

**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**Work Session Minutes**  
**June 17, 2019**  
**8:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance**

Mayor Alan K. Thompson  
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1  
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2  
CM David Lingua, Ward 3

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager  
Paul Smith, Finance and Employee Services Director  
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk  
Ivy Lewis, Public Projects and Services Director  
Kevin Simpson, Development Services Director

**Call to Order**

Mayor Thompson called the Work Session to order at 8:06 p.m.

**Agenda Approval**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Thompson thanked everyone for making the Centennial Kickoff event great and deferred the rest of his report to the July 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative Meeting.

**Presentation**

Bates Trucking Company, Inc.

Public Projects and Services Director Ivy Lewis introduced Bruce Bates and Ylrico Alexander of Bates Trucking. Director Lewis gave an overview of items included in the new contract with Bates and what residents could expect.

Mr. Ylrico Alexander stated that Bates was committed to providing the highest level of service and outlined ways that they planned to deliver on that commitment. Mr. Bruce Bates, President of Bates Trucking, also stated that they were committed to working with the Town and addressing issues.

CM Dixon stated that she was hearing the same comments and complaints repeatedly. CM Dixon provided an overview of the types of complaints that she has received and stated that she had also received pictures of spillage.

CM Lingua stated that the Town had contracted with Bates 10 years ago and discussed his ongoing concerns to include the condition of equipment and collection practices. CM Lingua stated that he questioned the company's commitment to excellence. CM Lingua also stated that he understood that trash collection was a difficult and sometimes thankless job.

Mr. Bates stated that he had been in the industry for nearly 20 years and discussed some of the national trends that were impacting service delivery.

CM Faulx stated that he hoped that the next year would be better and that he would not have three out of four emails that he received be about trash complaints.

A resident of Riverdale Park Station stated that smaller trucks were needed for their neighborhood and they had to call nearly every week about trash issues.

A resident noted that they had encountered issues with the Bates Customer Service staff providing inaccurate information.

Another resident of Riverdale Park Station stated that they had difficulty finding their trash cans after collection because cans were not returned to the same place they were picked up.

Mayor Thompson stated that he most often heard complaints about missed pickups and spillage. He stated that under the new contract Bates would have 24 hours to resolve both issues.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Town Manager's Report**

Town Manager John N. Lestitian reported:

- AEDs had purchased and most of the staff team had been trained on how to use them. One AED would be located in each building and staff would arrange for training for the Mayor and Council, if desired.
- Countdown to the Centennial event was great and brought the community together!
- Summer Youth Employment Program starts on June 24<sup>th</sup> and six interns would be working on projects for the Town

### **Council Committee & Ward Reports**

#### **CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1**

CM Marsha Dixon deferred her report to the July 1<sup>st</sup> Legislative Meeting.

#### **CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2**

CM Aaron Faulx congratulated staff on a fantastic Centennial Kickoff event and thanked them for their hard work.

#### **CM David Lingua, Ward 3**

CM David Lingua reported that the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation's (CKAR CDC) Capital Campaign would begin soon to raise money for Sarvis Café project.

### **Discussion Items**

1. Variance request for 4606 Queensbury Road for variances of 5 feet front yard depth and 9.9 percent net lot area (Ward 1)

Mayor Thompson asked for an update on mitigation discussions. Applicant Bruce Wernek stated that he had sent an e-mail to the Mayor and Council with additional information.

CM Dixon discussed her rationale for seeking mitigation for the requested lot coverage variance. Mr. Wernek discussed the topography of his property. Mayor Thompson stated that the goal of storm water management was to manage water on the site.

Mr. Wernek discussed possible grading adjustments to his property to help mitigate runoff. CM Lingua discussed his concerns regarding the impact on neighboring properties.

CM Faulx stated that the Rain Check Rebate Program through Prince George's County and Chesapeake Bay Trust provided incentives for homeowners that utilize practices that improve stormwater runoff.

## 2. Proposed Amendments to DSP-13009-15 (Riverdale Park Station)

Larry Taub, attorney for TRP-RPS; gave an overview of the requested amendments to DSP-13009-15 (Riverdale Park Station):

- Increase the height of two multi-family residential buildings (buildings 7 and 8) to seven (7) stories (originally projected to be 3 – 6 stories); and
- Allow walls for the buildings to have windows occupying less than 40 percent of the wall area; and
- Allow the addition of a trolley car on a parcel near one of the buildings (building 7).

Mark Regulinski of Calvin Cafritz Enterprises introduced Jim Voelzke, of MV&A architects to give a detailed overview of the amendments and the rationale for each. The Council and public had the opportunity to ask questions or request clarity.

CM Lingua asked if there was consideration given for having retail on the bottom floors of the buildings or a community area. Mr. Voelzke discussed the rationale for their design.

Resident Josh Clayton of Riverdale Park Station discussed his concerns regarding traffic flow and congestion.

A member of the public asked how guest parking would be addressed and Mr. Voelzke explained that guest parking would be included in the parking structure.

A member of the public reminded the presenters to take into consideration the amount of people moving around in the space and Mr. Regulinski stated that consultants with expertise in the various fields had been contracted for the project.

Mayor Thompson reported that the Riverdale Park Mixed-Used Town Center Local Design Review Committee had recommended approval of the requested amendments.

3. Charter Amendment: Article VI Finance, Section 623 Competitive Bidding

Town Manager Lestitian gave an overview of the requested amendment to section 623 of the Town Charter to allow for piggybacking on governmental contracts. Town Manager Lestitian stated that the subject would come back to the Mayor and Council at the August Work Session.

CM Lingua stated that he did not have an issue with the proposed Charter Amendment.

Resident Sheila Smith stated that verification was needed to show that the contract being piggybacked on had been competitively bid.

4. Establishing a consistent speed limit on Town and County roadways within school zones

Town Manager Lestitian stated that as part of the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Initiative that was launched in January, staff explored all opportunities available to improve safety. Town Manager Lestitian reported that the State gives municipalities the ability to have speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour on roads owned by the municipality or County, within their jurisdiction.

Town Manager Lestitian stated that the staff recommendation was to have a consistent speed limit of 20 miles per hour in all school zones in Town.

Mayor Thompson suggested that a Templeton Elementary school zone also be included. Mayor Thompson stated that any changes would be a multi-step process.

A resident asked if the designation of additional school zones would increase penalties for speeding. Town Manager Lestitian stated he was unsure about any impact to penalties for speeding but most of the school zones had already been established in the Town Code.

5. Town acquisition of bicycle racks for Riverdale Elementary School

Town Clerk Jessica Barnes gave an overview of the planned acquisition of bicycle racks for Riverdale Elementary School (RES) students.

CM Lingua discussed his concerns regarding usage of the bicycle racks. Town Clerk Barnes reported that Riverdale Elementary School Principal Natiqia Riley stated that the students would like to be able to ride their bikes to school but RES needed bicycle racks to make that possible.

Town Manager Lestitian stated that staff also planned to acquire bicycle locks and helmets for RES.

6. Minutes

Mayor Thompson requested that the Council make staff aware of any changes that were needed to the minutes.

## **Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

**Town of Riverdale Park**  
**Special Legislative Meeting Minutes**  
**June 17, 2019**

**In Attendance**

Alan K. Thompson, Mayor  
CM Marsha Dixon, Ward 1  
CM Aaron Faulx, Ward 2  
CM David Lingua, Ward 3

John N. Lestitian, Town Manager  
Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk  
Ivy Lewis, Public Projects and Services Director

**Call to Order**

Mayor Thompson called the Special Legislative meeting to order at 10:50 p.m.

**Approval of the Agenda**

CM Lingua made a motion to approve the Special Legislative meeting agenda for June 17, 2019 as amended. The motion was seconded by CM Dixon. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)

*Discussion:*

Legislative Action Item 2 was removed from the agenda.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Legislative Action Items**

1. Motion to approve residential trash, yard waste, and bulk item collection agreement with Bates Trucking Company, Inc.

CM Faulx made a motion to approve a residential trash, yard waste, and bulk item collection agreement with Bates Trucking Company, Inc. The motion was seconded by CM Lingua Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

*Discussion:*

CM Lingua and CM Faulx thanked staff for creating a more defined and detailed agreement with Bates.

- ~~2. Motion to authorize Town Manager to send a letter to Prince George's County Board of Zoning Appeals regarding variance request for 4606 Queensbury Road for variances of 5 feet front yard depth and 9.9 percent net lot area (Ward 1)~~
3. Motion to suspend the requirements of § 623: Competitive Bids of the Town Charter based on a finding of exigent circumstances for Longfellow Street Storm Water Management project

CM Lingua made a motion to suspend the requirements of § 623: Competitive Bids of the Town Charter, based on a finding of exigent circumstances for the Longfellow Street Storm Water Management project. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 4-0 (favorable)

*Discussion:*

Public Projects and Services Director Ivy Lewis provided an overview of the request and the project.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

**Adjournment**

CM Lingua made a motion to adjourn the Special Legislative Meeting at 11:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by CM Faulx. Vote: 3-0-1 (favorable, Mayor Thompson abstained)