

City of Mount Rainier Maryland Mayor and Council Meeting

Date: 12-2-2008

Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier Md. 20712

Presiding Officer: Mayor Malinda Miles

Councilmember's present: Jimmy Taralu, Pedro Briones, Alta Morton and Bryan Knedler

Councilmember's absent: none

Staff present: City Manager Jeannelle Wallace and City Clerk Janis Lomax

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm

Review agenda

Add Economic Commission for the 47th District

Authorize staff to send out holiday cards

Motion to approve

Councilman Briones

Second Councilman Tarlau

Vote 3-0

Ward II

Councilman Briones:

We had a great meeting to discuss community crime concerns and municipal enforcement of code enforcement.

We had some concrete action items two of them involved changing the county code for public drinking and public urination to add a penalty provision. We have talked about setting up a liquor committee with some residents and we have a commitment from one of our liquor stores.

Ward I

Councilman Tarlau:

There will be two holiday affairs on 12-6-08. One is the Mount Rainier Crafts Fair held at Joe's Movement from 10:am til 4:pm and the other is the Gateway Arts District Fine Arts and Crafts from 10:am til 4: pm on 12-13-08.

Mayor Miles:

If things continue the way they are going we are looking to have a completed skate park by September 2009. I have a meeting with Senator Harrington to put together an economic committee in the 47th district that will pool the resources so we'll be able to go after some of the bailout money. The commission would be composed of the eight municipalities, four from non-profits and three CDC'S. The goal is to meet two to three times before December is over.

I participated in the Chief's meeting and they are issuing a letter of support for the speed cameras. We think the cameras are needed and necessary and the revenue should come to the city or the municipalities. Mobile cameras will give us some coverage at the circle, bus stop and catch some speeders.

There have been some changes at our Gateway CDC. We would like to have our facades done on 34th street by fiscal year June 2009. We are waiting to have some dialogue on Brentwood and Mount Rainier haven one business district. MML is supporting the speed camera legislation. I'm suggesting that we write a letter on stating our position with the speed cameras and we would like to have them.

The Community First Meeting held by Senator Harrington will be Saturday December 6, at Turner Memorial AMC Church at 7601 16th Place, Hyattsville Md.20782

Councilwoman Morton:

I walk the plaza area and it's been quiet. The litter is a lot better. We would like to form a citizens policing program if you are interested please e-mail me at altamm1@yahoo.com.

I hope everyone had a good holiday.

City Manager Jeannelle Wallace:

As a follow to the municipal infraction meeting with Judge Love and the States Attorney Glenn Ivy, the Chief and I hosted a Town Hall meeting with residents of the Art Space Apts. There are several matters they are concerned about with structural issues. The city's engineer consultant is available to inspect the facility with our code officers next week.

I sat on a task force with several counties with health benefits initiatives with LIGIT. The goal is to provide additional benefits at a lower cost to the municipalities. With the assistance of Delegate Neiman we will be moving aggressively on one of our littered properties that public works has determined that there is 24.5 tons of debris and garbage on that property.

The concerns that the Council had about penalties and paying off the bonds have been given to our attorney. She indicated that there is no penalty.

Luther Smith Public Works Director:

Public Works have put in 48 new trees. The leaves were picked up today and we will still follow our regular schedule. We can no longer obtain recycle bins from College park because they have their names on them now. I contacted two other suppliers and it cost \$3,000.00 for 200 bins and that is the lowest amount that you can order. At this time we are asking the residents to put them in cardboard boxes. We now have to pay the county to take our recycle.

Councilman Briones:

Can we use a trash bin for recycling?

Luther Smith:

Yes

Councilman Tarlau:

There is a major problem with dumping on Thomas Stone School grounds.

Mayor Miles

I have a meeting scheduled with the school board representative. The meeting should be scheduled within two weeks and Chief Scott will be at the meeting. The other thing is to put up a gate or a fence to close it off and we will be posting signs no trespassing after dark and no dumping. We need to let the residents know that they can use other kinds of receptacles and it will be accepted so it should go in the message.

Chief Scott:

We have established a list of people that need to be banned from both liquor stores and we are putting up pictures of those whom we should not sell singles to. The most viable place to put a red light camera is the light at the bus terminal. We can move them from one location to another.

Treasurer Vijay Manjani:

The bond closing is scheduled for December 4, 2008 at 10: am and immediately following the closing of the Bass Property will take place.

Ordinance 8-2008 2nd reading.

The city will be borrowing a total of \$1,250,000.00 to cover the cost of closing and the purchase of the property and this also includes the demolition of the property. One week after closing the demolition process should begin.

Councilman Tarlau:

What's the total cost of closing?

Treasurer Manjani:

The closing charges will be approximately \$953,043.00 and the settlement charges are \$15,756.00. We will know the exact amount on 12-4-2008.

The demolition cost is \$48,000.00 and that is the least amount of three bidders.

Councilman Tarlau:

What will we be doing with the extra money for now?

Treasurer Manjani:

It will go into a escrow account.

Councilman Briones moves to adopt

Second: Councilwoman Morton

Vote 4-0

Councilman Knedler:

We might want to think about keeping the Bass sign for historic preservation.

Cheryl Derriocott Gateway CDC

Tonight we are here to ask your support an application for \$50,000.00 for operating support and this is a pilot project via housing lottery to make green home improvements to lower income families.

Resolution 23-2008

Move to adopt Councilman Briones

Second Councilwoman Morton

Councilman Tarlau:

Motion to say that Mount Rainier Mayor and Council participate in the 47th economic committee by having the Mayor attend those meetings.

Second Councilwoman Morton

Vote 4-0 passed

Motion to adjourn

Councilman Tarlau

Second Councilman Knedler

Vote 4-0