



# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

JANUARY 2021

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## HOLIDAY REFUSE SCHEDULE

### New Year

Mon	12/28/20	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, No
Tue	12/29/20	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, So
Wed	12/30/20	Town-wide Recycling
Thu	12/31/20	CLOSED - NO PICKUP
Fri	01/01/21	CLOSED - NO PICKUP

### MLK Day

Mon	01/18/21	CLOSED - NO PICKUP
Tue	01/19/21	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, No
Wed	01/20/21	Trash, Bulk, Yardwaste, So
Thu	01/21/21	Town-wide Recycling
Fri	01/22/21	Town-wide Trash

Please do NOT leave trash out over a holiday



### Advertising Rates For the BH Bulletin

TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
<b>EIGHTH (1/8) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$30.00	\$36.00
6 Months	\$162.00	\$192.00
12 Months	\$230.00	\$336.00
<b>QUARTER (1/4) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$50.00	\$72.00
6 Months	\$270.00	\$384.00
12 Months	\$384.00	\$672.00
<b>HALF (1/2) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$100.00	\$144.00
6 Months	\$540.00	\$768.00
12 Months	\$768.00	\$1,344.00
<b>FULL PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$200.00	\$288.00
6 Months	\$1,080.00	\$1,536.00
12 Months	\$1,536.00	\$2,688.00

## CoVID-19 Town Government Operations

Town Hall remains closed to the public. Administration and Code Compliance are working in shifts in the Town office and from home. Police and Public Works continue to provide services in person in a safe manner.

- Public meetings held by video conference, broadcast on Comcast 71 or FiOS 12 and streamed on website;
- Licenses and permit applications to be submitted to Code Department by US mail or e-mailed to [zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov).
- Rental inspections suspended until further notice;
- Emergency notary service performed by BHPD at 5411 Berwyn Rd. Call 301-474-6774 to inquire.
- All payments to be submitted by check via US mail to 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.

Check Town website for the latest updates

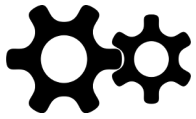
<https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/>

## Operaciones del gobierno municipal de COVID-19

El ayuntamiento permanece cerrado al público. Departamentos de Administración y Cumplimiento del Código están trabajando en turnos en la oficina de la ciudad y de forma remota. La policía y las obras públicas están de servicio con personal completo.

- Reuniones públicas realizadas por videoconferencia, transmitidas en Comcast 71 o FiOS 12 y transmitidas en el sitio web;
- Las solicitudes de licencias y permisos deben enviarse al Departamento del Código por correo de los EE. UU. O enviarse por correo electrónico a [zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov).
- Inspecciones de alquiler suspendidas hasta nuevo aviso;
- Servicio notarial de emergencia realizado por BHPD en 5411 Berwyn Rd. Llame al 301-474-6774 para preguntar.
- Todos los pagos se enviarán mediante cheque por correo de USPS a 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740.

Visite el sitio web para obtener la información más reciente <https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/>



# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

[Publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:Publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov) TEL: 301-474-6897

## Colección de hojas de acera Terminó en diciembre

Por favor, coloque sus hojas en bolsas de basura de jardín de papel marrón ahora o en los contenedores de basura de jardín designados. Se recogerán los días de recolección de desechos de jardín.

### Barrido de calles

La barredora de calles está en la ciudad del 28 al 31 de diciembre y nuevamente del 1 al 5 de febrero. Por favor, estacione su automóvil en la calle cuando vea la barredora de calles en su área.

### Reciclaje de Electrónica

Greenbelt planea recolectar reciclaje electrónico el sábado 23 de enero de 9 am a 12 pm. Los artículos aceptados incluyen televisores, CPU, monitores, teclados, ratones, impresoras, computadoras portátiles, equipos de grabación, parlantes, escáneres, protectores contra sobretensiones, cables y cables de alimentación, máquinas de fax, cámaras, teléfonos, radios, reproductores de DVD, VCR, baterías pegadas en uno. fin. Además, bloquee el poliestireno n. ° 6. Reciclaje de pintura: cuesta \$ 5 por contenedor. NO MEZCLE PINTURA en otros recipientes. Para obtener información, llame al 240-542-2153.

### Reemplazo de la tubería principal de agua WSSC

WSSC está trabajando actualmente en College Park Estates y no espera regresar a Berwyn Heights en un futuro cercano. Si desea mantenerse actualizado sobre este proyecto WSSC, puede registrarse en [wsscwater.com/CNS](http://wsscwater.com/CNS) para recibir correos electrónicos y / o alertas de texto.

## Curbside Leaf Collection Ended in December

Please place your leaves into brown paper yard waste bags now or into designated yard waste bins. They will be picked up on yard waste collection days.

### Street Sweeping

The street sweeper is in Town December 28 - 31 and again February 1 - 5. Please park your car off the street when you see the street sweeper in your area.

### Electronics Recycling

Greenbelt is currently planning to collect electronic recycling on Saturday, January 23rd from 9 am to 12pm. Accepted items include TVs, CPUs, monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, laptops, recording equipment, speakers, scanners, surge protectors, wires & power cords, fax machines, cameras, telephones, radios, DVD players, VCRs, batteries taped on one end. Also, block Styrofoam #6. Paint recycling – cost \$5 per container. DO NOT MIX PAINT in other containers. For information call 240-542-2153.

### WSSC Water Main Replacement

WSSC is currently working in College Park Estates and does not expect to return to Berwyn Heights in the near future. If you would like to be kept updated on this WSSC project, you may sign-up at [wsscwater.com/CNS](http://wsscwater.com/CNS) to receive emails and/or text alerts.

## **HOW WE PLOW TOWN STREETS / CÓMO ARRANCAMOS LAS CALLES**

When snow or ice shows signs of sticking to the ground, Public Works begins applying salt/ ice-melt to roads and walkways. Plowing of roads begins once snow accumulation reaches 2". Residents can assist Public Works by moving their vehicles off the road during snow plowing operations, where possible.

Cuando la nieve o el hielo muestran signos de pegarse al suelo, Obras Públicas comienza a aplicar sal / hielo derretido a las carreteras y pasarelas. El arado de las carreteras comienza una vez que la acumulación de nieve alcanza 2 ". Los residentes pueden ayudar a Obras Públicas al mover sus vehículos fuera de la carretera durante las operaciones de arado de nieve donde sea posible.

Amount of Snow	Time to Make Roads Passable	Time to Fully Clear Roads
< 4 inches	4-6 hours	1 day
4-6 inches	6-8 hours	2-3 days
> 6 inches	8+ hours	3-5 days



## Worksession Minutes November 2, 2020

This meeting was held by videoconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Amanda Dewey, Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Christopher Brittan-Powell, Jason Papanikolas, and Ethan Sweep. CM Brittan Powell joined the meeting at 7:07 p.m. Also present were Interim Town Manager (ITM) Laura Allen, and Town Clerk Kerstin Harper.

### 1. Announcements

Mayor Dewey made announcements regarding the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election, encouraging voters to check whether their absentee ballots were received and cautioning that the election results may not be known on the day of the election.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

CM Sweep moved to approve the agenda. MPT Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The agenda was adopted 4 to 0.

### 3. Discussion Items

**Employee handbook update:** ITM Allen explained there are several outstanding personnel policy matters that need to be included in the Employee Handbook. One is a Council Rule setting forth a Take-Home Vehicle and Locality Pay policy for BHPD that was earmarked for being added to the Employee Handbook. She has worked with Chief Antolik to update this policy and align it with current Town code and BHPD practice. In the only substantive change, responsibility for determining participation in the Take-Home Vehicle policy is shifted from the Town Council to the Town Manager, consistent with Ordinance 121, Section A. Further, two employee benefits approved in the FY 2020 and FY 2021 budgets, which funds limited holiday pay for part-time employees and short-term disability insurance, would be formally incorporated into the handbook.

In response to MPT Kulpa-Eddy, ITM Allen said she believes the difference between sick leave and short-term disability is that the latter covers a longer-term disability and kicks in after sick leave is used up. She will check and provide more information. With no further questions, the Council agreed to place adoption of the Employee Handbook updates on the November Town meeting agenda.

**Draft CIP policy:** Mayor Dewey explained that the drafting of a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) policy was the result of Council discussions about sidewalk construction, as recommended by the Walkable, Bikeable Berwyn Heights (WBBH) Task Force. The Council initially considered adopting a

Council Rule to consider sidewalk construction whenever a road improvement project is planned but was advised by ITM Allen that a CIP policy might be more appropriate.

ITM Allen provided a draft CIP policy, which provides a framework by which to rank, score and evaluate capital projects. She explained that capital improvement planning would be a mostly staff-driven process, informed by a set of criteria set forth in the policy. The CIP would be considered by the Council as part of the annual budget process, during which the Council could make changes to the plan as needed. One component of the policy pertains to multi-year projects, which may at some point be considered in a CIP. The policy also has a requirement for developing a financing plan for capital projects, for submitting regular reports, and for developing CIP procedures.

In discussion the following points were made:

- A CIP policy might reference citizen groups/ task forces, generally, rather than WBBH, specifically, as entities that could provide input on the capital planning process.
- Feasibility, impact on traffic patterns, and overall cost/ benefit calculations should be additional criteria for evaluating whether sidewalks or bikeways will be part of a capital improvement project rather than cost-effectiveness alone.
- Cost-effectiveness could be understood to include a cost/ benefit analysis. A definition of this term, or other clarifying language, will be added to the policy.
- A CIP may yield savings from economies of scale when related projects are bundled together.
- Long-term capital projects may exceed one Council term and not reflect priorities of the most recent Council. The governing Council always has the option to cancel a project but may incur losses of funds already invested.
- Expensive, long-term projects should have support from the community. Citizen referenda are a formal way to obtain public approval for large scale projects, but it is the Council's job to understand public opinion and work with the community when launching large projects.

The Council agreed to consider a revised CIP policy at an upcoming Town meeting.

Code monthly statistics: Mayor Dewey said this item is on the agenda because the Council wanted to discuss the Code Department's monthly reports in greater detail after a question was asked at the last Town meeting about a statistic that tracks increases and decreases of rental homes.

In discussion, the following points were made:

- Monthly reports lack context and don't always provide actionable information.
- Reports should include meaningful interpretation of data for residents.
- Graphs and charts are useful to track data over longer periods of time and to spot trends but the charts in current reports are too small to decipher.
- Reports might include a brief narrative to highlight important developments and activities.
- Previous Councils discussed criteria for what type of information to include in monthly reports.
- Rental housing data can be used to inform staffing for rental home inspections.
- Clean lot violation data can be used to understand the impact of, or need for changes in regulations as set forth in Ordinances, as well as where more education of residents is needed.

ITM Allen will transmit the Council's comments to the Code Department to help improve its monthly reports.

**Public Works monthly reports:** Mayor Dewey said the Council also raised questions about the format of the Public Works monthly reports at the last Town meeting. Mayor Dewey expressed concern about the Town's current recycling rate of 16% as opposed to a national average of 25%. Information since obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Prince George's County recycling facility indicate there are nationwide problems in the recycling market, which may be related to an increasing contamination of the recycling stream.

There ensued discussion about how the recycling percentages, both national and municipal, are calculated. The Town's Public Works Department does not include appliances, bulk trash or electronics in its totals of mixed solid waste, while many neighboring jurisdictions do. This may affect how Berwyn Heights recycling rates compare to those of other municipalities.

Council agreed it would be useful to track Berwyn Heights' recycling rates over time to see if there is a positive trend, and to compare Berwyn Heights recycling rates to other municipalities of a similar size to understand recycling performance. In addition, Mayor Dewey will reach out to Sustainable Maryland for comparative recycling statistics and ITM Allen will work with Public Works to improve the reporting of recycling rates.

**Greenbelt Road Task Force update:** Mayor Dewey said Berwyn Heights

Councilmembers recently met with Greenbelt's and College Park's Councils to discuss improvements to the Greenbelt Road corridor. It was agreed to create a group that proactively monitors developments regarding Greenbelt Road, but no decision was made as to a possible structure and role of the group. The Councils expressed interest in involving existing citizen committees in the process. Councilmembers are requested to discuss the goals and structure of a joint task force.

In discussion, the following goals were identified:

- Greenbelt Road is Berwyn Heights' main street and economic development should be a priority of the task force in addition to pedestrian usability and aesthetic improvements.
- Berwyn Heights businesses should be represented through the Commercial District Management Authority (CDMA) because they own the properties in the commercial district.
- Greenbelt's interest in the redevelopment of Greenbelt Road may be less or different from Berwyn Heights'. Berwyn Heights may be expected to do the 'heavy lifting.'
- Berwyn Heights needs to collaborate with its neighbors to accomplish its goals because jurisdiction over Greenbelt Road is shared.
- Berwyn Heights, Greenbelt and College Park agreed that a task force should come up with a plan all involved municipalities endorse.
- Goals for redevelopment of Greenbelt Road should extend beyond the main street section and include better connectivity with its neighbors.

Comments regarding the organization of a task force included the following:

- Task Force should meet regularly, if possible, every 3 months.
- WBBH, Quality of Life Commission and PTA may be approached about participation.
- A set of concrete solutions for problem areas along Greenbelt Road should be presented.
- M-NCPPC's Sector Plan and ULI TAP are useful resources for identifying problems/solutions.
- Purpose of task force is to advocate for Greenbelt Road improvements with SHA and County Council.
- A smaller group of 1-2 representatives, including a Councilmember, from each city is likely to be more productive.

Council agreed to continue the discussion at upcoming Council meetings and to invite a CDMA member to participate in the discussion.

**Legislative dinner agenda:** Mayor Dewey

said each year the Council meets with its elected representatives at the state and local level to discuss legislative priorities. This year, the meeting will be virtual. Participants may be provided a gift card to order a dinner for themselves. The Council then confirmed December 1 as the dinner date and identified the following topics of discussion: stormwater management projects; Pepco vegetation management; Greenbelt Road corridor improvements; bond bill for Town Center improvements; education during pandemic; jurisdiction over basketball and tennis court on BHES property.

PGCMA legislative dinner attendance: Mayor Dewey, MPT Kulpa-Eddy, CM Sweep and CM Brittan Powell confirmed attendance.

#### 4. Department Reports

Mayor Dewey thanked everyone for a celebrating a safe Halloween. She said Prince George's County remains in Phase II of reopening because of rising COVID infections and that the Prince George's Police Reform Working Group will hold its final meeting on November 5. CM Brittan Powell reported an increasing use of the hockey rink at Sports Park, often by out-of-town players. The Town might consider renewing its efforts to enforce the permit requirement and repost signs regarding the permit requirements. Mayor Dewey said M-NCPPC has started to monitor use of its parks with trail cameras.

CM Sweep announced that the street sweeper is in Town and curbside leaf collection is now in progress. Leaves should be deposited at the curb on yard waste collections days.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy announced the winners of the Halloween house decorating contest and then reported that she attended a forum for M-NCPPC proposed multi-generational service centers, the closest of which would be at Prince George's Plaza and at Glenridge Community Park; that the BHEAC is working on a template for an education grant application; that the Neighborhood Watch will hold its first virtual meeting on November 4; and that a virtual trivia game is scheduled for November 13.

CM Brittan Powell reported that there are fewer tall grass violations with the change of season. He asked who is responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks and was informed that residents are required for removing snow from sidewalks in front of their property within 24 hours of the storm. However, the Code Department prefers to notify owners of their responsibility but hold off on fines.

CM Papanikolas reported that the Administration Department continues to perform routine work. He announced that any residents unemployed due to the pandemic are reminded that they must file an extended benefit application to continue to receive

unemployment benefits.

#### 5. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the upcoming schedule. No changes were made.

#### 6. Citizen Comments

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that Pepco's tree service contractors were trimming her trees and she is not happy with the results. Mayor Dewey noted that Pepco agreed to meet with the Town regularly to discuss any tree trimming plans beforehand. This is particularly pertinent for the trees in the SHA right of way along Edmonston Road. Since this area is not within the Town's boundaries Berwyn Heights is not consulted as a matter of course.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

### Town Meeting November 10, 2020

This meeting was held by videoconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

#### Call to Order 7:00 p.m.

Present were Mayor Amanda Dewey, Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Chris Brittan-Powell, Jason Papanikolas, and Ethan Sweep. Also present were Interim Town Manager (ITM) Laura Allen, Town Clerk Kerstin Harper, WSSC Government Affairs Manager Monica Marquina, Project Manager Bhusan Basnet, WSSC Contract Manager Onasanya Abolanle and Customer Advocate David Wilkins, and Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness Chair Mike Attick.

#### Pledge of Allegiance

#### 1. Announcements

Mayor Dewey announced that Town Offices will be closed for Veterans Day.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda

On a motion by CM Sweep and second by CM Papanikolas, the agenda was approved 5 to 0.

#### 3. Presentation

Mayor Dewey welcomed WSSC Government Affairs Manager Monica Marquina, Project Manager Bhusan Basnet, Contract Manager Onasanya Abolanle and Customer Advocate David Wilkins for a presentation of the Greenbelt Road watermain replacement project. Ms. Marquina introduced the WSSC team.

Mr. Basnet gave an overview of the project. He said WSSC is in the process of strategically replacing and rehabilitating its aging water and sewer pipes throughout the service area. The Greenbelt Road project will replace approximately 1.13 miles of water mains and service connec-

tions up to the property line along Greenbelt Road and Branchville Road between Kenilworth Avenue and Greenbelt Station Parkway. The new pipes are expected to last up to 100 years and reduce disruptions to the community due to water main breaks. Construction started in October this year and is expected to be completed by September 2021, with restoration work continuing through the summer of 2022.

Ms. Abolanle provided details of operation. She said construction will occur Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., plus nightwork, as needed, for multi-lane closures and service shutoffs. Notification of water shutoffs will be given 48-72 hours in advance. Construction will be open trench and activities may include field inspections, survey crews, test pits, construction crews, and noisy heavy machinery. Traffic impacts include lane closures and parking restrictions, but access to properties will be largely maintained. Relevant signage will be posted.

Mr. Basnet and Ms. Abolanle responded to question as follows:

- WSSC restoration work generally restores roadways and sidewalks to the conditions present prior to construction. No new features are added, but coordination with the County or State on road improvements is possible.
- The affected properties are mainly businesses, although a few residential properties close to Greenbelt Road may also be impacted.
- Access to businesses via driveways will be maintained as best as possible.
- WSSC has already notified Beltway Plaza and other business owners but is happy to work with the Town to get the word out about upcoming service disruptions.
- BHVFD has been included in the general notice of the project and will be notified again when construction takes place at 60th Avenue and Greenbelt Road.
- WSSC contractors will be advised not to drive heavy trucks and machinery on Town streets wherever possible.

#### 4. Public Hearing

**Ordinance 181-A – Budget Amendment for Server Replacement:** Mayor Dewey said this Ordinance would amend the FY 2021 budget to provide funding for replacement of a server that has recently experienced outages. Money was in last year's budget but was not used because the server was still working.

At 7:38 p.m., Mayor Dewey opened the public hearing on the budget amendment. Gerald Shields, Nevada Street, commented by telephone that he supports the purchase of a new server so the Council can continue to hold meetings and residents can access the Town website. With no further comments, Mayor Dewey closed the public hearing at

7:40 p.m.

**Ordinance 181-B – Budget Amendment for Architectural Study:** Mayor Dewey explained that this Ordinance amends the FY 2021 budget to reappropriate funds for an architectural study that was commissioned in FY 2020 but completed in FY 2021.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Dewey opened the public hearing. Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, inquired by telephone what the difference between the current and proposed new server is. ITM Allen replied that it would be functionally the same as the current server, i.e. a physical and not a cloud-based server, except newer. The current server is approximately 5 years old. A cloud-based server was explored but not chosen because it would require redesigning a host of related IT processes and it would make the Town dependent on the vendor that offers cloud-based servers.

Joan Hayden, Seminole Street, asked why the Town is not getting a server that works for the future and what the cost of a cloud-based server would be. Mayor Dewey replied the replacement server will work for the future. A cloud-based server may be considered long-term.

There were no comments on the architectural study. The hearing was closed at 7:49 p.m.

#### 5. Approval of Minutes

MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Sweep seconded to approve the October 5 worksession minutes. The minutes were approved 5 to 0. MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Sweep seconded to approve the October 14 Town meeting minutes. The minutes were approved 5 to 0.

#### 6. Mayor's Report

Mayor Dewey thanked everyone for complying with COVID-19 protocols and for voting in the Presidential Election. She then made announcements about progress with the tree planting program, application for a Maryland Smart Energy Communities grant, establishment of a Greenbelt Road Task Force and appointment of a Town Manager, which will be taken up under New Business.

Mayor Dewey also noted that COVID-19 infections are again on the rise and that it is important for everyone to stay vigilant and keep families and our community safe by following the directives.

#### 7. Department Reports

CM Papanikolas moved, and CM Sweep seconded to accept the department reports into the record. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Administration:** CM Papanikolas reported that Pepco will finish their tree trimming project this week, and that the Administration Department is working with the County

on the disbursement of CARES Act funds.

**Town Manager's Report:** ITM Allen reported that Berwyn Heights CARES Act funds are largely unspent because much of it is dedicated to the business relief program. To date, only a few incomplete applications have been received. Berwyn Heights has requested to reallocate some CARES Act funds to areas where it is needed, such as the Police Department's COVID-related expenses. Berwyn Heights is still waiting to receive the 2nd CARES Act disbursement. However, a deep cleaning of Town facilities, a CARES Act-eligible expense, has been scheduled for this weekend and another for early December. In other news, subscriptions to the e-newsletter are rising.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy asked several questions about the Treasurer's report. ITM Allen replied as follows: Real property tax receipts are expected to come in on budget. Although the October-November disbursement was less than budgeted, it is likely that the deficit will be made up with the coming disbursement in February-March. State Aide for Police Protection funds are disbursed quarterly. First quarter receipts are on target. Expenditures for the recruitment of a new Town Manager are booked under the 'miscellaneous' line item, whereas all COVID-related expenses are booked under 'employee wellness' for ease of tracking.

**Code Compliance:** CM Brittan-Powell said that Code staff continues to provide all code services in a fashion consistent with COVID-19 restrictions.

In response to a question from MPT Kulpa-Eddy, ITM Allen said a monthly report reflects only (dumpster) permits issued in the current month, not permits issued in the previous month that are still in effect. She will discuss with Director Goodwin how permit information can best be captured in monthly reports.

#### Parks, Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs:

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that M-NCPPC is holding community meetings about multi-generational centers it plans to build in each service area. Berwyn Heights is in service area 2, for which a center is proposed to be built near Prince George's Plaza. The next nearest center is to be built in Glenridge at the intersection of Rt. 410 and Rt. 450. Further, County Councilmember Glaros will host a virtual meeting on the raincheck rebate program, hosted by local students, who will answer residents' questions about making stormwater improvements on their properties.

**Public Works:** CM Sweep reported that Public Works is in the process of planting trees for homeowners who have requested them through the program. The trash schedule has been altered because of

Veterans' Day. Curbside collection of leaves has begun. Residents are requested to rake leaves to the curb and not park vehicles in front of the piles. Bagged leaves set out on yard waste days continue to be collected as well.

**Public Safety:** Mayor Dewey reported that BHPD will participate in an implicit bias police training program at the University of Maryland, for which it will be compensated. NW/EP held its first virtual meeting last Wednesday. Several new residents participated. BHPD has set up a mailbox for kids to deposit their letters to Santa. In October, Town Councilmembers and staff celebrated Chief Antolik's 10th year as police chief.

#### 9. Committee Reports

**Education Advisory Committee:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that the BHEAC will hold its next virtual meeting on November 23. The Committee is developing a grant application process for Town education funds and is consulting with the College Park Education Committee about their process. Cutbacks of up to 10% are expected in the upcoming school budget.

**Green Team:** Mayor Dewey announced the next virtual Green Team meeting will be on November 12. Members plan to discuss a potential tree ordinance, stormwater issues, a litter survey, feral cats, and Bee City USA certification. All are invited to attend.

**Historical Committee:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that the next BHHC meeting has been moved to November 16. The Committee is reviewing historic marker language and plans to restart their oral histories program.

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness: MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that the NW/EP Committee's next virtual meeting will be on December 2. Those interested in participating should contact BHPD Clerk Muralles. At the previous meeting, attendees discussed which activities can be done virtually, traffic violations by bicyclists, and items to be placed the next Bulletin.

**Recreation Council:** MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that the Recreation Council is conducting business via email. Those wishing to participate should contact Susan Jones at violindreams@verizon.net. The Recreation Council held a Halloween Decorating contest and selected the following winners: Scariest - 6006 Quebec Street; Most Creative - 8718 62nd Avenue; and a tie for Best Decorated - 5713 Nevada Street and 8508 Cunningham Drive. The winners of the best Halloween costume contest were Meg Miller and the Pasco family. Upcoming Recreation Council events include a virtual Team Trivia Night on November 13 and virtual Tree Lighting on December 5.

#### 10. Old Business

##### **Ordinance 181-A – 2nd Reading and**

**Adoption of Budget Amendment to Purchase Server:** Clerk Harper read the Ordinance. Mayor Dewey stated the reason for the replacement of the old server is its age and decreasing reliability. CM Brittan-Powell moved to adopt the Ordinance. MPT Kulpa-Eddy seconded.

ITM Allen reiterated the reason a cloud-based server was not pursued at this time is the need for a lengthier exploration of how to mitigate against the risk of the service provider going out of business. CM Sweep commented that he would like the Town to consider cloud-based servers in the future but for now the physical server seems the best solution. With no further comments, the motion passed 5 to 0.

**Ordinance 181-B – 2nd Reading and Adoption of Budget Amendment for Architectural Study:** Mayor Dewey explained that funds to pay for the architectural study need to be re-appropriated because the study was commissioned in FY 2020 but not carried out until this fiscal year. Clerk Harper read the Ordinance. MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Brittan-Powell seconded to approve the Ordinance.

CM Brittan-Powell sought clarification that this budget amendment would pay for the architectural feasibility study for relocating the police department that was completed in September. ITM Allen confirmed that this would pay for the service already rendered. However, the architects are still exploring the possibility of a joint public safety building on BHVFD property.

CM Brittan-Powell recalled that a citizen suggested the Town might have utilized the findings of an earlier study on the same subject and saved money. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said the 2001 police station study did not include all the specifications for the new facility BHPD provided this time. The money for the new study was first appropriated several Councils ago but was not used until now. With no further comments, the motion to approve the budget amendment passed 5 to 0.

#### 11. New Business

**Approval of Town Manager Contract:** Mayor Dewey explained that tonight's appointment concludes Berwyn Heights' 4-month search for a new Town Manager. The in-depth process included written questions for candidates, Council and staff interviews, Council discussions, and a citizen survey. The Town was lucky to have had multiple good candidates apply for the position. The Council selected Laura Allen, who has been serving as Interim Town Manager since July and has over 20 years of local government management experience, with special expertise in finance.

ITM Allen said she is taking this responsibility very seriously and is looking forward

to working with everybody. She hopes to meet more members of the community personally once circumstances allow.

On a motion by CM Sweep and second by CM Papanikolas, the Town Manager's contract was approved 5 to 0, as amended.

**Swearing-in of Town Manager:** Mayor Dewey swore in Town Manager Allen.

**Resolution 15-2020 - Employee Handbook Update:** Mayor Dewey explained that this update of the Employee Handbook finalizes Town Council actions initiated, but not completed by the previous Town Council. TM Allen explained the update incorporates a Police Take Home Vehicle & Locality Pay Policy that was heretofore a Council Rule and adds sections on limited vacation time for part-time employees and short-term disability insurance that were funded in the FY 2021 budget.

CM Sweep moved to approve the Resolution. MPT Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Resolution 3-2020 – Investment Policy:** Mayor Dewey said the State requires each municipality to have an investment policy on file. Berwyn Heights last filed an investment policy in 1995, which prompted an effort to update the policy under TM Broadbent, which was continued under TM Allen.

TM Allen explained the policy was updated to reflect best practices in investment for public agencies with the goal of ensuring the safety of invested capital while maximizing returns and maintaining liquidity. Another objective is selecting investments that do not require a lot of staff time to manage. The policy includes requirements for internal controls, regular reports, and an annual review of the policy. Once approved, the policy will be submitted to the State Treasurer's Office for review.

CM Sweep moved to adopt Resolution. CM Papanikolas seconded. MPT Kulpa-Eddy suggested to add a provision requiring that quarterly reports being generated by the Town Treasurer also be submitted to the Town Council. There were no objections. The motion passed 5 to 0 as amended.

**SHA Salt Agreement:** TM Allen explained that the Town has periodically entered into agreements with SHA to provide road salt for the treatment of ice and snow in winter. This contract is for 3 years in the amount of \$56,000. Based on usage, the actual cost is estimated to range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per year. The Town Manager would be authorized to execute the agreement.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved, and CM Sweep seconded to adopt the Resolution. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said having a contractual agreement with SHA is a good idea because the Town has had difficulty securing salt in some years. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Resolution 16-2020 - Authorizing Town Manager to Execute Constellation Contract within Certain Parameters:** Mayor Dewey said she recently enquired with the Town Manager what energy supply options are available for the Town. It was then discovered that the Town's contract with Constellation Energy had expired and that the Town is currently operating on month-to-month billing, which is expensive. The proposed Resolution would authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and enter into a longer-term renewable energy contract under certain parameters:

- The kilowatt per hour (kwh) price cannot be higher than the current price the Town is paying;
- The purchase must be consistent with federal and state requirements;
- The purchase is limited to renewable energy sources; and
- The term of purchase cannot be longer than 6 years.

TM Allen added that, due to the constant fluctuation in energy prices, it is difficult to present the Council with a contract that sets a particular price. The Town Manager would therefore be authorized to negotiate a longer-term contract under the parameters stated above. Prices tend to be lower the longer the term of the contract is.

CM Sweep moved to adopt the Resolution. CM Papanikolas seconded for the purposes of discussion. MPT Kulpa-Eddy asked if the Town has already decided it wants to use 100% renewable energy and what price it currently pays. Mayor Dewey and TM Allen replied that the purchase of renewable energy set forth in the Resolution is based on staff recommendation and the Town's green purchasing policy. The current month-to-month rate the Town pays is \$0.0899 per kwh as opposed to Constellation renewable contract rates ranging from \$0.06051 for 12 months to \$0.05822 for 60 months.

In the ensuing discussion the following points were made:

- It would be useful to know how non-renewable energy prices compare to renewable prices and whether Constellation contracts impose contract termination fees.
- Future Councils may want to choose different energy suppliers and should not be impeded by long-term contracts. A medium-length contract of up to 3 years is preferable.
- The Resolution could be revised to require that the renewable energy

price cannot be more than a specified percentage above the non-renewable price.

- Use of renewable energy aligns with the Town's green purchasing policy
- Many residents support the use of renewable energy
- Non-renewable energy probably equates to burning of fossil fuels, which contribute to global warming.
- Switching to renewable energy would help reduce the Town's carbon footprint, a Sustainable Maryland priority
- Environmental priorities should be balanced with being good stewards of the Town's money.
- The Town may want to consider obtaining expert advice as the energy market is volatile and difficult to predict.
- The Town may choose to install solar panels on its facilities or generate other renewable energy, which might be incorporated into an energy contract.
- Postponing adoption of the Resolution will mean continuing to pay high month-to-month rates.

Mayor Dewey proposed to move forward with signing a new energy contract under the following conditions:

- Renewable energy price should not be more than 15% above the non-renewables price.
- Energy contract term should not exceed 3 years.
- Energy supplier should be requested to purchase any energy generated by the Town.

CM Sweep moved to amend the Resolution to incorporate the above parameters. Mayor Dewey seconded. Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, commented by telephone. He suggested the Town find out what the kwh cost of energy for a 6-year term is to determine what savings it would yield, then decide what contract length is the best deal. He does not believe future Councils will object to a long-term contract if it saves money. The motion to adopt the Resolution failed 2 to 3, with MPT Kulpa-Eddy, CM Papanikolas and CM Brittan-Powell requesting more comparative price information.

Council agreed to resume the discussion about renewal of an energy contract at a future worksession when the requested information is available.

**Approval of Server Purchase:** TM Allen explained that she received a quote of \$13,833 for a new server, plus \$215 for monthly cloud backup service, from the Town's IT vendor Peake Technology Partners. So far, she was unable to obtain comparative quotes and proposed the Council approve the server purchase from Peake with an amount not to exceed the quote. The funding would come from the Town's cable reserve.

CM Papanikolas moved to approve the purchase. CM Sweep seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0

## 12. Citizen Discussion

Joan Hayden, Seminole Street, asked via email whether any employees have contracted COVID-19 and receive support; whether a discussion of new energy contracts shouldn't be had prior to the expiration of the current contract, whether solar panels are a good idea, and whether resolutions are available for viewing by citizens.

Mayor Dewey and TM Allen replied that staff is doing well, except for morale issues related to the pandemic. The expiration of the current energy contract without renewal arrangements was an oversight complicated by an acquisition of the electricity supplier previously used by the Town. Solar panels may be considered in conjunction with upgrades to Town facilities, and all background documentation for Council meetings are available on the website with the video archives.

Mike Attick asked where the Town's Administration vehicle is that was used by the previous Town Manager. He was informed that it is in the Police Station parking lot. Mr. Attick continued that the Town of Edmonston received a grant to install new streetlights along their main street and asked if Berwyn Heights has explored grants for streetlights with Pepco. Mayor Dewey replied that there may be an opportunity to ask them about this as a Pepco representative will attend the next worksession.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

## Worksession (draft) November 16, 2020

This meeting was held by videoconference due to the ongoing COVID-19 health emergency.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Amanda Dewey, Mayor Pro Tempore (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Christopher Brittan-Powell, and Ethan Sweep. Jason Papanikolas had an excused absence. Also present were Town Manager (TM) Laura Allen, Town Clerk Kerstin Harper, Pepco Governmental & External Affairs Manager Tony Ruffin, Campus Community Connections Director Andrew Fellows, and Green Team member Genevieve deMessieres.

## 1. Announcements

Mayor Dewey made announcements regarding the worsening COVID-19 pandemic and new restrictions put into place by Prince George's County, including smaller gatherings, reduced restaurant capacity



and mask mandate. All residents were encouraged to consider smaller holiday gatherings and to be as safe as possible.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy announced the passing of Mike Miller, Ruatan Street, and Carol Cottone, 60th Avenue.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved to approve the agenda. CM Sweep seconded. The agenda was adopted 4 to 0.

## 3. Discussion Items

**Pepco presentation:** Mayor Dewey welcomed Pepco Governmental Affairs Manager Tony Ruffin for a presentation on Pepco's recent streetlight filing with Maryland's Public Service Commission (PSC). Mr. Ruffin said Pepco made a filing with the PSC in October to seek approval for its planned conversion of the current High-Pressure Sodium (HPC) and Mercury Vapor (MV) lights to smart LED lights. The initiative originated from Pepco's discussions with local governments in its service area, which have expressed their interest in converting to LED lights. The new lights will reduce energy consumption by 60% - 80%, have longer life expectancy and less maintenance costs. They also have smart nodes to report when a light is out or not working correctly. Deployment of smart LED lights will occur over a 5-year period at no upfront cost to municipalities. This does not include additional lights a municipality may want to install to illuminate dark areas.

Mr. Ruffin continued with an overview of the standard LED streetlight offerings, all of which come in a range of wattages and adjustable color temperatures. In response to Councilmembers' questions, Mr. Ruffin said:

- Smart nodes are electronic devices that connect the light fixture with Pepco's computer system to allow for the sending and receiving of data.
- Pepco does not have a large inventory of specialty lamps to match the particular ornamental style of a community. Rather, it offers a limited set of lighting options from which they can choose.
- Generally, municipalities choose one style for all their streetlights. But Pepco will work with cities that want different lamps for a particular area, such as a main street.
- College Park and Hyattsville have started the LED conversion process. Berwyn Heights could observe their new lights in action.
- So far, customer have reported a positive experience with LED conversion due to Pepco's collaborative approach.
- Pepco will give demonstrations of the LED lights if desired so that customers can better understand what wattage they want.
- Pepco's new streetlights offer light

pollution controls, such as shields and timers, and are compliant with American Medical Association (AMA) and Dark Skies guidelines.

- All-purpose LED streetlights generally have some light shining to the sides and upward, but custom shields can be installed to prevent lights shining into residential homes.

Mr. Ruffin also responded to questions about tree trimming and removal. He said he had a good dialogue with Mayor Dewey and TM Allen about the Town's goals for tree trimming and removal. It was agreed to regularly engage on the subject. Mr. Ruffin then responded to questions submitted prior to the meeting:

- Pepco's 75' restriction for planting shade trees near powerlines is based on Arbor Day Foundation recommendations and PSC regulations, in particular Rule RM 43. Tree contractors exercise some independent judgement on tree trimming but mostly follow established policy.
- Burying powerlines is very expensive. As a regulated utility, Pepco would likely not be permitted by PSC to recover the full cost through rate increases. Additionally, the cost of undergrounding lines in one community would be borne by all Pepco customers, which may cause pushback. Therefore, Pepco generally does not bury existing overhead lines unless necessary for safety reasons.
- Over the last decade, Pepco has worked to overcome a reputation for unreliable service and frequent outages. Tree trimming is part of line maintenance to ensure reliability of service.
- Pepco controls vegetation under its powerlines, including shade trees, but works with SHA and local jurisdictions who may control the right of way near the power lines. When trees are removed Pepco replants smaller trees that will not impact the lines and encourages communities to do so as well.
- Pepco recommends not planting trees within 75' of power lines but will not enforce the rule on private property. It will, however, remove vegetation on its property that could impede access to its lines, including community gardens.

Mayor Dewey said that the Arbor Day Foundation appears to recommend a 50' distance of shade trees from power lines and asked if Pepco can clarify the basis for the 75' guidance. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that she left messages for Pepco about the recent Berwyn Heights tree trimming project but never received a reply. She used a telephone number provided on a Pepco notice to Berwyn Heights residents. Mr. Ruffin said he will check on both issues and follow up.

## Campus Community Connections (C3)

**update:** Andrew Fellows, UMD Community & Outreach Program Manager, gave an overview of the C3 program and an update on 10 projects Berwyn Heights submitted for collaboration with the University of Maryland 2017. Mr. Fellows said he is leading the University's program, now in its 5th year, to engage long term with its surrounding communities by providing academic research and expertise to help them solve problems related to sustainability and resiliency. At the same time, UMD students are given the opportunity to work on real world problems while serving the C3 member communities.

Berwyn Heights projects fall into 2 categories: community engagement and municipal sustainability. This year, UMD students worked on the following projects, some of which were interrupted by COVID-19 shutdowns:

- Improve the community's engagement with Pepco over the long term.
- Increase volunteerism in the Town using data science.
- Find a site in northern Prince George's County for composting organic waste thus diverting it from going into a landfill,
- Reduce flooding by using County data on flooding to pinpoint flood prone areas.
- Reduce pollution of the Anacostia watershed by improving management of stormwater runoff.

Other projects on Berwyn Heights' list that benefitted from student work include: removal of invasive species at Lake Artemesia;

- Improving environmental literacy of PGCPs students through outreach programs at the Schmidt Outdoor Education Center;
- Increasing the tree canopy by exploring the idea of Berwyn Heights as an arboretum and engaging with Pepco about tree trimming;

Berwyn Heights also collaborates with the University on:

- Smart Cities demand response initiative to conserve energy during peak demand periods;
- Greenbelt Road Corridor transformation;
- Good Neighbor Day.

In response to Councilmembers' questions, Mr. Fellows said he was not aware of a M-NCPPC meeting regarding planned streetscape improvements along Rt. 193 in Adelphi, but the University is engaged with the Purple Line Corridor Coalition to ensure that streetscape improvements are benefitting the impacted communities, including in Langley Park and Adelphi. Berwyn Heights can contin-

ue to support the C3 program by refining projects and guiding students in their research.

**Tree ordinance:** Mayor Dewey said this item arises from work done by the Green Team/ Shade Tree Board over the last few years to develop ways to protect and increase the Town's tree canopy. As a Tree City, USA, Berwyn Heights is required to fund urban forest initiatives at a rate of \$2 per capita. The Green Team has now developed a framework for a tree ordinance that seeks to address the goals of 1) tracking tree removals, 2) incentivizing residents not to remove shade trees for reasons other than safety, 3) educating residents on the benefits of the tree canopy and 4) providing an alternative funding structure for the Town's forestry budget.

The proposed framework would require residents to notify the Town when they plan to remove a big shade tree, provide its location, and reason for removal. Residents would then be sent educational materials and an application to remove said tree. A fee would be charged as part of the application if the tree is removed for aesthetic or convenience reasons, but not if they pose a safety hazard. The receipts would be used to fund the Town's urban forest budget instead of general revenue.

In discussion the following comments were made:

- Ordinance should spell out the enforcement mechanism for tree removals.
- Ordinance might include provision for planting new trees when a mature tree is removed.
- Fee waivers might include removal of low value trees, e.g. unattractive trees with few leaves.
- Ordinance should identify persons/experts who can judge which trees are to be removed for safety reasons.
- Homeowners might be provided educational materials recommending tree species for this area.
- Leaf collection season might be extended to collect leaves that drop late.
- Grants might be provided to help eligible property owners with leaf collection.
- Fee amounts for tree removals should not be 'punitive' but large enough to be able to fund beneficial initiatives.

Mayor Dewey summarized the Council appears to generally support the framework, but would like more details on enforcement mechanisms, fee amounts and possible coordination with other communities. Discussion of a tree ordinance will continue at future worksessions.

**Walkable, Bikeable Berwyn Heights Task Force recommendations:** Mayor Dewey explained last year the Council appointed a task force to study options for

making the Town more pedestrian and bicycle friendly. The WBBH Task Force worked hard to produce a list of recommendations that was presented to the Council in a final report in February 2020. Subsequently, the Town asked staff for input to help prioritize the recommendations and to start implementation.

TM Allen said staff identified the following items as top priorities:

- Adding 'don't block the box' signage at the intersection of Pontiac and Edmonston Road.
- Adding 4-way stop signs at the intersection of Berwyn Road and Ruatan Street to include the Sports Park parking lot.
- Adding a 3-way stop sign at Berwyn Road and 57th Avenue.
- Installing a raised crosswalk and/or flashing lights on Berwyn Road at Indian Creek Trail to alert vehicle traffic to pedestrians approaching the roadway.

TM Allen continued that the Council appropriated \$30,000 in FY 2021 for WBBH improvements. The items above can probably be completed for less than \$5,000. More expensive projects will only be considered after the New Year when the Council has a better idea if revenues come in as projected. Cost savings may be realized if several small projects are bundled and done at the same time.

In discussion, Councilmembers proposed additional projects to start with:

- Completing crosswalk striping.
- Adding accessible ramps to sidewalks, i.e. at Pontiac Street and Edmonston Road.

Susan Jones, Pontiac Street, commented that additional stop signs are a good idea but that there should be better enforcement to prevent drivers from going through them. Council agreed and will have a separate discussion about stop sign enforcement and speed limits at another worksession. Council further agreed to authorize TM Allen to move forward with the above items after providing additional information on raised crosswalks and flashers for the Indian Creek trail crossing.

**Council Rules update:** TM Allen explained that CM Brittan Powell requested discussing the preparation and approval of Council meeting minutes covered in Council Rule 2. In addition, she proposes the Council consider adopting the process of a 'consent agenda,' which allows a group of items that are non-controversial or administrative in nature, to be approved in one motion. Samples of different types of minutes and consent agenda were provided in the background documents.

The Council discussed the Town Council

minutes. The following points were made:

- Editing draft minutes via e-mail is preferable to editing orally at a meeting.
- With the availability of video recordings of Council meetings online, shorter action minutes would suffice.
- Council Rule 2 B 1(c) provides that "minutes should include key points made in discussions, attributed to individual Councilmembers, if appropriate, sufficient to enable someone reading the minutes to determine the reasoning behind a particular decision."
- Minutes in the current style provide an overview and context of Council discussions that allow for a quick review of what occurred at a particular meeting.
- Currently, many residents read minutes in the Bulletin and online and refer to them when providing input to the Council.
- Video recordings are not captioned and therefore not accessible for the hearing impaired.

The Council discussed the consent agenda. The following comments were made.

- Ordinances and resolutions are not usually approved under the consent agenda. But some resolutions may be of such routine, uncontroversial nature to be placed on a consent agenda.
- If any Councilmember wants to discuss an item that is on the consent agenda in detail, it can be pulled out and discussed separately.
- While theoretically possible, it is unlikely the consent agenda would be used to stifle discussion.

Mayor Dewey summarized that the Council agrees on adopting the email editing and consent agenda process in the Council Rules. TM Allen was requested to make the changes in the Council Rules to be presented for Council action at a future meeting.

**Bond bill update:** TM Allen said the Town requested \$145,000 in funding from the General Assembly last January through a legislative bond initiative request, otherwise known as a bond bill, for roof repairs, motion sensors, and elevator refurbishment at the Town Center. The Town received only \$50,000 in funding but there is an opportunity to appeal. The funds received will pay for the roof repairs and the motion sensors, but not the elevator. A remaining balance of \$28,000 could be spent on other smaller projects in the Town Center, such as upgrading the electrical wiring, repairing the windows or purchasing new chairs. The Council is requested to state their preferences.

Councilmembers agreed that refurbishing the elevator is a priority if additional mon-

ey can be secured from the legislature either through an appeal or a new bond bill. Among the smaller projects, chair replacement should be considered as it was discussed at length during the FY 2021 budget process.

TM Allen will obtain quotes for the small projects mentioned above so that the Council can make an informed decision on spending bond bill funds.

#### 4. Department Reports

Mayor Dewey reiterated appeals to comply with the stricter COVID-19 protocols adopted to deal with the resurgence in cases. Berwyn Heights Police continues to keep residents safe and educate businesses on COVID compliance. Anyone with questions or concerns about the pandemic can call the Prince George's County COVID hotline. BHPD will set up a mailbox at the station for children to send letters to Santa by November 30.

Recreation Council President Susan Jones was present to discuss plans for a virtual Christmas Tree Lighting celebration

to consist of several musical numbers, the tree lighting and Zoom visits with Santa and with neighbors. Mayor Dewey will assist with production of a video that will be aired on YouTube and BHTV.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported on several meetings she plans to attend, including a forum on local government budgets during COVID, a National League of Cities virtual conference and meetings of Town committees. She thanked everyone who participated in the virtual Team Trivia Night, which received many good reviews.

TM Allen reported for the Administration Department that the County has agreed to hold a meeting to discuss the reallocation of CARES Act funds received.

CM Brittan-Powell reported that the Code Department remains on top of things and handled a couple of awkward situations.

CM Sweep reported that the Public Works Department is endeavoring to collect all leave piles that have been deposited along the roads and reminded residents

that there will be no trash collection during the Thanksgiving holidays. He also reiterated the importance of remaining socially distant to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and listed several nearby testing sites where people can find out if they have been infected.

Laura Knutson, Edmonston Road, commented that she was stuck at a COVID testing site for two hours while the site ran out of tests.

#### 5. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the upcoming schedule. No changes were made.

#### 6. Citizen Comments

There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Signed: **Kerstin Harper**, Town Clerk



## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

VIRTUAL MEETING 1st WED of month

CHAIR: Mike Attick, Tel. 301-335-1633

**Join us January 6, 7pm. To participate contact BHPD at 301-474-6554**

Or email [mmurales@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:mmurales@berwynheightsmd.gov)

Few things will put a damper on your day like realizing you've been the victim of an auto break-in. Unfortunately, it's far from a rare occurrence — thousands of people deal with auto break-ins every year. Here is what to do next.

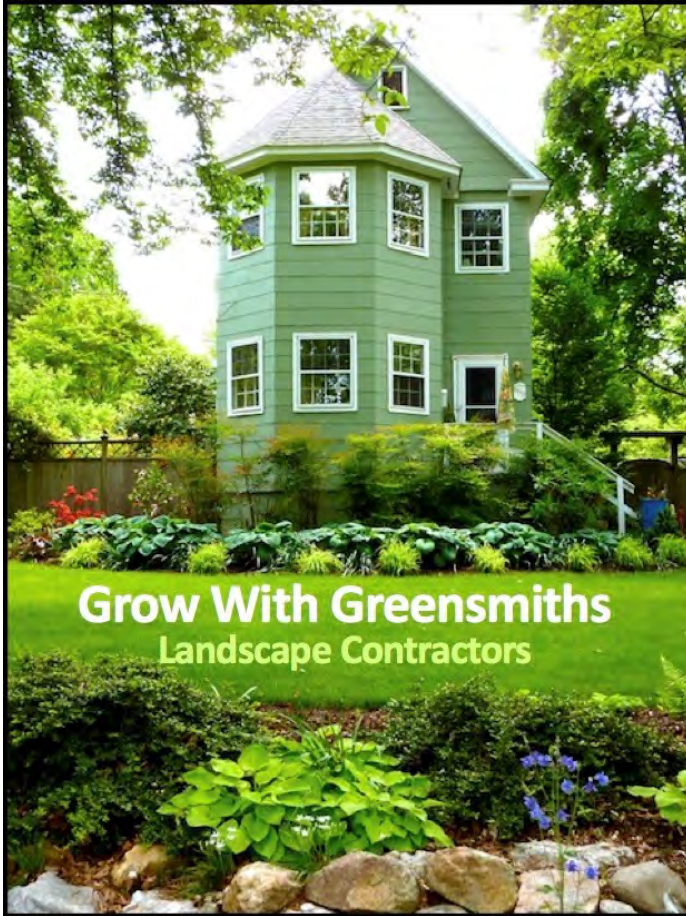
**Assess and record the damage.** If you approach your car and discover a broken window or a picked lock, don't enter or move the car at all. Instead, start documenting the details of the break-in from the outside. Take pictures of the windows, doors, trunk, tires, and any visibly damaged areas of the car. As tempting as it may be to climb inside, refrain from doing so, as you may taint existing evidence. Create a written document and list the damage done to the car, as well as anything that may have been stolen. The more specific documentation you can provide, the more likely your insurance company will come to a favorable decision about reimbursements.

**Notify the police and file a report.** Be sure to present your driver's license, vehicle registration, insurance information, and a description of what was damaged or stolen.

**Curb identity theft and cancel credit cards.** One of the biggest risks resulting from a car break-in is identity theft. If a perpetrator gets ahold of your name, birthday, and/or Social Security number, they might have everything needed to steal your identity. Additionally, if you notice your credit or debit cards were taken during the break-in, immediately alert your bank to the theft. A bank representative can help you identify any fraudulent charges, cancel the stolen cards, and request new cards.

**File a claim with your insurance.** The decision to file an insurance claim or not will likely depend on how much damage was done to your car and what was stolen during the break-in. If the dollar amount of those damages significantly exceeds your deductible, then you may want to file an insurance claim.





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# Berwyn Heights GreenBee



Email us your ideas at [bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com).

Website: [www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com](http://www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com)

Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/BerwynHeightsGreenTeam](http://www.facebook.com/BerwynHeightsGreenTeam)

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. via ZOOM

All residents are welcome to attend. Please email Mayor Dewey for ZOOM information.



## Cat Chats

### II. Toxoplasmosis dangers

Toxoplasmosis (*T. gondii*) is one of the world's most common parasites. Infection usually occurs by eating undercooked contaminated meat, exposure from infected cat feces, or mother-to-child transmission during pregnancy. *These infectious organisms are excreted only in cat feces, wild and domestic cats are the parasite's ultimate host.*

In this Chat on Cats, we will touch on one of the causes and concerns. Cats are usually infected by ingesting the organism present in the meat of another infected animal, known as an 'intermediate host'. The intermediate host is usually a rodent.

Experts think that millions of people in the United States are infected with *T. gondii*. But most people have no symptoms because their immune systems are healthy and keep the parasite from causing harm. Although you can't "catch" toxoplasmosis from an infected child or adult, you can become infected if you:

- **Come into contact with cat feces** that contain the parasite. You may accidentally ingest the parasites if you touch your mouth after gardening, cleaning a litter box or touching anything that has come in contact with infected cat feces. Cats who hunt or who are fed raw meat are most likely to harbor *T. gondii*.
- **Are a pregnant women, who may pass the infection to their babies.** When a child is infected before birth, it is called congenital toxoplasmosis.
- **Have a weakened immune systems.** This can include people with HIV/AIDS or cancer. It also includes people who take medicines that weaken the immune system, such as steroids or medicines taken after organ transplants.



*Join in future discussions on cat safety.*



### START 2021 on the right foot with recycling.

Recyclables include most paper and cardboard, most types of plastic and glass containers and metal cans. Recyclables should be cleaned from food residue. Please see list of recyclables at <https://bit.ly/3abwpzs>

Please join us in a meeting to share your views with no commitment required.



## CREANDO CONNEXIONES COMUNITARIAS PROGRAMA VECINO A VECINO DE BERWYN HEIGHTS

Está interesado en conectarse con alguien más en Berwyn Heights? Sí, estamos en medio de una pandemia, pero el distanciamiento físico no tiene por qué significar desconexión social. La ciudad está buscando formas de aumentar la participación de la comunidad y necesita voluntarios para participar en este programa piloto único.

El Programa de Vecino a Vecino de Berwyn Heights tendrá una duración de 3 meses. Se le pedirá que responda algunas preguntas sobre la forma en que le gustaría conectarse con alguien, con qué frecuencia le gustaría conectarse y por cuánto tiempo cada vez. Esta es una gran oportunidad para compartir algunos de sus intereses favoritos para iniciar la conversación. Tenga en cuenta que una actitud positiva es importante, ya que este es un programa nuevo y no sabemos qué tan bien puede funcionar, por lo que realmente apreciamos su disposición a participar. Sea confiable y cumpla con sus compromisos porque la gente depende de usted. Pero no te ofrezcas en exceso! Conozca sus límites y no se imponga impuestos innecesariamente con una cantidad excesiva de horas de voluntariado. Se supone que el voluntariado es inspirador y te hace sentir bien. No se supone que te haga sentir estresado o agotado.

**Inscríbete antes del 15 de enero de 2021. Envíe por correo o entregue el formulario de registro a Amy Hargadon en Town Hall, 5700 Berwyn Road.**

La Ciudad confirmará que todos los participantes son residentes de la Ciudad e intentará hacer los partidos de acuerdo a tus intereses (pero sin garantías!). El programa se extiende hasta el 30 de abril. Al final del programa, le pediremos sus comentarios. Esto nos ayudará a adaptar el programa para satisfacer las necesidades de la comunidad. Gracias por ayudar a mejorar la calidad de vida de nuestros residentes!

### **Programa Vecino a Vecino de Berwyn Heights - Formulario de Registro**

**Nombre** (primero, segundo): \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferencia de comunicación:** \_\_\_\_ teléfono, \_\_\_\_ correo electrónico, \_\_\_\_ correo postal

**Información de contacto** según el método de comunicación preferido:

Número de teléfono: \_\_\_\_\_

Correo electrónico: \_\_\_\_\_

Correo postal: \_\_\_\_\_

**Frecuencia de comunicación:** \_\_\_\_ diaria, \_\_\_\_ semanal, \_\_\_\_ mensual

**Para llamadas telefónicas, díganos su preferencia de duración:**

\_\_\_\_ 10 minutos, \_\_\_\_ 20 minutos, or \_\_\_\_ 30 minutos

**Número de vecinos con los que está interesado en conectarse (puede ser más de uno):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Áreas de interés - elija las tres principales** (deportes, música, artes y manualidades, ciencia, eventos actuales, televisión / películas, viajes, lectura, comida) O decir "Emparejarme con alguien al azar:"

\_\_\_\_\_

## CREATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### BERWYN HEIGHTS NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR (N2N) PROGRAM

Interested in connecting with someone else in Berwyn Heights? Yes, we're in the middle of a pandemic, but physical distancing doesn't have to mean social disconnection. The Town is looking for ways to increase community engagement and needs volunteers to participate in this unique pilot program.

The Berwyn Heights N2N Program will run for 3 months. You'll be asked to answer some questions about the manner you'd like to connect with someone, how often you'd like to connect and for how long each time. This is a great chance to share some of your favorite interests to get the conversation going. Keep in mind, a positive attitude is important, as this is a new program and we don't know how well it may work, so we really appreciate your willingness to be involved. Be reliable and honor your commitments because people are depending on you. But don't volunteer to excess! Know your limits and don't tax yourself unnecessarily with an excessive amount of volunteer hours. Volunteering is supposed to be inspiring and make you feel good. It is not supposed to make you feel stressed out or exhausted.

**Sign up by January 15, 2021. Mail or drop off sign-up form to Amy Hargadon at Town Hall, 5700 Berwyn Road.**

The Town will confirm all participants are residents of the Town and will try to make the matches according to interests (but no guarantees!). The program runs until April 30th. At the end of the program we'll ask for your feedback. This will help us tailor the program to meet the needs of the community. Thank you for helping to improve the quality of life for our residents!

#### Berwyn Heights Neighbor-to-Neighbor (N2N) Program Sign-Up Form

**Name** (First & Last): \_\_\_\_\_

**Type of Neighbor:**    ☐ Phone    ☐ Email    ☐ Mail

**Contact Information** (Only provide the contact information needed for your neighbor type; i.e. if you would like to have a phone neighbor only fill out phone number, etc.):

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**How often would you like to connect?:**    ☐ daily    ☐ weekly    ☐ monthly

**For other than postal mail, how long would you like each connection session to last?**

☐ 10 minutes    ☐ 20 minutes, or    ☐ 30 minutes

**Number of neighbors you are interested in connecting with (Can be more than one):** \_\_\_\_\_

**List top 3 interests** (e.g. sports, music, arts & crafts, science, current events, history, television/movies, travel, reading, food. OR state "Match me with someone random"): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## AMWELL ORTHOPAEDIC **PHYSICAL THERAPY**, LLC

**We Treat: Hip Pain, Knee Pain, Shoulder/Arm Pain, Back or Neck Pain, Sports Injuries, Auto Accidents, Worker's Compensation Cases, Postural Correction, Post-surgical Care**

**Dr. Aaron M. Lubick, PT, DPT, MS**

**Proudly serving BERWYN HEIGHTS for 20 years!**



### **PREMIER MEDICAL CENTER**

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Berwyn Heights, MD  
(across from Staples)  
[www.amwellortho.com](http://www.amwellortho.com)

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Thinking of selling or buying?? I have a **full marketing plan** on how I seamlessly take you from A-Z in the world of selling your home. I sell more Berwyn Heights homes than other agents, let me show you how I do it. Consistency, proven results, referral network, satisfied clients! I also have lenders, stagers, contractors & more for your selling /buying needs.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME TO 2021! If you are thinking of selling anytime THIS year, give me a call for that 1st pre-listing meeting. Meeting however you feel comfortable, in person, by phone or Zoom!

The great Real Estate Market continues, most properties sell in days/weeks with full price or higher and/ or multiple offers! The biggest reasons? The continued low interest rates for buyers (around 3 %) and the lack of inventory. Jan/Feb is the best time to list!

Thank You !! to all the 1st responders and essential workers, who continue to serve. I am so thankful and have so much gratitude for all that you do! Thanks also to hopefully the beginning of the end of this pandemic with the vaccines starting.

I hope you and your families are well and safe! I feel that 2021 is going to be a great year! Just a few dates to keep in mind in January:

Jan 3/4 Meteor Showers.... Jan 6 sun starts to set after 5pm....Jan 18 MLK Day...Jan 28 1st Full Moon of the Year....

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME
- NATIONAL/ INT'L WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- LICENSED IN **MD & DC**
- 20 YEARS + OF REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE
- TOWN RESIDENT

#### **Just a few of my Listings/Sales last 30 days!!**

**"Homework" is what I do best, let me do your "Homework" too!**

**SOLD- 8804 63rd Av 3 BR/2 BA and Garage.....\$385,000.**

**SOLD- 5810 Pontiac St 4 BR 3 BA w/ scr porch & inlaw apt\$420K**

**Contract- 6100 Westchester Park Dr T5 1 BR gr lvl.....\$120's.**

**Contract -6215 Quebec Pl 3 BR 2 BA rambler.**

**Available- 6100 Westchester Park Dr 1705 1BR/den Pkg Space.  
\$150's**

Wishing You a Safe & Happy New Year!  
from the Berwyn Heights Rec Council

Coming Up in January:

Virtual Concert  
featuring Jorge Anaya  
Premiering on January 14th, 7-8pm



Available on BHTV channels  
Comcast 71 or Fios 12 and also will  
premier on YouTube at this link:  
<https://bit.ly/bhrecyoutube>  
or by scanning this code:



Missed any of our previous virtual concerts???  
All can be viewed at the above link!

*We'd also like to say a special 'Thank You' to all that joined us  
for our "Virtual" Tree Lighting Party in December.*

*Please stay tuned to the Town Website and Bulletin for more events  
and activities.*

Until the Rec Council can safely resume in-person meetings  
(normally the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm) we are  
conducting all of our business via email. If you would like to be added  
to our email list, or have any suggestions for safe,  
fun activities during the pandemic,  
contact Susan at [violindreams@verizon.net](mailto:violindreams@verizon.net)



# Berwyn Heights Seniors Club

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

January 1	Randy Fortwengler
January 2	Mary Anne Eley
January 5	Mary Anne Walkup
January 10	Ken Antolik
January 11	Bonnie Brown
January 14	Theresa Beck
January 19	Phyllis Wolfinger
January 31	Ningning He

## JANUARY ACTIVITIES

**CANCELLED:** All regular Senior's Club activities have been suspended due to the COVID-19 health emergency. Please check the Town website for updates.

### Did You Know?

Did you know that there are many health benefits to smiling? Smiling offers not only a mood boost, but also helps our bodies release cortisol and endorphins resulting in numerous health benefits including reduced stress. Plus smiling is contagious! Your smile will lead to additional smiles not just for you, but for those around you. Though it can be more difficult when wearing a mask, your eyes smile, too. Try it.

**DRIVERS NEEDED**  
**MEALS ON WHEELS—COLLEGE PARK**  
 More Information: 202-669-6297



## Historical Committee

### A Happy & Healthy New Year To All

The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee recommends the following presentations for your virtual wine and cheese happenings:

- [The Families Who Challenged Slavery from the Nation's Founding to the Civil War](#), by William G. Thomas
- [Out of a Hidden Compartment: Civil War Diaries from Prince Georges County, MD](#), by PGC Historical Society & ATHA

You can purchase monogrammed BHHC wine glasses for \$7 each from Debby Steele Snyder. Please contact her at [dsteelesny@yahoo.com](mailto:dsteelesny@yahoo.com).



### NEXT MEETING (VIRTUAL)

**JANUARY 24, 2020 | 7:30 PM**

To participate, please contact Sharmila Bhatia at [sharmila\\_bhatia88@hotmail.com](mailto:sharmila_bhatia88@hotmail.com)  
 All other inquiries to [dsteelesny@yahoo.com](mailto:dsteelesny@yahoo.com)  
 For more information visit our [Facebook Page](#) or [BHHC Website](#).

### NEW OFFICERS

**Chair:** Debby Steele Snyder  
**Vice Chair:** Lee Fuerst  
**Secretary:** Sharmila Bhatia





# BERWYN HEIGHTS

## Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc.

Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

*In Case of Emergency Call 911!*

### Recent Working Incidents

**Nov 19th:** Around 7:30pm Rescue Squad 14 and its volunteer crew were alerted to the area of Greenbelt Rd (MD 193) and Kenilworth Ave (MD 201) for a reported accident. Squad 14 arrived along with Greenbelt City Police to find a severe accident with one driver trapped in the vehicle. After stabilizing the vehicle, the Squad crew worked quickly to extricate the patient utilizing its Amkus hydraulic rescue tools to removing the roof and doors.

**Nov 27th:** At appx 1045am, while responding to a low-priority medical call in Old Greenbelt, Berwyn Heights VFD Ambulance 14 and its volunteer crew came across an accident on Greenbelt Road near the entrance to Greenbelt National Park, in which an SUV had crashed and run off the roadway down an embankment. The Ambulance crew radioed to Fire/EMS Communications requesting they be replaced on the medical call, and start the rescue assignment for one trapped. This alerted BHVFD Rescue Squad 14 and Chief 14B (Kiernan) to respond to assist the Ambulance crew. Once the additional units from BHVFD arrived, Chief 14B established incident command, while the volunteer crews from the Rescue Squad worked to stabilize the vehicle and remove the driver side doors using our Amkus hydraulic rescue tools. Once the doors were removed crews were able to free the driver and transfer them to the awaiting Ambulance crew.

**Dec 9th-** Ladder Truck 14 was alerted to the 6700Blk of Mid Cities Avenue in the Beltsville industrial district for reports of a lithium battery on fire in an auto shop. Units arrived to find heavy fire showing, and requested the working fire dispatch. Truck 14 (1st due Truck) and its volunteer crew arrived and split, with the interior crew sent into the shop along with Beltsville Engine 31, and the exterior crew reporting to the roof to open up. The crew of Truck 14 searched, opened up the roof, and checked for extension after operating for approximately two hours.



#### NEW Squad 14 Update:

The cab has been painted and mounted to the chassis. It will be trucked to Florida where the body has been built. Planned delivery for early 2021!

### Winter Fire Safety Tips

Heating, holiday decorations, winter storms and candles all contribute to an increased risk of fire during the winter months. Follow these basic tips to help prevent house fires:

- Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (like a space heater) into an electrical outlet at a time.
- Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from any heat source like fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators or space heaters.
- Install and test carbon monoxide alarms at least once a month.
- Have a qualified professional clean and inspect your chimney and vents every year.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby buildings

For more information on how to prevent winter fires, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov/winter](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/winter) and [www.nfpa.org/winter](http://www.nfpa.org/winter).

### Fire hydrants and Snow

Snow-covered fire hydrants cost us valuable time when trying to respond and extinguish house fires. Have a fire hydrant in your yard? Please keep it cleared of snow to allow us to quickly help either you or your neighbors! Thank you!







**Proudly serving the Berwyn Heights  
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## BULLETIN BOARD

### Adult Education - Zoom ESL Classes

English for Speakers of Other Languages • (ESL) Literacy, beginning, & intermediate English classes • Instruction & practice in speaking & understanding English • Instruction in reading, writing & grammar in real life contexts • GED Prep & US Citizenship Test Prep. Contact Kathy Brosh [kathbrosh@gmail.com](mailto:kathbrosh@gmail.com) or 301-310-3809

### Want adventure and achievement?

Join Boy Scout Troop 740. We meet at Holy Redeemer's Fealy Hall every Tuesday evening. For details, call scoutmaster Loren Lavoy at 301-651-4928.

### Approved Childcare of Essential Personnel

Opening for infant to 12 years old. Licensed and approved by the State to provide childcare during COVID-19. Meals provided. Openings Monday-Friday from 6 AM to 6 PM. Please contact Karuna at 301-345-2939 or [karunaemeldarozario@outlook.com](mailto:karunaemeldarozario@outlook.com).

**Piano Lessons** in your home. Former PGCPs music teacher, experienced private instructor. Students with special needs welcome. Ms. Liz 240-601-2825. quote today. Call 202-820-0771.

**Lawn Mowing and Trimming**, yard raking and cleanup, basement cleanup, painting, plumbing, general handyman. Reasonable rates and flexible schedule. Call Phil at 202-718-8530. Berwyn Heights references available.

**Meals-on-Wheels** needs your HELP! This 45-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12p if available.

**Need Yard Help?** Shawn and Jeremy have helped Berwyn Heights residents with mowing, raking, mulching, and more for several years. Call 240-601-1298.

**Get Out More!** Let me help you free up your time by helping you in different ways. If you have children, I babysit age 3 and up. Do your kids need help in school? I tutor in different subjects. Don't have time to exercise your lovable pet? I enjoy dog walking/sitting. Please call Greta at 301-982-7115. References upon request.

**Help is Here.** Do you need help grocery shopping, bill paying, pick up prescriptions, post office run, general household management, shopping and more...look no further...for \$20 per hour have your own personal concierge. Reliable, Dependable, Fast, and more importantly, TRUSTWORTHY. Call Jackie at 202-669-6297. I'll be there tomorrow.

**Loving, Licensed Child Care:** (CDA) credentialed in BH. M-F 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Ura Daley, 301-313-9131.

**Infant or Senior Care:** Nurse/midwife, recent US refugee, legal with work permit, looking for infant care or senior care. Full or part time. IRC internationally certified. Worked in Burundi and Tanzania. Special gift with babies, children with disabilities, and disabled adults. Intermediate English, fluent French. Does not drive. Contact [jeynekanyudo@gmail.com](mailto:jeynekanyudo@gmail.com)

**House Cleaning:** Help with shopping, cooking, etc. 40-year resident of Berwyn Heights. Very reliable and reasonable rates. Please call DJ at 301-345-1746.

**New Home Brewing Club** – Calling all homebrewers and mead makers in

Berwyn Heights to help inaugurate a home brewing club. Let's get together to brew, taste, and exchange ideas. It doesn't matter if you're a novice or an expert. Just send me an email and let's get brewing. Contact:

[jason.michel@comcast.net](mailto:jason.michel@comcast.net)



Provides you reliable and confidential tax preparation and Advisory service. Six years top tax company experience, specialized in rental property. Affordable price. Tax return could be done face to face or VIRTUAL (send documents via Fax, scan or Email). Also phone interviews at your convenience. Email me at: [llyqi99@gmail.com](mailto:llyqi99@gmail.com) or text me at 301-728-1097. "Lily Qi"



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## HOLY REDEEMER

Catholic Church


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*Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 n.*  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 3:30 p.m.*

4902 Berwyn Road • College Park MD 20740  
 Tel: 301-474-3920 • Web Site: [holy-redeemer.org](http://holy-redeemer.org)  
 Email: [parish@holy-redeemer.org](mailto:parish@holy-redeemer.org)

## Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney



301-908-9427 (cell)  
[tgentile301@yahoo.com](mailto:tgentile301@yahoo.com)  
[www.thomasgentile.com](http://www.thomasgentile.com)



Berwyn Heights Resident  
 Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA  
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 Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts,  
 Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents.



## November Incidents

### Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 8:37 am, 'THEFT FROM AUTO'

On 11/5/2020 at 8:37 am, Pvt. Scales responded to the 8600 block of 57th Avenue for a theft from auto report. Upon arrival, he met with the Victim, who advised that her wallet had been stolen from her vehicle. Officer observed a black 2010 Nissan Altima parked in the roadway in front of the above location. There were no signs of damage to the vehicle that might have resulted from a break-in. The doors of the vehicle were found to be unlocked. Victim stated that her brown wallet (generic brand) was stolen from inside the vehicle. The wallet was inside a black and white backpack that was also stolen.

### Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 'VANDALISM & STALKING'

Cpl. J. Ignowski concluded an investigation that began on July 14, 2020. Hyattsville City resident Mr. Keith Raymond Franzese was identified and charged by Criminal Summons in the District Court case SD83753 for tampering with a Berwyn Heights resident's motor vehicle by attaching a Global Positioning Device to track the resident's location.

### Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 'ARREST, MVA SCHEME'

Cpl. J. Ignowski concluded an investigation that began on September 23, 2020. Greenbelt City resident Mr. Donnell Edward Miller, Jr., was apprehended in a vehicle registration scheme. Mr. Miller was operating a Buick with no driver's license and was using an out of state registration in another person's name to avoid paying taxes, title fee, and registration fee to Maryland MVA over a span of three years.

### Saturday, November 7, 2020 at 12:00 pm, 'VOLUNTEERISM'

BHPD PSA Ian Blizzard and Marlene Ayana helped the Mt. Rainier police explorer with their canned food drive at the Compare Foods in Bladensburg, MD.

### Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 8:00 am, 'SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE'

On 11/08/2020 at approximately 8:00 am, while on routine patrol in the 8500 Block of 60th Place. Pfc. Rufino observed a vehicle with expired tags. Of-

ficer asked the dispatcher for registration information to verify the expiration date and the Maryland registration returned with a pick-up tag order by the insurance compliance division.

### Sunday, November 8, 2020 at 2:50 pm, 'VANDALISM & ROAD RAGE'

On 11/08/2020 at approximately 2:50 pm, Pfc. Rufino was dispatched for call about vandalism at Greenbelt Road and 58th Avenue. Upon arrival, she met the victim, who was driving a Toyota Camry and stated that he was driving eastbound on Greenbelt Road when a red and white dirt bike driver in an act of road rage took off their motorcycle helmet and struck his vehicle's passenger mirror, breaking it off. The motorcyclist then took off. Victim describes the motorcycle driver as a heavyset Hispanic male with short black hair, a beard, wearing a white shirt, black pants, and a black helmet. Victim pulled into the Shell station located at 6001 Greenbelt Rd and called the police. Victim further stated that both motorcycle riders were doing wheelies on Greenbelt Road and left in opposite directions.

### Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 12:00 pm, 'LOST PROPERTY'

On Tuesday 11/10/2020 at 12:00 pm, during an equipment inventory at the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department, one portable radio assigned to Ambulance Unit #814B was discovered missing and considered lost. Prince George's County Fire Department Communications was notified. BHPD notified Communications Telecommunications of the lost radio including its serial number.

### Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 6:25 pm, 'THEFT FROM VEHICLE'

On Wednesday 11/11/2020 at 6:17 pm, Victim visited the Berwyn Heights Police Department to report a theft of property. Victim reported that his gray colored Ford Escape SUV was parked unattended for the night in his private driveway next to his home in the 5800 block of Goucher Drive. At approximately 2:00 am, someone gained entry to the interior of the SUV by defeating the door locks in an unknown manner. Contents of the glove compartment were dumped onto the floor of the SUV. An unknown suspect stole one Rayban pair of sunglasses.

### Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 5:08 pm, 'DUI'

Cpl. Ignowski responded to the intersection of Edmonston Road and Pontiac Street for a motor vehicle acci-

dent. On scene, he observed a 35 Y/O, W/H/M who appeared to be intoxicated. The subject was transported to Greenbelt City PD for processing. There he blew .24 BAC. He was charged accordingly.

### Sunday, November 15, 2020, 'THEFT'

On 11/15/2020 at approximately 6:19 am, Pfc. Rufino was dispatched for a theft at the 7Eleven on Edmonston Road. Upon arrival, she met with the cashier, who described a Suspect as a medium complexion black male who was wearing a jean jacket, jeans pants, and tennis shoes. Suspect walked behind the counter with a white trash bag and emptied the Newport cigarette shelf into the bag and grabbed several packages of bambu wrap. Suspect then proceeded to walk out of the store.

### Tuesday, November 17, 2020, at 7:35 pm, 'THEFT'

The store manager of T-Mobile reports that he was waiting on a Suspect who was acting as a customer. Suspect asked the manager to check if he had an item in stock. When the manager left the display floor to check the stock room, the suspect/customer cut the security cord to an i-phone 12 mini and fled with it on foot. SUSPECT: 21' Y/O/ B/M wearing red jacket, blue jeans, blue tennis shoes.

### Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 1:15 pm, 'FRAUD'

Sgt. Moroney responded to SECU on Greenbelt Road for a fraud complaint. Reporting person stated that a suspect named Michelle India came to the drive-through window and requested to cash a check from Select Contractors Inc., for the sum of \$931.00 Dollars. Reporting person states that she called the business and asked them if they had issued a check to Michelle India. They replied they had not and that the check was probably counterfeit. When reporting person approached returned to the window, the suspect was walking away across the parking lot. Suspect wore a red shirt, dark pants and a dark colored coat. Reporting person states they had copied the suspect's Maryland identification card, as well as the check, of which the officer took possession. The Maryland ID card was found to be counterfeit and the name does not match. The check does not have completed phone numbers. Case was turned over to BHPD-CID. Select Contractors Inc. later advised BHPD that the check the suspect attempted to pass was a check made out to an-



other company located in Waldorf, MD and that they canceled the check.

**Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 4:40 am, 'THEFT'**

On 11/19/20 at approximately 4:45 am, an officer was dispatched to the 7Eleven on Greenbelt Road for a theft. Upon arrival, the Reporting Person stated that two suspects entered the store and went behind the checkout counter. Suspect 1 told the Reporting Person to move and then proceeded to steal lottery tickets. Both suspects then fled towards the area behind the store. Reporting Person followed while calling police but didn't see either suspect. The security footage could not be reviewed because the manager with access to the camera was not on scene. **SUSPECTS:** two black males wearing black shirt, gray sweatpants, black mask.

**Friday, November 20, 2020, at 5:49 pm, 'FRAUD'**

On Friday 11/20/2020 at 5:47 pm, Victim visited the Berwyn Heights Police Department to report a theft. Victim reported that bank accounts owned jointly by her and her husband were defrauded with fake checks. Victim states that on Tuesday 11/17/2020 at 9:00 am, she was notified by M&T Bank that her savings account was overdrawn. A suspect had submitted two checks against the victim's Savings and Checking accounts at State Employee's Credit Union (SECU) in the amounts of \$3,500 and \$7,900, respectively. Suspect also submitted two checks electronically to the victim's Savings at M&T Bank account in the amounts of \$4,500 and \$4,500, respectively. More than \$30,000 were transferred electronically from the victim's account and used to pay medical services and other bills not in the victim's name. Victim reports that one SECU check is an image of a real check from her checkbook that has been re-imaged to read [pay to] a person's name for \$3,500 and dated 11/16/2020. But the original check was issued in September 2020 to Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church in Laurel, MD for a different amount. The other three checks are fakes created by the suspect(s).

**Sunday, November 22, 2020, at 2:00 pm, 'WELFARE CHECK'**

On 11/22/2020 at approximately 2:16 pm, Pfc. Rufino, along with Sgt. Moroney responded to a call at 6101 Greenbelt Road for an abandoned vehicle in the drive thru. Upon arrival, they met with the cashier who expressed concern for a senior citizen who had left his vehicle in the drive-thru lane impeding traffic. The person walked eastbound on

Greenbelt Road. Officers entered the Toyota vehicle with the keys still in the ignition and moved the vehicle out of the way. Officers then proceeded to canvas the area and located the driver, whom they identified through his Maryland driver's license. While he was attempting to flag someone with his cane on Greenbelt Road. Subject was wearing a dirty blue jumpsuit, shoes that were duck taped, and held his pants up with his hand. He was very disoriented and unable to state the date or his location. Officers drove the subject to his residence in Greenbelt, where he lives with his wife, who is handicapped. During officer's brief home visit, they observed that the home was very unkept. Subject was believed to display early signs Alzheimer's or dementia. Officers made a referral for adult abuse and neglect and a referral to the MVA. Greenbelt Police was also notified. The subject was provided with officer's contact information and the location of his vehicle in the KFC parking lot.

**Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 9:00 am, 'THEFT FROM AUTO'**

On 11/25/2020, Cpl. Hollowell was dispatched to the 8400 block of 58th Avenue for a report of a theft from auto. Upon meeting with the victim, the Officer determined an unknown suspect entered the victim's unlocked vehicle, a 2009 Black 4 door Toyota Camry. The vehicle was parked in the street but was not damaged. No alarm was installed. A wallet left in the passenger seat was stolen. The victim indicated that one of his debit cards was used on this date with no attached time at an Exxon gas station on Baltimore Avenue. An amount of approximately \$25.00 was expended. The victim's banking institutions were notified and credit and debit cards canceled.

**Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 3:10 am, 'THEFT FROM AUTO'**

On 11/25/2020, Victim reported that at approximately 3:00 am someone defeated the automatic door locking device on a white color Honda CRV SUV that was parked unattended for the night in front of his home in the 7600 block of Marietta Lane. An unknown suspect entered the vehicle and removed the contents of the glove compartment and center console and dumped the items on the front seats and floor. Among the items stolen was a brown 9" x 12" envelope containing a Republic of Guatemala Passport in victim's name with photograph. Investigation: 11/25/2020 at 5:12 pm. a resident of the 5800 block of Swarthmore Drive stated that he saw two slim, brown skin males dressed in black clothing with black backpacks checking all car doors on Villanova and Swarth-

more Drive, last seen heading toward Marietta Lane. Witness did not call police.


**Monday, November 27, 2020 at 5:30 pm, 'THEFT FROM AUTO'**

Victim contacted Berwyn Heights Police to report a theft from vehicle. Victim stated that on 11/23/20 at 10:30 pm, she parked her vehicle on the street in front of her house. At 6:15 am on 11/24/20, she noticed that the door to her vehicle was open and property removed. The vehicle was unlocked. Victim contacted the police after she was notified by her debit card company that an unknown suspect had attempted to use her canceled debit card. A book bag containing various items of children's clothing discarded on the street was recovered by the victim.

**Homicide = 00 | Rape = 00 | Robbery = 00 | Assault = 00 | Burglary = 01 | Larceny/Theft = 08 | Stolen Auto = 00**

OCTOBER	CITATIONS
STATE	27
TOWN	82
WARNINGS	10
SERO	03
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122</b>

Call 911



For Emergencies

CALL 301-352-1200  
For Non-Emergency  
Police Assistance.

Tell the PGC Police Dispatcher the nature of your problem and ask that the on-duty BH Police Officer respond to your call.

Visit us online at:  
[www.berwynheightsmd.gov/  
police-department](http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/police-department)



# STOP THEFT FROM VEHICLES

**Protect your personal belongings — Don't leave them in an unlocked car!**

Since the start of November, the Berwyn Heights Police Department has seen an uptick in reports of thefts from unlocked vehicles, including theft of wallets containing money and even passports. We strongly recommend you bring your valuables in at night and lock your cars. In addition, it is a good idea to turn on your outside lights or install motion lights near your parked vehicle.

There is no way to protect your car against all break-ins. Some thieves know how to defeat the key fob locking mechanism and can enter your vehicle without breaking the windows. BHPD recommends that you don't leave your key fob hanging by the door or in the foyer. If your key fob is within five to ten feet of your vehicle, criminals can technically access your car by using signal amplification devices to boost or mimic the key fob signal. Store a key fob as far away from your vehicle as possible.

Give us a call if you see anything or anyone acting suspiciously in Town. The non-emergency number is (301) 352-1200, and the BHPD administrative number is (301) 474-6554 Monday – Friday, 9 am – 5 pm excluding holidays. For all EMERGENCY - 911



## Free Karate Training !!!!

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 6<sup>th</sup> degree black belt, five-time inductee into the World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame, and member of Shihan John Roseberry's Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization.

Open to all ages/all levels

**CLASSES WILL BE VIRTUAL USING ZOOM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Mondays and Fridays from 5:15 pm – 5:55 pm**

For information, contact Sensei Theresa Beck [beck\\_theresa@yahoo.com](mailto:beck_theresa@yahoo.com) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881

## WINTER TREE CANOPY



It's important to keep our BH trees healthy and strong to protect our tree canopy!

English ivy and other invasive species can kill trees if left unchecked. Use the winter season to remove any vines that may have climbed your trees this year. Simply snip the vine near the ground, wait a while for the vine to die, and tug it off your tree!

*Want to learn more about trees or share your perspectives? You're welcome to join an upcoming Shade Tree Board meeting. No commitment required!*

**Next meeting: January 14th, 2021 at 7 pm via Zoom**

Meeting ID: 928 2644 2656 Passcode: 022032

Contact: Mayor Dewey at [adewey@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:adewey@berwynheightsmd.gov)

## Don Bunuan | Realtor

Hi, I'm Don Bunuan. As your Berwyn Heights neighbor and long-time area resident, I'm a big fan of the Route 1 Corridor and everything it has to offer.

As a Realtor®, I provide unparalleled service to my clients and am proud to have been named a "Top Agent" in 2020 by *Washingtonian Magazine*.

If you're thinking about making a move, now is actually a great time to consider your options. I offer:

- Complimentary Staging
- 3D Matterport Home Tours
- Virtual Open Houses
- Free, no-obligation consultations

Call, email or text me today!



Hola, soy Don Bunuan. Siendo vecino de BERWYN HEIGHTS y residente del area hace mucho tiempo, soy un gran admirador del ROUTE 1 CORRIDOR y todo lo que tiene para ofrecer.

Como Realtor®, proporciono un servicio incomparable a mis clientes y estoy orgulloso de haber sido nombrado "Top Realtor" en 2020 por la revista *Washingtonian*.

Si usted está pensando en tomar acción para buscar o vender su hogar, ahora es un buen momento para considerar sus opciones. Lo que ofrezco es:

- Muebles para decorar la escena de la casa (staging)
- Tours de la casa en 3D
- Open houses virtuales
- Consultas gratuitas y sin compromiso

Llama, envía un correo electrónico o envíame un mensaje de texto hoy!

*Don is awesome! He assured us a stress-free selling process and he delivered. He listened closely to our needs and put us at ease all the way through settlement, despite a pandemic! Our house was sold faster than he could put a "For Sale" sign on it! We highly recommend Don and his team and would give him a 10 star review if we could.*

– Patty Galati and Karen Jung



5101 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781  
don@gobrent.co | C: 301.213.6332 | O: 301.565.2523

# CODE COMPLIANCE

## CoVID-19 Operations

Please note, the Code Compliance Department continues to operate with modified procedures in response to the CoVID-19 pandemic, as follows:

- Rental inspections cancelled until further notice;
- Rental license application due dates and applicable fees remain the same, but must be submitted via e-mail to [zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov) or by U.S. mail with check or money order;
- All other license applications (building, roll-off, POD and right-of-way permits), must be submitted by e-mail to [zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov) or by U.S. mail;
- All payments for licenses & permits, fees & fines must be submitted by U.S. mail to 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights MD 20740. Drop-off payments are not accepted.

For additional information please call the Code Compliance Department at 301-513-9331.



### Virtual Meeting January 25, 2021 | 7:00 pm

The Committee will discuss possible ways to support educational organizations, families & children in the new year – 2021.

Please contact: [thebheac@gmail.com](mailto:thebheac@gmail.com) if you would like to join the virtual meeting and a link will be sent to you to participate.



### Reunión Virtual 25 de enero de 2021 | 7:00 pm

El Comité discutirá posibles formas de apoyar a las organizaciones educativas, las familias y los niños en el nuevo año – 2021.

Póngase en contacto con: [thebheac@gmail.com](mailto:thebheac@gmail.com) si desea unirse a la reunión virtual y se le enviará un enlace para participar.

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

### BH Elementary School PTA

President: Marilyn King  
[President@BHESPTA.org](mailto:President@BHESPTA.org)

Vice President: Sarah Jacobson & Kimberly Bills  
Treasurer: Lilly Ridge

### Boys & Girls Club

President: Brandon Batton  
[bhbgc@gmail.com](mailto:bhbgc@gmail.com)

Vice President: vacant  
Registrar: Tiffany Papanikolas  
240-338-5191

Treasurer: Sandra Zuniga  
Secretary: Jianmei Zhu  
Athletic Director: Asgar Asgarov  
Soccer Commissioner: Vacant  
Track Commissioner: Brandon Batton

### Education Advisory Committee

Contact: Joanna Whitaker  
[thebheac@gmail.com](mailto:thebheac@gmail.com)

### Green Team/ Shade Tree Board

Facilitator: Jeffrey Knutson  
[jbknutson@verizon.net](mailto:jbknutson@verizon.net)

Public Outreach: Therese Forbes  
[therese@celticclans.com](mailto:therese@celticclans.com)

### Historical Committee

Chair: Debby Steele Snyder  
[dsteelesny@yahoo.com](mailto:dsteelesny@yahoo.com)

### Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

### Movie Club

Jonathan Loutsch  
[bhmovieclub@gmail.com](mailto:bhmovieclub@gmail.com)

### Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness/ CERT

Chair Michael Attick  
[mikeattick@verizon.net](mailto:mikeattick@verizon.net)

### Karate Club

Leon Swain 301-728-2881  
Brett Bentley 240-678-9103  
[Brett.bentley@gmail.com](mailto:Brett.bentley@gmail.com)

### Quilter's Club

Coordinator: Janet Freitag  
[quilttag1@yahoo.com](mailto:quilttag1@yahoo.com)

### Recreation Council

President: Susan Jones  
[violindreams@verizon.net](mailto:violindreams@verizon.net)  
Secretary: Theresa Beck  
[beck\\_theresa@yahoo.com](mailto:beck_theresa@yahoo.com)






















### Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482





# JANUARY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 	28 	29 	30  	31 NEW YEARS EVE Town Offices Closed	1 NEW YEARS DAY Town Offices Closed	2
3	4  7:00 PM Worksession VIRTUAL	5 	6  7:00 PM NW/EP Meeting VIRTUAL	7 	8	9
10	11 	12 	13  7:00 PM Town Meeting VIRTUAL	14  7:00 PM Green Team Mtg. VIRTUAL 7:00 PM Virtual Concert	15	16
17	18 MLK DAY Town Offices Closed	19  7:00 PM Worksession VIRTUAL	20 	21 	22 	23 9:00 AM Electronics Recycling
24	25  7:00 PM BHEAC Mtg. VIRTUAL	26 	27  7:30 pm BHHC Meeting VIRTUAL	28 	29	30



Please do not park on the street when the street sweeper is in Town to ensure the street sweeper cleans everywhere along the curbs.

Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste  
North-side Collection



Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste  
South-side Collection



Recycling  
Recycling Collection



# BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

**TOWN OF BERWYN HEIGHTS**  
**5700 Berwyn Road**  
**Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740-2799**

**CARRIER-ROUTE SORTED**  
**PRESORT STANDARD**  
**U. S. Postage Paid**  
**College Park, Maryland**  
**Permit No. 5442**

## POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

**Dated Material — Do Not Delay!**

### TOWN INFORMATION

#### Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire & Rescue ..... 9-1-1  
Police (Non-Emergency) ..... (301) 352-1200  
Police Administrative Office ..... (301) 474-6554  
Code Compliance Department ..... (301) 513-9331  
Email: [code@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:code@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Public Works Department ..... (301) 474-6897  
Email: [publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Fire Department ..... (301) 474-7886  
Senior Center ..... (301) 474-0018  
Community Center (Gym) ..... (301) 345-2808  
Town Office ..... (301) 474-5000  
Office Hours: MON - FRI 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Call-a-Bus Reservations ..... (301) 513-9331

#### Mayor and Council

Amanda Dewey (443)-646-3529 [adewey@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:adewey@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Mayor — Public Health & Safety  
Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345 1516 [jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Mayor Pro Tem — Parks & Recreation, Education & Civic Affairs  
Christopher Brittan-Powell (240) 786 2578 [cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Councilmember — Code Compliance  
Jason W. Papanikolas (240) 338-5191 [jpapanikolas@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:jpapanikolas@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Councilmember — Administration  
Ethan D. Sweep (218) 280-2273 [esweep@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:esweep@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Councilmember — Public Works  
Laura Allen — (301) 474-5000 [llallen@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:llallen@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Town Manager

#### Regular Trash Collection Schedule

North of Pontiac..... Mondays & Thursdays  
South of Pontiac..... Tuesdays & Thursdays

**Heavy Trash Day:**  
Monday for North of Pontiac  
Tuesday for South of Pontiac

**Recycling Schedule:**  
Wednesdays for the entire Town

#### Town Helpline

Do you have a suggestion or problem or a question on an ordinance, or have a historical question? Want to receive meeting agendas or minutes by email?  
Email Town at  
[contact@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:contact@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Be assured that your communication will be answered promptly and in confidence.

#### Watch Council Meetings



**On Comcast channel 71**  
**FIOS channel 12**

Most recent meeting: M-S 11:00 A.M.  
2nd most recent mtg: M-S 3:00 P.M.  
3rd most recent mtg:  
Tue, Thu, Fri., Sun.: 8:00 P.M.

**Town of Berwyn Heights Website:** <http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov>; Follow us on Twitter @BerwynHeightsMD

**Questions —** call Kerstin Harper, Administration at (301) 474-5000, or email [kharper@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:kharper@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
**Advertising Rates —** call Yvonne Odoi, Administration at 301-474-5000, or email: [yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
**Submission Deadline is the 15th of the month**