Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896 Sixth Oldest Municipality in Prince George's County

MAY 2016



Berwyn Heights Day

MAY 7 — Page 3

Town Council Election — May 3

Swearing-in & Reception — Page 2

TOWN COUNCIL ELECTION MAY 3 TOWN CENTER POLLS OPEN 7 AM – 7 PM

Candidates Running

Patricia Dennison Cheryl Jewitt Jodie Kulpa-Eddy Christopher Rasmussen Maria Robles

Swearing in & Reception

May 11 Town meeting Town Office, 8:00 pm

Please contact Clerk Harper or Town Administrator Cowles if you have questions at 301-474-5000; or send email to:

kharper@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

FY 2017 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING MAY 11, 2016

The Town Council will hold a public hearing prior to adopting the FY 2017 Town Budget and Public Safety Taxing District Budget at the May Town meeting.

Your comments are welcome.

For more information please contact Town Administrator Cowles at:

jcowles@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

TOWN OFFICES CLOSED ON MAY 30

MEMORIAL DAY

Mon	05/30/16	NO PICKUP		
Tue	Tue 05/31/16 Trash & Bulk Trash, Town-wide			
Wed	06/01/16	Recycling & Yard Waste, Town-wide		
Thu	06/02/16	Trash, Town-wide		
Fri	05/29/15	No Trash		

Please Do <u>NOT</u> Leave Trash at the Curb over Holiday



Tree consultants will be working around Town through May and June to take inventory of our trees as part of an Urban Forest study the Town has commissioned. If you have questions, please email Town Administrator Cowles at:

jcowles@town.berwyn-heights.md.us



TOWN POST OFFICE CLOSED

The Town of Berwyn Heights has ended its contract with the United States Postal Service (USPS) to operate a sub-station in the Town office. To mail letters and packages, send money orders or obtain passports, please use any nearby USPS locations:

GREENBELT: 7600 O **N. COLLEGE PARK**: 9591 B: **RIVERDALE**: 6270 K:

7600 Ora Glen Drive, Greenbelt 9591 Baltimore Avenue, College Park 6270 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale



BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 2016

8:30 am-9:00 am Fun Run Registration at Town Center

\$10 Adults | \$5 Age 13-17 | \$2 12 and under

9:00 am-9:30 am Fun Run Begins from Town Center around Lake Artemesia

8:30 am-Sold Out: Seniors Bake Sale at Senior Center

9:00 am-11:00 am: Pancake Breakfast at Town Center Upper Level

\$5 Adults | \$3.50 12 and under

11:00 am-4:00 pm: Craft and Information Fair in Sports Park

11:00 am-4:00 pm FREE Train Rides - Town Center to Indian Creek Playground

11:30 am-4:00 pm: Food Vendors Open at entrance to Sports Park

Karate Club Grill

Boys and Girls Club Pizza/Snacks

Shagga Grill

Cotton Candy and Snow Cones

12:00 pm-12:45 pm: Parade from BHES to Sports Park

12:45 pm 1:00 pm Historical Committee Presentation and

Citizen of the Year Award at Grandstand

1:00 pm-4:30 pm BH Volunteer Fire Department Truck | Activities

1:00 pm-4:30 pm: Games, Activities, and Inflatables in Sports Park

Moon Bounce, 5-in-1 Combo, Titanic Slide,

Obstacle Course, and more!

1:30 pm-4:30 pm: Live Entertainment on Sports Park Stage

1:30-2:30 Old School

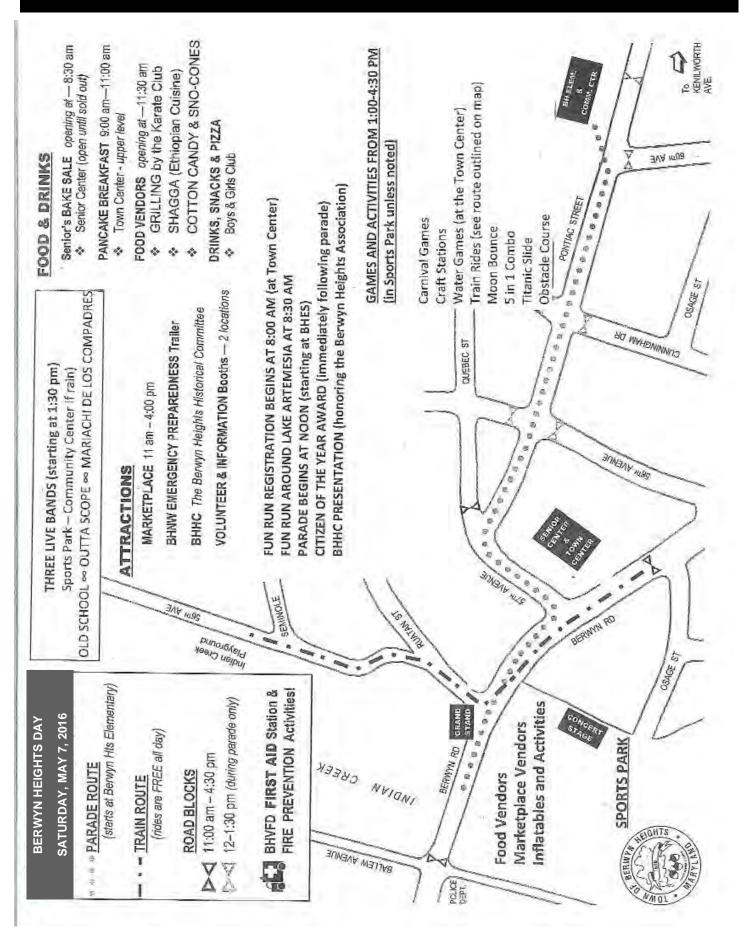
2:30-3:30 Outta Scope

3:30-4:30 Mariachi de Los Compadres

3:00 pm-4:00 pm Water Games at Town Center

Interested in volunteering at Berwyn Heights Day?
Contact Tim Tormoen for more information at

totormoen@yahoo.com



Berwyn Heights Day *FUN RUN* May 7th 9:00 am

Bring the whole family for an enjoyable run/walk around Lake Artemesia with post-race refreshments!

This race is non-competitive!

Registration and race begins at the Town Center and will proceed to nearby paths

Registration begins at 8:30 am

Cost is \$10.00 per adult and \$5.00 per child 13-17 and \$2.00 12 and under. Strollers are free.

All registrants receive a t-shirt designed by resident Dave Williams (while supplies last)

Please make checks out to the Berwyn Heights Recreation Council



AGE (if under 18) _____

EMAIL _____

NAME _____

PHONE

SHIRT SIZE (PLEASE CIRCLE)	CHILD 8-10		14-16	5			
	ADULT	S	М	L	XL	XXL	
QUANTITIES LIMIT	ED AND DISTR	IBUTED	ON A FII	RST COM	ME FIRST	SERVED BASIS	
WAIVER - MU	ST BE SIGNED	BEFORE	REGISTE	RATION	WILL BE	ACCEPTED	
I know that running a race is a medically able and properly ability and safely complete limited to falls, contact with ot all such risks being known and in consideration of your acceprelease the Town of Berwyn claims and liability of any kind may arise out of the neglig	trained. I agre the run. I assu her participan appreciated by ting my entry, Heights, its ag d arising out of	e to abion all rets, effect yme. Held in the series of the	de by and isks assout of wear aving ready self, and ervants and ticipation	y decision of the ciated when, transfer this was an anyon and emplor in this	on of a ra with this offic, and waiver and e entitled oyees ar event ind	nce official relative to event including, but n the condition of the d knowing these fact d on my behalf, waive nd event sponsors for cluding any liability w	my not track, s, and e and all which
PRINT NAME			DATE				_
SIGNATURE							_
PARENTS SIGNATURE IF UNDER	R 18						_

Fiscal Year 2017 Introduced Budget Message: General Fund

Dear Berwyn Heights Residents:

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 proposed budget is the first in several fiscal years not needing to utilize previous years' surplus to balance the budget due to the increase in revenue from real property taxes and income taxes. The budget for FY 2017 was introduced at the Town Meeting on April 13 and is scheduled for adoption at the May 11 Town Meeting, as required in the Town's Charter.

This budget holds the real property tax rates at current levels of \$0.50 per \$100 of assessed value for residential real property for the operating budget and \$0.03 per \$100 of assessed value for the dedicated road tax. The personal property tax rates, paid by businesses, also remains unchanged at \$1.25 per \$100 of assessed value and \$0.075 per \$100 of assessed value for the dedicated road tax. The budget achieves balance through:

An increase in real property tax revenue as a result of the new real property assessments;

Continued growth in income tax receipts driven by rising numbers of multi-income families and more working adults occupying rental properties instead of college students;

Achieving operational efficiencies related to telephone service and employee benefits;

Modest increases in Police, Code, and business license fines with the expectation that departments will be fully staffed;

Sale of surplus vehicles and equipment in the Town's fleet.

The following are expenditure highlights of the FY 2017 budget as introduced:

- **Administration** Funds administrative functions like finance and human resources and the maintenance and operation of the municipal building, Town Center, and Senior Center with three full-time employees and two part-time employees. A vendor will provide custodial and hospitality services instead of a part-time Town employee to achieve a cost savings.
- **Code Compliance and Transportation** Supports the Town Council's commitment to upholding community standards through a full-time Code Supervisor, 35 part-time weekly staff hours for Code inspection and administrative support, and management of the Town's Call-a-Bus program.
- **Police** Provides 24/7 police protection with eight full-time officers and one full-time clerk, leading to historically low crime rates in Town. BHPD maintains community partnerships with the B.H. Elementary School and the Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness Committee, and provides traffic enforcement through the speed camera program.
- **Public Health and Safety** Supports the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department with a \$10,000 contribution and allocates \$3,000 for the Emergency Preparedness/Neighborhood Watch Committee.
- Public Works Funds the collection of refuse, bulk trash, yard waste, and recyclable materials. Eight full-time employees and one part-time employee are proposed in order maintain quality levels of service in infrastructure and facilities, with a FY 2017 focus on replacement of signage to meet new reflectivity standards and working with the urban forest consultants. The Town will conduct the recruitment for the permanent Public Works Director and it is expected that the budgeted salary will be sufficient to attract qualified candidates.
- **Parks and Recreation** Continues to fund Recreation Council special events such as Berwyn Heights Day, with devoted resources to maintain Pontiac Street Field and Pop's Park. The Boys and Girls Club requested the Town's financial assistance with the electricity bill at Sports Park and \$2,500 is proposed in this budget.
- **Insurance and Employee Benefits –** Anticipates transitioning to a municipal health pool for cost savings and a better benefits plan for employees, with slight increases expected in premiums for insurance the Town is required to carry. \$750 is allocated to facilitate the Town's acceptance of credit cards in-person and on the Town's redesigned website. Funding is also provided for the Town's match for participation in the State of Maryland's pension system.
- **Transfers** Allocates the full annual amount (\$93,400) needed to replenish the vehicle replacement fund; \$189,672 for the Infrastructure Improvement Reserve Fund (\$90,216 from Highway User Revenues and \$99,456 generated from the dedicated real and personal property road tax rates); and a transfer of \$200,000 to the Greenbelt Station Reserve Fund.
- Capital Projects Proposes replacement of heating and cooling equipment at the end of its useful life in the Town Office for greater energy efficiency; adding the business license module to Code's existing software package to streamline the licensing process; the upgrade of analog model phones at work stations with digital models to increase employee productivity and effectiveness; and security access control devices at facilities lacking these tools to protect employees and property.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the budget process at the public hearing held during the Town Meeting scheduled for May 11 at 7:30 p.m.

One-Page Summary - General Fund FY 2017 Introduced Budget

		FY 2013		FY 2014		FY 2015	1	FY 2016		FY 2017	% Variation
		Actual		Actual		Actual		Adopted		Introduced	
Real Estate Property Tax	\$	1,461,218	\$	1,228,776	\$	1,277,093	\$	1,283,788	\$	1,407,605	10%
Penalties on Taxes	\$	4,458	\$	3,419	\$	3,806	\$	1,800	\$	3,000	67%
Personal Property Tax	\$	235,035	\$	265,576	\$	265,506	\$	265,000	\$	265,000	0%
Road Fund Tax	\$	109,096	\$	96,497	\$	98,753	\$	91,227	\$	99,456	9%
Income Tax	\$	421,066	\$	406,645	\$	438,407	\$	410,000	\$	430,000	5%
Recycling Fee	\$	72,030	\$	72,170	\$	72,170	\$	72,170	\$	72,170	0%
Highway User Revenue	\$	24,930	\$	86,995	\$	86,430	\$	76,610	\$	110,216	44%
Police Aid	\$	38,505	\$	50,493	\$	51,430	\$	47,812	\$	51,430	8%
Licenses and Permits	\$	132,731	\$	141,844	\$	133,824	\$	141,100	\$	135,300	-4%
Service Charges	\$	2,701	\$	4,685	\$	2,402	\$	2,700	\$	2,700	0%
Intergovernmental/Grants	\$	99,232	\$	8,232	\$	25,220	\$	33,232	\$	28,432	-14%
Fines and Forfeitures	\$	50,983	\$	61,121	\$	100,379	\$	120,465	\$	100,000	-17%
Miscellaneous	\$	60,858	\$	94,987	\$	297,665	\$	288,200	\$	299,050	4%
Total Operating Receipts	\$	2,712,843	\$	2,521,440	\$	2,853,086	\$	2,834,104	\$	3,004,359	6%
Transfers from Reserves	\$	20,345	\$	2,021,440	\$	467,561	\$	163,000	\$	16,400	-90%
Transfers from Fund Balance	Ψ	20,340	Ψ	-	Ψ	407,301	Ψ	103,000	Ψ	10,400	-30%
	•		•		•			50,000			4.000/
For Operating Budget	\$		\$	-	\$	479	\$	17, 700 T, 12, T	\$		-100% -100%
For Capital Projects							_	42,800	\$		4.045-6.00
Total Revenues	\$	2,733,188	\$	2,521,440	\$	3,321,126	\$	3,089,904	\$	3,020,759	-2%
Mayor and Council	\$	16,385	\$	19,129	\$	24,207	\$	29,000	\$	29,000	0%
Town Administration	\$	314,152	\$	336,030	\$	361,592	\$	350,334	\$	355,622	2%
	φ		6.4	22,443			1.00		100		
Municipal Building	4	30,035	\$	4.54	\$	21,971	\$	27,366	\$	15,200	-44%
Town Center	\$	41,826	\$	36,443	\$	45,877	\$	33,916	\$	25,050	-26%
Police Department	\$	606,504	\$	564,541	\$	615,056	\$	661,244	\$	693,676	5%
Misc. Public Safety	\$	2,380	\$	2,656	\$	14,559	\$	13,000	\$	13,000	0%
Code Compliance & Van	\$	103,567	\$	91,372	\$	98,971	\$	109,401	\$	117,155	7%
Public Works	\$	706,615	\$	625,865	\$	684,802	\$	683,375	\$	696,910	2%
Parks & Recreation	\$	14,745	\$	15,661	\$	16,325	\$	25,000	\$	28,500	14%
Cable	\$	4,851	\$	5,003	\$	10,492	\$	20,134	\$	14,840	-26%
Insurance	\$	92,259	\$	99,391	\$	88,408	\$	105,100	\$	107,400	2%
Employee Benefits	\$	230,628	\$	258,565	\$	228,531	\$	292,005	\$	298,304	2%
4-Cities Street Sweeper	\$	14,424	\$	16,203	\$	13,798	\$	19,000	\$	19,000	0%
Consultant Services	\$	*	\$		\$	19.31	\$	68,500	\$	33,000	-52%
Capital Operating Expenditures	\$	122,746	\$	49,418	\$	39,286	\$	34,792	\$	65,320	88%
Transfers to Reserves	\$	224,774	\$	286,160	\$	383,513	\$	407,437	\$	501,382	23%
Total Operating Budget	\$	2,525,891	\$	2,428,880	\$	2,647,388	\$	2,879,604	\$	3,013,359	5%
Capital Projects & Purchases	\$	186,097	\$	23,614	\$	673,738	\$	210,300	\$	7,400	-96%
Total Expenditures	\$	2,711,988	\$	2,452,494	\$	3,321,126	\$	3,089,904	\$	3,020,759	-2%
Net Total (Transferred to Fund		22.25		14.44						- 0	
Balance)	\$	21,200	\$	68,946	\$	0	\$	×	\$	(8))
Reserve Balances	-	418.000	•	440.000	•	110.000	^	448.055	^	410.000	
Operating Reserve	\$	442,000	P	442,000	\$	442,000	\$	442,000	\$	442,000	
Cable TV Reserve		35,294		62,013		81,948		62,013		88,239	
Infrastructure Improvement Reserve		204,015		377,507		553,790		699,152		913,490	
NW/EP Trailer Reserve		5,163		6,007		4,448		2,507		4,448	
Recycling/Tipping Fund		000 707		10,163		10,000		10,000		10,000	
Vehicle Replacement Reserve		230,769		305,711		318,609		235,211		245,354	
Greenbelt Station Impact Fee Reserve Total Reserves	\$	917,241	\$	1,203,401	\$	108,456 1,519,251	¢	180,000 1,630,883	e	610,820 2,314,351	
LOTAL WASHINGS	Ф	511,241	Ф	1,203,401	Ф	1,515,251	Þ	1,030,883	9	2,314,337	1
Total Fund Balance	\$	914,549	\$	985,575	\$	985,096	\$	512,156	\$	816,952	

Fiscal Year 2017 Introduced Budget Message: Public Safety Taxing District

Dear Berwyn Heights Residents:

A decade ago, the Town of Berwyn Heights became the first municipality in Maryland to exercise the new authority to create a special taxing district to enhance public safety. The Public Safety Taxing District (PSTD) encompasses the commercial and industrial properties along Greenbelt Road, Branchville Road, Ballew Avenue, Berwyn Road, and 55th Avenue.

The PSTD provides the Berwyn Heights Police Department additional resources to finance capital and operating costs for a police officer to strengthen police protection in the commercial district and the Town at-large. This additional officer augments existing policing efforts with increased staffing flexibility and allows for a second on-duty officer during evening and midnight shifts. In FY 2017, the PSTD budget funds the salary and expenses for the Berwyn Heights Police Department's Detective position.

The FY 2017 PSTD budget recommends maintaining the existing tax rates in the Public Safety Taxing District of \$0.10 per \$100 of assessed value on real property and \$0.15 per \$100 of assessed value on business personal property.

The Town of Berwyn Heights benefits from one of the lowest crime rates in Prince George's County with crime in Town at a historic low. Continued PSTD funding helps to facilitate the safest possible environment for Berwyn Heights' residents, businesses, and visitors.

Respectfully,

Jodie A. Kulpa-Eddy Mayor of Berwyn Heights

One-Page Summary - Public Safety Taxing District FY 2017 Introduced Budget

Revenues	1 P	Y 2013 Actual	И	FY 2014 Actual	1.0	FY 2015 Actual		FY 16 Adopted	W	FY 17 roduced	\$1	Variation	% Variation
Real Estate Tax - Current Year	\$	38,390	\$	37,926	\$	40,583	\$	39,942	\$	40,746	\$	804	2%
Real Estate Tax - Prior Years	\$	57	\$	44	\$	416	\$	50	\$	300	\$	250	500%
Personal Property Tax	\$	28,944	\$	29,537	\$	30,339	\$	30,944	\$	30,944	\$	-	0%
Penalty & Interest on Real Estate Tax	\$	314	\$	144	\$	79	\$	200	\$		\$	(200)	-100%
Penalty & Interest on Personal Property Tax	\$	2,691	\$	2,754.00	\$	1,551	\$	1,005	\$	1,000	\$	(5)	0%
Total Receipts	\$	70,396	1 \$	70,406	1\$	72,968	\$	72,141	\$	72,990	\$	849	1%
Transfer from PSTD Fund Balance	\$	19,529	\$		\$	10.00	\$	35,443		6,710	\$	(28,733)	-81%
TOTAL REVENUES	\$	89,925	\$	70,406	\$	72,968	\$	107,584	\$	79,700	\$	(27,884)	-26%
Expenditures													
Police Services	\$	57,074	\$	58,853	\$	60,344	\$	68,385	\$	74,800	\$	6,415	9%
Employee Benefits	\$	4,240	\$	4,783	\$	3,512	\$	4,407	\$	4,900	\$	493	11%
Total Operating Budget	\$	61,314	\$	63,636	\$	63,856	\$	72,792	\$	79,700	\$	6,908	9%
Capital Budget - Police Vehicle	\$	28,611	\$		\$		\$	34,792	\$	+	\$	(34,792)	-100%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$	89,925	\$	63,636	\$	63,856	\$	107,584	\$	79,700	\$	(27,884)	-26%
Net Total (transferred to Fund Balance)	\$	- '6	\$	6,770	\$	9,112	\$	- 3	\$	•		- 1	
Beginning Fund Balance	\$	57,958	\$	38,429	\$	45,199	\$	54,311	\$	21,998			
Fund Balance Generated or (Used) Capital Budget Purchases	\$	(20,529)	\$	6,770	\$	9,112	\$	(651) (34,792)	\$	(6,710) -			
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$	37,429	\$	45,199	\$	54,311	\$	18,868	\$	15,288			

Worksession March 7, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, Maria Robles and Lynn White. MPT Rasmussen arrived 5 minutes late. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Code Supervisor Freddie Glass, and Clerk Kerstin Harper.

1. Mayor

Announcements: CM White thanked Interim Public Works Director Hall for stepping in to run the Department and helping to formulate the next budget.

Calendar: "Budget Introduction" was deleted from the March 9 Town Meeting. The Maryland primaries were added for April 26.

Minutes: On a motion by CM Dennison and second by CM Robles, the February 22 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

Department reports: CM Robles reported that the Call-a-Bus was repaired and is back in service. The Call-a-Bus Memorandum of Understanding between Prince George's County and the Town has been signed, making the Town eligible to receive a new bus when available. The demolition of two condemned homes is waiting for County permits to be issued before proceeding. CM Dennison reported that Game Night was well attended. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that six residents are running for Town Council including all sitting council members, plus Ms. Cheryl Jewitt.

Citizen comments: CM White received a comment that WSSC repaired a pot hole on Edmonston Road. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy received an inquiry as to why the Town needed to hire a cleaning contractor and a caterer. She explained that contractors will take the place of Mrs. Erickson who recently retired. Further, she received questions about how to obtain the FY 2015, 2016 and 2017 budgets, which are available at the Town office upon request; about who is running for Town Council; and about legal issues facing the Town.

Eddie Daffron, Seminole Street, said that a street light at Seminole Street and 56th Avenue is not working properly. He also recommended that two decoy police cars with peeling paint should be repainted. Lastly, he commended Interim Public Works Director Hall on running a well organized department.

HUR Resolution: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that the Maryland Municipal League (MML) is asking municipalities to pass a resolution requesting the General Assembly to reinstate regular funding for Highway User Revenues (HUR). It is important for municipalities to be able to rely on this revenue so that they can budget for street repairs and other infrastructure projects. HUR was cut during the recession and the money diverted to the State's general fund. Some HUR has been restored as one-time grants in recent years, but remains unpredictable. This year Berwyn Heights is set to receive \$29,000 based on the funding formula and another \$80,000 as a grant. The Council agreed to adopt the resolution at the March 9 Town meeting.

Bicvcle Infrastructure MOU: Clerk Harper explained that the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area, Inc. (ATHA) has asked member municipalities to adopt the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that establishes an Inter-Municipal Bicycle Trails Working Group to coordinate efforts to expand and improve bicycle trails in the area. TA Cowles added that the MOU was reviewed by the Town Attorney who did not find any obvious red flags. The MOU requires each municipality to appoint at least one representative to the Bicycle Trails Working Group, preferably at least one be an elected official. The MOU is effective for 5 years but allows members to withdraw at any time.

Staff was asked to get clarification on several particulars regarding representation on the Working Group before adoption. In a straw poll, the Council voted 5 to 0 to adopt the MOU at the March 9 Town meeting.

At 7:50 p.m., the Council took a 5 minute break

Nothing was discussed under **2. Public Works.**

3. Administration

Town Administrator proposed FY 2017 budget: TA Cowles explained that this budget is organized by major activity, as in past years, but has been greatly simplified by removing obsolete information. She then gave an overview of the main trends and important changes in the proposed FY 2017 budget.

<u>Taxes:</u> The most important news is an increase of about 9% in real property tax revenues in the first year of the triennial reassessment cycle that began in January 2016. This means that, in combination with continued strong income tax revenues, the entire operating budget

can again be financed with regular revenue streams without having to take money from the unrestricted fund balance, or surplus. During the last assessment cycle, the Council authorized taking \$50,000 from the surplus each year to balance the budget. This year's projected \$124,000 increase in real property tax revenue is proposed to be used to fully fund the vehicle replacement reserve and forego the use of any surplus.

Income tax revenues for FY 2017 are projected at \$430,000 and reflect an ongoing demographic trend for more homes to be occupied by working families with one or more income earners. Personal property tax receipts are stable at \$264,000, as are recycling tax revenues.

Licenses and permits: Overall receipts from license and permit fees are expected to decline by 4.1%, mainly because of a drop in rental homes from around 210 to 190. On the other hand, receipts from business license fees have increased because there is less turnover and fewer vacancies in commercial properties, and because a number of businesses operating without a license have been brought into compliance. The Town also plans to obtain the business license module for the Comcate code tracking system, which is expected to yield additional efficiencies in processing business licenses.

<u>Intergovernmental revenues:</u> Highway User Revenues (HUR) appropriated by funding formula are projected conservatively at \$28,400 in FY 2017, up from a low of \$11,000 in FY 2011. An additional \$81,000 in a one-time grant may also be forthcoming for a total of \$110,000. HUR is restricted to be used on roads and infrastructure projects and any unused HUR are rolled over into the Town's infrastructure reserve fund. Police State Aid is projected to come in the same range as last year at \$51,000. Last year, the Town received a \$25,000 Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC) grant, which will fund an HVAC upgrade in the Town Center. This year, the Town applied for a grant to purchase a hybrid vehicle as part of the MSEC fuel efficiency program, which would replace the Administration Department's 2000 Sat-

<u>Fines & Forfeitures:</u> The total revenues from fines & forfeitures are projected to decrease by 17%, due to less revenue from the speed cameras. Police fines are expected to increase from \$48,000 this fiscal year to \$50,000 next year. Code fines are expected to be steady at

\$19,000.

Miscellaneous: Receipts from interests & dividends, Town Center rentals, recycling, Bulletin advertising and Cable TV grants are expected to increase by 4% to \$299,000. This is mainly due to increases in Town Center rentals and an increase in interest income from consolidating the Town's idle cash into an Old Line Bank account.

Expenditures: Overall expenditures for FY 2017 are down 2.48% or \$76,400 reflecting fewer capital purchases and projects compared with previous fiscal years. The gasoline budget, which cuts across all Town departments, is based on federal guidelines of \$2.50 per gallon, down from \$3.00 per gallon in FY 2016. Telephone expenditures in all departments will see significant savings from switching to Voice Over Internet Phones (VOIP). In addition, IT expenditures comprising IT support, Office 365 with remote access and monthly backups were moved out of individual departments to the non-departmental category in FY 2017.

Administration: A modest overall increase of 1.5% is proposed for the Administration Department, most of it due to salary increases. Expenses for the Town Bulletin were cut by \$8,500 or 26% by renegotiating the contract with the printer. Significant savings of 44% will be seen in the municipal building line item due to the outsourcing of custodial and hospitality services.

<u>Police</u>: The police budget is proposed to increase by 5%, which is to fund two promotions to corporal under the *salaries* line item. The Chief's request for tablets to replace the current laptops used by officers in their vehicles will be funded from the capital budget, while the purchase of a new police vehicle has been postponed. The FY 2017 budget also funds small increases in the dues & conferences and training & seminars line items to increase professional development opportunities for staff, as well as an increase in the uniforms appropriation to purchase new bullet proof vests.

Code Compliance: This budget is proposed to go up by 7% in FY 2017 to accommodate Code Supervisor Glass' request for an increase in part-time hours from 30 to 35 per week. As in the police department, a small increase in training & seminars is proposed for staff to pursue professional development.

<u>Public Works:</u> An overall increase of 1.9% has been budgeted for the Public Works Department, which funds 8 full

time staff and 2 part time staff. A notable increase has been budgeted for the traffic control line item to fund the purchase of street signs that comply with federal standards for reflectivity, size and height.

Parks and Recreation: A \$2,500 increase is proposed in the Sports Park line item to accommodate a request by the Boys & Girls Club for the Town to pay the electricity bill. Proposed funding for a service that allows residents to use UMD shuttle buses for free has been dropped because better public transportation options to Metro stations are available from Metrobus and the County bus.

Non-departmental: This budget has the most significant changes in the overall budget. With the upgrade to a new website, the Town will implement an option for customers to pay Town fees and fines by credit card. This involves a relatively small start up investment for credit card terminals, but it is proposed to pass on processing fees of up to 3% to the consumer.

Another major change is planned for employee health insurance, where the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) offers a competitively priced PPO plan from Cigna with no deductible that would replace the Town's current Care First HMO plan with high deductible. LGIT can offer a better plan for the same price because rates are based on a larger pool of enrollees from many member municipalities. A LGIT representative will make a presentation at the next budget worksession and employees will receive a separate briefing before any switch is made.

TA Cowles is also proposing to arrange a facilitated strategic planning workshop for the Council through UMD's Center for Leadership and Organizational Change. This would ideally take place at the beginning of a Council term and help the Council develop goals and priorities to guide funding decisions for their upcoming term.

Capital projects-Operating: An increase of \$35,000 in transfers to the vehicle replacement reserve is proposed to fully fund it at the level of \$93,400. A transfer of \$190,000 derived from HUR and the Town's road tax to the infrastructure improvement reserve is proposed, raising it to the level of \$913,000 overall. This is probably not sufficient for a major road project. An expenditure of \$19,000 is proposed to replace all desk phones with digital models that would allow employees to transfer calls between departments, forward calls from their desk phones to personal cell phones and util-

ize desk phone IDs when making calls from personal cell phones. Further, it is proposed to make several security improvements at Town buildings with installation of security cameras and door buzzer systems at a total expense of \$5,000, and to upgrade the HVAC system in the Town Center for a projected \$15,600.

Public Safety Taxing District budget: This budget funds the salary of one police officer through a special tax on businesses located in Berwyn Heights, which is divided into a 10 cents/\$100 assessed value tax on real property and 15 cents/ \$100 assessed value tax on personal property. Expenditures are proposed to go up by 9% to fund a promotion of the Detective to Detective Sergeant, and to add holiday pay to the Detective's salary, which was erroneously taken from the general fund in previous years. While the PSTD is sustainable at current funding levels, the tax rate may have to be adjusted in future years, or a different officer's salary substituted.

Urban forest initiative: MPT Rasmussen explained that the Council set aside \$15,000 in the FY 2016 budget for an Urban Forest consultancy. In January 2016, the Town released a request for proposals (RFP) to include an assessment of the Town's tree canopy, an inventory of trees on public property, software to track the tree inventory, and a tree management plan. At this point the Town received 2 proposals from: 1) Davey Resource Group for \$29,400; and 2) Savatree Consultants for \$24,750.

TA Cowles negotiated with the low bidder Savatree to bring the price down to \$20,000 by limiting the tree inventory to public trees and foregoing the purchase of tree inventory software. MPT Rasmussen and TA Cowles propose to fund the difference of \$5,000 from an estimated \$28,000 in FY 2016 unspent money. In response to Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, MPT Rasmussen said that a policy proposal to require permits for cutting down private trees could still be included as part of the management plan that comes with the package. MPT Rasmussen moved to authorize spending \$20,000 for the Savatree consultancy. CM Dennison seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Election judges' stipend: Clerk Harper explained that each election season the Council reviews the election judges' stipends to decide if a raise is warranted. The chief judge's stipend was last raised in 2014 to \$175. Regular judges' stipends have not been raised since 2006. A regular election day usually starts

shortly before 7 am and does not end until 9 pm. TA Cowles added that the budget appropriates \$1,500 for Town elections and can accommodate a small raise. MPT Rasmussen moved and CM Dennison seconded to give all election judges a \$25 raise. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Candidates Night moderator: The following people were proposed as potential moderators: Richard Ahrens, James Wilkinson, Eric Olson, and possibly someone from the UMD political science department. TA Cowles and Clerk Harper were asked to contact the proposed moderators to see if they are available, and the Council to make a decision at the next worksession.

Bulletin Cover: The following items were approved for the April Bulletin: Election theme and headline; announcements for candidates' night, wine tasting, and budget introduction.

Nothing was discussed under 4. Code Compliance, 5. Parks and Recreation, and 6. Public Safety.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Town Meeting March 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen, Councilmembers (CM) Patricia Dennison, Maria Robles, and Lynn White. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Officer Ben Hollowell, Treasurer Michelle Rodriguez, Clerk Kerstin Harper and citizens.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the February 10 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by CM Robles seconded by CM Dennison, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rodriguez gave the Treasurer's report for the month of February.

3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy announced that the Council held an executive session on December 21, 2015 regarding a personnel matter and a legal matter; and on February 1, 2016 regarding a legal mat-

ter. She noted that the March calendar published in the Berwyn Heights Bulletin mistakenly showed March 16 as the date of another Town meeting. No meeting will be held on that date.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy further announced that CM White, one of the six candidates who filed papers to run in the May 3 Town Council election, has withdrawn her nomination. The candidates still running are: Patricia Dennison, Cheryl Jewitt, Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Chris Rasmussen and Maria Robles. Their candidate profiles will be published in the April Bulletin. The Town offers residents, who maintain their domicile in another state, the opportunity to register to vote in the Town election only. Supplementary registration takes place at the Town office throughout the month of March during regular business hours and on March 28 from 7– 9 pm.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that the Maryland General Assembly and Prince George's County are working on their budgets. Nothing specific affecting Berwyn Heights has been noted in the State of Maryland's proposed budget. The proposed Prince George's County FY 2017 Budget may include a recommendation for a 4.7% spending increase, taxi service accessibility upgrades and perhaps going to a once-a-week trash pickup for those that use the County service. The County budget must be adopted on or before June 1st. Those speaking at the County's Town Hall Budget Hearing last night strongly supported keeping their local schools open, which is not something the County Council controls. That decision is made by the School Board, and just as a reminder—our District 2 Board representative, Lupi Grady, will be at the March 21 Worksession. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy mentioned the PGCPS audit will not be ready by the time the budget has to be approved this year, and that may leave many questions from last year still unanswered

Town's proposed budget of \$3,013,400 was presented by TA Cowles at the March 7 worksession, which includes small increases for most of the Town's Departments. Due to the recent reassessment, if rates remain constant, real property tax revenues are expected to go up by around 9% this year, which would allow the Town to balance the budget without making withdrawals from surplus to fund operations. The FY 2017 budget proposes to keep the existing real property tax rate of 53 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, including the 3 cents road tax, and to decline acceptance of a constant yield

tax rate. A summary of the proposed budget and tax rates will be published in the April Bulletin and a public hearing will be held during the April Town Meeting. Residents are encouraged to provide input and participate in the process.

4. Department Reports

Administration: MPT Rasmussen reported that the installation of the emergency generators has been completed, but they still need to be tested. The Safe Routes to School sidewalks in the 8900 block of 63rd Avenue are also almost complete. The Town recently received two proposals for the Urban Forest initiative he has championed. At its March 7 worksession, the Council accepted the low bid from Savatree Consultants and approved an additional \$5,000 for the consultancy initially funded at the level of \$15,000. They will create an urban tree inventory and develop a tree management plan for the Town.

MPT Rasmussen said that the Town Council attended a special Four Cities meeting with the University of Maryland (UMD) President Wallace Loh on February 25 and discussed the development plans on Route 1. Currently under construction is more student housing and a large hotel complex across from UMD's main entrance. MPT Rasmussen said that universities have a big economic impact on the surrounding communities and the potential to generate growth and innovative projects and that the Town should consider a closer alliance with UMD.

Code Compliance: CM Robles reported that rental licenses continue on a downward trend, meaning that more homes are owner-occupied. During the last month, there has been a slight increase in clean lot violations and home owners are requested to keep their properties clean and neat. The Call-a-Bus has been repaired and is again available for use by Town organizations. The Code Compliance Department will soon publish a job opening for a part-time code officer, a position that was left unfilled after the departure of Kyle Snyder. Ms. Robles thanked Code employees for keeping up with the workload while being shortstaffed.

Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs: CM Dennison reported that Game Night was well attended and that the Recreation Council is still seeking volunteers for Berwyn Heights Day.

Public Health and Safety: Officer Hollowell reported for Chief Antolik who was out sick. During the last month there

were 2 robberies (at both 7/11 stores) and 4 thefts for a total of 6 Part I offenses in February, and 9 for the year to date. The 5 year average for February is 5.2, and 10.6 for the year to date. The police also issued 109 state and municipal citations and 363 speed camera tickets, 355 on Greenbelt Road and 8 on Pontiac Street. On March 15, County Councilwoman Glaros will host a public safety community chat at the West Lanham Hills Volunteer Fire Department.

Officer Hollowell also gave a brief report on behalf of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department (BHVFD). The BHVFD responded to six working structure fires and two complex vehicle extraction in February. It also participated in a smoke alarm check and installation drive in Hollywood and covered for the Hyattsville VFD during its annual awards banquet.

Public Works: CM White thanked the Council and the residents for the opportunity to serve on the Town Council. She decided to step down because she wants to spend more time with her son. In Public Works news, the crew worked on street repairs (potholes), building and fleet maintenance and prepared for another possible winter storm. Public Works also helped prepare the community garden for spring planting.

5. Committee Reports

Education Advisory Committee: CM Dennison reported that the EAC meets tomorrow, March 10 at 7 pm. CM White may step up to become co-chair of the Committee.

Historical Committee: Clerk Harper said that the BHHC continues to work on an oral history highlights video and that the Committee received a donation from former Councilmember Lofgren. He donated pole climbers used by the Berwyn Heights Association to repair street lights in the 1920s.

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that the NW/EP's wine tasting even was postponed to Saturday, April 30 from 2 to 6 pm. Three wineries have agreed to participate so far. Entrance fee will be \$10/person.

Recreation Council: The Recreation Council seeks Berwyn Heights Day volunteers. Interested residents should contact the Recreation Council President Tim Tormoen or Administrative Assistant Yvonne Odoi.

6. Unfinished Business

There was none.

7. New Business

Resolution 01-2016 - Full Funding of Highway User Revenues: Clerk Harper read the Resolution. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that this is a resolution requesting the Maryland Assembly to reinstate full funding of Highway User Revenues (HUR) which were severely cut during the recession. While municipalities were given one-time HUR grants in addition to formula-awarded HUR in the last couple of years, the revenue cannot be relied upon to make the large, multi-year investments in infrastructure that are needed to repair long neglected roads. MPT Rasmussen added that municipalities need predictable revenue streams to be able to make plans. CM Dennison moved and MPT Rasmussen seconded the motion to adopt the Resolution. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Resolution 02-2016 - Adoption of Inter-Municipal Bicycle Trails MOU: Clerk Harper read the Resolution. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the municipalities in the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA) sets up a work group to coordinate the development and maintenance of hiker-biker trails as an integrated system. The MOU does not impose any new financial burdens on participating municipalities, but the cities and towns are expected to delegate at least one, preferably elected, official to take part in the working group. MPT Rasmussen expressed reservations about the wording of the MOU. CM Dennison moved and CM Robles seconded to adopt the MOU. The motion passed 5 to 0.

8. Citizens Discussion

There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Budget Worksession March 14, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, and Lynn White. Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen and CM Maria Robles had an excused absence. CM Dennison arrived 5 minutes late. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles and Clerk Kerstin Harper.

1. Mayor

Announcements: There were none.

2. Budget

Code Compliance: TA Cowles gave an overview of the Code Compliance Department budget. She said that the FY 2017 proposed budget continues to fund 1 full time code supervisor and 1 part time clerk at 10 hours per week, but increases code officers' part time hours from 30 to 35 hours per week. The increased part time hours would be utilized to expand inspections of properties for clean lot and other violations during the busy spring and summer seasons, especially during weekends and evening hours. In response to questions, TA Cowles said she anticipates that the increase in part time hours would apply to the entire year for recruitment purposes. If hours were to be cut back during the winter, it would have to be spelled out in the hiring agreement. Another reason for more part time hours is to have someone on board who can fill in for the code supervisor when he is on vacation.

TA Cowles continued that the FY 2017 budget reflects proposed spending that is closer to FY 2016 actual expenditures. Thus the postage line item was reduced by 13% or \$200 reflecting less mail sent by regular postal service and fewer certified letters. Further, she recommends increasing the training & seminars, and books & periodicals line items to enable the code supervisor to take specialized training and develop professionally. The communications appropriation went up by 42% or \$500 to pay for the data plans of three iPads used by the code officers to collect information and write reports in the field. Capital outlays <\$500 was phased out because the items costing less than \$500 can mostly be absorbed in the supplies line item. In the van program, she added \$200 for gas expenditures in anticipation of more frequent use of the Call-a-Bus now that it has been repaired.

Under revenues, building permit fees were budgeted conservatively at \$8,000 or \$500 less than what is projected for the remainder of FY 2016. Rental license fees are also expected to decline by 12% reflecting a decrease in rental housing units over the last year. Dumpster permit fees are expected to decline by 55%, while code fines revenue is projected to go up by 15% or \$2,500. Revenues from liens, which are delinquent code fines deducted from homeowners' tax bills, have not been itemized and are included in the code fines line item.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy wondered if money had been budgeted to purchase a decibel meter and specialized testing equipment used in rental inspections, which former Code officer Hall owned. TA Cowles said she would check.

Police Department budget: TA Cowles gave a summary of the Police Department budget. She said that the FY 2017 proposed budget funds two promotions to corporal requested by Chief Antolik, which is reflected in an 8.4% increase in the salary appropriation. No changes are proposed in the shift differential and locality pay appropriations. Other noteworthy changes include increased funding for professional development reflected in the dues & conferences and training & seminars line items. In combination with competitive salaries, this is intended to help retain a professional police force. As in the code budget, the postage appropriation was budgeted closer to expected FY 2016 actuals.

In response to questions, TA Cowles explained that funding for National Night Out is dependent on what parameters are set for this event. It may require making an assessment of what Town staff and residents would like this event to accomplish. The appropriated \$2,500 should be sufficient if additional funds can be drawn from the public relations line item. New bullet proof vests are funded in the uniforms line item, but could instead be funded from the Public Safety Reserve. A \$4,000 request for telephone service was reduced by 54% or \$2,300 because substantial savings are projected from the Town-wide implementation of Voice over Internet Phone (VOIP) service.

Police revenues from fines & forfeitures show a slight upward trend but are dependent on how many Town citations are issued. The Council in 2015 authorized a new fine for vehicles that do not have a license plate in front and back ends. Speed camera revenues are subject to great variation and limited to expenditures related to public safety. Any funds not used for public safety expenditures roll over into the Public Safety Reserve. State police aid to municipalities has gone up by 7.6% and can be used without restrictions.

Public Safety Taxing District: TA Cowles explained that the Public Safety Taxing District (PSTD) budget is funded from a special tax on commercial and industrial establishments located in the Town. This revenue did not experience the dramatic decline that happened with residential properties, and continues to go up in

small increments. Use of PSTD revenue is restricted to expenses related to the commercial district. The Town funds the salary and equipment of one police officer assigned to the district. Last year, the Town purchased a new police vehicle for this officer but had to use the PSTD fund balance. In FY 2017, the PSTD is proposed to fund the promotion of this officer, which requires the use of \$6,700 from the fund balance. The recent reassessment in real property may bring in enough additional revenues to cover the officer and a new car two or three years from now.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said, at the next budget worksession, LGIT insurance representatives will be here to explain their health insurance program. Also to be discussed will be non-departmental, cable, employee benefits and capital projects budgets.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

orksession March 21, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, Maria Robles and Lynn White. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Clerk Kerstin Harper and Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Representatives Lupi Grady, School Board Member, and Raymond Brown, Chief Financial Officer.

1. Mayor

Announcements: Supplemental registration of voters in the upcoming Town election will continue through March.

Calendar: No changes were made.

Minutes: On a motion by CM Dennison and second by CM Robles, the March 7 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0.

School Board Member Visit: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy welcomed Lupi Grady, School Board Representative for District 2 and Raymond Brown, PGCPS Chief Financial Officer. Ms. Grady said that she and Mr. Brown will speak mainly about the proposed FY 2017 PGCPS budget and capital improvements pertaining to Berwyn Heights Elementary

School, topics in which the Council had expressed interest.

Mr. Brown gave a high-level overview of the proposed FY 2017 PGCPS budget. The school system's budget is formulated in the context of a strategic plan that covers 2016-2020 and is focused on "outstanding academic achievement for all students." To fulfill the promise of the strategic plan, the Board of Education requested \$2,023,795,000 for FY 2017, a 9% increase over FY 2016. The County Executive's proposed FY 2017 budget reduced the funding increase to \$84.8 million or 4.6% for a total PGCPS budget of \$1.926 billion. The largest share of funding, 56.7% comes from the State based on a per pupil funding formula, 36.4% comes from County tax revenues, and 4.8% comes from federal sources.

The main cost driver in the PGCPS budget is the mandatory cost of doing business, topped by \$80.7 million for staff salaries, pensions and health insurance, technology infrastructure and transportation. Also mandated is charter school funding at the level of \$6.6 million, and \$12.5 million for the continuation of programs initiated in the FY 2016 budget. The total mandatory costs are estimated to be \$99.8 million, which is \$15 million over projected PGCPS revenues. This funding gap will entail difficult decisions about what should be cut.

Ms. Grady elaborated that the strategic plan implemented after she was elected in November 2014, focuses on improving academic literacy, teacher recruitment and retention - one of her priorities - family engagement, organizational effectiveness, and modernization of facilities and technology. The implementation of these priorities depends on funding levels and is difficult to accomplish in a large school system with diverse interests. It is important that the Town Council and residents communicate to her what are their principal educational concerns.

In response to Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, Ms. Grady and Mr. Brown replied that many of the schools in northern Prince George's County are over capacity. The PGCPS capital improvement plan proposes to open 1 new elementary school, 2 new middle schools, and 2 new high schools to address the overcrowding in this area. The final location for these schools has not yet been decided, but there are 16 sites that are being studied.

She is not sure which particular capital projects are planned for BHES but she will look them up and inform TA Cowles. An audit of the County budget that was promised last year has just begun and will not be completed before August this year.

In discussions the following questions and concerns were raised:

- How does PGCPS support the expansion of popular charter schools;
- Too large a percentage of the proposed PGCPS budget increase is programmed for personnel costs;
- Main concerns of the re-constituted Berwyn Heights Education Advisory Committee (BH EAC) are inadequate classrooms at BHES, and quality of school lunches;
- Students from the new Greenbelt Metro Station slated to go to Berwyn Heights are likely to overcrowd BHES:
- What amount of casino revenue is allocated toward school improvements;
- Best way to improve student achievement is to treat teachers well and make sure that they remain in this County;
- Prince George's County and State of Maryland taxes are already too high and should not be raised to construct more schools:
- Capacity issues should be addressed by attracting students to under-utilized schools, by incentivizing home-schooling, providing vouchers for private schools, and subsidizing charter school entrepreneurs;
- What processes does PGCPS follow to correct problems with schoollevel leadership and culture to ensure the academic success of students

Ms. Grady and Mr. Brown responded to the comments. They said that charter schools wanting to expand may use a small portion of charter schools funds for construction, but must seek most of the funding from external sources. Regardless of Prince George's County budget shortfalls, the Board of Education will continue to advocate for what it believes are necessary investments, with the understanding that not all of their requests will be funded.

Attracting students to underutilized schools is no easy task and may require changing the culture that prevails at

some schools. Parent engagement is pivotal in identifying additional academic resources and building support systems at individual schools. A new "Parent University" program has been set up to train parents to become more engaged in the education of their children and support the teaching communities at Title 1 schools. These are schools with a high percentage of poor children that receive federal funding. PGCPS has a process of moving a complaint about a particular principal or teacher up the chain of command, but also relies on school board members to rectify school-specific leadership issues.

In conclusion, Ms. Grady promised to follow up on the questions asked tonight and invited councilmembers to attend school board and County Council hearings to make their voices heard.

Department reports: MPT Rasmussen reported that the condemned 58th Avenue property was razed. The owner paid for the cost of the demolition and will rebuild. CM Robles reported that the Cunningham Drive property will be demolished very soon. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that Officer Krouse and Hollowell were commended for the work they did in working with residents.

Citizen comments: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy had a comment about trash cans and a vehicle that has been parked in the street for more than 72 hours.

BHES funding request: TA Cowles explained that BHES submitted a request to help fund either of two science enrichment activities: hosting the Maryland Zoo or the Maryland Science Center. The fee for a visit at the school is between \$1,200 and \$1,500, depending on the type and length of the program offered. In years past, the Town Council has made donations to support educational programs from the public relations line item in the Mayor & Council budget, which is funded at the level of \$4,500.

In the ensuing discussion, the following points were made: The Council needs to develop a policy for responding to these types of funding requests and clarify which organizations and programs might be eligible, what type information should be included in funding requests, and how much money should be committed. The amount of money that would spent on the proposed BHES event is within the realm of what has been spent before. CM Robles moved, and CM Dennison seconded to authorize spending up to \$1,500 for one of the proposed events. The motion passed 4 to 1. MPT Rasmussen voted against the motion because of the lack of a policy framework.

2. Administration

Candidates Night moderator: TA Cowles said that two of the candidates the Council considered for moderator. James Wilkinson and Eric Olson, are available on the date set for Candidates Night. She also reached out to the chair of the UMD political science department for a recommendation, but has not received a reply. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said she would prefer Eric Olson because he has no attachments to the Town government and therefore no perceived biases towards any of the candidates. CM Robles moved and MPT Rasmussen seconded to select Eric Olson. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Citizen of the year nominations: The Council was asked to start thinking about candidates for citizen of the year, who would be honored on Berwyn Heights Day. A selection will be made in executive session at the next worksession.

Nothing was discussed under 3. Code Compliance, 5. Parks and Recreation, and 5. Public Safety.

6. Public Works

Permanent director recruitment: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that interim Public Works Director Kenneth Hall has made known his desire to retire this summer. TA Cowles said she has started to revise the job description for the Public Works director, which she will present at the next worksession for the Council's approval. She will then advertise the vacancy for a month. She has already put out the word to municipal and county agencies that Berwyn Heights will be hiring a permanent director soon. From May 15 to May 31, she will screen applicants to produce a shortlist of 2 to 3 candidates, from which the Council would make a selection at a June 6 executive session. Then a job offer will be extended and details finalized, and with Director Hall's help the new director will be brought on-board and trained in early July.

In response to questions, TA Cowles said she does not anticipate the need for additional funding for the recruitment process and believes that there is a good supply of possible candidates working in neighboring municipalities and county agencies. The proposed FY 2017 budget includes sufficient funding for the position based on the prevailing range of public works director salaries in this area.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

raft Minutes
Budget Worksession
March 28, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen Councilmembers (CMs) CM Maria Robles and Lynn White. CM Patricia Dennison had an excused absence. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Clerk Kerstin Harper and representatives from the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT) non-profit association.

1. Mayor

Announcements: There were none.

2. Health Insurance Presentation

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy welcomed representatives from LGIT: Timothy Ailesworth and Michele Keplinger, as well as Benecon Representative Robin Richardson for a presentation on LGIT's health insurance program.

Mr. Ailesworth gave an overview of the company's history. LGIT was founded in 1987, when the insurance market considered local governments a bad risk. Since then, the membership has grown from an initial 22 to 182 local governments. LGIT has approximately \$60 million in assets of which \$46 million is members' equity. In 2010, LGIT started a health insurance cooperative, which joins multiple local governments into a purchasing group to capitalize on the advantages of self-funding without bearing the risks. The health insurance co-op has 20 members currently (encompassing 1800 employees), which range in size from very small municipalities with a handful of employees to large counties with several hundred employ-

TA Cowles explained she heard about LGIT's health insurance program from other municipalities which had success in reducing their insurance costs with this program. She has since met with LGIT representatives to obtain quotes on what the Town would pay for insuring its 12 employees if it were to join the health insurance co-op. She has prepared a comparison chart to help the Council make a decision in the context of formulating the FY 2017 budget. The chart breaks down health insurance

costs for FY 2016 with the current carrier, which comes to \$156,600 plus \$37,500 for a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), and compares it to the proposed LGIT coop costs, which are projected to be \$122,000.

Ms. Keplinger explained that LGIT's health cooperative works with Benecon, a leader in assembling consortiums, to underwrite the health insurance pool, and with Cigna to provide the network of health care providers and claims administration. What is different in this arrangement is that members of the health coop, i.e. the local governments, own the claims money from which claims are paid. The claims funds are protected with stop loss insurance. Members are obligated to help each other, but the amount is capped, so that no member has to use its entire surplus to fund another's shortfall. Some of the benefits of the program include:

- Not being subject to many of the health insurance taxes established with Affordable Care Act:
- More flexibility and control in designing a health insurance plan;
- No age-band rating. Insurance rates are based on claims experience;
- Actuaries, who establish insurance rates, work for the health co-op, not the carrier;
- Full transparency on how claims administration and insurance money is spent;
- Quarterly reports to show claims performance. No surprises with renewal rates;
- Unused claims funds are returned to the Town as surplus, minus a capped portion to help out other members.

TA Cowles noted that the Town's current plan is with Care First HMO, which has a high deductible and a Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). Employees are given a debit card to pay for deductibles and prescription drugs. However, there are many complaints about the non-acceptance of the debit cards, making this the least liked aspect of the current insurance plan. The new plan would move employees into a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) and do away with the debit card. In addition, better vision and dental plans are also available with the co-op.

In discussion, the following points were made:

Employees will be consulted about

their preferences. Cigna tries to ensure that all doctors employees are currently using accept Cigna insurance. Employees will be briefed on how the new insurance program works.

- Membership in the LGIT health insurance co-op would give the Town access to wellness programs not currently available.
- Through their "Connect Care 3" program, LGIT provides assistance to employees with health care questions and guidance on navigating the health care system.
- LGIT will provide a history of recent premium increases, which has averaged around 7% and reflects the rate of inflation in the health care sector.
- The premium increases apply to individual members and reflect their individual claims fund performance over the year.
- Premium increases for the following fiscal year are available in March.
- LGIT health insurance plan is less complex than the current carrier.
- LGIT plan administrators help members to be compliant with new ACA requirements.
- Town decides formula for employee cost sharing.
- Cigna can set up individual flexible spending accounts, if desired.

Some local governments have decided not to join the LGIT co-op because 1) an earlier model was unsuccessful, 2) because it is a relatively new concept; and 3) because their current carrier dropped rates when they considered joining LGIT. Downsides of the LGIT co-op include:

- Cigna's provider network is not as large as some others in this area.
- Switching to the co-op will entail more responsibility for the Town. A large amount of paperwork will have to be filed upon joining the coop, which the Town has to file itself.

LGIT predicts that the self-funded insurance model will expand in future years because it is the best way to control costs. The Council thanked the representatives for their detailed presentation.

At 8:15 p.m., the Council took a 5 minute break.

3. Budget

Non-departmental: TA Cowles requested feedback from the Council on

whether they would like to move forward with preparing to enroll in the LGIT health insurance co-op or remain with the current carrier. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said her main concern is ensuring the Town employees are comfortable with a change. The Council agreed that TA Cowles should prepare switching to the LGIT health insurance co-op, provided that the cost is comparable to what the Town currently pays. TA Cowles further noted that LGIT also offers dental, vision and life insurance plans that 1) provide better coverage; and 2) generate savings from bundling services.

Employee benefits: Pension plan contributions, set by the State Retirement System, are going up 4.2%. Currently, contributions are between 8% - 9% for the employer and 7% for employees. The salary pool, which sets aside money for merit increases and other salary adjustments, is budgeted at \$31,000 or 3.1% less than the FY 2016 appropriation. The appropriation for the salary pool is based on the human resources consultant's proposal to restructure the pay scale and performance review systems of Town employees.

Several items in the employee benefits budget were moved from other budget areas, including IT support and custodial services. Credit card acceptance, website annual maintenance, and a strategic planning workshop for the next Council have also been added here because they not specific to an individual department. The tuition reimbursement line item remains at \$1,000, but could be phased out and replaced by increased funding in the departmental training budgets for a more meaningful contribution to employee development. Miscellaneous benefits cover the cost of background checks and physicals of job applicants.

There ensued a discussion of whether some items budgeted under employee benefits should be accounted for elsewhere in the budget where they would not appear to be part of the operating budget. This pertains in particular the consultancies for economic development, urban forest, human resources, and website upgrade as these are non-recurring expenditures.

TA Cowles recommended that the Council at some point vote on the credit card fee, proposed at \$3 to \$5 per transaction, which the Town would charge customers for processing credit card payments, as well as on whether to continue the tuition reimbursement program in its current form.

Insurance: Unemployment compensation is budgeted to go up by 15% due to personnel actions taken in the Public Works Department and *general liability insurance* is projected to increase by 5%.

Cable budget: This budget is expected to go down by 26% because no major capital outlays are anticipated. In FY 2016, the Town purchased a security appliance for the Town's IT infrastructure. Funds in the cable budget come from Comcast and Verizon franchise fees and PEG grants. Unused funds roll over into a cable reserve. Cable funds are restricted in use to Cable TV-related expenses. Streaming of Town Council meetings on the web would qualify for cable funding, while translation services for the Town Bulletin probably would not.

Capital Projects: This budget includes several reserves, in which funds are set aside each year for a particular purpose, including the infrastructure reserve to fund future road repairs (\$190,000 contribution), the vehicle replacement reserve to fully fund replacement of Public Works vehicles (\$93,400), a Greenbelt Station reserve (\$309,000) and several smaller reserves.

The budget also funds a number of new one-time capital expenditures, including an integrated Voice Over Internet Phone (VOIP) system for all departments (\$19,000), security improvements at the Town office and Town Center (\$5,000), a new hybrid vehicle for the Administration Department (\$29,000 with \$20,000 coming from an Maryland Smart Energy Communities grant), Town museum lighting (\$1,000), and a new HVAC system at the Town Office and Town Center (\$15,600).

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed doubts about a security camera for the Town Center's second floor, where private parties take place. TA Cowles was asked to get an opinion on whether recordings would be subject to Public Information Act (PIA) requests and might pose a privacy issue. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy also proposed to fund a contribution to a new Heritage Center, requested by Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA), and to fund bullet proof vests (\$11,500) requested by Chief Antolik from the public safety reserve.

Public Safety Taxing District budget. This budget was reviewed at the last budget worksession. A date needs to set for the Commercial District Management Authority (CDMA) to approve it before the Town adopts its budget at the May Town meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk





Code News

March Activities

Clean Lot Violations	
High Grass/ Vegetation	0
Clean Lot	4
Animals	0
Trash/ Litter	0
Non-Hazardous	3
Vehicles	0
Premise Identification	4
Commercial	0
Total Violations	12
Abatements	0
Permits	
Building	5
Dumpster/ PODs	1
Total Permits issued	6
Rentals	
New Rentals	5
Lost Rentals	1
Total Rentals	194
Inspections	17
Re-inspections	3
Fines	0
Rental Licenses Issued	15
Vacant Homes	12

Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA --May 2016 --

ON BEHALF OF ALL BHES FAMILIES, THE PTA WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE OUR SCHOOL'S INCREDIBLE TEACHERS AND STAFF! WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR EVERY MINUTE YOU SPEND WITH US, EVERY OUNCE OF ENERGY YOU GIVE TO US, EVERY GRAY HAIR WE CAUSE, EVERY HOUR OF SLEEP YOU FOREGO TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN. WE APPRECIATE YOU MORE THAN WE COULD EVER ADEQUATELY ARTICULATE.

THANK YOU!

** Scholastic Book Fair **

Bestsellers * New Releases
Old Favorites * Gifts & More

Tues, May 31 - Fri, June 3 * 9am-4pm Open late Thursday, June 2!

Proceeds support our school library!

Career Day

Thursday, May 26

Do you have a fascinating career! Visit classrooms and inspire our students to follow in your footsteps.

Please contact president@bhespta.org for more info.

BRING YOUR KIDS TO SCHOOL AND STAY FOR A

SECOND CUP OF COFFEE

Tuesday, May 17th at 9am

This month, our topic is



"WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD READ OVER THE SUMMER."



Upcoming Events

Monday, May 2 6th grade field trip to UMD

Monday-Friday May 2-6
Teacher Appreciation Week

Tuesday, May 10
PTA meeting @ 6:45pm in the library

Tuesday, May 17

2nd Cup of Coffee @ 9am

Tuesday-Friday, May 17-20 Field Trips to Bladensburg Waterfront Park

Tuesday, May 26 Career Day

Monday, May 30 No School – Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 31
Scholastic Book Fair begins

Celebrate the Summer with our Annual

End-of-School-Year Pool Party! Friday, June 17th

Free * Fun * Friends * Family * Food More Information Coming Next Month!

www.BHESPTA.org

Facebook: Berwyn Heights ES PTA

president@bhespta.org



Sharon A. McCraney, Realtor® Certified Sr. Housing Specialist • Top Producer and Top Lister 2006-present

Certified Sr. Housing Specialist • Top Producer and Top Lister 2006-present MD Representative Long and Foster Gold Team Cell: 301-346-1462 • Office: 301-441-9511 X113 Email sharonsells@Lnf.com • www.sharonmccraney.com



May is a popular month for all! Please check the events calendar below. "Quote" of the month: "Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful".(Albert Schweitzer) and MY Motto!

May Events in/around Berwyn Heights:

- May 3- Get out and vote in the BH elections (Sr Center)
- May 5- Cinco de Mayo (Mexico wins Independence)
- May 7- Berwyn Heights Day (see you at pancake breakfast)
- May 8- Mothers Day
- · May 18- UMD graduation
- · May 30 Memorial Day

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
- NATIONWIDE WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- HELP WITH STAGING
- 18 YRS CONSISTENT TOP PRODUCER
- TOWN RESIDENT
- LICENSED IN MD & DC

***LISTED or SOLD by SHARON THIS MONTH**

NEW LISTING -5811 Pontiac St- 1927 Bungalow 3BR, 1BA FP, sep DR....\$254900.

NEW LISTING- 8525 60th PI- 3 BR 2 BA Rambler w/attached gar \$294900.

UNDER CONTRACT- 6300 Tecumseh PI-3 BR 2 BA cape.

NEW LISTING- 5929 Natasha Dr- 4 BR 2 BA Rambler w MBR addtn \$269900.

UNDER CONTRACT- 116 Lee Av Takoma Pk- 1 BR condo

If your property is currently listed with another broker, this is not a solicitation of that listing.



Additions
Basements

Rothers

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Kitchens

Gutters

Windows

Bathrooms

Over 30 years of experience

FREE ESTIMATES
TOWN REFERENCES

REMODELING SPECIALISTS

Repairs

Office

Doors

Siding

Painting

301 - 854 - 1519

Mobile

MHIC 51073 Bob 3

Bob 301 - 646 - 0825 Danny 301 - 535 - 4594

RICHARD K. GEHRING, HOME IMPROVEMENT

Specialist in Remodeling & Repairs
Carpentry—Drywall—Painting
Kitchens—Bathrooms
Siding—Windows—Doors—Decks
Licensed—Insured—Lead Paint Certified
MHIC #84145

Phone 301-441-1246

As You Like It Heating and Air Conditioning, LLC Owner, Mike Menard: (240) 375-1146



Family Owned and Operated for 17 years

Town Resident Since 1985



Competitive Pricing!

Specializing in:

- Heating and Air Conditioning
- Custom Fabricated Duct Work Now accepting Bi-Annual Maintenance
- Humidification
- Indoor Air Quality
- Air Filtration Systems
- Water Heaters

· Boilers

comfortable all year round!
*References gladly supplied upon request

Agreements to keep you and your family

Sheet Metal, Mike Jr.: (301) 466-4617

Office/Fax: (301) 931-3595

E-mail: mike@asyoulikeitheatingandair.com Check out our new website:

Licensed www.asyoulikeitheatingandair.com

Insured

BERWYN MEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

Next to the Town Office on 57th Avenue — Open 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. — Phone 301-474-0018

THE BEST THERAPY IN THE WORLD IS TIME OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS.

Now that spring is here, come to the Center, get a cup of coffee or tea and, of course, something to eat. You can always count on something to eat when you are with the Seniors!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO					
May 4	Marie LaRue				
May 5	Lise Powell				
May 6	Rosa Cimermanis				
	Emma Smith				
May 9	Howard Johnson				
May 14	Rachele Schultz				
May 15	Leon Swain				
May 20	Deb Hutchinson				
May 23	Herman Seeger				

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HOWARD JOHNSON

This month we celebrate the notable 95th birthday of Howard Johnson.

Howard was raised in Minnesota where, as many did at that time, he worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps Camps. In 1940, at the age of 20, he relocated to Washington and joined the US Army. After completing his World War II service, he secured employment with the C&P Telephone Company. In 1950, while still with C&P, he and his wife Ruby relocated to Berwyn Heights.

After his retirement from the phone company in 1984, he and Ruby joined the Seniors where, among other things, he led the weekly exercise group. When Wii Bowling was introduced, he immediately signed up. This year, his team is "Happy Feet."

The happy part describes Howard. He always has a smile and kind word.

MAY ACTIVITIES								
May 3 CENTER CLOSED — TOWN ELECTION								
May 4	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.						
May 5	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.						
May 10	Meeting & Bingo	11:00 A.M.						
May 11	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.						
May 12	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.						
May 14	Pot Luck & Movie	5:00 P.M.						
May 17	Bingo	12:30 P.M.						
May 18	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.						
May 19	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.						
May 24	Meeting, Potluck,	11:00 A.M.						
	Bingo							
May 25	Wii Bowling	10:30 A.M.						
May 26	Pool Night	7:00 P.M.						
May 31	Bingo	12:30 P.M.						

Happenings

As of this writing there are no scheduled "Happenings." However, there are tentative plans to attend a concert and/or play. A Breakfast at the Silver Diner is also planned. Call the Senior Center for details.

Why not join us for the Pot Luck and Movie on Saturday, May 14 at 5:00 P.M.?

Ray Smith



Proudly serving the Berwyn Heights Community for over 20 years

New Patients & Emergencies Welcome
Offering Senior Dental Discount
Maryland State Healthy Smile Provider
Accepting Most Insurance Plans
Patient Financing Plans through CareCredit

We provide a full range of dental services including:

-Tooth Colored Fillings

-Crown & Bridges

-Dentures

-Implant Restoration

-Regular Exam & Cleanings

-Oral Cancer Screenings

-Digital X-rays

-Sealants

-Custom Mouth Guards

-Treatment for Snoring

-Treatment for Grinding

-ZOOM Whitening

We're dedicated to giving you the finest oral health care available with something extra \sim A Caring Attitude and Gentle Care \sim

New Patient Special \$86.00

Exam, X-rays, Cleaning

ZOOM Whitening Special \$100.00 off After Exam & Cleaning

Call today for an appointment!!
(301) 441-2550
6201 Greenbelt Road, Suite U-5
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
DrLinchuck.com



Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department

& Rescue Squad, Co. 14



Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60th Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 In Case of Emergency Call 911!

Recent Working Incidents:

<u>March 19-</u> At 1am Truck 14, Ambo 14 & Chief 14B(Keirnan) operated in the 5700blk of Tuckerman St in Riverdale for a House Fire.

March 19- At 8am Truck 14 & Chief 14B were again alerted to the 5700Blk of Tuckerman St after the same house caught fire again.

<u>March 27-</u> Squad 14 operated mutual aid to Motgomery County for the House Fire, 1600blk of Timberline Rd in Silver Spring.

March 29- Squad 14, Ambo 14, Chief 14A(Fabrizio) extricated a trapped driver from his overturned Mustang on I-495 at Kenilworth Ave.

<u>March 29-</u> Truck 14 & Utility 14 operated in the 6200Blk of Greenbelt Rd in Berwyn Heights for smoke in an office building.

<u>April 2-</u> Truck 14 & Chief 14B (Keinan) were first arriving units to the working Apartment fire in the 8500 Blk of Greenbelt Rd in Lanham. A 2nd Alarm was requested due to the heavy amount of fire between the walls on all three floors.

<u>April 2-</u> Squad 14, Tech Support 14, Truck 14 & Chief 14B extricated a patient from a vehicle that was struck by a large tree and entagled in power lines in the 9600Blk of 49th Ave in College Park. Strong winds during a storm felled a 24inch tree. BHVFD stabilized the tree

<u>April 14-</u> Truck 14 operated in the 7100Blk of Baltimore Ave in College Park for a kitchen fire with extension into the walls at Platos Diner.

<u>April 14-</u> Squad 14 & Ambo 14 were specialy-alerted as the 2nd Rescue Squad for a mutil-vehicle accident involving mutiple people trapped and a MD State Trooper. MSP Tropper 2 medivac helicopter was called to fly mutiple patients to trauma centers.

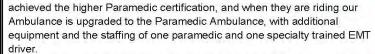
Berwyn Heights VFD Apparatus Profiles Part 3: Ambulances 148 & 149

Berwyn Heights VFD operates two Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulances that protect the residents of Berwyn Heights and surrounding communities. Our newest unit is Ambulance 14, a 2015 Ford F-350 Demers-built unit. Our secondary/reserve unit is Ambulance 14-B, a 2003



Freightliner Medic Master that was purchased used from the County in 2007. Both units are rotated in and out of front-line service depending on their maintenance schedules and other factors.

These units primarily operate as Basic Life Support (BLS) units staffed with EMTs that handle medical emergencies. The majority of our volunteers are EMT-Bs, however, we do have several members who have







Visit our Website at www.BHVFD14.org for our complete history!

Ambulance 14-B (reserve)

AFTER THE CAR ACCIDENT — WHAT TO DO

Check yourself for injuries. If you're injured, call 91 or ask someone else to do so. If you're seriously injured, try not to move, and wait for emergency personnel.

If you're not too hurt to move, check on the well-being of your passengers. If anyone's injured, get on the phone with 911 or ask a bystander to call for help.

Get to safety if you're able to, either on the side of the road or on a sidewalk. If your car is safe to drive and is causing a hazard where it is, pull it to the side of the road. Otherwise, leave it where it is and get yourself to safety. Turn off your engine, turn on your hazard lights and use road flares to warn other vehicles to slow down. Call 911

Station 14 Call Volume: Mar 2016				
Rescue Squads:	146			
Ladder Truck:	78			
Technical Rescue Support Unit:	3			
Ambulance:	135			
Total Station Runs for March 2016:	362			

JOIN US FOR BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY— SATURDAY MAY 7



Historical Committee



Patuxent Rural Life Museums Field Trip May 14, 2016, 1 pm Town Center Parking Lot

Join the BHHC on a tour of the Rural Life Museums dedicated to preserving the rural heritage of southern Prince George's County. The museum complex is located in the Patuxent River Park in Upper Marlboro and features the W. Henry Duvall Tool Museum and Duckett Log Cabin with its privy, chicken coop, and meat house, among other farm buildings. The BHHC hopes to learn more about old tools donated to us by the Lofgren family.

Berwyn Heights Day is Here

Visit our Tent

- See the next street marker
 "The Berwyn Heights Association"
- Historic Exhibits & Brochures
- April Bulletin Puzzle Solved

What's Up with the Signs?



The Town has received a couple of questions about new signs recently installed along Pontiac Street, 58th Avenue and Berwyn Road.

The signs have smaller lettering and are shorter than regular traffic signs because they are intended for bicycle riders. They were funded with a Maryland Heritage Areas grant to connect Berwyn Heights to the wider bicycle trails system of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA).

New bike racks at our parks and two bicycle repair stations were also part of the package. We hope you will have a chance to enjoy the new amenity.





Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee

Tips from Neighborhood Watch

Warm weather and longer days mean more time outside enjoying our beautiful Town! Walking with your kids to school or the park is a great way to get your blood flowing and spend some time outside in the nice weather. Plus, there are lots of health benefits to walking! Walking is an easy way to add more activity to your daily routine and you might even find yourself looking forward to it.

Wherever you're walking, make sure you get there safely! The following tips will help keep you and your family safe.

Set a good example:

- Teach your children to look left, right, and left again when crossing the street, and make sure you set a good example by doing the same.
- Don't check your phone or wear headphones while crossing the street, and teach your kids to do the same.

Teach your kids the rules of the road:

- Younger children, under 10 or so, should cross the street with an adult. They are harder for drivers to see and they can't judge cars' speeds and distances as well as adults.
- Watch out for all types of transportation, including bikes, cars, and other walkers.
- Teach your kids about cars' turn signals and brake lights so they know what cars are doing.

Make sure you and your kids are easily seen:

- Make eye contact with drivers.
- · Wear bright colors or reflective clothing, especially at night or early morning.

When sidewalks are available, make sure to use them. It's much safer than walking in the street!



While you are out and about, remember to maintain awareness of your surroundings and report suspicious activity to the police. **Emergency # 911**

Non-Emergency # 301-352-1200



POLICE BEAT

Includes crimes and accidents that occurred dur-

ing the month of **March 2016**. It is not a complete listing of every crime and/or accident that occurred in the Town. Incidents are listed from beginning of the month to the end of the month, starting with the first report taken during the period within a specified category.

03/01/2016 at 9:42 am, Pfc. Krouse along with Det. Unger responded to the 8500 block of 58th. Avenue for a check on a welfare of a resident.

03/01/2016 at 10:40 am, Pfc. Krouse impounded a 2014 Ford along with a 2012 Hyundai from the 5500 block of Greenbelt Road. Both vehicles were involved in an accident.

<u>03/03/2016</u> at 10:45 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the Town Hall for a report of a telephone misuse complaint.

<u>03/03/2016</u> at 11:50 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the Xtra Fuel Gas on Greenbelt Road for a report of theft of tobacco products.

03/04/2016 at 11:10 am, a 64 y/o, b/m resident of Berwyn Heights came into the BHPD and reported that he had lost his wallet somewhere in the area of the 5900 block of Greenbelt Road.

<u>03/07/2016</u> at 5:00 pm, Cpl. Roberson impounded a 2001 Nissan from Route 193 at Greenbelt Station PKWY due to an accident.

<u>03/08/2016</u> at 3:50 pm, Pfc. Krouse responded to the 8400 block of 57th. Avenue for an attempted suicide. On scene, investigation revealed that a 20 y/o, ingested unknown amount of prescription medication and wanted to cut her wrist. She was taken to the hospital for evaluation.

<u>03/12/2016</u> at 11:45pm, Cpl. Roberson arrested Ms. Kelly Prosise, a 50 y/o, w/f, of Berwyn Heights, MD for DUI at the location of Route 193 and 63rd. Avenue.

<u>03/13/2016</u> at 8:45 pm, Cpl. Roberson responded to the 8500 block of Cunningham Drive for a property damage report.

<u>03/14/2016</u> at 1:12 pm, Pfc. Ignowski conducted a traffic stop in the 6200 block of Greenbelt Road. The driver gave Pfc. Ignowski a name of a deceased person. He was later identified and citations were issued.

<u>03/16/2016</u> at 4:23 pm, Pfc. Hollowell responded to the 'My Eye Doctor' for a theft complaint. Two black male suspects removed several eyeglasses and fled scene.

03/18/2016 at 10:10 am, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 8900 block of 56th. Avenue for an assault complaint between a boyfriend and girlfriend.

<u>03/19/2016</u> at 9:00 pm, Cpl. Roberson arrested Mr. Jason Beaver, a 39 y/o, w/m, of College Park, MD. Mr. Beaver was under the influence of suspected PCP and unresponsive at the location of Route 193 at 60th. Avenue. The subject was in his vehicle stopped at a traffic light.

03/21/2016 at 11:15 pm, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 5800 block of Greenbelt Road for a damage property report.

<u>03/23/2016</u> at 12:15 pm, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road for a suspicious person. On scene, Mr. Demetrius Foster, a 20 y/o, b/m resident of Lanham, MD was identified and arrested for an outstanding warrant.

<u>03/25/2016</u> at 9:06 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 5700 Block of Nevada Street for a complaint of a protection order violation.

03/28/2016 at 7:30 pm, Cpl. Roberson responded to the 8600 block of Cunningham Drive for a report of theft from a 2012 Nissan. The vehicle was left unsecured and an unknown person removed an I-pad, wrist watch and \$280.00 cash.

03/30/2016 at 8:15 am, Pfc. Krouse responded to the 6200 block of Quebec Place for a report of theft from a 1998 Honda. A women's wallet and ID were taken.



Berwyn Heights Playgroup

For Preschoolers and Younger

Come join us for a play date and get to know other parents in the community while our children play!

Mondays 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Indoors at Town Center if Cold or Rainy

<u>Playground Rotation</u>: 1st & 3rd Monday of month - Indian Creek Playground

2nd & 4th Monday of month - Pop's Park

Please contact Rachel Cicero (<u>rachelcicero55@gmail.com</u>) for more information and to be added to the group's listserv.

Advertising Rates For the Berwyn Heights Bulletin

		NON-					
TERM	RESIDENT	RESIDENT					
EI	GHTH (1/8) P	AGE					
1 Month	\$30.00	\$36.00					
6 Months	\$162.00	\$192.00					
12 Months	\$230.00	\$336.00					
QUARTER (1/4) PAGE							
1 Month	\$50.00	\$72.00					
6 Months	\$270.00	\$384.00					
12 Months	\$384.00	\$672.00					
	HALF (1/2) PA	GE					
1 Month	\$100.00	\$144.00					
6 Months	\$540.00	\$768.00					
12 Months	\$768.00	\$1,344.00					
	FULL PAGI	Ε					
1 Month	\$200.00	\$288.00					
6 Months	\$1,080.00	\$1,536.00					
12 Months	\$1,536.00	\$2,688.00					



Berwyn Heights GreenBee



The GreenBee is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team! If you'd like to share your ideas, please email us at berwynheights@gmail.com. Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Center, in the G. Love Room—all residents are welcome to attend!

Interested in learning about some basic bike care & repair tips?

Join us at our FREE Bike Maintenance Clinic Saturday, May 14, 12 noon-4 p.m. at Sports Park

Bike maintenance clinics will start every hour, from 12 noon-4 p.m.



The Berwyn Heights Green Team is proud to host a free road/trail side bike maintenance clinic on Saturday, May 14th starting at 12 noon at Sports Park. Drop by at your convenience!

A town resident with expertise in bike maintenance and repair will cover the following topics:

- Basics on how to fix a flat tire
- How to make minor roadside adjustments
- How to remove and install wheels
- Cleaning your bicycle and properly lubricating moving parts
- Selecting basic tools to carry with you on every ride
- How to stay safe with helmets, lights, reflective gear and other essentials

Bike riding has both environmental and health benefits—biking is not only an environmentally-friendly mode of transportation but also a great form of exercise! Come to the clinic to learn how to keep your bike operating smoothly and safely!

<u>Visit the Green Team's Table</u> at Berwyn Heights Day on May 7!

Be sure to stop by the Green Team's table at Berwyn Heights Day on Saturday, May 7! We will have information and activities related to a range of topics, such as composting, recycling, gardening tips, and more! You can also sign up to join our mailing list to keep up to date on our events.

BULLETIN BOARD

House Cleaning: Berwyn Heights resident since 2000 - with 25 years professional house cleaning experience and takes pride in the work done looking for new clients. References in Town and out of town are available. Please give me a call and let me help tackle the house cleaning for you. Free estimates. Please call (301) 474-3024.

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.

Licensed Family Daycare: Opening for infant to 12 years old. Before and after care for BH Elementary School available. Vouchers are accepted. Meals are provided. Openings are Monday-Friday from 6 AM to 6 PM. Please contact Karuna at 301-345-2939.

BH Republican Club meets once a month, usually on the last Monday, at the Senior Center and welcomes all residents to participate. Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/BHeightsGOP and Like Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BHMDGOP.

STRESSED!!! Are you a Senior, a relative or friend of a Senior? Are you, or they, worried about staying home long-term? If you'd like some direction or assistance, without alienating your loved one, I CAN HELP YOU. Sealani Weiner, Geriatric Care Manager. Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker in MD & DC, Certified Care Manager AND Berwyn Heights resident. 240-965-7274.

Tutor: Learning Specialist with vast experience helping children with learning challenges. For a free consultation call or email Kathy Brosh, 301-474-2002, kathybrosh@gmail.com. References available.

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

Tutor Needed: For basic computer skills. 301-520-8811.

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

Pet Services: Experienced dog walker and pet sitter available. Will happily help you with your pets. Call Katelyn, 301-233-2588.

Lawn Mowing and Trimming, yard raking and cleanup, basement cleanout, 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 35-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12:00 if available.

Need Yard Help? Shawn and Jeremy have helped Berwyn Heights residents with mowing, raking, mulching, and more for several years. Call 301-474-2002.

Berwyn Heights Cleaning: Cleaning your home like my own. Residential & commercial. References available in Berwyn Heights. Over 10 years professional experience. Providing my own materials and rational price. 240-645-5140 or angelalazo1@hotmail.com.

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.

Sale-Pro-Form Air Walker Exercise Machine. Similar to a Nordic-Track. Excellent condition. Cash and Carry. Live in Berwyn Heights. \$75.00 or best offer. 240-460-4722.

Big Yard Sale – Backyard – 6201 Pontiac Street Berwyn Heights, Sat May 14th, 8am-1pm. Downsizing after years of collecting. We are selling antiques, old books, pottery, tools, advertisements, vintage linens, costume jewelry and more. Free lemonade & cookies.

AFTER BUSINESS HOURS, CALL 301-352-1200 FOR NON-EMERGENCY POLICE ASSISTANCE. TELL THE PG COUNTY DISPATCHER THE NATURE OF YOUR PROBLEM, AND SPECIFY THAT THE ON-DUTY BERWYN HEIGHTS POLICE OFFICER RESPOND TO YOUR CALL. IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Boys & Girls Club

President: Shinita Hemby 202-531-6066

Soccer Commissioner: Jason Papanikolas 240-338-5191 Baseball Commissioner: Ronnie Compton 301-345-2661

Tee Ball Commissioner: Jim Hudson 301-982-2052

Basketball Commissioner:

Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Cheerleading Commissioner: Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Duker 240-900-7000

Ball Hockey Commissioner: Kevin Conover 301-441-1569

Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond 301-474-2737

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness/CERT

Co-Chair Merrill Weinrich mweinrich2@verizon.net Co-Chair Michael Attick mikeattick@verizon.net

Historical Committee

Kerstin Harper 301-474-5000 Kerstin.harper59@gmail.com

Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

Playgroup

Rachel Cicero rachelcicero55@gmail.com

Quilter's Club

Lois Williams 301-345-6214

Recreation Council

Tim Tormoen totormoen@yahoo.com

Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482

Green Team

Therese Forbes 301-982-7115 therese@celticlans.com

BH Elementary School PTA

Chris McComb
President@BHESPTA.org

Karate Club

Leon Swain 301-728-2881 Brett Bentley 240-678-9103 Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com



Free Karate Training!!!

Berwyn Heights Town Center

5700 Berwyn Rd - 2nd Floor

Year-Round:

Mondays and Fridays, 5pm - 7pm

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 6th 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.

We are grilling on Berwyn Heights Day May 7th as a fundraiser.

Please stop by: • Hot dogs • Hamburgers • Pork BBQ • Veggie Burgers

For more information, contact Sensei Brett Bentley at 240-678-9103 (Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881

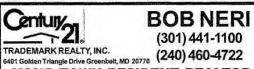


Since 1988, we have been privileged to serve many local communities. Now residing in Berwyn Heights. we offer the following services for both Residential & Commercial:

- * MOWING & MULCHING
- * DESIGN & INSTALL
- * PLANTING & SEEDING
- * YARD CLEAN-UPS
- * HEDGE TRIMMING
- * LEAF REMOVAL
- * GUTTER CLEANING & MORE

ask for Michael FREE ESTIMATES

BerwynLawnCare@gmail.com





YOUR TOWN RESIDENT REALTOR

I Am Working With
A Group Of Investors
Who Will Buy Your Home
In Any Condition.
ALL CASH - FAST SETTLEMENT!

Call Today For More Information...

Also, Specializing In Land Sales!

HOMES SOLD IN BERWYN HEIGHTS!

8702 Edmonston Road - \$220,000.00

Sold

5711 Pontiac Street - \$260,000.00

Sold

8814 62nd Avenue - \$302,000.00

Sold

NOTARY PUBLIC - Licensed in Maryland Especially For You!



Not All Properties Shown are Listed/Sold By This Agent or Company, But All Information is Deemed Reliable From the Realtor MRIS 2015 System. Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated.

Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney

301-908-9427 (cell)

tgentile301@yahoo.com www/thomasgentile.com





Berwyn Heights Resident
Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA
Over 38 years experience
Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts,
General Practice
Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents



Weekend Masses:

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 Email: parish@holy-redeemer.org

It's Time To Clean Up, Trim Up and Limb Up.



301-646-0696

office@landntree.com www.landntree.com

Licensed and Insured
Family Operated by Berwyn Heights Residents
Maryland Tree Expert License No. 1891
I.S.A. Certified Arborist MA-5571A

IN-TOWN REFERENCES

- Landscape Clean-Ups
- Leaf Removal
- Routine Lawn Mowing and Edging
- Aerating, Seeding, Fertilization
- Tree Care and Ornamental Pruning
- Tree Risk Assessment Consultation
- Tree and Stump Removal, Cabling/ Bracing, Root De-compaction and Invigoration
- Lightning Protection Systems

EMERGENCY TREE WORK

Let Us Handle Your Landscape and Tree Care Needs!





WOLF PACK

Presents:

Berwyn Heights Boys & Girls Club

Bugle - May 2016





Behind every great kid is a great adult, setting a great example!

Spring Season

Spring Registration has come to a close and we are excited to announce our "Starting Spring Line-up"! The Boys and Girls Club will be fielding Pre-K/K, 1st/2nd Grade, U9, U11, U12 and U14 teams as well as T-ball for ages 4-8. Last but certainly not least is our ever popular Track program for ages 4-18! Make sure to visit the Master Schedule Section of our webpage (http://leagueathletics.com/?org=bhbgc.org) and come show your support and Wolf Pack Pride!

Upcoming Events

- Berwyn Heights Day Saturday, May 7th
 8:30am-4:00pm. Come see the BHBGC in the
 Town Parade at noon starting at the BHES on
 Pontiac and ending at. The BHBGC will be
 selling Snacks/Concessions, Sodas, Water, and
 Beer (Ages 21+ only!) as well as raffling off Gift
 Baskets.
- Spring BHBGC Camp Out Saturday, May 7th 6pm. Mini "Olympic Games" and various Sporting Events and Activities for the kids, Pot Luck, Fire Pit, 'Smores & more!

Local Support

Do you own or work for a local business that is looking to get their name out more? Contact the BHBGC for information on our different Sponsorship Levels!

Volunteers

We cannot thank our Volunteers enough for keeping the BHBGC alive by sharing their time to Coach, Mentor, Organize, and Support our Club. A Special "Thanks" to all of our returning and new members!

Would **YOU** like to **volunteer**? Not sure how? The BHBGC is always looking for volunteers on all levels!

- · Become a Member of our Board
- Coaches/Mentors/Assistant Coaches
- Team Parents
- Facility & Field Maintenance
- Concession Stand
- Help at Events Camp outs, Festivals
- Fundraising & more!!!

Feel free to drop in on a Monthly Meeting, email angela.wolfinger@gmail.com, contact us through website, or approach any of our Coaching Staff or Board Members at games, practices, or events! It is that simple!!!

Stay tuned for more from the Wolf Pack!

And don't forget to "Like" us on Facebook!







Direct: 301-343-7370

"Working hard so you don't have to"

Did you know...

To honor the deceased, soldiers would decorate graves of their fallen comrades with flowers, flags and wreaths. Hence Decoration Day. Although Memorial Day became its official title in the 1880s, the holiday wouldn't legally become Memorial Day until 1967. Thank you to all our veterans and current service men & woman.

Did you also know...

Berwyn Heights Day is the first Saturday in May, this year that's May 7th. I look forward to seeing you all there.

I can help you buy a new home or sell your current home, provide a free market analysis, have a team of vendors to help with repairs, marketing and advertising, home staging options and more. Please call me, I can help you with all your real estate needs.





SHAUNA AURICH Long & Foster Realtors 301-343-7370 - Direct 301-441-9511 - Office

Current Listing:

7316 Edmonston Rd, College Park

Under Contract:

8430 57th Ave, Berwyn Heights 8519 Potomac Ave, College Park

SOLD:

9403 48th Place, College Park







May 2016

Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 1 Street Sweeper	7:00 PM Worksession Town Office	7 AM to 7 PM Town Council Election Senior Center 7:30 PM Rec. Council Meeting	7:30 PM NW/EP Mtg. G. Love Room	5 N S	6	BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
8	7:00 PM Budget Worksession Town Office (tentative)	6:45 PM PTA Meeting BHES Library	7:30 PM Town Meeting FY17 Budget Adoption. Swearing in of Council, Reception	12 · N S 7:00 PM BHEAC Meeting G. Love Room	13	14 12:00—4:00 Bike Clinic Sports Park
15	7:00 PM Worksession Town Office	17 5 5	18 😂	7:00 PM Green Team Meeting G. Love Room	20	21
22	23 🔊 🙉	7:30 PM BHHC Meeting G. Love Room	25	26 🔊 🕏	27	28
29	30 MEMORIAL DAY Town Offices Closed No Trash Pickup	31 N N	Jun 1 57 7:30 PM NW/EP Mtg. G. Love Room	2 1 5	Recyling Collection Yard Waste North South	Refuse Collection North South Bulk Pick-up North South

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE STREET, IF POSSIBLE, DURING THE WEEK THAT THE STREET SWEEPER IS IN TOWN.

BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLET

TOWN OF BERWYN HEIGHTS 5700 Berwyn Road Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740-2799 CARRIER-ROUTE SORTED PRESORT STANDARD U. S. Postage Paid College Park, Maryland

POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

Dated Material — Do Not Delay!

TOWN INFORMATION

Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire Rescue (301) 352-1200 Police (Non-Emergency) Police Administrative Office (301) 474-6554 Code Compliance Department (301) 513-9331 Email: code@town.berwyn-heights.md.us Public Works Department (301) 474-6897 Email: publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us Fire Department (301) 474-7866 Senior Center (301) 474-0018 Community Center (Gym) (301) 345-2808 (301) 474-5000 Town Office Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Call-a-Bus Reservations (301) 513-9331

Mayor and Council

jkulpaeddy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 Mayor — Public Safety/Health

Christopher Rasmussen (612) 432-0710 Mayor Pro Tem — Administration

crasmussen@town.berwynheights.md.us

Patti Dennison (301) 404-2759

pdennison@town.berwyn-heights.md.us Councilmember — Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs

Maria Robles (301) 455-9299 mrobles@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

Councilmember — Code Compliance

lwhite@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

(240) 351-7813 Lynn White Councilmember — Public Works

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@town.berwyn-heights.md.us Be assured that your communication will be answered promptly

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.berwyn-heights.com; Follow us on Twitter @BerwynHeightsMD Questions or advertising rates — call Administration Department at (301) 474-5000.

> Or email: yodoi@town.berwyn-heights.md.us Submission deadline is the 15th of the month by 12:00 noon! Helen Van Doren, Design & Layout