



Minutes for City of Mount Rainier  
Mayor and Council Meeting

**Date: 1-5-2010**

**Place: One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier MD 20712**

**Presiding officer: Mayor Malinda Miles**

**Councilmember's present: Bryan Knedler, Jimmy Tarlau and Ivy Thompson**

**Councilmember's absent: Alta Morton**

**Staff present:**

**City Manager Jeannelle Wallace, Treasurer Vijay Manjani, Chief Scott, Public Works Director Luther Smith and City Clerk Janis Lomax**

**Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Review agenda**

**Moved to approve minutes with all corrections in by Friday.**

**Councilmember Tarlau**

**Second Councilman Knedler**

**Vote 3-0**

**Moved to accept agenda**

**Councilman Knedler**

**Second Councilman Tarlau**

**Vote 3-0**

**Franchise with Comcast and Verizon**

**Ms. Carmen Bailey Walker is with Comcast and the Director of Government Affairs.**

**Mayor Miles:**

**I am getting complaints from our residents and what is the turn around time on answering complaints.**

**They are calling customer service and not getting any results.**

**Ms. Walker:**

**Customers can call in a service or go to the website and schedule a service. The technicians should respond within 1-2 days. If there are no results then give Ms. Bailey a call and she will refer you to a person that does customer related issues. Comcast puts out an annual notice on what customers should do with these kinds of problems. We have local offices in Lanham, Largo and Bowie Maryland's City Hall.**

**Councilman Tarlau:**

**I've been getting complaints that some parts of the city can't get FIOS**

**Mr. Jason Grove: Comcast**

**Verizon will address all customer issues. The build out has not come to the areas that the residents are calling from. I will have the company give you a report on when the company will complete the build out**

**Councilman Knedler:**

**We will update our website on where to go with complaints.**

Congressman Chris Van Hollen's representative Julius West updated the council on the appropriations for the radios for the police department. The city will receive the radios.

### Reports

Mayor Miles gave apologies to the residents of Mount Rainier for the inadequate job public works did with the snow blizzard. We have a plan that's going into operation so this won't occur again.

**Luther Smith Public Works Director:**

Mr. Smith gave apologies to residents for the inadequate job public works did during the blizzard and promised that the department will be ready for the next snow. Also, I'd like to inform the residents that the city's sweepers will not pick up wet leaves and you will have to bag them.

**Councilman Tarlau:**

The 100<sup>th</sup> year kick off will be on January 23, 2010 and there will be banners hung around the city and at City Hall. There is also a ceremony with the raising of the flag and bumper stickers and bicentennial books for sale. Each item will be sold for \$5.00.

**Councilman Knedler:**

If you want to receive tax assessments you must fill out page two to get homestead tax credits and you can go to website and fill out the form.

**Councilwoman Thompson:**

I'd like to thank the staff for work well done.

**Mayor Miles"**

Come and join us for the MLK Day program at Joe's Movement Emporium on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

The exam for jobs with the Census is given here at City Hall on some Saturday's. Please call and schedule.

**Ms. Jeannelle Wallace City Manager:**

The city now has a written emergency plan and will issue copies to the Mayor and Council. The city will be submitting a request to MEMA for expenditures on equipment repair. The city maybe eligible for re-cooping some of our cost for equipment repairs through our insurance carrier LIGIT.

The CDBG request is now being reviewed by the administrative review for the county and we've been told that the city will receive \$300,000.00 for our projects in the pipeline.

1. Four bridge repairs
2. Curb replacement at Joe's Movement Emporium on Bunker Hill Rd.
3. Curb and gutter replacement on Chillum Rd. and Buchanan Street.
4. Kaywood lighting improvement
5. Curb replacement in the 4000 blk of 31<sup>st</sup> Street
6. Curb replacement in the 3800 blk. of 31<sup>st</sup> Street
7. Curb replacement in the 3800 blk of 30<sup>th</sup> Street
8. 35<sup>th</sup> Street alley re-pavement

The above projects have been approved for this round. We are asking the Council to give us their priorities from the numerous lists we've created. As a result of funding received for the weatherization project the city submitted an RFP to the Washington Post for Rainier Manor Apartments and there were no responses. The city will re-advertise. Part of the problem could be that the contractors have to be energy star certified and a lot of contractors don't have that certification.

The fiscal year audit went smoothly and we got our uniform financial report to the state on time.

**Chief Scott:**

The police department has put out information on several communication lines about the snow emergency route so people will be informed. There's been 23% reduction in crime for the year. The city had 112 fewer crimes in 2009 than in 2008. The city will get \$68,000.00 for radios from a grant we submitted.

The city doesn't have dispatch with the county because it reduces the amount of tax dollars we bring to the city. We are more responsive when we have more control over the process. The city went live with the speed camera on 34<sup>th</sup> Street. If you are in excess of 12 miles per hour you will get a citation. We are still working with Opto Traffic to get our permits from State Highway Administration to put our cameras on Queens Chapel Road and Rhode Island Ave. in front of St. James Church. The city is looking into on line payments.

**Luther Smith Director of Public Works:**

Public Works does have a schedule to pick up Christmas trees and yard waste the month of January on Mondays. We have the speed humps and will be placing them very soon. The signs have been put up for the cameras.

**Unfinished Business**

**Ordinance 11-2009 Amending reuse collection service chapter 11 of the city code.**

**A 33 gallon container doesn't have to be a water tight container**

**Listed under special bulk trash is refrigerators, tires and air conditioners, we put them back under regular bulk where they should be. Stoves and dryers are not special bulk they are regular bulk trash.**

**There has been some confusion about construction waste and building waste. The city does not pick up construction waste or hazardous household waste and lumber cannot be larger than four feet.**

**Ms. Wallace:**

**What constitute special bulk trash are the size and pick up on a non-bulk trash day.**

**For fees on air conditioners, freezers refrigerators and tires see section 11-109 bulk trash correction.**

**Air conditioners, freezers and refrigerators are picked up as part of bulk trash collection for a fee of \$25.00.**

**Tires are picked up for a fee of \$5.00 and if they have a re the fee is \$7.00**

**Pg. 2 of 5 you're putting back in quantities.**

**Pg. 4 water tight is being removed**

**111-A right away should be hyphenated**

**Yard waste in access of should be the wording**

**Move to adopt amendments to ordinance 11-2009**

**Councilman Knedler**

**Second Councilman Tarlau**

**Vote 3-0**

**Move to adopt ordinance 11-2009 as amended**

**Councilman Knedler**

**Second Councilman Tarlau**

**Vote 3-0**

**Chief Walker from the town of Edmonston would like to become partners with Mount Rainier.**

**Chief Scott wants the Mayor and Council to approve the addition of the Edmonston Police department and the University Park police department into our MOU.**

**Motion to support adding the towns of Edmonston and University Park to our MOU**

**Councilman Tarlau**

**Second Councilwoman Thompson**

**Vote 3-0**

**Resolution 2-2010 First Reading**

**Motion to approve**

**Councilman Tarlau**

**Second Councilwoman Thompson**

**Vote 3-0**

**Ordinance 1-2010 First Reading Authorizing the issuance and sale of the Mount Rainier general obligation bond with the purpose of funding.**

**The signature sheet for the 3800 Blk of 37<sup>th</sup> Street needs more signatures in order to be considered for the speed hump.**

**Motion to adjourn  
Councilman Tarlau  
Second Councilwoman Thompson  
Vote 3-0**