



Minutes for the City of Mount Rainier Maryland Mayor and Council Meeting

Date: 1-13-2009

Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier Md. 20712

Presiding officer: Mayor Malinda Miles

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

Councilmember's absent: None

Staff present:

City Manager Jeannelle Wallace, Assistant City Manager Michael Jackson

Chief Mike Scott, Public Works Director Luther Smith

Meeting called to order at 7:08 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Agenda

Move to adopt agenda

Councilman Bryan Knedler

Second Councilman Pedro Briones

Vote 3-0

Presentation from Derrick Woody (Washington D.C. Mayors Office)

Great Streets Initiative

This information is strictly in Ward 5 from 3rd Street to Eastern Avenue

We are pulling together a plan for Rhode Island Ave. 2.5 miles from the metro to Eastern Ave.

It is a public effort to invest in providing a catalyst for private investments on under utilized or under developed major corridors in the city.

The expected outcome for Rhode Island Avenue is to provide a realistic development program and investment strategy for the city as well as the private sector. We are accessing how long this will take and issues on zoning and how that might impact development and issues of financing.

We are looking at creating a jurisdictional arts district that would straddle Eastern Avenue about three blocks in the District of Columbia and three or four blocks in Mount Rainier. We are exploring that to if it is viable. We hope to start drafting the plan in April and present it to the Council in April and by June of 2009 hopefully the Council will have approved it.

Councilman Briones:

Someone asked about bringing back the trolley line and I encourage you to look at that.

Mr. Woody:

Currently there are no plans or budget to reinstate the trolley service on Rhode Island Avenue.

Councilman Briones:

I hope you would push that.

Councilmen Tarlau:

Which firms are you dealing with that are helping you design and what is the budget and expense.

Mr. Woody:

I have a list of them and the budget came in at \$275,000.00. Our website is dcbiz.dc.gov and look under great streets.

Sarah Chadwick (Neighborhood Design Center)

Buchanan Street Bio-Retention and Community Service Memorial Park

The bio-retention piece is at the corner of Buchanan and Gallatin and the southwest corner of Buchanan and Chillum. This park has been designed for the city and it's been presented to Park & Planning and the project is funded. Bio-retention is the management of storm water.

Councilman Briones:

I think people will drive over the curbs.

Sarah Chadwick:

The curbs are not in good shape and we are putting a six inch curb there so I don't think they will drive over it. A new curb would provide a visual delineation.

Councilman Tarlau:

I don't know it's funded and that's a huge step.

Sarah Chadwick: Presenting the Design for the Mount Rainier Community Design Memorial
All plants were selected with height in mind and they are about 3 feet.

Motion to accept minutes

Councilman Briones

Second Councilwoman Morton

With any corrections to Ms. Lomax by the close of business Friday

Vote 4-1

Official Reports

Ward I

Councilwoman Morton: Please keep your yards clean the city is serious about keeping your property clean.

Mayor Miles:

There will be more public hearings on the skate park.

The city has been notified that there will be cuts on Highway User Funds

The website is up

The new trash truck is almost here

Councilman Tarlau:

I think that the bridge repairs should be put on our project list.

City Manager Jeannelle Wallace:

The bridge repairs are already approved under CDBG. We were approved \$100,000.00 and we requested \$400,000.00

Staff met with Eastern Star about the rod iron gates and they approved.

There has been an increase in the Metro Police presence and they are out here daily.

Our new website is user friendly. I would like to give a personal thanks to Sandra Joseph she was the one that got us started. There are RFP for the pavement of the Parking Lot of the bass property.

Mayor Miles;

Set a date and raze the Bass property.

Luther Smith: Public Works Director

January 31, will be the last day to pick up Christmas trees. You can bring them to 3715 Wells Ave. and drop your trees off.

Jeannelle Wallace City Manager:

Luther please make a list of all sink holes and give them to me.

On Inauguration Day only essential personnel which is public works and Assistant City Manager and myself.

Chief Scott: Police Chief

Our vehicles won't be here until February.

I'd like to thank everyone for coming out to the rewards breakfast.

Residents are encouraged to take public transportation on Inaugural Day.

Resident Therese Niemal

I am asking the Council to please do something about dogs off their leaches because I was bitten.

Councilman Briones:

I agree we need to do more about this.

Resolution 1-2009 (Budget Calendar) A Resolution setting the calendar of events for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2010

Councilman Briones:

On March 9, 2009 when you submit a proposal can we also have the presentation?

April 7th work-session will be on the budget

The public hearing and first reading will be on 4-21-09

On May 5th 2009 we will have the second reading and vote.

Above is the calendar for this budget.

Move to accept the amended budget schedule

Councilwoman Morton

Second Councilman Briones

Vote 4-0

First Reading

Ordinance 1-2009 (An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of City of Mount Rainier General Obligation Bond 1-2009 for the Purpose of Financing the Acquisition of Three Police Vehicles and One Trash Truck.)

First Reading

Ordinance 2-2009 (An Ordinance Authorizing a Red Light Enforcement Camera Program in the City.)

K-Mart Food Liquor License

Motion that Mayor & Council will send a letter in strong opposition to liquor license for K-Food

Councilman Briones

Second Councilwoman Morton

Vote 4-0

Motion to adjourn

Councilman Briones

Second Councilwoman Morton

Vote 4-0