



Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

MAY 2023



Some content inside provided in Spanish and English

Algunos contenidos internos se proporcionan en español e inglés.



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EDITION

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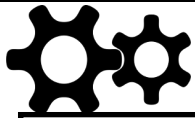
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GREEN
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BIKE
SAFETY
MONTH



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Streetsweeper

The Four Cities Streetsweeper will be in Town May 1st-5th. Please have cars moved when it is in your area, especially if you have debris in the storm gutter to maximize the benefit of this service. The next time it will be in Town after that is June 12th-16th.

Recycling

Please remember that no plastic bags should go in your blue Town recycling bin! If you would like to recycle them, grocery bags can be returned to the store where they originated. The Prince George's County Recycling Facility can not process plastic bags.

Memorial Day Holiday Trash Pick-up Schedule

Monday, May 29th: Memorial Day; no trash pick-up

Tuesday, May 30th: Town-wide Trash

Wednesday, May 31st: Town-wide Recycling

Thursday, June 1st: Town-wide Yard Waste & Food Compost

Friday, June 2nd: Town-wide Trash

Tree Rebate

Just a reminder that the Town will rebate up to \$150 for residents to purchase and plant a new tree. See the Town website if you would like to take advantage of this incentive to improve our urban forest.

Barrendero

El barrendero de las cuatro ciudades estará en la ciudad del 1 al 5 de mayo. Por favor mueva los autos cuando esté en su área, especialmente si tiene escombros en la canaleta de tormenta para maximizar el beneficio de este servicio. La próxima vez que estará en la ciudad después de eso será del 12 al 16 de junio.

Reciclaje

¡Recuerde que no debe colocar bolsas de plástico en su contenedor de reciclaje azul de la ciudad! Si desea reciclarlos, las bolsas de supermercado se pueden devolver a la tienda donde se originaron. La Instalación de Reciclaje del Condado de Prince George no puede procesar bolsas de plástico.

Horario de recolección de basura para el Día de los Caídos

Lunes 29 de mayo: Día de los Caídos; No habrá recogida de basura

Martes, 30 de mayo: Recogida de basura en toda la ciudad

Miércoles 31 de mayo: Recogida de reciclaje en toda la ciudad

Jueves, 1 de junio: Recogida de desechos de jardín en toda la ciudad y recolección de compost

Viernes, 2 de junio: Recogida de basura en toda la ciudad

Reembolso de árbol

Solo un recordatorio de que la ciudad reembolsará hasta \$150 a los residentes que compren y planten un nuevo árbol. Visite el sitio web de la ciudad si desea aprovechar este incentivo para mejorar nuestro bosque urbano.

Advertising Rates for the Berwyn Heights Bulletin

TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
EIGHTH (1/8) PAGE		
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) PAGE		
1 Month	\$100.00	\$144.00
6 Months	\$540.00	\$768.00
12 Months	\$768.00	\$1,344.00
FULL PAGE		
1 Month	\$200.00	\$288.00
6 Months	\$1,080.00	\$1,536.00
12 Months	\$1,536.00	\$2,688.00

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Get alerts when a meeting agenda
has been posted at

www.berwynheightsmd.gov/town-council/pages/watch-council-meetings

Worksession Minutes January 3, 2023 | 7:00 pm

Due to technical difficulties, the meeting was called to order at 7:27 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar, and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Councilmember Shinita Hemby had an excused absence. Also present was Assistant to the Town Manager Yvonne Odoi and Town residents.

Approval of the Agenda

* CM Papanikolas motioned to approve. CM Menjivar seconded. MPT Brittan-Powell interjected that the agenda was drafted without following proper procedures. Based on his understanding of the rules and ordinances governing Town Council meetings, he stated that Mayor Kulpa-Eddy is usurping her authority when setting meeting agendas. The Mayor explained the process she takes in creating the agenda is in keeping with the Charter, Ordinances, and Council Rules, in that order. However, Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated, she will contact the Town Attorney to obtain clarification on the legality of the agenda forming process. She also addressed the issue of why some items were moved to other meetings. CM Papanikolas reminded Council that there was a motion on the table. CM Papanikolas moved to amend the agenda to include the Watershed Study RFP and UMD-SPH update. The motion was seconded by MPT Brittan-Powell and approved 4-0.

1. Mayor

a. Announcements

* The Mayor reported on the Executive Session. She stated that Council met at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers without CM Hemby, who had an excused absence. CM Papanikolas motioned the meeting into session, seconded by CM Menjivar. The Assistant to the Town Manager attended briefly to discuss employee benefits. Topics discussed were the Interim Town Manager position and potential litigation. The Mayor reported that the action taken was to offer a contract to an Interim Town Manager candidate. The Executive Session ended at 7:01 p.m. She further reported the Town Clerk is also absent from this worksession and will be absent for the January 11th Town Meeting. In the Clerk's absence, the meetings are recorded but may not be readily available on the website. Residents may request DVD copies if needed before the minutes or playback are accessible on the website.

* MPT Brittan-Powell wished residents the best of holiday seasons. He stated that residents' New Year's resolution should be generous and healthy to yourself, and that the Council is looking to improve from last year.

b. Calendar – Next meetings are the Town Meeting on January 11th and the

next worksession on January 17th. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that the Four Cities meeting is scheduled for January 26th in College Park. Agenda topics for that meeting are needed prior to the next Town Meeting. MPT Brittan-Powell recommended proposing housing as a topic at the Four Cities meeting.

* Budget Timeline– Mayor Kulpa-Eddy presented the timeline for the FY2024 Budget process. She explained due to the vacant Town Manager position, the Council is behind schedule. She further explained that the Councilmembers may have to take on more responsibilities in this process. Councilmembers should reach out to their respective departments to remind them to be ready for the upcoming budget worksessions. Initial Department presentations are expected in February. A Saturday "marathon" budget worksession will take place in March, with the date to be announced. The FY2024 budget will be introduced in April and adopted in May. CM Papanikolas stated he has the ARPA spreadsheet and could continue to present ARPA updates during work sessions. They discussed CM Papanikolas creating a process for tracking the ARPA funds– Mayor Kulpa-Eddy will request each department director develop two budgets, one that is "flat" and one with a 5% increase. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about a stormwater tax. CM Papanikolas discussed the needs of the Town and service expectations of the residents. He continued with the comment that the Town needed an improved stormwater system but is not willing to pay for it.

c. Codification Update– Mayor Kulpa-Eddy mentioned receiving a draft of the Town's "codification" (standardized organization and numbering system of the Towns Ordinances) manuscript. The hard copy of this draft is in the Town Office for review by all. Once the legal and editorial copy is received, a 60-day time frame starts on our review. PDF copies will be scanned and sent to CMs for easier review, once Mayor Kulpa-Eddy confirms that this is allowed by the publisher.

d. Flood Resilience Home Retrofit Program – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy sought clarification regarding this program. She presented a memo with background information as to what was done in past meetings. MPT Brittan-Powell discussed the Howard County program that was previously presented to Council: that Howard County had a \$3,000 match for residents who had retrofit projects done on their homes. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy clarified that the official name of this program is the Residential Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. They discussed the different phases this program has gone through with the Council. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that Rockville and Edmonston municipalities also have flood resilience programs that BH should review.

She stated the only items prohibiting moving forward are to confirm the amount to provide each applicant and determine how to implement the program. The Council discussed detailed restrictions and qualification requirements for applicants, and agreed the maximum grant match would be \$5000. Resident Comment: Beth Brittan-Powell asked that the Council consider adding a tiered matching-grant structure to address the wide range of income of Town residents. The Council discussed details regarding the application review and appeal process for the program. The Council agreed that the floodgates program is different from the mitigation program. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that the Public Works budget does not have funds available for the floodgate program. She asked that the program application be made simple. She'd hoped to have a list of affected residents from the last storm event who need the gates but has yet to receive it. CM Menjivar and MPT Brittan-Powell agreed to provide the list. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy further clarified that the Residential Flood Mitigation Assistance Program will be funded through ARPA, while the floodgates program will be funded through the FY 2023 budget. The Council discussed additional applicant requirements, legal aspects to the application process and the deadline for submitting an application. The Council agreed to find additional funding sources if the need for gates was greater than expected. It was noted that a draft of the application was needed by Friday for discussion at the January Town Meeting.

e. Resident comments – Ms. Brittan-Powell stated it is hard to know what is going on, as the TV broadcast is very hard to hear. She asked for more visual presentations so residents and participants can follow the process of what is being discussed.

2. Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs – CM Papanikolas reminded Council to update the project tracker for placement on the Consent Agenda.

3. Public Safety – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated the ARPA Grants Manager advertisement has been placed on the MML and Indeed.com websites. Three candidates have applied. ATTOM Odoi asked for clarification on the hiring process. CM Papanikolas discussed the possibility of funding this to a full-time position. The Council discussed and decided to complete the first screening of current applicants on 1/5/2023 at 6 p.m. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy provided an update on the UMD-SPH partnership;

they asked the BH Council to have an internal discussion to set priorities first, and then UMD will come in to assist. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reminded that the "Listening Session" held on 11/17/2022 was to poll residents as to what the needs are for the community. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that UMD is waiting for BH to respond. MPT Brittan-Powell asked that an immediate discussion happen with the intention of moving this project forward. The Council discussed areas for UMD to help: the impact of stormwater on public health; mental health pre- vs. post-pandemic; analysis of the well-being of the Town broken up by subgroups (race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, income, age, tenant vs. homeownership); access to transportation; and volunteerism. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy committed to sharing these with UMD-SPH on January 4th. She continued with her Department Report. The Town has executed the MOU for the Men's League with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission for the 2023 membership year. PGCM has distributed a survey regarding how the association can best service its members, and responses are due by January 10th. A Community Shred event sponsored by NW/EP will take place on Saturday January 28 at the Town Office parking lot.

a. Noise Camera Legislation – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared this bill that was drafted by a Montgomery County Delegate. Legislation is being introduced at the State level to allow municipalities to install motor vehicle noise monitoring systems and enforce noise violations.

b. MPT Brittan-Powell discussed an emergency issue that involved Westchester Park and Washington Gas. Residents of Westchester Park asked that BH open the Town Center for their use. Council discussed that the process for such an emergency should be for Westchester Park to first contact Prince George's County. They further discussed that this type of request should be considered on a case-by-case basis, since the Center is limited in capacity, and the availability of Town staff could be an issue.

4. Public Works – CM Menjivar wished residents a Happy New Year. Curbside loose leaf pick-up is ending this week. He thanked Director Pudner for availing himself on his personal time to handle an emergency that occurred during the holiday season. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that the "No Parking" sign at Indian Creek Park needs to be re-installed; it has been propped up for now. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed appreciation for Director Pudner.

5. Administration

a. Resident Renters to Homeowners Program(s) – MPT Brittan-Powell reviewed

the program he had introduced to the Council in December, to provide quality living standards for all residents regardless of home ownership. CM Papanikolas added that the State and the City of Greenbelt have collaborated on a mortgage program, and stated the State could be asked to make a presentation to BH residents. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if there were data regarding how many people have been assisted in these programs and their experience? She stated that homeownership should be encouraged without being restrictive. CM Papanikolas stated that may be possible, but the goal is to help the homeowner.

b. Added agenda item: The Berwyn Heights Watershed Study RFP. MPT Brittan-Powell discussed the Watershed program. He continued that it is in review and looking for funding sources. CM Papanikolas clarified the expectations of Prince George's County. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated the RFP, when ready, should be posted on the MML website and shared with the Prince George's County Procurement Office. Resident Beth Brittan-Powell suggested teaming up with the University of Maryland, who already has a watershed program. MPT Brittan-Powell commented that he will continue working on this program. CM Papanikolas will place this on the Council project tracker.

6. Code Compliance

a. Sustainable Communities Recertification – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy gave an update on the renewal process, beginning with a summary of Director Goodwin's staff report. She continued by stating that the next step is completing the forming of the workgroup with a senior and a student participant. She recommended resident Dave Wolfinger be added as the representative for the Seniors.

7. Adjournment - CM Papanikolas motioned and was seconded by CM Menjivar. Motion passed, 4-0. **The meeting ended at 9:55p.m.**

Town Meeting Minutes : **January 11, 2022 | 7:00 pm**

Call to Order – 7:04 p.m.

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Present were Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem Christopher Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby and Councilmember Faustino Menjivar, as well as Assistant to the Town Manager Yvonne Odoi. Also present were Peter Jones, candidate for Interim Town Manager and Town residents. CM Papanikolas had an excused absence.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

1. Announcements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported on the executive worksession that was held on Thursday, January 5, 2023, and exempt under §3-305(b)(1)

of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The public meeting was closed at 7:05 p.m., by motion from MPT Brittan-Powell and seconded by CM Papanikolas. Council discussed the review of applications for the ARPA grants manager position. Consensus was to move forward with scheduling interviews with two of the candidates. MPT Brittan-Powell urged all to continue practicing Covid protocols, as recent holiday travels have contributed to a surge in infections.

2. Approval of Agenda

CM Hemby motioned to approve the agenda, which was seconded by CM Menjivar. MPT Brittan-Powell discussed his continued protest with the process of agenda creation by the mayor. He stated his dissatisfaction of his continued requests to add items to the agenda being denied by the mayor. He continued that many items that he wants addressed are not placed on the agenda and are therefore not discussed. His protest is on the assumption of powers he believes the mayor has taken on but are not given under the "Mayor" title. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that during the most recent worksession this discussion came up, so she contacted the Town Attorney for clarification. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read from an e-mail received January 9, 2023 from the Town Attorney regarding the Mayor's role in agenda setting. The Mayor next clarified that she has not excluded requests for items in previous agendas, but she has delayed agenda requests from being added to Town Meetings as she believes worksessions are a better opportunity for discussion on these items. MPT Brittan-Powell responded by restating his position regarding the "weak mayor" system. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy clarified that the Town has a hybrid governmental system: Weak Mayor – Commissioner- and Manager/Council forms of government that follows the Charter, then the Ordinances, and lastly the Council Rules. The Mayor and MPT Brittan-Powell continued the discussion on their different perspectives regarding the Town's system of government. They ended by addressing the motion on the table: Approval of the agenda (motioned by CM Hemby and seconded by CM Menjivar). Motion passed 3-1 with MPT Brittan-Powell opposed.

3. Public Hearing Ordinance 110: Ethics The Berwyn Heights Ethics Commission reviewed and made recommendations to adopt a draft version of the Ordinance. The Commission added a lobbying section, though the State does not require it. The Commission also asked that the State Ethics Board address several of their edits. MPT Brittan-Powell requested that the language of the current Ordinance be expanded. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that this hearing is for the adoption of the current edited version of the Ordinance - any other action would have to repeat the adoption process. This

agenda item closed with no additional comments.

4. Public Hearing Ordinance 185C: Berwyn Heights Emergency Assistance Fund Program and Budget Amendment Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read the program requirements and background. If passed tonight, the program would become effective January 31, 2023. MPT Brittan-Powell stated his concerns with the program's expectation of personal responsibility. With no further discussion, this hearing was closed with no additional comments.

5. Consent Agenda
Motion to accept the Consent Agenda proffered by CM Hemby and seconded by CM Menjivar. Motion passed 4-0.

6. Mayor & Councilmember Reports
Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported the Town is focused on hiring an ARPA Grants Manager. Council reviewed applications received to-date and are working to get an applicant on board. There is a resolution for hiring an Interim Town Manager on the agenda for this evening's meeting. The Berwyn Heights Police Department (BHPD) has hired a new recruit: Officer: Rebeca Portillo. She has interned with BHPD and lives in town. Recruit Portillo will attend the Prince George's County's Police Academy in April, with an expected completion date of October 2023.

MPT Brittan-Powell shared that his presumed funding for the flood gates will not be able to pay for the purchase of the equipment. He offered that other funding options be found for establishing this program for residents.

CM Hemby updated that CM Papanikolas, the Town Treasurer and herself have reviewed applications for the Business and Non-Profit Organization ARPA Grant programs. Businesses should have a status update soon. She and CM Menjivar are working with the principals of Roosevelt and Parkdale High Schools, to have their students assist Berwyn Heights' Seniors with their chores and things around the house. Berwyn Heights' Code Compliance Department will be involved in this program and ensure that the students will receive service hours. For more information on this program, call CM Hemby on her new number, (301) 910-7134, or CM Menjivar. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for the program brochure. CM Hemby stated that her team will begin creating a brochure for the program. CM Hemby will have an update on the program at the next worksession.

CM Menjivar shared that loose leaf pick-up concluded this week, so residents must return to bagging leaves for collection by Public Works. The Department is urgently requesting that a purchase order

be executed by the end of this week to keep the current price for the new trash truck. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated this may be possible as this emergency process has been used in the past, to purchase a police vehicle for the same reason.

7. Committee Reports

a. Education Advisory Committee – No report.
b. Green Team – No report.
c. Historical Committee – Committee Chair Debbie Steele-Snyder discussed the committee wrapping up the Oral History project sometime this year. They are evaluating the process of how to effectively conclude the project and provide long-term storage for the tapes. The committee made a request for change-in-membership rules to address a longtime member that, for health reasons, can no longer attend meetings. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy deferred that the change-in-membership request be made when CM Papanikolas is present, as he is the PRE-CA Liaison. MPT Brittan-Powell provided other membership options for the Committee. Chair Steele-Snyder explained that the Committee reviewed their resolution and there are no other options. They are reviewing other considerations such as creating an Emeritus status. Their next meeting is January 25th at 7:30 p.m. in the GL Conference room. The Wine and Cheese event is scheduled for April 16th from 2 p.m. -4 p.m. Dr. Rich Bell, author of Stolen, is the speaker for the event.

d. Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy presented that a Community Shred event is scheduled from 9 a.m. -12 noon on January 28, 2023. No limits on quantity, but paper ONLY. (Rain or Shine.)

e. Recreation Council – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy mentioned that the Seniors Club and the Recreation Council are teaming up for an International Potluck Dinner on February 11, 2023.

8. Old Business

a. Adoption of Ordinance 110: Ethics - MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to adopt, CM Menjivar seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed 4-0.
b. Ordinance 185C: Berwyn Heights Emergency Assistance Fund Program and Budget Amendment - Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that even though she understands Council concern of potential fraud, waste and abuse, the need to address a crisis is worth moving this program forward as a pilot for residents. She continued that there is an affirmation statement included in the application that allows the Town to prosecute a recipient if need be, with the Council still having the option of ceasing the program completely. MPT Brittan-Powell repeated his concerns regarding waste, fraud and abuse, and asked for a reduction in the funding amount of the program. Mayor Kulpa-

Eddy justified her stance on keeping the funding balance of this program at \$50,000; it is better to have the funding available and not need it than the reverse. CM Hemby motioned to adopt the ordinance, seconded by CM Menjivar. Passed 3-1 (MPT Brittan-Powell voted against passage).

9. New Business

a. Interim Town Manager Resolution – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read Resolution 01-2023 to appoint Mr. Peter Jones as the Berwyn Heights' Interim Town Manager. CM Hemby motioned to adopt the resolution. Second by MPT Brittan-Powell. The Council expressed the appreciation and quick action needed to get the Interim position filled. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked Interim Town Manager Peter Jones give a brief introduction of himself, as a formal introduction will be done at a later date. He stated he is looking forward to meeting residents and working for the Town.
b. Four Cities Meeting Agenda Items – a request has been made for agenda items for this upcoming January 26, 2023, meeting. Berwyn Heights is recommending discussion concerning the housing programs established in Greenbelt and College Park, and stormwater management as agenda items.
c. Berwyn Heights Flood Gate Program – Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that she is waiting on the Town Attorney to complete the review of the application. She continued that the funding source for this program is still being researched. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that the retrofit program was to be included with the floodgates so there are no additional funds needed. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy clarified that the retrofit program is income-dependent, and the floodgate program was intended to be available to all residents. This will be discussed further at the next worksession.

10. Resident & Community Comments
None.

11. Adjournment – 8:30pm
CM Hemby motioned to adjourn. CM Menjivar second. Motion passed 4-0.

Worksession (Budget) Minutes March 4, 2023 | 9:00 AM

1. Approval of Agenda

CM Menjivar moved to approve the agenda. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously 4:0 as MPT Brittan-Powell had not yet joined the meeting.

2. FY2024 Budget Presentation, ITM Jones

a. Budget Summary Memo (Enhancements, Tax Rates)
ITM Jones reviewed the summary budget memo, highlighting a proposed across-the-board COLA salary increase for staff of 2%, citing the high inflation rate experienced over the last two

years. He shared his recommendation to use the Public Safety Reserve Fund to pay for a new vehicle for the Police Department, accessing the General Fund Reserve to pay for the staff salary increase. He also highlighted the addition of the Red-Light Camera program both in revenues and expenditures. ITM Jones reviewed the two proposed revenue scenarios which include maintaining the current tax rate at \$.545/\$100 of assessed value or instituting the Constant Yield Tax Rate which would be a tax rate of \$.5187/\$100 of assessed value. There is a difference of \$112,309 in potential revenue between the two scenarios. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for clarification about the budget numbers that ITM Jones is discussing, as he also shared comparisons of what the Constant Yield Tax Rate for FY23 would have been. TT Lightfield clarified that the two revenue projections for the FY24 budgets will be at FY24 Constant Yield Tax Rate (0.5187/\$100) and at the current tax rate of \$.545/\$100 of assessed value. ITM Jones then reviewed the FY23 adopted budget, Year-To-Date actual expenditures, and FY24 proposed budget totals for each department and highlighted comments on each department that explain the proposed changes. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the source of the revenue for the Public Safety Reserve Fund, which is being proposed as the source for a new police vehicle. TT Lightfield explained that it comes from speed camera revenue. ITM Jones shared that there is a considerable increase in the Public Works budget as there is a request for a roof repair. Additionally, in Streets and Sanitation, there is an increase based on a proposed reorganization of staff and the purchase of new vehicles and equipment. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the increases in Street Lighting. Director Pudner clarified that there was a repair to the school flashing safety light which caused the increase. TT Lightfield reviewed that the estimated actuals for the rest of the fiscal year are based on the year-to-date actuals, divided by 7 (months) and then times 12 (months). After reviewing the major items as part of his Budget Summary, ITM Jones highlighted that there is currently about a \$450,000 gap between revenues and expenditures.

b. Real Property Tax Forecast (Revenues)
TT Lightfield shared that the forecast is based on both the current tax rate and the Constant Yield Tax Rate, and that ITM Jones has the breakdown of regular real estate tax revenue, the road repair fund, and how we capture the

public safety taxing district revenues.

c. Draft Budget Line Items (i.e., spreadsheets, including Fund Balance and Reserves)
Rather than review the entirety of the budget in this section, Mayor Kulpa-Eddy suggested that they begin to go over the departmental budgets and review line items through that process.

d. Public Safety Taxing District
ITM Jones shared that this will be covered at another meeting as this report was not yet ready.

3. Administration Department
ITM Jones highlighted the Administration enhancement requests, including keyless entry to Town Hall and Town Center, new windows at Town Hall, an outdoor electronic communication board, outdoor bulletin board replacements and a replacement pull-down screen for the Town Center. He noted that the replacement screen may yet be purchased during FY23.

a. Discussion
Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the air cards listed in the Mayor and Council section, wondering if these were necessary and if these costs could be reduced. She also asked about where the cost for translation services will be captured, as it will no longer be part of the Police Department expenditures. There was discussion regarding if staff would be receiving merit or COLA increases. There was discussion regarding the increase in legal expenses and how to predict those costs. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy also asked that we reach out to the utility companies and attempt to determine rate increases and incorporate those into the budget. MPT Brittan-Powell reiterated his desire from a previous meeting to add more modules to the software package the Town uses, which will increase costs.

4. Code Compliance
Director Hollyce Goodwin shared her budget highlights for Code Compliance and shared the departmental goals for the upcoming fiscal year. She stated they plan to renew the Comcate compliance software subscription and described what they use the software for. She mentioned a desire to give staff a merit increase based on their improved performance and completion of continuing education through the International Code Council (ICC). She shared some of the neighboring communities and their COLA and merit increases as a reference. She explained that she has asked for a boost in the training line item as there are a number of classes through ICC she would like her staff to complete, such as diversity and inclusion training, situational awareness and 4th amendment training.

There is also a slight increase on the line item for repairs on the Code Compliance Fleet as the vehicles are aging.

a. Discussion
CM Hemby stated that she believes this to be a well thought-out budget, expressing support for the training, especially on diversity and inclusion. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the equipment line-item decrease, when there may be a need to purchase new noise monitoring instruments. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about how some concerns that become public safety issues and police calls could possibly be addressed by Code Compliance prior to needing police intervention. He asked that there be a plan to fund for increased costs based on a potential increase in Code responsibilities. CM Hemby stated that there are other projects that Code is involved with, such as the teen volunteer program, that will add to what is asked of them. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about separating merit and COLA increases. CM Papanikolas asked for an explanation on the 4th Amendment training Director Goodwin is requesting. She explained that while typically this is a police issue, it also addresses the "search" process and how and when a Code officer can be on a property.

5. Parks, Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs
ITM Jones shared he reached out to each of the Town Organizations to ask if there were any adjustments that needed to be made in their budgets. He reported that all organizations either did not respond to the request or reported that they did not need any adjustments. He added that Mr. Smith from the Senior Center had made a suggestion that the Town set aside \$5000 for block parties. CM Papanikolas shared that he had reached out to groups to determine if they had lost any revenue due to Covid closures, but that most groups have stated that they are fairly flat in funding needs. He added that he would like to sit with the Green Team as some of their initiatives could likely use an increase in funding. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the addition of the Men's League budget line item. ITM Jones explained the roundabout way in which the Men's League reimbursement from M-NCPPC occurs and that this addition makes it easier to manage. CM Hemby asked about the maintenance and issues at Sports Park and Pontiac Field, with the goal of ensuring that the fields are maintained to keep the Town's children safe. CM Menjivar added that the Boys and Girls Club doesn't use the Pontiac fields very much. CM Papanikolas shared the use agreement with PGCPs is nearing the end of its term and will need to be reviewed. CM Menjivar asked about getting a Public Works employee trained in playground inspections so they could keep that

cost in-house. CM Hemby asked about \$5000 for a scholarship to be included for the teen volunteer program. CM Papanikolas and ITM Jones will work with her to determine the best spot for that item. CM Hemby also asked about the Boys and Girls Club line item, wondering if it needed to be adjusted to increase membership. CM Papanikolas shared that the line item covers the liability insurance that the group needs. CM Menjivar added that the Boys and Girls Club used most of their reserve funds during Covid to keep kids registered when parents couldn't afford it. There was discussion on how the Club might receive some ARPA funds to cover expenses such as equipment.

6. Public Health and Safety

Lt. Unger reviewed the enhancement requests for the Police Department, including a promotion for one officer, a new vehicle and the upfit for that vehicle, Lexipol, and language pay for the new Spanish-speaking officer. In detail, he explained that the vehicle estimate of \$60,000 is based on last year's numbers and that they would likely choose a Chevy Tahoe or Durango instead of the Ford, given the delay in manufacturer delivery of Ford vehicles at this time. He encouraged Council to remember that a vehicle is an office for the officer and they are in them all day, every day. Lt. Unger shared that State Law HB670 added a number of administrative tasks for the Police Department, and it is difficult for a staff the size of our department to keep up. Lexipol webservices is a solution to this, as it would take over the maintenance of General Orders and policy updates. The company also monitors for legislative changes. Lexipol is a requirement for Department accreditation and it would result in a discount from LGIT. He reported that representatives from Lexipol are willing to meet with Council if there is interest. After presenting the enhancements, he shared that a fleet condition report is also included in the proposal. There was discussion regarding the fleet replacement schedule and if the requested vehicle for FY24 falls within the replacement schedule. TT Lightfield stated he would check on the replacement schedule. Lt. Unger stated they try to replace one vehicle per year, with 15 vehicles for 10 officers so that there are spare vehicles available when a vehicle needs to be in the shop. There was discussion about maintaining a uniform fleet, the value of hybrid and electric vehicles, and how vehicles are chosen. Chief Antolik shared that he uses a study done by the Michigan State Police annually reviewing the available

police vehicles. There was discussion about the condition of the fleet and how much of it is not listed in good condition or greater. Factors in determining the condition include maintenance costs, age, mileage, etc. CM Hemby expressed concern about the condition of the fleet.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about moving translation services out of the police department expenditures and into general funds. Chief Antolik expressed his desire to leave several line items at previous years expenditures, such as uniforms and public relations. Chief Antolik stated he will work with the red-light camera vendor to get estimated revenues and expenditures.

7. Public Works

Director Brad Pudner reviewed the proposal for Public Works in broad strokes and then in more detail at the Council's request. The first issue addressed is staffing, in that Public Works is missing two essential leadership roles and he would like to reorganize staff in a way that gives credit to those who have stepped up. He would restructure the full time foreman position to a part time position and create some crew leader positions. This would require tweaking the Maintenance Worker III job description. He explained that to be a Maintenance Worker III, the current requirement is to have a CDL. This limits those who exhibit leadership skills or special technical skills from becoming a Maintenance Worker III. He would like to add these as alternate requirements to a CDL in ways to become a Maintenance Worker III. He also explained that the daily tasks of Public Works requires 6 full time staff and they currently only have 6 full time staff. This presents a problem when someone is sick or takes a vacation, meaning he fills in on their role. He'd like to reinstitute a position that could be assigned to other duties as needed, to enable him to focus more on his duties as a director.

Director Pudner addressed facility needs, including a new carport roof. He also spoke on space issues as the yard is crowded. He'd like to look at storage elsewhere for some of the vehicles, such as the leaf vacuum, that are only seasonally needed. Additionally, he expressed a desire to have some in-house salt storage capacity. He proposed replacing trucks 1 and 13 as they have been identified as near the end of their useful life. Truck 1 is heavily used and a key snow plow vehicle. Truck 13 is the Town's only dump truck and is used heavily during leaf season, but is only used intermittently during the rest of the year. He also requested a piece

of equipment called a Dingo that has a number of attachments which makes it a versatile piece of equipment that could be used to pick up large tree branches or clear sidewalks, for example. To improve residents' experience with trash, he presented three options for food compost containers. He is recommending this as an "opt in" program and that the cost of containers would be fairly neutral compared to what the Town paid Compost Crew for their pick-up at Town Hall. He also shared residents desire to have 64-gallon trash cans purchased and provided by the Town. He estimated these would cost the Town about \$50 a piece and that the Town would need about 1300. He explained that the trash trucks have tote lifters, but when we expect residents to purchase their own cans, they frequently are not compatible with the lift. Finally, he recommended a certified arborist to evaluate the curb trees and complete a tree inventory, identifying tree risk and the ability to be proactive on tree maintenance. He is recommending this be part of the Urban Forest budget line item.

a. Discussion

CM Menjivar stated that trash cans need to be added to the tracking sheet and that a proposal needs to be put together. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the refuse and recycling fee that covered the original cost of the recycling bins and that pays for the tipping fees. She mentioned that the fee was suspended last year to help alleviate the tax burden in light of Covid. TT Lightfield confirmed the fee would generate a total of \$97,945 in revenue. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated the Council needs to review bringing this fee back, as there have been unexpected and significant increases in the tipping fees and asked for staff to determine if the County's fees for FY24 have been set. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy would like to explore ways to encourage recycling as the Town pays significantly less for dumping recycling material than for trash. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he is in support of restructuring Public Works, including the staffing and plans to acquire more CDL drivers. He noted that acquiring CDL crewmen is an inflation item as it costs more to have staff with that skill. He thanked Director Pudner and CM Menjivar for their work. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for clarification on the source of salt for winter weather, as the Town had an agreement with the Maryland State Highway Administration. Director Pudner stated that he believes the agreement is still in place with the State Highway Administration but he has not needed to use them as a source of salt. CM Papanikolas offered that there are federal funds available to help current ("incumbent") workers with training costs for CDLs. He stated this may be

true for all department but particularly Public Works. Director Pudner stated that this is another one of the reasons he has for increasing staffing in Public Works, as he doesn't have enough crew to cover the work in order to send an employee to training.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked to ITM Jones to cover Miscellaneous Expenditures. ITM Jones noted there is a small increase proposed, including \$10,000 for Network and Software Support across the board but a decrease in Worker's Compensation due to fewer claims. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that general items such as Health Insurance and Worker's Compensation can be hard to forecast while some items such as the pension, dental, and vision are relatively straightforward. CM Hemby asked for clarity about the employee merit increases. ITM Jones stated these have been moved to the respective departmental budgets but he would confirm that with TT Lightfield. She also asked about the Employee Recognition Award line item. TT Lightfield stated that this is generally for things such as the Longevity Award that is given at intervals for every 5 years of service. CM Hemby asked what line item would be available for staff recognition for outstanding service, such as with the storm response. It was determined this would likely be under 560.066 (as a Recognition Award) and CM Hemby recommended this be increased to give recognition to employees who gave exceptional service during the storm responses during the 2022 summer storms. She stated that she does not understand why that hasn't happened yet. ITM Jones stated the three proposed trucks for Public Works need to be added to the Capital Expenses section of the budget. CM Hemby asked about the line item for an Employee Wellness Initiative. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that she believed this was related to lowering insurance costs by creating incentives for employees to be proactive on their health. CM Papanikolas added that the Town received \$14,000 for keeping costs low and this was earmarked for employee wellness and an employee retreat. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked that TT Lightfield review the history of this line item. She believes the rest of the funds may have been spent associated with managing the costs of health insurance as providers have changed.

8. Budget Discussion Wrap-up and Next Steps

a. Council discussion on Tax Rate
Mayor Kulpa-Eddy opened discussion about revenues, comparing the Constant Yield Tax Rate (CYTR) of \$0.5187 and the current tax rate of \$.545 per \$100 of assessed value. TT Lightfield explained that when comparing budgets there are two line items to review, one is the Real

Estate Tax Revenue (\$2,195,935) and the other is the Road Repair Fund (\$127,929). Maintaining the current tax rate results in \$112,000 of additional revenue. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy highlighted that new revenue items need to be added for the red light camera and to bring back the refuse and recycling fee, which would be a set amount. ITM Jones recommended that the refuse and recycling fee be \$90. MPT Brittan-Powell brought up that funds will be needed for ongoing stormwater and climate change issues, as they will be chronic issues and the Town will need to have ongoing funds for these purposes. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy mentioned the Council could institute a surcharge on property taxes to address this. ITM Jones confirmed that the amounts listed for Highway User Revenues are accurate and the amount listed for Police Aid is an estimate.

b. Budget Process calendar
Mayor Kulpa-Eddy opened discussion about the tax rate as the public hearing notice will need to be published in the April Bulletin. She is recommending that this be discussed at the next worksession and voted on at the next Town Meeting. She also mentioned that there is the possibility of raising tax rates to above the current tax rate as well, but that this would have a greater impact on the property taxes for residents.

MPT Brittan-Powell asked about the decision making process for the Council to use while determining the tax rate, asking if there were a systemic means to ensure that the Councilmembers are all on the same page. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed that Council must agree on a proposed tax rate and FY24 budget. CM Hemby was concerned about raising the tax rate, especially post-Covid, as there are funds that can be repurposed and expenses that can be eliminated. ITM Jones and TT Lightfield will provide an updated budget spreadsheet by the Monday worksession. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked that CMs talk with the department directors that they liaise with to discuss priorities and community needs and how to accomplish both. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed the importance of objective rather than subjective decision making and will share some methods at an upcoming worksession. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy highlighted that a balanced budget is one of the most important tasks of Council. CM Hemby expressed her opinion that CMs will need to advocate for their department and then determine what aspects are needed for the good of the Town. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that there are items that may need to be added or taken out of the proposed budget such as ARPA and Community

Development. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that Council will just focus on the regular budget at the moment and address ARPA funds later. She asked that all changes be given to ITM Jones quickly so they can be incorporated in the spreadsheet for Monday's meeting. CM Papanikolas stated that he will talk to MPT Brittan-Powell for some ideas on an approach to budget decision-making. He stated that he believes the Council has a pretty good idea of what the Town needs on the macro level and some strategies, such as SWOT, could take more time than is available. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy thanked everyone for their participation in the budget retreat session.

9. Adjournment

CM Menjivar moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 12:50PM.

Worksession Minutes March 6, 2023 | 7:00PM

Call to Order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:01PM. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, and Councilmember Faustino Menjivar. Also present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen. Councilmember Jason Papanikolas had an excused absence.

Approval of the Agenda

CM Hemby moved to approve the agenda. CM Menjivar seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

1. Mayor

a. Announcements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that the Executive Session scheduled to follow the March 4, 2023 Budget Worksession was not held.

b. Calendar

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared there are two additional budget listening sessions scheduled for March 21 and 23 from 6-8PM. Council rescheduled the missed Executive Session for 6:30PM on March 20, prior to the Worksession. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed a number of items that need to be accomplished before the April Bulletin deadline, including determining if there is consensus to have a Constant Yield Tax Rate Hearing in April. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about adding stormwater management as a regular part of the budget and to consider a special tax to fund this undertaking and the additional burden that it would place on both Code

Compliance and Public Works. Council decided to add a second special budget worksession on Monday the 13th of March, as there is normally a budget proposed by the Town Manager for their review at this time and they are somewhat behind. There was discussion on the possibility of a special tax being added during this budget planning cycle or if that was something that should be saved for the next budget cycle, to provide more time to do research on it. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked Council to review the Maryland Municipal League Summer Conference dates to determine if they are able to attend as registration is opening soon. MPT Brittan-Powell asked to do a budget listening session prior to the April Town Meeting (April 12) at 6PM as the Budget Summary will be part of the April Bulletin and people will have had a chance to review it.

c. Codification Project Discussion: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the purpose and plan regarding the Codification effort, highlighting that the project makes the Town Code searchable and easier to locate information about Town regulations. American Legal, the publishing company, has found some issues that need to be responded to. She asked if there was any concern with her assigning each person/department an area of review. Council and staff agreed to each take an area as assigned. The goal will be to bring back each section to the March 20th worksession for review with possible proposed changes.

d. DHCD Sustainable Communities Update
Code Compliance Director Hollyce Goodwin reviewed the status of the Sustainable Communities renewal application. She reviewed the membership of the workgroup that is working on the renewal process. She shared that the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) requests that the Town focus on weaknesses that we have control over rather than areas that will remain out of the Town's control and ability to improve. She highlighted that funds need to be spent on brick and mortar development, but DHCD is willing to help the Town source grants for non-brick and mortar projects such as transportation options. She shared that the Town is past the deadline for renewal, but since the Town does not have any active grants in process or projects pending, we are still in good shape for DHCD acceptance of our renewal. The Town would then be eligible to apply for grants in FY24. Director Goodwin reviewed some of the projects that are currently on the action plan. She shared that there is a plan to put the current renewal before the workgroup, gather their suggestions, and bring it back to the Council for the March 20 worksession.

e. Small Cell Facilities Discussion, Ord. 125 Background

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that the Council had a presentation from Crown Castle at the February Town Meeting. She has put together a memo on the historical aspect of the issue. She added that former TM Broadbent developed a good memo on a municipality's oversight role regarding small cell facilities, as the federal government limited their capacity to affect what happens within their boundaries on this matter. She added that once an application has been made there is a timeline that must be adhered to. Ordinance 125 was created to regulate small cell facilities in Town to the extent allowed. There are a number of items that need to be addressed. For instance, vendors must apply for a permit through the Town, but the Town does not yet have an application for a permit. There are some specific issues that may need to be addressed such as line of sight, health, and privacy concerns. She reviewed the Town can hire a third party to be the subject matter experts on the application process and that their fees could be added to the expense of the permit. She added that the Town has the option to hold public hearings on the applications and that all residents within 300 feet of a proposed site need to be notified. MPT Brittan-Powell thanked the Mayor for all her work on this. Director Goodwin added that there are companies who are interested in doing what is called "make ready" work for the small cell facilities. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed concern about the installed facilities limiting the Town's ability to offer future broadband infrastructure. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that the Town can request a plan prior to the application so that all aspects can be reviewed before the clock starts on a formal application. ITM Jones will work with Town Attorney Ferguson on a permit application and licensing agreement process.

f. WesBanco Official Signers, Debit Cards

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed an email from Town Treasurer Lightfield regarding the official signers on the Town's bank accounts. WesBanco has several former Councilmembers and staff as signers. Council determined that the official signers on the accounts should be the current Councilmembers: Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Chris Brittan-Powell, Shinita Hemby, Faustino Menjivar, and Jason Papanikolas. In addition to the Council, ITM Peter Jones is to be a signer. To be removed as signers are Amanda Dewey, Ethan Sweep, and Laura Allen.

There was no update on debit cards for

Town Organizations. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked that this be addressed in the Treasurer's report for the Town Meeting.

g. Town Manager Search: Update
ITM Jones reviewed the memo he provided immediately prior to the meeting. He received two very similar proposals from GovHR and from the Mercer Group in response to the RFP. He shared his slight preference that the Council choose the Mercer Group, as their costs are slightly lower as well as their being known to the Town. He shared that he sent solicitations to other recruitment organizations but received no response. There was discussion regarding the delay from MML in posting the RFP and if the period should be extended in order to have options for more responses. CM Hemby expressed her belief that this position is critical to the Town and should not be delayed. ITM Jones will reach out to two other recruitment firms to determine if they can submit a proposal by Wednesday for Council review. The Council will vote to choose a firm at the Town Meeting.

h. Resident Comments

There were no resident comments.

2. Code Compliance

CM Hemby shared that on March 5th she was able to meet with several residents who have homes near them that consistently exhibit Code violations. These residents expressed concern about what is going on in these homes, as there have been repeated, egregious violations such as public urination and noise issues. She stated there are a few landlords who are not being professional. She also reviewed that Ordinance 114, governing Peace, Order, and Nuisances has not been updated since 1992 and she will be seeking to update the ordinance to impose significant fines. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked residents to also report these activities to the Police Department since some issues, such as public urination, are arrestable offenses. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about the structure for a repeat offender losing their rental license. Director Goodwin reported there needs to be process review on this as well. MPT Brittan-Powell stated the Chief of Police has said previously that there is a link between homes with police calls and homes with Code violations. CM Menjivar stated that he would like to have Public Works be aware of trash on the street from parties as he's received comments on waste left at certain intersections after a weekend. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about parking permits and ways to limit the number of vehicles that could be at a property.

3. Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs

There was no PRECA reports.

4. Public Safety

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that she will give her report at the Town Meeting. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about the status of the UMD School of Public Health partnership. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated a meeting has been scheduled with them in April. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed his concern that that this will not be done in time to reflect any budgetary requirements in the FY2024 budget. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that the ARPA budget is more flexible than the General Fund and PSTD budgets. CM Hemby asked if ARPA eligible general fund items will be up for discussion at the Special Budget Worksession on March 13th. There was further discussion on the flexibility of ARPA funds.

5. Public Works

CM Menjivar shared that the new trash truck has been purchased and will be out on the streets very soon. He stated there will be a new kitchen floor installed in the Senior Center on March 9th.

6. Administration

MPT Brittan-Powell reviewed a number of topics briefly including BarkSocial dog parks, a desire to update the Town Microsoft Office Suite, Town Council training, and working with the UMD students to help facilitate awareness on the stormwater projects in the Town. He expressed a desire to see the Council address housing security needs as well as possible collaboration with existing programs. He thanked ITM Jones for his work on the stormwater relief application and sending it to the Town Attorney. He expressed a desire to address cross-property water management. He also stated that he would like to bring the backflow inhibitors back into the stormwater grant as WSSC will not be working with residents on that matter. He has had preliminary discussion with the Army Corps of Engineers on the Town Watershed issues and they have expressed a desire to collaborate. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if this discussion was for the entire Town watershed evaluation, as the Town does not own the storm drain system and that would be a County project. MPT Brittan-Powell confirmed that his understanding is that it is a Town-wide collaboration, not just on the storm drains.

a. Residential Floodgate Relief Program Application

ITM Jones shared the most recent version of the Floodgate application. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for there to be one additional clarification: the address needs to be the property address, not the address of the homeowner, as the homeowner may be a landlord living

outside of Town. CM Hemby asked if the application will be in Spanish. TC Friesen said that once the application is complete and approved it will be sent to a document translator.

b. Stormwater Mitigation Grant Application

This application was not available yet.

7. Adjournment

CM Hemby moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Menjivar seconded. In discussion, MPT Brittan-Powell asked for clarification on the Constant Yield Tax Rate and publishing the advertisement. He also asked about the possibility of adding a special tax to fund stormwater management. That discussion resulted in the consensus that review of that option will begin after this budget season as a possibility for FY2025. With no further discussion, the motion to adjourn passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:06PM.

Town Meeting Minutes : March 8, 2022 | 7:00 pm

Call to order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:02PM. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas who attended remotely. Also present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones, Town Clerk Melanie Friesen, and Code Compliance Director Hollyce Goodwin. Also present were residents of the Town of Berwyn Heights. Councilmember Faustino Menjivar had an excused absence.

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Announcements

* National Women's History Month Proclamation

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read the Women's History Month Proclamation.

2. Approval of Agenda

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve the agenda. CM Hemby seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Code Appeal

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy introduced the Code Appeal Hearing, stating that among the other responsibilities of the Council, they function as the judicial arm of the Town and as the step between residents and District Court should residents choose to take an appeal to that level. Director Goodwin introduced that the hearing is for Property Maintenance Case CE22-146 for 7710 Edmonston Rd. She reviewed that there were a number of violations that received a Courtesy Notice on July 1, 2022. Unresolved violations

received a Notice of Violation on September 13, 2022 with a Notice of Fine being issued on October 4, 2022. The fine was for \$500 (\$100 for each of the five outstanding violations of the clean lot ordinance). Director Goodwin explained that there is always a period of time between sending the Notice of Violation and the Notice of Fine, to give residents the opportunity to correct the issue. MPT Brittan-Powell asked how we know that residents have received the notification. He also asked if the Council had options for how to rule on the appeal. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated there are several options for how to handle the appeal. Director Goodwin explained that a notice is sent by mail, by certified mail, and left at the residence as well. CM Papanikolas asked if the violations are still outstanding. Director Goodwin stated there are still some outstanding violations, however the issue of inoperable vehicles is mixed as sometimes they are covered as the Town Code requires, but not always when the property has been checked on. The property owners were invited to give testimony. Ms. Denise Helou stated that there were some discrepancies in the notices, that the July notice did not mention high grass, but the September notice did. She also felt that this was unreasonable as her husband mows regularly and the area of grass that was not mowed was long due to soggy ground from drainage issues. She also reported that Code Officer Demby did not respond to her husband when he asked what she was doing on the property. She stated that Code Officer Demby is not specific in noting the corrective actions that need to be taken. She asked if lawn mowers are not allowed to be stored outside in the driveway, as they are used outdoors. Ms. Helou stated that it is her belief that it is her property and she doesn't see why she cannot keep it as she sees fit. She also asked about the circumstances in which a Code Officer is allowed to be on a property. Mr. Bruce Prout, homeowner, also spoke stating there is water that is running in his yard and when he has sought help from the Town in resolving outside drainage issues, he was unable to receive support. He stated that when he asked Code Officer Demby about being on the property she stated that she could not speak with him. He added that many of the violations are not visible from the street due to the angle of the driveway. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the previous Code issues. Ms. Helou stated that previous issues were related to high grass and due to the standing water in the yard. At that time, there was a

meeting at Town Hall to determine responsibility to resolve the water issue but neither WSSC or the Town was willing to take responsibility. She also stated there may have been complaints from others about the storage on her property but again, she doesn't understand why it is a problem when it is her property. She stated that as Code Officers change, the rules seem to change as well. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if the residents recall receiving pictures about Code violations in the past. Ms. Helou replied that after several attempts to meet and speak with Code, they did send pictures of the violations. She stated that she believes it was December when she got pictures.

MPT Brittan-Powell stated that it sounds like the homeowners are willing to work with Code. Ms. Helou stated that to a degree, particularly in regard to vehicles. However, she does not think that issues that are not visible from the street should be violations. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he believes the homeowners to be good neighbors and have done much for the community and that they care about the wellbeing of the community. CM Hemby thanked the homeowners for coming down and giving their side of the story. CM Papanikolas stated that he wished Code Compliance had been more communicative with the homeowners on the vehicle issue as there is more information in the Ordinance on that issue. He also stated he believes there may be issues that the homeowners don't believe to be visible from the street that are visible. He asked if Code Compliance sends pictures as part of the standard procedure on violations. Director Goodwin stated that photos do not always go out to repeat violations. Mr. Prout stated that he does not see a constructive relationship with Code Compliance and does not understand how vehicles that are licensed and driven regularly are listed as inoperable.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated the purpose of Code Compliance is to ensure the quality of life for all Berwyn Heights residents, and that while we are not an HOA, there are issues that are safety concerns that need to be addressed; for example, a pile of tires can be a problem as they provide an environment for mosquito breeding. She asked about the possibility of additional fines that are listed in the Ordinance as well as a need for Town abatement. Director Goodwin stated that there have been no additional fines nor has the Town taken any steps to abate the issues. MPT Brittan-Powell said he does not see that the homeowners have intent to be dismissive of Town Code. CM Hemby proposed there be a meeting with the homeowners and Director Goodwin and herself within two

weeks before proceeding with the fine. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated she would like to see the property brought into compliance within two weeks. She stated that the goal is to achieve compliance, not to fine residents. With discussion, there was an agreement among Council that the residents would have two weeks to both meet with Director Goodwin and bring the property into compliance. CM Hemby moved to extend to the residents a two-week period to meet with Code Compliance and to correct agreed upon issues; if after two weeks the agreed upon issues have not been resolved the \$500 fine stands. CM Papanikolas seconded, with the amendment that the fine would be \$100 per remaining violation. In discussion, MPT Brittan-Powell asked that the Town explore if there is anything that needs to be done on our part to address water issues. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that the Town is limited in what we can do at this time. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

4. Consent

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the status of the Treasurer's report. Town Clerk Friesen responded that Town Treasurer Lightfield had not yet completed the financials but had written the cover memo. MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve the consent agenda. CM Hemby seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

5. Mayor & Councilmember Reports

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that Council has been incredibly busy with the budget. She attended the first two budget listening sessions. There are two more listening sessions scheduled in March on the 21st and 23rd from 6-8PM and a third prior to the Town Meeting in April. She attended the Black History Month event that was sponsored by the Karate Club and the Cornerstone Grand Council of Freemasons. She also attended the PGCA meeting on February 23rd where there was a presentation on the County's receipt of the opioid settlement and how those funds are being used, for example Narcan distribution. She and Town Staff met with the PG County Office of Human Rights staff who offered to present their information to residents. She reminded everyone that Daylight Savings Time begins this weekend.

MPT Brittan-Powell shared that there are residents who will be leaving Berwyn Heights and they will be missed. He stated that the Army Corps of Engineers is interested in working with the Town to address stormwater management. He thanked the Mayor and ITM Jones for working with WSSC to address the issues on Cunningham and hopes to have a focus group with those residents. He also noted that some of the issues the Town is

looking at in regards to homeownership and housing security are parallel to County efforts.

CM Hemby stated that her report was mostly given during the previous worksession. She was glad to have had the opportunity to sit with the Rec Council about Berwyn Heights Day. CM Papanikolas shared that he is joining from Michigan and is looking forward to the snow they are getting. He stated that he loves the idea of Women's History Month and the sharing of history through storytelling.

6. Committee Reports

a. Education Advisory Committee: No report

b. Green Team: They will be meeting on the 16th and will be meeting with Director Pudner at that time to discuss the pollinator garden that the town is putting in as part of our commitment of being a Bee City. The current discussion is to have the garden in Pops Park but they are open to other areas. The Green Team will be hosting an invasive species removal event in mid-April and a stormwater fair on April 1st. They are looking at Sustainable Maryland recertification. There is also discussion about speaking with the new tenants at the old "Staples" building to gauge their interest beautification and improved stormwater management of the parking lot.

c. Historical Committee: Debby Steele-Snyder stated that the next meeting will be on March 22 at 7:30 in the Love Room. On April 16th they will be holding a "Meet the Author" event with Dr. Richard Bell regarding his book "Stolen". The BHC wineglasses will be for sale for \$7. She added that they will be participating in Berwyn Heights Day and working on some other projects that went to the wayside during Covid. She asked about the status of the debit cards for Town Organizations and the .gov email she requested. She stated that at the last Town Meeting, they added a new member but neglected to remove a member. She shared a brief portion of the letter regarding Mr. Becker, recognizing his long and active service on the committee. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked that Ms. Steele-Snyder reach out to CM Papanikolas on that administrative function.

d. Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that at their last meeting they worked on catching up on projects that have been in the works for a while. She added they had hoped to do some CPR and AED training in the spring, but that may be moved to the summer. She thanked ITM Jones for sharing his contacts to help facilitate this training.

e. Recreation Council: Debby Steele-

Snyder shared there will be a bluegrass concert on March 26 from 3-5PM with a snack potluck. She announced porch concerts will begin on April 30th from 2-4PM somewhere on 57th Avenue. In case of rain, the porch concert will be moved to Town Center. Berwyn Heights Day is May 6th and is the 50th anniversary of the parade. She shared they discussed the Fun Run, pancake breakfast, tee shirt design, the amusement rides to be included, and worked on the parade. There are several contingency plans for weather. She encouraged volunteering, noting that you don't have to volunteer for the whole day, but can help with just one part or event.

7. Old Business

There was no old business.

8. New Business

a. Town Manager Recruitment Firm Selection

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that ITM Jones is contracted through the end of June. A RFP for a recruitment firm was sent out to several websites and solicitation sent to several companies who have responded in the past. ITM Jones reviewed that the Town received two responses, from GovHR and the Mercer Group. He did some further research on other firms that have responded in the past and they have either been bought out by companies that declined to respond or they have gone out of business. He stated that he recommends that the Town use the Mercer Group to recruit for the Town Manager position. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if the recruiter would be David Deutsch and questioned if he had retired. ITM Jones responded that it would be Mr. Deutsch and that he has not retired. CM Papanikolas stated that his research on GovHR is that they are a large firm out of Chicago. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if that would indicate that they have a greater reach. CM Papanikolas recollected that Mercer had presented candidates from around the country before and that they can bring in a diverse pool of candidates. MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to hire the Mercer Group to conduct a search for a permanent Town Manager; CM Hemby seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously 4:0.

9. Resident & Community Comments

MPT Brittan-Powell shared a comment from a resident wondering if there would be a Women's History Month event similar to the Black History Month event. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy told residents to watch the April Bulletin for applications to be a part of the interview process for the next Town Manager. TC Friesen mentioned that the Ethics Commission is accepting applicants. Debby Steele-Snyder asked about getting a crosswalk at Pontiac and Cunningham. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy

also mentioned discussions with the Chief of Police to obtain flashing stop signs and temporary speed humps to improve pedestrian safety.

10. Adjournment

CM Hemby moved to adjourn. MPT Brittan-Powell seconded. After no discussion the motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Worksession (Budget) Minutes March 13, 2023 | 7:00 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 6PM. Also present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas, who attended remotely. Staff present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones, Town Treasurer Mike Lightfield, and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen.

Approval of the Agenda

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve the agenda. CM Hemby seconded. With no discussion the motion passed unanimously.

1. FY24 Public Safety Taxing District

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that there needs to be a summary budget published in the Bulletin, as well as a summary for the PSTD budget and the Constant Yield Tax Rate Hearing information. TT Lightfield reviewed the revenue for the PSTD and that this revenue covers the salary, benefits, trainings, etc. for one of the police officers, typically the detective. He stated this is at the current tax rate of \$.66 per \$100 of assessed real property value. He clarified this does not cover any capital expenses, just personnel expenses. In order to balance the budget, he used \$4616 from the PSTD reserve account. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked what the Town would need to do to not pull money from the reserves. TT Lightfield responded that the tax rate would need to be raised. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if there were department-specific reserves, for example if the police department underspends one year, does that money go toward a police reserve fund. TT Lightfield responded any unspent PD money would go to the general reserve fund. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about how much was in the PSTD reserve fund. TT Lightfield stated that there is \$33,000 in that account and clarified that the Public Safety reserve fund is income generated by the speed camera. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked what reserve fund the proposed police vehicles were coming from. ITM Jones stated that he anticipated those coming out of ARPA funds. There was discussion about raising the PSTD tax rate. CM Papanikolas asked how many businesses are in Town and searched the Code Compliance report from the March Town Meeting to determine are 74 busi-

nesses in Town. There was discussion that there have been changes to the Personal Property Tax (PPT) State law that will make the first \$25,000 of PPT exempt from taxation, and that could have an impact on the Town revenues. TT Lightfield determined that the tax rate for PSTD should be raised to approximately \$.71 per \$100 of assessed value, and that does not take into account any revenue loss from PPT. There was discussion on the PSTD ordinance and if the Town can use reserves to balance a budget. CM Papanikolas proposed that the Town advertise the tax increase even if it ultimately decides not to increase taxes, as it takes away the ability to raise taxes if we do not.

In summary, the Council consensus was to raise the tax rate to \$.71 per \$100 of assessed value to balance the PSTD budget and schedule a meeting with the CDMA board during the first two weeks of April. Code Compliance has generally lead the meetings with the CDMA.

2. Revenue Forecast: CYTR (.5187), Current Tax Rate (.545), Refuse and Recycling Collection Fee

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy introduced the Constant Yield Tax Rate (CYTR) and explained that it is the rate at which you would take in the same amount of income from real estate taxes based on fluctuations in property assessments. If the Town were to maintain the current tax rate of \$.545 per \$100 of assessed real property value, the Town would bring in about \$112,000 in additional revenues. She also stated that the Town had suspended the Refuse and Recycling Fee for FY2023 as there were questions about how Covid might affect taxpayers. MPT Brittan-Powell asked TT Lightfield to review the revenue line items in the budget. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that some revenue sources are predictable while others, such as fines and forfeitures are variable. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if the CYTR takes inflation into account. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy responded it does not, that it maintains dollar-to-dollar the same amount of revenue as in FY23. CM Papanikolas reviewed that there are many options on the table for Council; they can keep the current tax rate, go with the CYTR, raise rates higher than the current tax rate, lower taxes below the CYTR, and anywhere in between. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about the funding of special projects. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that it depends on the project. \$.03 of each dollar from real estate taxes are already set aside for the infrastructure reserve fund. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked ITM Jones about how the budget went from a deficit of more than \$500,000 as presented on March 4, to a surplus, adding that we may not need all the vehicles that were asked for in the enhancements. There was discussion about the reliability and maintenance of Town vehicles. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that people may be

willing to pay increased taxes if they knew exactly what was being funded by the increase. TT Lightfield explained the difference between the budgets presented today to Council, noting that the only difference is the revenue from real estate taxes. The budget which maintains the current tax rate provides a surplus of approximately \$77,000 where the budget at the CYTR has a deficit of approximate \$34,000. He asked for Council to note that the two budgets presented do not replenish the vehicle reserve funds. Council discussed how the new tax credits from the County may affect revenue for the Town. MPT Brittan-Powell asked to ensure that some of the community's priorities aren't lost in the budget (such as the Walkable Bikeable Task Force recommendations). There was discussion that if there does wind up being a surplus that the surplus could be moved into the vehicle reserve fund. MPT Brittan-Powell asked why the police department vehicles were not in the vehicle replacement fund. CM Papanikolas explained that it does not make sense to add police vehicles in the reserve fund as they cost almost as much as we'd put annually add into the reserves to pay for them; however, a public works vehicle can cost \$250,000 or more and it takes more annual deposits in order to build up enough of a reserve to purchase one. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy summarized that it sounds like the Council is looking to keep the current tax rate to avoid creating a deficit. CM Hemby stated her confusion why this discussion is taking place before a discussion on prioritizing Town budget needs and ARPA spending. She also expressed confusion about why Council would raise tax rates when there is ARPA and Metroland reserve funds that can be used to fund some of the Town needs. CM Papanikolas stated that some unassigned reserve money can be transferred into the vehicle reserve fund. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that the Town's biggest expense is services and salaries which increase in cost every year. It is recommended to cover these yearly costs via yearly revenue, as dipping into reserves over time will deplete those reserves. CM Papanikolas stated he is not opposed to using ARPA to buy a police vehicle if need be. TT Lightfield pointed out that the current budgets are balanced by moving a considerable number of expenses to the ARPA budget and that will still need to be reviewed. Consensus of the Council is to post a proposed tax rate of \$.545 per \$100 in assessed real property value in the April Bulletin and to add the refuse and recycling fee back into the budget.

3. Prioritizing Town Budget Needs

MPT Brittan-Powell suggested that Council consider this like a household budget, where there are priorities that have to be paid for and then the extras, like a vacation, that may not be able to be afforded. He asked Council to come together to deter-

mine what the priorities are, to listen to the community and to put those items in the budget and to move forward collectively. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reminded residents that there are still several budget listening sessions planned. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he has tried to boil down the baseline budget needs and then asked for what areas the Council desires to emphasize and help the community move toward where they would like to be in the future; values, the philosophy, the goals, and then build from there. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked Council to review the budget that was provided by ITM Jones during the meeting as it contains the services residents want (trash pick-up, street repairs). This budget needs to be balanced and at this point it is balanced based on money being used from APRA and from the General Funds. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy and MPT Brittan-Powell discussed their differences in their approach, with MPT Brittan-Powell focusing on how to create space for enhancements with Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stating that is hard to know how to afford enhancements when the bulk of the budget process is not yet complete. CM Hemby stated that she understood both points of view. CM Papanikolas reviewed that enhancements used to come through with prioritization based on how essential they were to the operations of the Town. He also stated that the budget ordinance needs to be reviewed and reworked once this process has been completed.

4. FY23 ARPA Funding Allocations

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if the Council wanted to review what has been discussed so far or if the Council wanted additional time to review. CM Papanikolas reviewed that some of the line items that have not been spent were always to be "if needed".

5. FY24 ARPA Funding Proposed Allocations

MPT Brittan-Powell expressed concern that there are a number of items that have been budgeted for that have met delays. He also stated that he believes that the Townwide stormwater mitigation project will cost at least \$1,000,000. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about where those numbers are coming from, when the engineering study has not been completed. MPT Brittan-Powell replied that it came from talks with the County and talks with the Army Corps of Engineers. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that she does not believe that those numbers have been set yet, as the County should be paying for this. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked Council to review the amounts that were allocated and help determine if they need to be changed. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if there was any merit in splitting the residential and business support programs into two separate line items. CM Hemby expressed that she supported that and believes that the amount for business support should be higher. There was discussion regarding the funding for educational support and at what level it needs to be continued due to the way Prince

George's County Public Schools have spent their ARPA funds. It was suggested to move money around in line items that already exist rather than create new programs. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy suggested reviewing the surveys done by the previous Council. CM Papanikolas stated that those line items are old and the world was completely different than it is now. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he believes Mayor Kulpa-Eddy treats the ARPA budget as more touchable than Town Reserves. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated to some extent that is true as the ARPA funds will expire and the Town Reserves will not.

6. Adjournment

CM Hemby moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Menjivar seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

Worksession (Budget) Minutes March 20, 2023 | 7:00 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:22PM. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Also present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen. Councilmember Shinita Hemby had an excused absence.

Approval of the Agenda

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve the agenda. CM Menjivar seconded. With no discussion the motion passed unanimously.

1. Mayor

a. Announcements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported out on the Executive Session that happened immediately prior to the worksession. Council met in open session at 6:30PM and moved into Executive Session at 6:40PM with a vote of 3:1, with Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, CM Menjivar, and CM Papanikolas in favor of closing the session and MPT Brittan-Powell opposed. The meeting was closed under General Provisions Article §3-305 (b)(1) the personnel exemption to discuss Resident of the Year and (b)(3) to discuss the acquisition of real property for the Town. Also present in the Executive Session was ITM Jones. The property discussed was for the purpose of a permanent location of the Police Department. There was a motion and a vote to submit a letter of intent on a piece of property. The vote was 3:1, with MPT Brittan-Powell opposed.

CM Menjivar shared that resident Steven Tote, who CM Menjivar coached as a youth, fell off a roof and was in the hospital with extensive injuries. CM

Papanikolas shared that the team that CM Menjivar coached is still going strong and is playing in a tournament. MPT Brittan-Powell shared his appreciation to all who came to help when there was a fire at his home over the weekend. He stated it was not lost on him that the fire was on the 19th which was 7 months to the day after Council passed programs to help the community in times of tragedy, but that they have been held up by administrative delays. He also shared about his hopes to have programs and activities outdoors as Spring is coming.

b. Calendar

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that there is a budget listening session on March 21st and 23rd upstairs in the Town Center from 6-8PM and another immediately prior to the Town Meeting on April 12 at 6PM. CM Papanikolas highlighted the Stormwater Fair on April 1st from 10AM to 12PM in the Town Hall parking lot.

c. DHCD Sustainable Communities Submission

Mr. Carter Reitman from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development joined the meeting remotely. He shared that his office has been able to provide technical assistance for the renewal application. The action plan was developed by the Sustainable Communities Workgroup and will serve as the basis for competitive grants that the Town may be interested in pursuing over the next 5 years. Code Compliance Director Hollyce Goodwin gave an overview of the categories included in the action plan: Environment, Transportation, Quality of Life, Housing, and Economic Development. She shared a few highlights from each category. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy noted that one of the weaknesses discussed in transportation was the discontinuation of the Call-A-Bus program and stated that the vehicle was still available, but we would need to ask Greenbelt to bring it back to Berwyn Heights. MPT Brittan-Powell asked how we could avoid duplicating this effort, with this being a State program and there also being other programs at the local and County level. Mr. Reitman stated that there would need to be coordination and focused on this not being a zoning plan. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that this is an umbrella document for a particular funding source. CM Papanikolas added that it has the potential to be the beginning of a strategic plan with a nice framework for a lot of the issues we have in Town. Mr. Reitman stated that the action plan is really the meat of the document. He added that there are categories with both very specific language and some with very broad language. In terms of applying for grants, the Town does not have to have

the details in the action plan, the grant just needs to support moving the Town in the direction listed in the action plan. He also shared about the circuit rider program that would allow the Town to partner with another small municipality to pay for a grant writer. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about the next steps for the application renewal process and Mr. Reitman laid out that after the Council approves the application, it will go to the DHCD team to review and then the Smart Growth Subcabinet which is staffed by the secretaries of the various agencies that manage the Sustainable Communities program. He mentioned that this subcabinet may make suggestions before approving the application. Once approved by the State, the Town would have 5 years of eligibility for grants. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy would like to have this ready for Council vote at the April Town meeting. The Town would keep eligibility until February of 2028. CM Papanikolas would like to have this back on April 3rd after Council has had more time to look at the action plan. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about the bare minimum for staffing to make this happen. Mr. Reitman mentioned the circuit rider program which can provide operating assistance to small communities. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that the Town Manager has been the one responsible for ensuring the action plan items are being completed. Previously there was periodic review by Council to determine what was being done and by who on the action plan. Council discussed the value and process behind adopting the action plan as a strategic plan for the next five years.

d. Codification Project Update

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy led a discussion reviewing the questions that American Legal, the company that the Town has hired to complete the codification project, had sent in. Council took time to discuss a number of the questions and while several of the questions were answered, the Council requested that the Town Clerk ask for an extension to complete the review.

e. Vehicle Reserve Fund

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that only recently has there been an updated reconciliation on the vehicle reserve fund. There were a number of vehicles that were purchased in the past few years where the expenses were not reconciled on the account. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about where the breakdown happened and how these errors were made. CM Papanikolas suggested that it likely happened during the turnover between Town Treasurers in 2019, where the current Treasurer may

have not been told about the spreadsheets to update them. He also added that the audited numbers from FY20 and FY21 were not added to the spreadsheet, which is what Council uses to make its budget decisions. There was discussion about police vehicles being purchased out of the reserve fund without revenue being credited to the reserve fund. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy and MPT Brittan-Powell noted that it is a complicated issue which needs clarification. Ultimately, the spreadsheet needs to be updated with both police and public works vehicles being accounted for. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy emphasized that there will be hard decisions to be made over the next few years as the reserve fund is rebuilt.

f. ARPA Budget Update

MPT Brittan-Powell shared that it is his understanding that the ARPA budget is not required to be on the same fiscal year as the Town is. There was discussion regarding when the budget needed to be completed by. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated while there are a number of things that we won't know by April, we should plan ahead for the things we know will be needed. ITM Jones stated that there were a number of line items in the current approved budget that were not used or well utilized. He had a number of suggestions on how to increase or reduce specific line items and add some possibilities for new line items including a police station, vehicles for the Police Department and Public Works, Community Engagement, funds for the School of Public Health, and the scholarship fund for high school students. MPT Brittan-Powell asked ITM Jones about why he is suggesting using ARPA funds for items that could be regular budget items, as well as not following the Res. 5-2022 which establishes accounting methods. ITM Jones explained that with ARPA allocations of under \$10 Million, there was a considerable amount of leeway given to communities, including helping with immediate needs, as well as long term planning. MPT Brittan-Powell disagreed, stating that the ARPA funds are to be used for the long term needs of the community. CM Papanikolas shared that Town reserves do not tend to get larger, they tend to stay the same or get smaller and that is the only money that keeps the Town from needing to do a special tax assessment. MPT Brittan-Powell stated his position is that the Town should be run as though ARPA doesn't exist. CM Papanikolas stated that you cannot hold a current Council to what a previous Council passed as a resolution. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that we cannot put the money in the vehicle reserve fund, but

we can buy the vehicles out of ARPA money. CM Papanikolas stated that he is not comfortable with this level of spending nor is he comfortable with allocating \$1million of ARPA funds for a police station when the estimates on a stormwater master plan are about \$1million as well. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that much of the money for the stormwater project should come from the County, as it is their system. CM Papanikolas stated if the County comes through on that funding, then he has no problem spending the money on a police station. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed concerns that there would not be enough time before the end of ARPA to complete a major stormwater project and that the Town would lose the money altogether. She also stated that she does not want to spend ARPA money on things that County should be paying for. CM Papanikolas stated that if giving \$1million of the ARPA funds helps move the Town to the top of the County list, it would be worth it. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that we have not tried to get other sources of funding for the other items as well. CM Papanikolas stated he believes that ITM Jones is on track with his funding suggestions with the current ARPA programs. CM Papanikolas stated that one of the problems is that we are looking at annual allocations for the grant, when it should be considered for the lifetime of the grant. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed concern that since our current ARPA funding is on the fiscal year, that if we don't pass a budget in May, come July we won't have access to funds. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy suggested that Council pass an ordinance for an 18 month schedule of funds, that is introduced in May and passed in June.

g. Resident Comments
There were no resident comments.

2. Code Compliance
Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared on behalf of CM Hemby that the residents who appealed their Code Compliance violations at the March Town Meeting have made noticeable improvement, but that Code Director Goodwin is still looking for a bit more work in one area.

3. Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs
CM Papanikolas stated that the Green Team has some questions that the Town should address soon. One is to determine if there is anything that the Town can do to help with stormwater run-off with the new tenants in the old Staples building. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated she does not think the Town has any leverage with the property owners, as they are not requesting a change in zoning or changing the footprint of the building. MPT Brittan-Powell mentioned that with a grocery store coming into

Town he'd like to revisit the plastic bag ban. There was discussion on the status of a plastic bag ban in neighboring communities. CM Papanikolas shared the Green Team's request for some guidance on the location of the pollinator garden that is part of the Bee City requirements. There is limited public land and some areas are not ideal for the introduction of bees. He asked that there be a discussion on in-town composting in the first June worksession.

4. Public Safety
Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that there was a shed fire in Town over the weekend and there were concerns about why the Berwyn Height Volunteer Fire Department and Police Department did not respond. She inquired and was told they had already been dispatched to a vehicle accident with injuries.

5. Public Works
CM Menjivar shared that they are getting their inventory done for Berwyn Heights Day. They are also preparing the upstairs to get ready for the pancake breakfast.

6. Administration
MPT Brittan-Powell shared that he is grateful for all the people who have helped and responded during the fire and aftermath. He also stated that the stormwater realities are not gone and there is still a lot of unfinished business to accomplish. He has been going through the audit reports and where the Town spends its money and the Town is not spending money on recreation which is such a critical part of the community. He would like to see that priority reflected in the budget.

a. Residential Flood Gate Relief Program Application
The Town Attorney had concluded her review of the application and the Council reviewed her comments and the application one final time. The consensus was it was ready to be released. TC Friesen will post it to the website once it has been translated into Spanish. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that there is still an outside possibility that the Town may be able to get some help from WSSC on a very limited basis.

7. Adjournment
MPT Brittan-Powell moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Papanikolas seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:28PM.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

BH Elementary School PTA

President: Lilly Ridge
President@BHESPTA.org

Secretary: Angie Wiens
Treasurer: Sara Jacobsen

Boys & Girls Club

President: Robin Harris
rcrestwell@yahoo.com

Vice President: Brandi Cowgill
brandie9105@gmail.com

Registrar: Tiffany Papanikolas
tif.papanikolas@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sandra Zuniga
Secretary:

Athletic Director: Darryl Harris
darryl.harris@aimdgroup.com

Fundraising Chair:

Education Advisory Committee

Chair: Allison Holmes
thebheac@gmail.com

Green Team/ Shade Tree Board

Facilitator: Jeffrey Knutson
jbknutson@verizon.net

Public Outreach: Therese Forbes
therese@celticclans.com

Historical Committee

Chair: Debby Steele Snyder
dsteelesny@yahoo.com

Immigrant Neighbors Community of Berwyn Heights (INCbh)

POC: Claudia Barragan (301)458-0288
info@incbh.org

Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

Movie Club

Jonathan Loutsch
bhmovieclub@gmail.com

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness

Co-Chair: Joan Hayden
jmosley45@gmail.com

Co-Chair: Randy Fortwengler
bhnwep53@aol.com

Karate Club

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

Quilter's Club

Coordinator: Janet Freitag
quilttag1@yahoo.com

Recreation Council

President: Susan Jones
violindreams@verizon.net

Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482

Berwyn Heights Day 2023



Join us for a full day of FUN Saturday, May 6th!

- 8:00-8:30 am Fun Run Registration at Town Center
- 8:30-9:30 am Fun Run from Town Center around Lake Artemesia
- 9:00 am-Sold Out Seniors Bake Sale at the Senior Center
- 9:00-11:00 am *Free* Pancake Breakfast Upstairs at Senior Center
- 12:00 pm Parade from BH Elementary to Sports Park
- 11:00-4:00 pm Festivities at Sports Park including:

The Grand Strand— Parade Announcement; “Citizen of the Year” Award; National Anthem, Arbor Day & Berwyn Heights Day Proclamations; Performances by MD Youth Pipe Band, Fundacion Elena Baile Folklorico Mexicano, and Greenbelt Honk! Situation; and Dance Music 11am-2pm by DJ Boom.

The Marketplace—Shop at our Crafter and Vendor Tables; or Learn about our Town Groups & Organizations, and other Local Businesses at the various Information Booths. Berwyn Heights Day Shirts for sale at the Rec Council Table!

Food Court— Hot Dogs, Burgers & BBQ at the Karate Club Grill; Mallardi’s Food Truck; Prepackaged Snacks & Drinks at the Boys & Girls Club Snack Bar; Isabela’s Mexican Cooking; Pupusas Revueltas; & More

Beer Garden— The Beer Truck is back. Must be 21 w/valid photo ID

***Free* Rides & Attractions**— Train Ride, Inflatables for all ages, Rock Climb, Balloon Animals & Bubble Machine by CallieOops the Clown; Kids Games & Arm Painting

Live Concert—The Hall Brothers, 1pm-4pm

***In Case of Severe Rain:** Activities will be moved to the Town Center at 5700 Berwyn Road.

GAME NIGHTS continue every FRIDAY NIGHT starting at 7:30pm at the Town Center 1st Floor.

Our WALKING CLUB continues to meet every MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY morning at 9am at the Sports Park Parking Lot; and Stay tuned for more details on these upcoming events in next month’s bulletin:

Summer Concert Series kicking off in June

Town-wide Yard Sale—Saturday, June 17th

Next Rec Council Meetings are Tuesday, May 2nd & Tuesday, June 6th at 7pm in the G. Love Room at the Senior Center. Any questions / comments, email violendreams@verizon.net



CODE COMPLIANCE

Town Rental Housing: Maryland Lead Paint Law

To reduce the incidence of lead poisoning, Maryland State Law requires that all Rental Properties built before 1978, regardless of renovation history, comply with The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)'s Lead Poisoning Prevention Program regulations.

Deteriorating lead-based paint --peeling, chipping, chalking, cracking, or damaged paint-- needs immediate attention from a lead-safe certified professional. Lead-based paints found on surfaces that children can access are extremely hazardous.

The Truth About the Dangers of Lead Poisoning

- Many homes built before 1978 have lead-based paint and are at risk for lead hazards. Dwellings built before 1950 have the highest risk.
- Lead from paint chips and dust can pose danger to those exposed, especially children under the age of 6.
- New cases of childhood lead paint poisoning are diagnosed every year. Many more could go unreported.
- Millions of children are affected by lead paint poisoning and suffer some level of irreversible damage, such as lower intelligence, learning disabilities and behavioral issues.
- Recent research shows that new cases can be directly linked to renovations where the work environment was inadequately contained.
- Adults exposed to lead paint can suffer from high blood pressure, headaches, dizziness, diminished motor skills, fatigue and memory loss
- Lead poisoning can occur by breathing or swallowing even small amounts of lead dust, and by ingesting paint chips containing lead.
- Lead dust can form when lead-based paint is scraped, sanded, or heated. Lead dust also forms when painted surfaces containing lead get bumped or rub together.

Owner's Responsibilities under the Maryland Department of Environment

Owners of Town Rental Properties built before January 1, 1978 must:

- Provide all tenants with the "Notice of Tenants Rights," and "Protect Your Family from Lead in Your Home" brochures.
- Provide a current Lead inspection certificate upon inception of the tenancy and every two years thereafter.
- Be registered with the State of Maryland Department of Environment.
- ◇ Obtain a tracking number, complete application, and submit a Lead Free or Risk Reduction inspection certificate. Complete a renewal form annually and pay fees to MDE. To obtain a tracking number, application, or renewal form please call MDE at 410-537-4199 or 800-776-2706.
- ◇ Registration fee is \$30 per unit, annually
- ◇ A new lead inspection certificate is required for any turnover in tenant or change of occupancy



Compliance with the Maryland Department of Environment Lead Poison Prevention Program is required to obtain a Town Rental Housing License. MDE manages and primarily enforces the Prevention Program. The State may apply civil and administrative fees and penalties for noncompliance. The Town of Berwyn Heights is required to report non-compliance to MDE.

For more information, please contact the Maryland Department of the Environment at 410-537-4199 visit their webpage at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LeadRegistration.aspx>

Berwyn Heights Seniors Club

Open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10 A.M. to 2P.M.— Next to the Town Office
on 57th Ave. Phone 301-474-5000

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

HOWARD JOHNSON



May 4	Chris Brittan-Powell
May 5	Lisa Powell
May 9	Howard Johnson
May 15	Leon Swain
May 23	Herman Seeger

MAY ACTIVITIES

BINGO - Every Tuesday at 12:00 PM

WII BOWLING— Every Wednesday 10:30AM

POOL—Every Friday at 7:00PM

POTLUCK & MOVIE – Second Saturday at 5PM

BREAKFAST at the SILVER DINER third Thursday
at 9:30

MEETINGS—Second and Fourth Tuesday at 11:00
AM. The Fourth Tuesday is also a Potluck

CHAIR EXERCISES— Monday and Friday at 11 A.M.



Tree Care Tips!

The trees in our neighborhood are important for the health and wellbeing of Berwyn Heights! Ensure that the trees on your property are properly maintained by:



- Consult an ISA Certified Arborist when considering pruning a tree to ensure that pruning is done properly. Confirm that they avoid harmful, extreme pruning practices such as "topping".
- Removing invasive vines from trunks.
- Using 2 to 4 inches of non-cypress mulch under young trees to keep weeds and grass that compete for nutrients away.

Berwyn Heights Shade Tree Board
Next meeting: May 11th, 2023, 7 pm
Contact: Berwyn Heights Green Team



BERWYN HEIGHTS

Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc.

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

In Case of Emergency Call 911!

Recent Working Incidents

April 9th- At around 4:30pm, Ladder Truck 14 and its volunteer crew were alerted to respond as the first due truck to the 9700 block of 51st place in the Hollywood section of the City of College Park. Truck 14 and Engine 12 (College Park) were first arriving and had smoke showing from the roof. The officer of Truck 14 assumed tactical command, and the crew laddered the house, checked for extension, and driver and tillerman ventilated the roof. Truck 14 operated for approximately one hour before returning to service.

March 29th- Rescue Squad 14 was dispatched as the Search company to the 8400 block of Magnolia Dr. Units went on scene with fire showing from the basement and first floor on side charlie. After Squad 14 completed primary searches on all divisions, they were reassigned to the basement level to open up, check for extension and extinguish the residual fire. The squad operated for about 2 hours before returning to service.

March 26th- Ladder Truck 14 and its volunteer crew were dispatched to the 1000Blk of Riggs Road in Adelphi for a reported house fire. First arriving units went on scene with fire showing. BHVFD's volunteer crew completed primary searches of the first floor and basement level. All searches came up negative. After the fire was extinguished command held Truck 14 and Montgomery County Engine 712 to overhaul. Company 14 operated for approximately 2 hours.

March 19- At approximately 11am, while BHVFD units were handling a call in Lanham, area companies were alerted to the 5600-Blk of Osage Street in Berwyn Heights for multiple sheds on fire. Branchville VFD and College Park VFD crews arrived and extinguished the fire. Truck & Ambulance 14 stopped by Osage Street after clearing their call. Many thanks to the surrounding volunteer companies for helping protect our hometown!



Free Karate Training!!!!

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 7th degree black belt, five-time inductee into the World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame. Member of Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization.

Berwyn Heights Town Center-5700 Berwyn Rd-2nd Fl.
Open to all ages/all levels: Year-Round: Mondays and Fridays 5-7 pm
Executive Club (Senior Citizens): Thursdays 12:00 – 2:00 pm

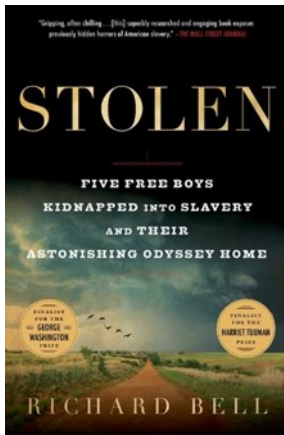
OUR BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY FUNDRAISER: GRILLING AND 50/50 RAFFLE

For more information, contact Theresa Beck 301-237-2829 (becktheresag@gmail.com) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881



Historical Committee

Special thanks to Dr. Richard Bell for speaking at our Spring Book Event and Reception. What a fascinating story!



Would you like to learn more about Berwyn Heights? Stop by our tent on Berwyn Heights Day-Saturday, May 6, 2023!

The next meeting of the BHHC is on Wednesday, May 24, 2023 in the Love Room at 7:30 pm.

All other inquiries to: dstelesny@yahoo.com

For more information visit our Website: <https://berwynheightshistory.com> and on Facebook.



Visitors are always welcome!

\$2,300,000

That's the amount of ARPA funds still not spent by Town Council!
40,000-50,000 gallons of water/year roll off each roof in town!
Every house needs a cistern to catch this water, paid for by ARPA.
Other towns have built underground infiltration trenches and storage systems.

Our drainage system must be upgraded.

**TELL THE MAYOR TO TAKE STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT SERIOUSLY!**

jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov

(301) 345-1516

Attend the May and June Town Meetings—Make Your Voice Heard

If you believe stormwater is an urgent threat to Berwyn Heights, join:

Concerned Citizens for Stormwater Management

Stormprep20740@gmail.com



**Town Offices are closed
on Monday,
May 29, 2023 in honor
of
Memorial Day.**



Berwyn Heights GreenBee



bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com

www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com

Facebook: @BerwynHeightsGreenTeam

Our next virtual Green Team meeting will be Thursday, May 11 at 7:00 pm.

Email us to get the link. All residents of Berwyn Heights are welcome.

Nuestra proxima reunion virtual del Equipo Verde sera el jueves 11 de mayo a las 7:00 pm.

Mandenos un correo electronico para obtener el sitio de la pagina web.

Todos los residentes de Berwyn Heights son bienvenidos.

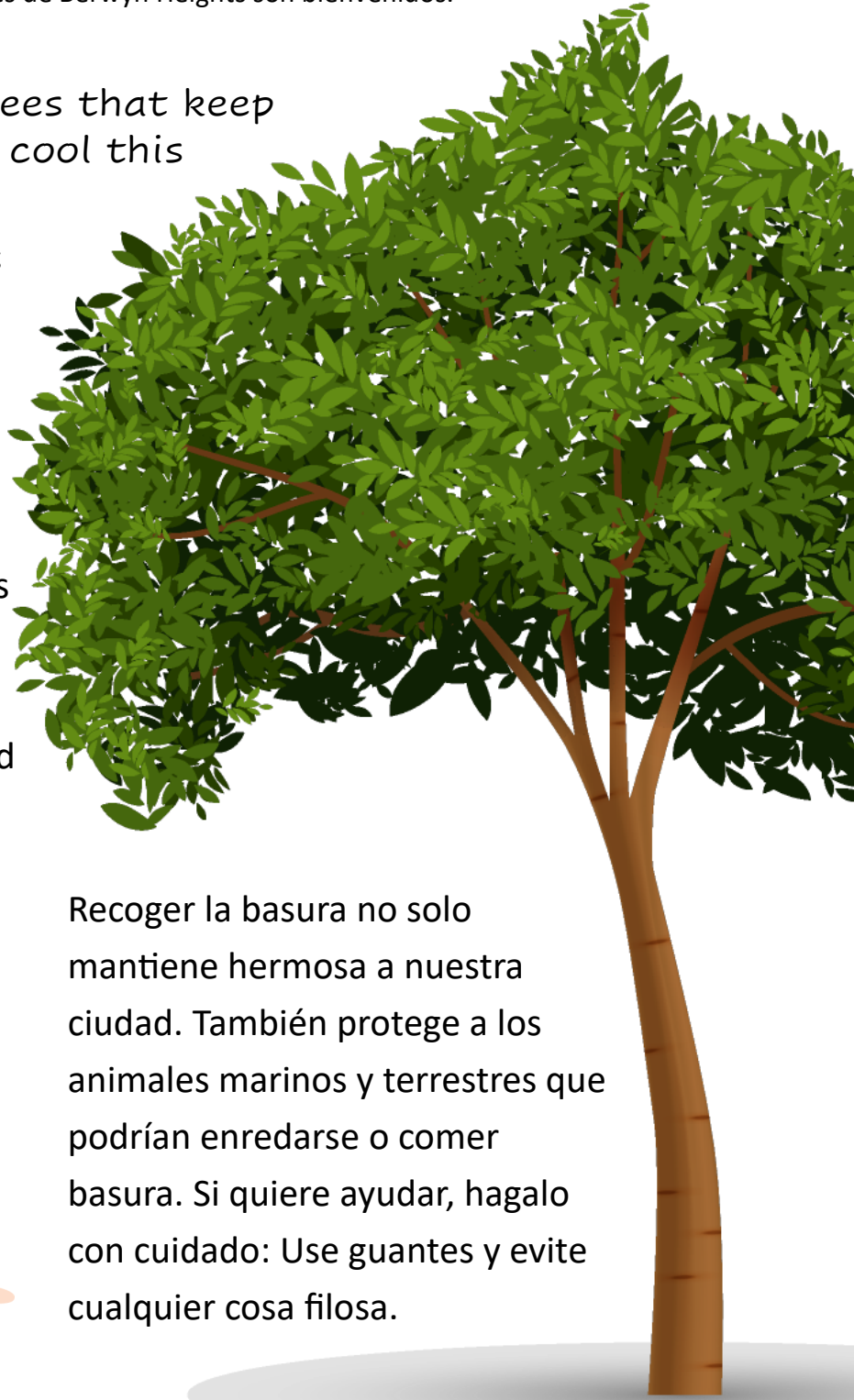
Three cheers for the tall trees that keep
Berwyn Heights shady and cool this
summer!

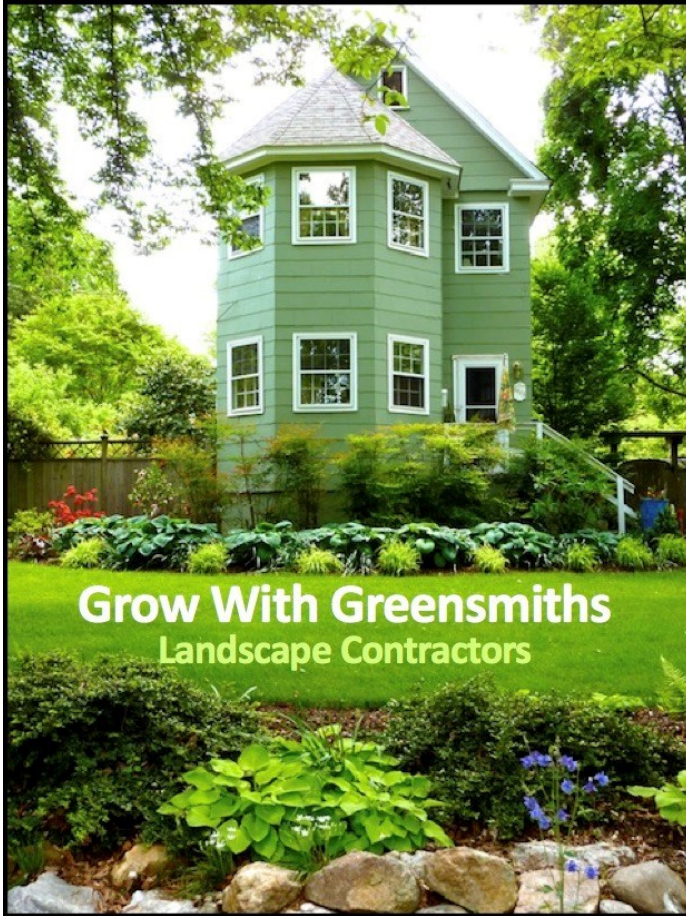
¡Tres hurras por los árboles
altos que mantienen a
Berwyn Heights
sombreado y fresco
este verano!

Picking up litter doesn't just keep
our town beautiful. It also protects
land and water animals that could
tangle in or eat garbage. Want to
help? Be safe: use gloves and avoid
anything sharp.



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mantiene hermosa a nuestra
ciudad. También protege a los
animales marinos y terrestres que
podrían enredarse o comer
basura. Si quiere ayudar, hagalo
con cuidado: Use guantes y evite
cualquier cosa filosa.





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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

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BE STREET WISE



May is Bicycle Safety Month.

We're on this road together.



roads.maryland.gov/bikesafety

Bike Smart

When you're on a bike, always ride with traffic, signal the direction you're heading, obey all traffic signs and markings, and follow all traffic safety laws. Being on a bike is not an excuse to ignore red lights or stop signs.

Bicyclists are often harder to see than cars or trucks. Wear reflective clothing and use a light if you're riding at night so that you're more easily seen. And when riding near vehicles or passing them, be alert to whether the driver may not see you.

Drive Smart

Obey all traffic safety laws and follow all traffic signals. Keep an eye on bikes riding on the road or in bike lanes, and always give plenty of room—at least 3 feet—to bicyclists when passing them. If you see other cars stopping or slowing, be aware that they may be stopping or yielding to someone on foot or bicycle—you are required to stop too.

Risky behavior behind the wheel can easily result in a collision and if you hit a pedestrian or a bicyclist, the results are devastating for our most vulnerable road users. Keep in mind that you're moving a lot faster and are better protected. Even at relatively low speeds, car collisions can be deadly for those on foot or bike.

Look Up, Look Out, and Stay Alert!





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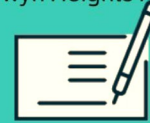


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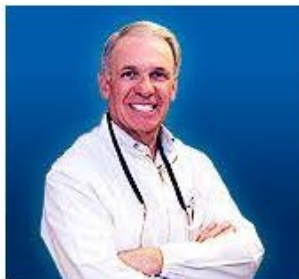
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Sharon's Recent Listings In and Around Berwyn Heights



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8916 56th Ave



5920 Osage St • \$390,000

Source: 2023 Bright MLS, Inc. Information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Not all properties are listed/sold by this advertised agent or broker.

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Sharon A. McCraney, REALTOR®

Don Bunuan | Realtor



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

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

- Patty Galati and Karen Jung



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2022



March Incidents

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023, AT 10:50 AM, **'STOLEN AUTO.'**

On 03-01-23 a Kia Forte was stolen from 6200 Pontiac Street. A short time later, the said vehicle was seen at the 6300 block of Riverdale Road occupied by 4 unknown black males. Once the males were observed by the marked police car, they proceeded to elude the marked police cruiser, however, the vehicle was not able to move due to the congested area. All 4 males bailed out from the vehicle and ran on foot toward 64th Ave. Upon checking the vehicle, the ignition was manipulated by using a USB port. The officer made contact with the owner of the vehicle and he advised that he left his vehicle parked in front of the BHES.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023, AT 2:04 PM, **'THEFT FROM AUTO.'**

The victim reported on 3/1/2023, his listed vehicle was parked on the street overnight. He last parked it at 1900 hrs, 2/28/2023 and both tags were on the vehicle. He believes at 0600 hrs, 3/1/2023, when he left for work, the rear tag on the listed vehicle was gone. The information was documented by Cpl. T. Hollowell, #1449, Berwyn Heights Police under the listed case number. There are no investigative leads at this time. The victim was advised to contact MVA for a duplicate plate.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 2023, AT 3:30 PM, **'FOUND PROPERTY.'**

On 3/1/2023 At approximately 1530 hours. PFC Herriott# 1454 responded to 62** Tecumseh Place for lost property. Upon arrival, I met with a resident who advised that as he moved into his new home, he found a gray Apple I-pad on the front seat of the U haul truck that he was driving. The reporting person advises that he forgot he found the I-pad in January as he was moving into his new residence.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023, AT 9:35 AM, **'THEFT FROM AUTO'**

At 0940 hrs, 3/2/2023, Cpl. T. Hollowell, #1449, Berwyn Heights Police responded to LOI for a vehicle break-in. Hollowell met with the victim and the investigation disclosed the victim's vehicle was parked on the street. During the listed times, the suspect broke out the driver's window and entered the vehicle. The suspect took a wallet, which according to the victim contained no money. The victim also indicated the credit card was not taken

although it was in the same area of the wallet. No investigative leads currently exist and the victim was given cash numbers.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2023, AT 3:00 PM, **'THEFT FROM AUTO'**

On 3/3/2023, at approximately 1500 hours, PFC. Herriott#1454 responded to 6001 Pontiac Street Berwyn Heights 20470 for a theft of an automobile. Upon arrival, he spoke with the owner of a 2021 blue Toyota Corolla bearing tag #6ER3996. The owner advised that she allowed her son to use her vehicle on February 18, 2023, at 1300 hours and advised him to return her vehicle at 1900 hours, however, he never returned her vehicle. The owner advised that she went to the commissioner's office and obtained an Unauthorized Use of a motor vehicle (UUV) summons, #D05CR23030646. Teletype was notified.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023, AT 7:50 AM, **'VANDALISM.'**

At 0750 HRS, 3/14/2023, Cpl. T. Hollowell, #1449 was dispatched to 58th Avenue and Ruatan Street, Berwyn Heights, Maryland for a reported vehicle with broken glass. Cpl. Hollowell located the reported vehicle which drivers' side rear window was broken out. The victim was located and told about the damage to his vehicle. On his inspection, he states nothing was missing. The vehicle was parked the previous night on the street (Ruatan) right before 58th Avenue. There are no investigative leads.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023, AT 4:42 PM, **'2ND DEGREE ASSAULT.'**

On 03/14/23 Victim stated that she had been assaulted by the Suspect that she knows at 6215 Greenbelt Rd Berwyn Heights MD 20740. The victim stated that she earlier had a disagreement over some funds with the suspect. The victim stated that the suspect told her to follow him to the parking lot to get the funds. The victim stated that while both were en route to the spot where the suspect allegedly kept the money, the suspect suddenly choked her for unknown reasons and fled the area. The victim stated that she had trouble breathing and requested an ambulance. The victim was given case numbers, pertinent information, and what further steps to take.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023, AT 5:15 AM, **'THEFT FROM AUTO.'**

On the above-said date and time, the Chief of Police responded to the 5900 Block of Tecumseh Street for a theft from an auto. the victim stated that she came outside of her house and noticed

that the described vehicle which was parked in her driveway has its passenger's side window smashed out. In addition, the fowling items were taken from her car. Coach purse valued at \$80.00, Maryland driver's license, Several credit cards, \$40.00 US currency. The damage to her car window is estimated at \$500.00.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023, AT 10:40 AM, **'ARMED PERSON.'**

Ofc Lowndes and several Prince Georges County patrol units were dispatched to Shell Gas Station located at 6001 Greenbelt Road, for a report of two customers arguing at gas pump # 4, and a handgun was displayed by a male who was driving a Porsche SUV bearing Maryland license plate # 1ER8993. Ofc Lowndes and several Prince Georges County Patrol units arrived on the scene, they located the Porsche when it was exiting the Shell gas station car wash. The driver was identified as a 41 Y/O/B/M. Further investigation revealed there was no gun involved. The male stated he had a verbal dispute with another customer who was a young black male driving a white Toyota Camry. The unknown black male threaten him with the baseball bat and left the scene prior to police arrival. The male did not suffer any physical injury during the verbal dispute.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023, AT 4:10 PM, **'FOUND PROPERTY.'**

On 03/18/2023 Cpl. Rufino along with Cpl. Roberson responded to a station call regarding Amazon packages from an unknown sender that was delivered to 85** Paxton Ct. Homeowner stated that he did not recognize the sender's name and did not purchase items. The packages were recovered for safekeeping. BHPD contacted Amazon and provided order numbers to the agent who advised that items could be donated or destroyed. Items have been placed in the property for safekeeping just in case the owner is identified.

Item numbers; TBA305812525902, TBA305820142977, TBA305624332100, TBA305810224201. Item description; Book, memory card, toy, DVDs.

The owner of the property accidentally put an incorrect address on an amazon gift order. Proper identification and confirmation order from amazon was provided and confirmed by Detective Sgt. Krouse 1447 BHPD. The property was released to the owner.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023, AT 4:00 PM, **'LOST OR STOLEN TAG.'**

On March 23, 2023, the victim arrived at the Berwyn Heights Police Depart-

ment to report a stolen Maryland front license plate # 4EW1669 that was attached to a 2022 white Honda Accord. The incident occurred between the listed dates and times. The stolen license plate was entered by Prince Georges County teletype operator # C1133. The reporting Officer requests this report to be administratively closed because of no suspect information.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2023, AT 3:00 PM, 'STOLEN VEHICLE.'

On 3/25/2023 at approximately 12:16 hours, PFC. Herriott #1454, responded to McDonalds located at 6219 Greenbelt Road Berwyn Heights MD 20740 for auto theft. Upon arrival, he spoke with the renter of a Hertz rental car. The victim advised that he parked a 2021 HYUNDAI KONA bearing New Jersey Tag#Z73NPN rental car and left it running between 1000 hours and 1100 hours, and when he

returned at approximately 1200pm, he discovered it missing. A view of McDonalds' CCTV revealed an unknown male wearing a black hoodie with white fur around the hood and black pants with white stripes. The unidentified male walks around the vehicle several times, pulling the door handles on the passenger side which was locked. The unknown male then pulls the driver's door handle, the door opens, and the male got into the driver's seat, and pulls off traveling in an unknown direction. The victim also said he did not realize he left the driver's door unlocked when he parked the vehicle. The victim advised that he had the only key at the time of the incident. Teletype was notified.

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023, AT 1:30 PM, 'THEFT.'

On 3/27/2023 at approximately 1410 hours, PFC. Herriott # 1454 received an in-station call to respond to T-Mobile located at 8904 62nd Avenue Berwyn Heights for a theft report. Upon arrival, he spoke with the manager who advised that an unknown black male wearing a black mask approximately 5'10, and a dark blue hooded sweat suit walked in and out of the store 3 times. The third time he enters the store he takes two display phones, a purple I-phone Pro Max 14 plus and a black I-phone pro-14. The unidentified male exited the store and fled on foot in an unknown direction. The officer could not view the CCTV because the manager did not have access to the cameras.

2023 BERWYN HEIGHTS YOUNG ADULT AND TEEN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



Great opportunities are happening right here in Berwyn Heights, and we would love for you to be a part of it! Earn school service hours and scholarships by volunteering and helping residents in this community. We will start accepting applications from young adults and teens between the ages of 14-24 in mid-May. More information will be available on the BH Town website soon! Residents who would like to volunteer to help this pilot program by mentoring in a positive and safe learning environment or have suggestions/questions/comments, please reach out to Councilmember Shinita Hemby at (301)910-7134 or shemby@berwynheightsmd.gov.



Dear Town Council,

Thank you for the efforts that you have made to make the budget development process as transparent as possible. Below are my comments as a citizen/ resident / homeowner in Berwyn Heights.

1. I saw nothing in the town budget for stormwater management. Is this not the most important problem faced by the town at the present time?
2. I saw nothing, or almost nothing, in the budget for After School Programs or for the Boys' and Girls' Club. Shouldn't the budget contain something to benefit the young people in town.
3. I saw nothing in the budget to assist town residents who become victims of natural disasters such as floods or freak windstorms. Is anything being done to prepare for similar natural disasters this summer?
4. A neighbor of mine told me that the Berwyn Heights police are not patrolling the town between 11pm and 4am. If that is true could that be a cause of the vehicle break-ins, thefts and vandalism?
5. Would it be possible for the police to inform us how many of these types of crimes are occurring on a monthly basis in the form of a graph so we can see whether these types of crimes are increasing or decreasing?
6. The EPA and other federal agencies are releasing hundreds of billions of dollars of grants to support towns such as Berwyn Heights. Is the town doing anything to access these funds? As a full time IUMD grant writer I am prepared to assist the town in developing proposals that might bring in funds to help with any budgetary shortfalls. It might also be possible for the Town to receive subawards from grants that other towns in the area receive.
7. Can we save money if we only have trash pick-up once a week instead of two times a week?
8. Why is it that some town committees have published meeting in the monthly town bulletin and others do not?
9. I didn't see any money in the budget for the town's "wounded" tree canopy. Is there any strategy to deal with the loss of trees that will surely negatively affect the stormwater problems?
10. Are you considering adopting any new codes that would help to mitigate some of the environmental problems that the town is facing?

Thank you for your attention to my concerns which some others also share.
Paul Kavanaugh, 6019 Berwyn Rd.

BULLETIN BOARD

Help Wanted: Spanish Translator

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

Need Yard Help? Shawn and Jeremy have helped Berwyn Heights residents with mowing, raking, mulching, and more for several years. Call 301-310-3807.

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

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Scott Magnus (Owner)

301-980-8567

Estate Sale: 5610 Berwyn Rd, Berwyn Heights. Nice furniture, living room, dining room, den, office and 2 bedroom sets. Individual pieces, mirrors, pictures, piano, 2 organs, household goods, tools and weight sets. Must see! Appointment only, please call 301-474-2128 or 301-30-7296.

REDSKINS MEMORABILIA for sale. Please text or call David Harding (town resident) 301-704-7836, between 10am and 4 pm. PLEASE preface text with Redskin Inquiry.

Cleaning your home like my own. Residential & commercial. References available in Berwyn Heights. Over 10 years professional experience. Providing my own materials at reasonable price.

Call (240) 645-5140 or email angelalazo1@hotmail.com

Also ask about handyman services

**Angela's
Cleaning &
Handyman
Services**



Learn more about what is available in Berwyn Heights!

Visit the Community tab on the Town Website to learn more about

- ◇ County Community Resources
- ◇ Area Recreation
- ◇ Town Groups and Assemblies
- ◇ Bee City USA
- ◇ And so much more!

<https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/home/pages/community>



HOLY REDEEMER
Catholic Church

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

Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney










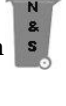








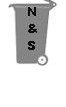





301-908-9427 (cell)
tgentile301@yahoo.com
www.thomasgentile.com



Berwyn Heights Resident
Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA
Over 45 years experience
Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts,
Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents.

MAY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1  Worksession 7PM Council Chambers 	2  Rec Council 7PM G. Love Room	3  NW/EP 7PM G. Love Room	4 	5	6 BERWYN HEIGHTS DAY!
7	8  	9  	10  Town Meeting 7PM Council Chambers 	11  Green Team 7PM	12	13
14	15  Worksession 7PM Council Chambers 	16  	17  	18 	19	20
21	22  	23  	24  BHHC 7:30PM G. Love Room	25 	26	27
28	29 	30 	31 			

A quorum of Town Council Members may be present at any community organization meeting. No action will be taken by Council at any community organization meeting. Location of meetings is subject to change after publication. To join community meetings, please contact the meeting organizers or use the contacts on page 15.

The Street Sweeper will be in Town May 1-5. Please park off the street whenever possible.

Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste
North-side Collection



Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste
South-side Collection



Recycling



BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

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

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

POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

Dated Material — Do Not Delay!

TOWN INFORMATION

Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

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

Mayor and Council

Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov
Mayor — Public Health & Safety
Christopher Brittan-Powell (240) 786-2578 cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov
Mayor Pro Tem — Administration
Shinita Hemby (301) 910-7134 shemby@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Code Compliance
Faustino (Tino) Menjivar (240) 854-7845 fmenjivar@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Public Works
Jason Papanikolas (240) 338-5191 jpapanikolas@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Parks & Recreation, Education & Civic Affairs

Regular Trash Collection Schedule

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

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

Recycling Schedule:
Wednesdays for the entire Town

Town Helpline

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

Watch Council Meetings



On Comcast channel 71
FIOS channel 12

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

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

Questions — call Melanie Friesen, Administration at (301) 474-5000, or email mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov
Advertising Rates — call Yvonne Odoi, Administration at 301-474-5000, or email: yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov

Submission Deadline is the 15th of the month