorers led the Pledge.
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 8, 2019 Council Meeting:** Council Member Lundy moved to approve the April 2019 Council Meeting minutes as presented; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- V. **RECOGNITION OF CODE OFFICER CRUZ, LT. COWLING, AND POLICE OFFICER BROWN:** Mayor James and Chief Stone recognized Code Officer Cruz for her caring assistance during a resident's medical incident while awaiting the arrival of EMTs. Lt. Cowling and Officer Brown were recognized for their assistance to an overdose victim by performing CPR and administering Narcan.
- VI. **PERSONNEL RECOGNITION:** The Mayor and Council, staff and residents recognized Chief Stone for his thirty years of service as a Bladensburg Police Officer and his additional time as a Police Dispatcher.
- VII. **PROCLAMATION: POLICE WEEK:** Mayor James announced we are recognizing Police Week in the United States and read a proclamation declaring May 12th through May 17th Police Week in the Town of Bladensburg, recognizing all law enforcement officers in Bladensburg and across the country.
- VIII. **PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE UPDATES:** Rene Green announced the upcoming Memorial Day Observance and the "What the Flag Means to Me" essay contest.
- IX. **RECESS FOR CONSTANT YIELD PUBLIC HEARING:** Public Comments limited to Constant Yield (three minutes per speaker) Council Member Bridgeman moved to recess the Council Meeting and Open the Public Hearing; Council Member Mendoza seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer Tinelli explained the financial concept of the Constant Yield Tax Rate which keeps tax revenues at the same level as the previous year by offsetting the increase of assessed property values with a lower real property tax rate. This is a required annual process under direction of the MD State Department of Assessments and Taxation.

REOPENING COUNCIL MEETING: Council Member Lundy moved to close the public hearing and reopen the Council Meeting; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

X. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (three minutes per speaker):** Members of the audience were giving the opportunity to comment on issues of interest to the Town.

XI. **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS:** The Mayor and Council gave updates on activities they participated in during the month of April 2019. A copy of Mayor James' and Council Member Lundy's written reports are available through the Town Clerk's office and on the Town website

**Council Member Dorsey
Council Member Bridgeman
Council Member Mendoza
Council Member Lundy
Mayor James**

XII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Staff gave departmental highlights for April 2019. Written copies of Staff Departmental updates on activities of interest during April 2019 were made available at the meeting. Additionally, copies of the reports are available through the Town Clerk's office and on the Town Website.

**Code Enforcement
Public Works
Public Safety
Finance
Marketing
Town Clerk
Town Administrator**

XIII. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS (NONE SCHEDULED)**

XIV. **FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

Ordinance 2-2019: To Adopt Budget & Set Real Property Tax: First Reading Town Clerk: Town Clerk McAuley performed the First Reading.

XV. **NEW BUSINESS**

Emergency Ordinance 3-2019: Amended Campaign Finance Law: Council Member Lundy moved to approve Emergency Ordinance 3-2019 as presented; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion. The motion passed, four to one, with Council

Member Dorsey, Lundy, and Mendoza, and Mayor James in favor; Council Member Bridgeman opposed.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:15 p.m., Council Member Lundy moved to adjourn; Council Member Dorsey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. McAuley
Town Clerk