

# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

# **NOVEMBER 2018**



Native Species Scavenger Hunt

# NOVEMBER 3 - PAGE 7

• BHHC Fall Reception with Susan Pearl NOVEMBER 11 - PAGE 5





# **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED**

At October 10 Town Meeting

- Resolution 7-2018—Amending the Town of Berwyn Heights Building Permit Fee The Resolution lowers the Town's building permit fee to \$75 for construction valued at \$25,000 or less, and \$125 for construction valued at \$25,000 of more, effective immediately. Deposit fees for placing dumpsters and temporary Storage Units and for curb cuts remain as before.
- 2. Resolution 8-2018—Amending the Employee Handbook to Adopt the Sick & Safe Leave Policy of the Maryland Working Families Act

In January 2018, the General Assembly adopted legislation requiring municipalities to:

- Permit part-time employees, who work at least 24 hours/week to earn and use sick leave.
  Permit employees to take leave due to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
- Permit employees to take leave to care for grandparents, siblings and legal guardians in addition to immediate family.
- 3. Resolution 9—2018 Amending the Employee Handbook to Adopt a Policy to Compensate Employees who must work when Town Offices are Closed

The Resolution implements a policy to compensate employees who must work when Town offices are closed due to adverse weather or emergency at an overtime pay rate of 1 1/2 times the regular pay rate.

4. Resolution 10-2018—Amending the FY 2019 Operating Budget to Create the Position of Public Information Aide

The Resolution creates a part-time position of Public Information Aide to support the Town Council priority of improving communication with residents. The job description and job application will be posted on the Berwyn Heights website.

### For Additional Information.

Please contact Town Manager Broadbent at <u>mbroadbent@berwynheightsmd.gov</u>

# HOLIDAY CLOSINGS & REFUSE SCHEDULE

# Veterans' Day

Mon	11/12/18	Offices Closed - NO PICKUP
Tue	11/13/18	Trash, Bulk - Entire Town
Wed	11/14/18	Recycling - Entire Town
Thu	11/15/18	Yard Waste - Entire Town
Fri	11/16/18	NO PICKUP

### **Thanksgiving Week**

Mon	11/19/18	Trash , Bulk–Northside
Tue	11/20/18	Trash, Bulk - Southside
Wed	11/21/18	Recycling - Entire Town
Thu	11/22/18	Offices Closed - NO PICKUP
Fri	11/23/18	Offices Closed - NO PICKUP

### Please Do <u>NOT</u> Leave Trash out Over the Weekend

### Bulletin Advertising Rates

TERM         RESIDENT         NON-RESIDENT           EIGHTH (1/8) PAGE         1         1           1 Month         \$30.00         \$36.00         6           6 Months         \$162.00         \$192.00         1           12 Months         \$230.00         \$336.00         1           2 Months         \$230.00         \$336.00         1           12 Months         \$230.00         \$336.00         1           1 Month         \$50.00         \$72.00         6           6 Months         \$270.00         \$384.00         1           12 Months         \$384.00         \$672.00         \$384.00           12 Months         \$384.00         \$672.00         \$384.00           14 Month         \$100.00         \$144.00         \$144.00         \$144.00         \$12 Months         \$768.00         \$1,344.00         \$12 Months         \$1,344.00         \$12 Months         \$288.00         \$1,344.00         \$288.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00         \$1,536.00			
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# Curbside Leaf Collection November 1 - December 28 Holidays Excluded

Your Public Works Department offers curbside loose leave collection through the end of the year. Residents who prefer to bag their leaves may do so using brown <u>paper lawn bags</u> only. Bagged leaves will be picked up on yard waste collection days.

# **Reminders**

- Please rake your leaves to the curb or to an existing sidewalk, but NOT into the street.
- Do not mix loose leaves with sticks, rocks, trash or debris, as they can damage the leaf machine.
- Do not mix loose leaves with thick branches. They are collected separately.
- Do not park cars in front of or near leaf piles, as this hampers access by the leaf machine.
- Be advised that it takes approximately 2 weeks to complete a round of leaf collection in the Town.

# Mid-Term Elections



# November 6 | 7 am – 8 pm BHES Cafeteria

Early Voting: October 26 - November 1 College Park Community Center

### On the Ballot:

US Senator US Representative Maryland Governor Maryland Attorney General Maryland Comptroller State Senator & Delegates PGC Board of Education Member

### For more information visit:

https://elections.maryland.gov/

# DEAD TREES ARE DANGEROUS

The Town of Berwyn Heights reminds residents and property owners that dead trees are dangerous! With the winds of fall upon us and the snowy and icy weather of winter on the way, dead trees are susceptible to failure, potentially causing personal injury or property damage. If you have a dead tree on your property, please have it removed. If you are not sure if a tree is dead, please have it evaluated by an International Society of Arborist (ISA) certified arborist or a Maryland Licensed Tree Expert.



A Maryland Licensed Tree Expert is required for the removal or pruning of any tree that is taller than 20 feet in height. To find a Maryland Licensed Tree Expert visit

https://dnr.maryland.gov/forests/Pages/programapps/newtreeexpert.aspx.

All tree care professionals practicing in Maryland must obtain a Tree Expert license. While proof of insurance must be presented to obtain a Maryland Tree Expert License, property owners are encouraged to request a copy of the contractor's insurance prior to signing a contract.

For information, please call <u>Town Manager Broadbent</u> at 301-474-5000.

# Berwyn Heights Teax Triva

# Friday, November 2nd, 2018

# Think you know something about Berwyn Heights?

- How many acorns are shown in the official Town seal?
- Berwyn Heights borders two other municipalities. Name these neighboring cities.

### **Intrigued**?

Why not come and play a game of trivia sponsored by the Rec Council! It's free to play. Teams will compete for a first place cash prize of \$100.00

All questions relate to Berwyn Heights, and include topics that cover geography, history, science and more! Note: you cannot use cell phones, tablets or books during the game. All answers must come only from you or your teammates.

### **Register your team**

Contact Yvonne Odoi at the Town Office (301-474-5000, Ext. 7100); <u>yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov</u>; or drop by the Office, M-F, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

Please let us know the number of people (up to six) and your team name. Singles are welcome. Tell us if you'd like us to find you a team.

### **Refreshments**

Drinks and snacks will be available.

Answers: (1) Three; (2) College Park and Greenbelt



Come out and have some trivia fun - Bet you'll learn something new about Berwyn Heights



# SUSAN PEARL PRESENTING: THE TAVERNS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY



# **JOIN US FOR OUR FALL RECEPTION**

Learn about the owners, the clientele and the role taverns played in the history of our County. Historian Susan Pearl will present her research on this cheerful topic. Ms. Pearl currently runs the Prince George's County Historical Society's DeMarr Library. Before her retirement, she worked for the County's Historic Preservation Section and surveyed most of the historic houses in Berwyn Heights. As is our custom, wine, cider & snacks will be served to enliven the event.

Above is an 1924 image of the Rossborough Inn, constructed 1798-1812 by John Ross to serve as a way station for weary travelers on the old Baltimore Pike. In 1858, the house and surrounding tract of land was donated by Charles Benedict Calvert to the Maryland Agricultural College and served as its Agricultural Experiment Station from 1887 to 1937. Today it houses University of Maryland's Undergraduate Admissions Office. UMD Archives holds a series of photos of the Inn, some of which are featured in a 2017 article of the Terp Magazine posted at <a href="http://terp.umd.edu/an-historical-inn-vestigation/">http://terp.umd.edu/an-historical-inn-vestigation/</a>.

### NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, November 28 | 7:30 pm | G. Love Room

NEW OFFICERS: Richard Ahrens, Chair; Sharmila Bhatia, Vice Chair; Debby Steele, Secretary

For Information contact Richard Ahrens at dicka247@gmail.com

Visit our website at www.berwynheightshistory.wordpress.com

# BERWYN HEIGHTS REC. COUNCIL



# Berwyn Heights Team Trivia Night

Friday, November 2nd, 7 to 9 pm BH Town Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Join the Rec Council at the first ever Berwyn Heights Trivia Night! Teams (up to 6 people) will compete for cash prizes. Questions will all relate to Berwyn Heights, and include topics that cover geography, history, science and more! (Note: You cannot use cell phones, tablets or books during the game) Refreshments (drinks and snacks) will be available. Contact Yvonne Odoi at yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov or 301-474-5000

x7100 to register your team. Singles are also welcome; let us know if you'd like us to find you a team.



### **Christmas Tree Lighting Party** Saturday, December 8th, 6 to 8pm BH Senior Center

Kick off the Holiday Season at this family friendly night with music by Phil Ventura, festive crafts, hot cocoa, treats, caroling, the annual tree lighting & a visit from good Ol' Saint Nick himself!

We ask that you consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to the annual Toys for Tots drive sponsored by the US Marine Corps Reserve.

Donations can be made during the Holiday Party or at the Town Office. Details in the December bulletin.





# We need YOU!

Our goal is to host a community event each month. These events are made possible by amazing volunteers, and we are always in need of more people and more ideas. The time commitment is only a few hours a month, if you'd be interested in joining, please stop by one of our meetings or email Susan Jones, at violindreams@verizon.com.

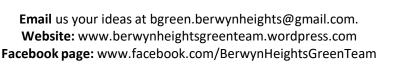
**UPCOMING EVENTS:** Regifting Party in January, Kids Valentine Cardmaking & Cookie Decorating Party in February, and the Pot O' Gold Pot Luck in March!

Next Recreation Council Meeting will be Tuesday, November 6th at 7:30 pm in the G. Love Room. All are welcome!



# **Berwyn Heights GreenBee**

The GreenBee is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team!



Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Center, in the G. Love Room. All residents are welcome to attend!

# Autumn Lunch and Hunt

### Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12pm Berwyn Heights Town Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor (5700 Berwyn Rd)

Autumn is a wonderful time to admire nature and the changing of the season. Come out and join us for lunch, a native plants scavenger hunt for kids, natural crafts and yummy treats!

Lunch: Bratwurst and Hot Dogs, w/ other refreshments

Followed by a scavenger hunt for native plants and trees right here in Berwyn Heights. There's an option to try out the "Seek by iNaturalist" app which encourages outdoor

exploration and learning by helping you identify plants and animals from you own photos. Downloading the app beforehand is recommended.

<u>Crafts and Treats</u>: Leaves collected during the scavenger hunt will be used to make fun leaf suncatchers and leaf crowns. Enjoy caramel apples with pick-your-own toppings!

Wearing Halloween Costumes is Encouraged!

Free event, register on Eventbrite: bit.ly/bhlunchhunt



# Fall Town Clean-up

Saturday November 17<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month) 10am – 12pm

Meeting point at the Town Center Take action as a proud Berwyn Heights resident and let's work together to keep our town beautiful and litter-free! We will provide instructions and clean-up supplies (safety vests, rubber gloves, trash bags and pickers). No need to pre-register. Pets welcome!

# Fall Tips

Repurpose your old jack-o-lantern:

- •Compost it
- •Use the bottom half for a bird feeder

•Cut into smaller chunks and set out for deer, rabbits and other wildlife.

Don't forget to collect fall leaves for composting and mulching in the spring!



### Worksession September 5, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Lynn White, Mayor Pro Tem Stephen Isler, Councilmembers (CMs) Jason Papanikolas, Ethan Sweep and appointed Councilmember Amanda Dewey. Also present were Interim Town Administrator (TA) Mike McLaughlin, Town Manager (TM) Maria Broadbent, Clerk Kerstin Harper, and citizens.

#### 1. Announcements

Amanda Dewey, who was appointed on August 20 to fill the Council seat left vacant by the resignation of Mayor Rasmussen, introduced herself. She said she loves Berwyn Heights and is excited about serving on the Council. Residents are encouraged to contact her using the information on the back of the Bulletin.

Maria Broadbent, newly-appointed Town Manager, also introduced herself. During her first week, she has been learning about the things that are important to the Mayor and Council and the workings of the Town government.

Mayor White thanked Interim Town Administrator Mike McLaughlin for helping Berwyn Heights with the transition and wished him well in his retirement.

### 2. Discussion Items

**Bond issue discussion with residents:** Mayor White welcomed the many residents in attendance for the discussion of Berwyn Heights' removal from a \$1.1 million bond issue authorized by the previous Council to finance Phase II of the Town's road repair program. Councilmembers expressed their views on how this came to pass.

MPT Isler and CM Papanikolas stated that Berwyn Heights was excluded from the bond issue because Mayor White refused to sign the bond agreement. In mid-August, she requested additional information from Town staff about the scope and cost of the street repair project that could not be provided by the signing deadline. However, the previous Council had approved the bond issue and this Council had affirmed its support knowing that the scope and cost of the project could change because of a planned WSSC water main replacement project affecting some of the streets designated for repairs. They did not think additional information was needed and that Mayor White's refusal to sign the bond agreement was a violation of her 'ministerial duty' to sign documents on behalf of the Council.

In an effort to move forward with bond funding, the Council met in executive session to authorize the Mayor Pro Tem to sign the bond agreement. At the same meeting, it was also agreed to ask Mayor White to resign from her position as Mayor because her unilateral decision not to sign the bond agreement amounts to exercising a veto power the Town's Charter and Ordinances do not provide.

Mayor White responded the bond documents she was asked to sign required her to attest that the description of the street repair project and its cost are true and correct. Without the information about the scope and cost of the revised project she could not in good conscience sign the bond agreement. She believes the Council could have joined her in asking for the information or asked for a legal opinion that the information is not needed for signing the bond agreement. She would have accepted either of those options. Instead, the Council decided to give signing authority to the Mayor Pro Tem and ask for her resignation, a legally questionable course of action, which she believes led to Berwyn Heights being dropped from the bond.

John Wolfrum, 15-year resident of Quebec Street, commented that he voted for this Council in the expectation they would continue to lead Berwyn Heights in the cooperative manner previous Councils have. He expects them to work their disagreement out internally and not ask for someone to resign.

Judy Kampia, 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, said she and her husband voted only for Lynn White in the last election to increase her chances of becoming Mayor. They would feel disenfranchised if she were ousted from the Council and would not vote for any Councilmember who asked for her resignation in the future.

Dick Ahrens, Seminole Place, said in his experience as a former Councilmember, the Mayor made sure he had enough support for any action or legislation he wanted the Council to approve. The Mayor is mandated by the Charter to act on behalf of the Council as a whole and does not have veto power. If Mayor White disagrees with the position of the Council she should step aside and let the Mayor Pro Tem sign documents that are critical to the welfare of the Town.

Ed Barrett, Quebec Place, a 40-year resident, former recreation director, and coach, said Berwyn Heights residents are family. Councilmembers are part of the family. The should consult with the Town attorney about what they can and cannot do and then talk to each other to work things out.

Town Attorney Ferguson made recommendations on how to overcome the current impasse. She said that the Town Charter provides for a system of government in which the Mayor is an equal member of the Council and does not have veto power. If the majority of the Council approves a law or ordinance, the Mayor is obliged to sign it, even if she disagrees with it. To be able to work together in the future, the Council needs to get a commitment from the Mayor that she will sign documents the majority of the Council approves or turn her signing authority over to the Mayor Pro Tem. Alternatively, the majority of the Council could vote to empower the Mayor Pro Tem to sign a document the Mayor does not want to sign or change the Charter to institutionalize the practice. Whatever path is taken, Councilmembers need to have a frank conversation to get an understanding what the Mayor will and will not do, so that they can work with that. Otherwise this Council is likely to spin in a circle and won't get much done.

CM Papanikolas asked if the Council and Mayor White are willing to have a conversation about signing authority. Mayor White said she already indicated that she would participate in a private mediation session. In response to Attorney Ferguson, she said the Town Attorney might have issued a written opinion during the bond discussion, which could have avoided the situation the Council now finds itself in. Attorney Ferguson said that she was on vacation in Italy when she first heard about the refusal to sign the bond documents. Mayor White said she had sent out an email a week prior to the signing deadline, copying all affected parties requesting information about the scope and cost of the project. Attorney Ferguson replied she saw nothing unusual in Mayor White's request for information. Any Councilmember can ask for such information. However, she did not know that Mayor White would not sign the bond documents, nor was she asked to issue an opinion about the matter. There ensued some discussion among the audience.

Lorraine Ryan, Quebec Place, said she has lived in Berwyn Heights for 40 years and raised four daughters here. She knows Mayor White well and thinks she is a quality person who can be trusted. Mayor White holds a law degree and understands legal issues. On National Night Out she was greeting people who seemed happy to talk with her. Nobody wants to see Mayor White ousted. The Council just needs to work this out and move on.

Meg Miller Shane, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue, said she requested the bond discussion to be on the agenda because she thought it was

important for residents to understand what had occurred. She said the Mayor and Council represent the Town and the fractiousness reflects negatively on the Town. If the Mayor cannot represent the Council as a whole she may want to consider stepping down. If she feels uncomfortable signing documents she might turn over signing rights to the Mayor Pro Tem. The Charter provides the option for residents to initiate a recall of a Councilmember who fails to perform his or her duty. She would prefer the Council to work out their differences and work together well.

Paul McNulty, Swarthmore Drive, said he ran for Council in 2004 when that Council had fallen on hard times and made the local news on a weekly basis. He ended up as the Mayor Pro Tem under Cheye Calvo and was honored to serve in that position. Mayor Calvo understood that he served as the representative of the Council and the Town, even in the rare instance when he opposed a decision the Council had made. As suggested, this Council might meet in private and determine how to proceed when the Mayor disagrees with the Council as a whole. He urged Councilmembers to listen to what has been said tonight and find a way forward without precipitating more turnover.

Mike Attick, 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, said after the State informed the Town it was excluded from this bond issue the Council should have made a new start and not let the matter drag on. He would not have signed the documents either without the requested information about the street project, which he believes could have been provided by the staff. He hopes this Council can get back to functioning as a Council.

Joy Newhart, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue, recommended that the Council seek professional help to mediate the current conflict and to do so quickly. As a professional mediator herself, she agrees with MML's suggestion to use the Key Bridge Foundation. Having viewed Council meetings on TV, she saw Councilmembers talking over and around each other and make assumptions about what other people were thinking. Mediation can help Councilmembers listen to and communicate with one another in an effective way. Resolving the impasse in a noncompetitive way would be preferable to ousting the Mayor or holding a recall election.

Helen Weinrich, Cunningham Drive, said she understands Mayor White's refusal not to sign the bond documents without the information requested and would have done the same in her situation. She wonders why the other Councilmembers did not join her in asking for the information. If the Council can't work together, other Councilmembers might be asked to step aside, not just the Mayor.

Steve Blizzard, Pontiac Street, said the new Council made mistakes and the bond issue is now in the past. The most important thing is that the Council work together to take care of the Town's business from here on out. If not, residents need to make a change.

Mayor White thanked residents for being here and expressing their opinions. She will do her part in getting past this problem and take care of Town business. She noted, as Mayor, she has already signed documents she did not agree with. However, she will not certify to facts not presented to her or give away her ability to decide what documents to put her name on.

There ensued more discussion among the audience: Mayor White was asked why she didn't recuse herself and give signing authority to the Mayor Pro Tem; whether she plans to continue to exercise a veto power by preserving a right not sign documents the majority of the Council approved; and whether the Council will seek to come up with a process for signing documents during mediation.

Appointed CM Dewey stated her position that this is a Council of 5 members, none of whom individually should be able to decide an issue. She hopes in the future this Council will make decisions based on majority rule.

At 8:30 p.m., the Council took a 15-minute break.

**Council Rules discussion:** Tabled to a future worksession.

**Road project cost monitoring:** Mayor White said she received and forwarded an email from resident Phil Ventura expressing concern about the necessity of curb and sidewalk work. This led her to wonder whether the Council should rethink the project's priorities to focus on road resurfacing as opposed to curb and gutter work, especially in light of the loss of the bond funds for Phase II street work. She would like to hear the Council's thoughts on how to best spend the smaller pot of money, and from staff get new cost estimates that include a breakdown of concrete versus asphalt work.

Town Manager Maria Broadbent replied she has visited the project sites with Public Works Director Hall. Some curbs and sidewalks were redone to comply with the latest ADA requirements, and others to replace sunken curbs that are no longer aligned with sidewalks and have created tripping hazards. Town staff is in the process of reviewing the project plans and dialing back the scope of work until the Council decides how to fund Phase II and gets more definitive information about the impending WSSC project. Interim TA McLaughlin explained the contractor's billing process and offered to provide Council with more detailed information about expenses incurred for the completed parts of the project in the monthly reports.

In discussion, residents raised the issues of the contractor not closing streets and posting signs where work is being done and driving construction equipment too fast with school back in session.

#### 3. Action Items

Damage to personal vehicle: CM Papanikolas explained that this item was tabled at the last worksession due to the lack of a quorum. Code supervisor Glass has requested the Town reimburse him for damage to his personal vehicle that occurred while he attended a Town meeting. He believes his vehicle was targeted. Chief Antolik investigated and found that Supervisor Glass' vehicle was the only one damaged in the full parking lot. Supervisor Glass has submitted 2 repair estimates. The Town's insurance will not cover repairs to personal vehicles. The Council is requested to decide whether to pay for the repairs.

In discussion, residents said Supervisor Glass' vehicle was one of many vehicles in Town damaged that night and may have been hit by coincidence. If the Town pays for this damage, other Town employees might ask for reimbursement if their vehicles were damaged on Town property. In a similar incident years ago, the Council decided not to reimburse a then Code Director for damage to her personal vehicle that occurred in the Town parking lot.

Mayor White said she would not want to set this precedent. MPT Isler concurred, saying he believes it may invite other types of claims in the future. CM Papanikolas said there seems to be a sense of the Council that the Town should not pay for personal vehicle repairs. He asked whether the Council needed to vote on the matter at the Town meeting. TA McLaughlin said he thinks the sense of the Council is sufficient. He will inform Supervisor Glass of the decision.

MPT Isler suggested, in order to comply with Council Rules, there should be a motion to table the matter to a future worksession and so moved. CM Papanikolas seconded. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 1 with CM Dewey abstaining.

**4.** Legislative dinner date: Clerk Harper asked the Council to set a date for the annual legislative dinner with its State delegates, County Council and School Board representatives. November

28 was set as the preferred date, November 29 and 27 as alternative dates.

Chesapeake Small watershed grant letter of support: TM Broadbent said that Andrew Fellows, UMD Community & Outreach Coordinator, has asked the Town to support a Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grant application. The purpose of the grant is to have the Low Impact Development Center, a non-profit national research organization focused on implementing sustainable storm water management solutions, provide planning and technical assistance for a collaborative watershed restoration program between UMD and surrounding communities. Berwyn Heights would benefit from this coordinated effort to restore the Anacostia watershed by receiving assistance for protecting Indian Creek. No monetary contribution is required, only up to 40 hours in staff time. TM Broadbent has a letter ready for signature.

CM Dewey said that Mr. Fellows heads the UMD campus community connection, a program Berwyn Heights joined last year with a \$6,000 contribution. Interim TA McLaughlin said, although the grant application was due yesterday, a letter of support will still be useful. A sense of the Council on whether it approves the letter being sent would suffice. An official vote could be taken at the next Town meeting.

In discussion, the purpose of the grant, how the grant money would be spent, and how the campus community connection works was further clarified. The Councilmembers expressed their support for the grant but asked for a meeting with Mr. Fellows to get a better understanding of the program he heads. In a straw poll, the Council voted 4 to 0 to approve the letter of support.

### 5. Minutes

On a motion by CM Papanikolas and second by CM Sweep, the August 6 worksession minutes were approved 4 to 0. CM Papanikolas moved and MPT Isler seconded to approve the notes of the August 18 executive session. The motion passed 3-0-1, with Mayor White abstaining. The August 8 Town meeting minutes were distributed.

### 6. Department Reports

**Canopy update:** CM Papanikolas said he has made personal inquiries with the Department of Permitting, Inspections & Enforcement (DPIE) on whether canopies are considered temporary or permanent structures and require a permit. He has received conflicting responses. DPIE's Deputy Director said a permit is needed, while the Senior Engineer in DPIE's Building Plan Review Division said no permit is required because canopies are not permanent structures. M-NCPPC's Permit Review Section said, as temporary structures, canopies do not require a permit if they are located in the rear yard. If located in the front or side yard, canopies must meet zoning regulations on setbacks, lot coverage and attachment to homes. However, M-NCPPC does not issue permits and refers customers to DPIE to get them.

CM Papanikolas said he understands the frustration of residents who are sent from one office to another and receive different answers about permits for canopies. He therefore proposes the Council adopt a rule or resolution to adopt a Town policy on canopies until it receives clear instructions from the County.

**Departmental assignments:** Mayor White announced that she has assigned CM Dewey to head the Public Health & Safety Department, while she will become the PRECA liaison. Having spoken with Ms. Dewey and Chief Antolik on separate occasions, she found they both share a very similar vision of and commitment to public safety. She feels a calling to interact with Town volunteers and plans to take up the unfinished Town organizations policy.

The Council thanked Interim TA McLaughlin for managing the Town until a new Town Manager was hired and helping the new Council get oriented. Interim TA McLaughlin said he was happy to help and commended the Councilmembers for stepping up to serve.

### 7. Citizen Comments

Joan Hayden, Seminole Street, suggested the Town should update residents who were cited for canopy violations on the status of issue and possible next steps. CM Papanikolas replied he has informed those residents he has been in correspondence with. When the Town has received clarification from the County, or the Council has issued guidelines on canopies, the Town will publish that in the Bulletin or the weekly electronic newsletter.

### 8. Town Council Schedule

The September Town meeting was moved to Thursday, September 13. The October Town meeting may have to be moved due to conflict with the MML fall conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

### own Meeting September 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Lynn White, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Stephen Isler, Councilmembers (CMs) Jason Papani-

kolas, Ethan Sweep and appointed CM Amanda Dewey. Also present were Town Manager (TM) Maria Broadbent, Clerk Kerstin Harper, Treasurer Michelle Rodriguez, Chief Kenneth Antolik, Detective Daniel Unger, Public Works Director Kenneth Hall, Code Compliance Supervisor Freddie Glass, Clerk of the Circuit Court Representative Kimberly Lyles and citizens.

Mayor White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the August 8 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by MPT Isler, seconded by CM Papanikolas, the minutes were approved 4 to 0.

### Swearing-in

Clerk of the Circuit Court Representative Kimberly Lyles swore in Councilmember Amanda Dewey and Town Manager Maria Broadbent.

### Mayor's Report

Mayor White reported that the CERT training last weekend drew around 100 attendees from around Maryland, testifying to the good reputation Berwyn Heights has in the emergency preparedness community. Interim TA McLaughlin ended his tenure with Berwyn Heights during which he managed the transition to a new Council, a change in leadership and the onboarding of TM Broadbent. Among the things the Council will be discussing next is how to pay for Phase II of the road repair program in the absence of the bond funds. Meanwhile Phase I repairs are progressing, with some street sections including Pontiac Street, completed.

Mayor White welcomed CM Amanda Dewey to the Council and announced that she will be heading Public Health and Safety, while she will be the liaison to the Parks, Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs (PRECA) Department. On the occasion of National Emergency Preparedness month and Hurricane Florence approaching, she has published a list of emergency contacts in the weekly e-newsletter, which people may want to keep on hand. The newsletter is posted on the Council page of the Town website. Since she will be away to help out with hurricane response, the Friday afternoon Mayor's Tea will be canceled. The tea is an opportunity for the Mayor and Council to interact with constituents, listen to their concerns and answer questions.

Administration: MPT Isler said he is planning to start working on a welcome packet once TM Broadbent has eased

into her job and has some time to think about how to tackle the project. He has met with TM Broadbent to discuss a variety of departmental issues. Residents are requested to drive carefully as school is back in session and students are walking in the streets.

*Treasurer's Report:* Treasurer Rodriguez gave the Treasurer's report for July.

Town Manager's Report: TM Broadbent provided a revised Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to the Council. It has updated emergency contacts in the back as well as an updated Emergency Declaration. The revised Declaration, once signed by the Mayor, would be available ahead of any emergency and extend to the recovery period. With regard to Hurricane Florence, she has been in contact with the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center and is receiving its alerts. The County has opened an emergency shelter at the University of Maryland where residents may go if they experience power outages or flooding.

TM Broadbent suggested that senior staff and the Council get together to discuss the Town's emergency response in the near future so that they are on the same page when an emergency arises. Mayor White agreed that would be helpful. In that context, she would also like the Council to be briefed on the June 2014 flash flood and how the Town handled the response to it.

**Code Compliance:** Code Supervisor Glass gave the code activities report. During the month of August, the town lost 1 rental unit and gained 2 for a total of 213 active units. The Code Department issued 22 rental licenses, performed 38 rental inspections, 6 reinspections and assessed 2 fines. The Department also issued 38 clean lot violations and added 1 vacant home.

CM Papanikolas said the Department has followed up on the canopy permit issue many residents had complained about. TM Broadbent has contacted various people in the County government to clarify whether or not canopies require a building permit but has not received a conclusive answer. She, CM Papanikolas and Supervisor Glass will continue to seek clarification. In response to Mayor White, Code Supervisor Glass said he plans to meet with the Quality of Life Commission once a date has been set.

**PRECA:** Mayor White announced that she will meet with the leaders of the Town organizations on September 19 and hopes to meet quarterly to maintain

an ongoing dialogue with them. She will circulate the latest version of the Town organizations policy and get further input toward completing it. In this manner she hopes to find ways of engaging more members of this community.

Public Works: Public Works Director Hall gave the report for August. The Department's staff was busy overseeing the road repair and tree maintenance projects, which included 2 tree removals; re-installed traffic signs along Pontiac Street; cut grass and trimmed branches in Town right of way on a weekly basis and removed a large wasp nest at the Town Center. In the coming month, oversight of the street and tree projects will continue. Existing crosswalks and stop lines will be repainted and some vehicles will undergo scheduled maintenance. Director Hall also reported the refuse collection totals for August and gave an overview of street work completed with associated costs.

In response to Mayor White, Director Hall said bills for street work have been broken down by street; the Phase I street list has been pared down to those streets in most urgent need of repairs; the Phase II street list has been revised to take into account an upcoming WSSC water main replacement project; and plans for curb and sidewalk work remain unchanged.

Citizens commented that the contractor's trucks are too heavy and may damage Town streets. It was suggested that truck weight be limited, or trucks rerouted over Branchville Road and Ballew Avenue. Director Hall said using smaller trucks would prolong the street work and rerouting them through the industrial zone would be impractical as they would have to traverse the Town to get to the work sites. Further, citizens noted that WSSC does a poor job resurfacing streets and suggested the Town ask WSSC to give them the money instead of doing the repaving. Mike Attick asked if money has been earmarked to repair the emergency trailer.

**Public Safety:** Chief Antolik clarified that the Police enforce trucks driving through Town. However, they do not issue citations for trucks that do business within Town limits. He then asked Mathew Hulle of the Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department (BHVFD) to give an update on Hurricane Florence. Mr. Hulle said BHVFD has staff in place to respond to the Hurricane, including a reconnaissance unit. Citizens are advised to make sure sump pumps are

working, and emergency supplies and medicines are at hand. Chief Antolik gave additional advice on preparing for the storm and provided emergency contact information.

Police intern Al Flores, a criminal justice student at the University of Maryland, gave a briefing on the *CoCo with a PoPo* event he has been charged with planning. The event is scheduled for November 10, 11 a.m. and will provide an opportunity for citizens to get to know their officers on a personal level. Families are welcome and a gingerbread-making and hot cocoa preparation station will be in operation.

Detective Unger gave the monthly crime report. There were 7 Part I offenses, which is above the 5-year average of 5.4. Three of those crimes have been solved, with suspects arrested in a  $2^{nd}$  degree rape and a robbery at 7-Eleven. A stolen auto report turned out to be false. The Police also wrote 187 state and municipal citations and 52 speed camera tickets.

In response to questions, Chief Antolik and TM Broadbent said the Senior Center is not a full-fledged emergency shelter, such as are operated by the County, but can serve as a cooling or warming center. If residents need to go to a shelter the Town can provide transportation. The call-a-bus currently is in Greenbelt but will be brought back when the Town needs it. Phil Ventura, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue, expressed his opinion that the Town Center could be used as a shelter in an emergency, as there are now emergency generators to provide power. Phil Ventura, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue, expressed his opinion that the Town Center could be used as a shelter in an emergency, as there are now emergency generators to provide power.

CM Dewey thanked the Police for being out patrolling during the first week of school. She also noted that the service of the UMD shuttle coming through Berwyn Heights has been drastically cut. This has led to overcrowded buses and residents traveling to the campus left stranded because they cannot not board. She has brought the situation to the attention of the UMD Transportation Office and hopes they will address it.

BHVFD Report: Firefighter Matthew Hulle reported the BHVFD run statistics and noted that the Department is soliciting bids to replace its old rescue squad. BHVFD is prepared for Hurricane Florence and will respond to any emergencies residents may face. Nathan Kite, 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, reported a leaking fire hydrant across the street from his house. CM Sweep asked residents to come to the podium and state their name and address if they want to comment. There ensued a brief discussion about meeting protocol.

### **Committee Reports**

**Quality of Life Commission:** Chair Meg Miller Shane reported the Commission will hold its last full meeting on October 8, prior to presenting its recommendations to the Town Council at the October 10 Town meeting. She also stated that the Code subcommittee has received information from the Chief Engineer of the Department of Permitting, Inspections & Enforcement (DPIE) on canopies, clarifying that they are temporary structures, which do not require a permit.

Mayor White thanked the Commission members for their good work. She thought the attendance of Chief Antolik and Director Hall at sub-committee meetings was very productive and may be something that could continue on a quarterly basis.

**Education Advisory Committee:** Mayor White said that the Committee needs a new chair. Residents with an interest in education are welcome to apply. She will work with the Education Advisory Committees of the Four Cities Coalition and hopes to help organize an Education Town Hall meeting involving all schools the students from these cities attend.

**Green Team:** Diana Agonoy reported that the Green Team continues to hold litter cleanups each third Saturday of each month. Supplies are provided to all participants. On September 29, the Community Garden will celebrate its 5<sup>th</sup> annual garden party and picnic, this year with live music. The garden is located in the 8800 block of 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue and all are welcome to attend. On November 3, 12 p.m. the Green Team will hold a native species scavenger hunt for children.

*Historical Committee:* Chair Debby Steele-Snyder reported that the Historical Committee will next meet on September 25 and elect its officers for the next year. The Committee continues to work on adding to the digital walking tour and the oral history program. Any resident or former resident who would like to share stories and memories of an earlier Berwyn Heights should contact the Committee to be recorded either on or off camera. The BHHC fall reception will be held on November 11, 2 pm.

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Pre-

paredness: NW/EP Co-Chair Mike Attick said that 54 people took the CERT training workshop in August. Berwyn Heights' CERT Team is one of the top teams in Maryland. The commemorative 9-11 stair climb at Fort Washington has been canceled due to the hurricane. Mr. Attick clarified that the Town Center cannot function as an emergency shelter because it does not meet many of the requirements, such as showers and bathrooms, kitchens and pantries, among others. He also requested that the emergency trailer be included in the vehicle maintenance schedule. The NW/EP is seeking new volunteers. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month.

Recreation Council: President Susan Jones announced upcoming events: free ice cream will be served at the ice cream social on September 20; Pumpkins, mums and crafts are offered at the Boys & Girls Club's fall festival on October 6; Halloween will be celebrated in the confines of the Community Center parking lot during Trunk or Treat on October 20. Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated car and costume. The Recreation Council will host a novelty Berwyn Heights team trivia night on November 2, a quiz focused on Berwyn Heights. Interested residents should contact the Town office to form teams. The annual tree lighting is scheduled for December 8. Lastly, the Recreation Council has been asked to make the Berwyn Heights Day parade more interesting and is inviting residents and organizations to come up with ideas for floats.

Mayor White said she plans to discuss hiring a new Recreation Council aide with the Council to support the full slate of events the Recreation Council puts together every year.

Unfinished Business There was none.

### 5. New Business

**Chesapeake Bay Foundation Small Watershed Grant Support:** Mayor White said the Council has been asked to support the grant application for a small watershed grant of the UMD campus connected communities (c3) program, of which Berwyn Heights is a member. The Council has already expressed its support for the grant proposal at the last worksession and now plans to formally approve the letter of support. MPT Isler so moved. CM Dewey seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

**Resolution 06-2018 - Electric Vehicle Purchase:** TM Broadbent explained the Town received an energy efficiency grant from the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) to help finance the purchase of an electric vehicle. The grant pays \$20,000 towards the purchase of the vehicle. The Resolution would authorize the purchase of a Ford Fusion Energi Hybrid sedan at the cost of \$27,100 from Apple Ford of Columbia through a State of Maryland blanket purchase order. Thanks go to Administrative Assistant Yvonne Odoi for completing the grant application.

In response to questions, TM Broadbent said that Director Hall is working on the bid proposal for an electric charging station. The Ford Fusion meets the criteria of the MEA grant. This car is intended to replace the less energy efficient 15-year old Saturn, the Administration Department currently uses.

CM Sweep moved, and MPT Isler seconded to approve Resolution 06-2018. The motion passed 4 to 1, with Mayor White opposed.

**Damage to Personal Vehicle:** CM Papanikolas said the Council at the last worksession agreed to deny the request of Code Supervisor Glass to be reimbursed for damage to his personal vehicle that occurred while he attended a Council meeting. He moved the Council take formal action to deny the request. CM Sweep seconded. The motion passed 4-0-1, with CM Dewey abstaining.

### 7. Citizen Comments

Nathan Kite, 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, said he has obtained many building permits from Prince George's County for various construction projects on his property. He questions why Berwyn Heights charges the same fee as the County, although it does not provide the same technical review services. Further, he objects to being charged a Town fee for a change to an existing County permit.

CM Papanikolas replied the fee schedule was adopted by a prior Council. He agrees that Berwyn Heights does not have the technical expertise to review building plans and will bring the Town building permit fee before the Council for discussion. Meg Miller Shane commented the Quality of Life Commission is also addressing this issue and will make a recommendation on building permit fees.

Bob Baker, Osage Street, asked where the canopy permit requirement came from. He believes a permit is not required for a temporary structure, such as a popup canopy. CM Papanikolas and TM Broadbent replied that the Town has received conflicting information from the County about whether or not a permit is required and is still trying to get clarity. Mr. Baker further stated that his neighbor has piled up dirt against his fence, using it as retaining wall without a permit but has received no violation. This seems to be evidence of inconsistent enforcement of Town Code.

Phil Ventura, 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue, commented that code enforcement used be more relaxed but thinks today's Code Department is more efficient and keeps better records than it used to. Mr. Ventura asked if the Council feels comfortable with the proportion of concrete work versus asphalt work being done as part of the street project. He believes new sidewalks in front of the school and new curbs along the 5900 block of Seminole Street were not necessary and asked if the project has remained within budget.

MPT Isler replied that the project so far is under budget. The Council supports a meeting of TM Broadbent, Director Hall and Mr. Ventura to discuss the street project and the reasons for replacing certain curbs and sidewalks. There ensued more discussion about need for new curbs and sidewalks and the cost of the street project.

A resident of Cunningham Drive asked how the electric vehicle would be used. She was told that Administration staff would use the vehicle to attend meetings and run errands. Code staff would use it as a backup vehicle.

Mike Attick, 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, asked whether he could have a copy of the EOP and what is the expected amount of Highway User Revenues this year. He also commented on the Town Attorney's attendance of Council meetings; untimely painting of crosswalks at Quebec Street and 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue; employees parking in front of the Town office; the complexity of the Town code and the need to undo some of the recent changes to the code defining the roles of the Council and senior staff. Mayor White noted that the Council may want to set up a protocol for requesting the Town Attorney's services and look into getting a second Town Attorney.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

### Worksession September 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Lynn White, Mayor Pro Tem Stephen Isler, Councilmembers Amanda Dewey, Jason Papanikolas, and Ethan Sweep. Also present were Town Manager Maria Broadbent, Clerk Kerstin Harper, Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) Representatives Vernon Stinnett, Mary Abe and Charles Griffith and the Reznek family.

### 1. Announcements

There were none.

#### 2. Presentation

Mayor White welcomed Associate Director of the DPW&T Office of Highway Maintenance Vernon Stinnett, and DPW&T Project Managers Mary Abe and Charles Griffith for a briefing on Berwyn Heights' storm drain system. Mr. Stinnett said the Town experienced a flash flood in June 2014 damaging the basements of a number of homes in low -lying areas. DWP&T followed up by commissioning a hydrological study of Berwyn Heights in 2015 and presented its conclusions to the Council in November 2015. Mr. Griffith said the study found that the Town's storm water drainage system, constructed during the 1940s - 1970s, has become inadequate over time as infill and the paving of streets increased storm water runoff. The capacity of the system is strained whenever a severe rain event occurs.

Ms. Abe explained the improvements DPW&T's Office of Highway Maintenance made to the storm drain system this summer focused on modifying some 50 inlets to allow for greater storm water intake. To fully modernize the system, it would have to be rebuilt. This would be very expensive and pose many logistical problems, ranging from moving houses and removing trees, to rerouting and up-sizing drains and increasing the number of outfalls into Indian Creek. To address the problem over the long term, the County's Department of the Environment (DOE) would work with private property owners to reduce the storm water that flows into the system by installing rain gardens, adding rain barrels and other improvements.

In response to questions, Ms. Abe said the problem of standing water in back yards is likely the result of location at a low point and modifications to water flow resulting from changes neighboring properties have made on their properties: from building patios to retaining walls to stopping up inlets. Another problem the County has is a lack of information about easements, which allows them to access storm drains on private properties for maintenance. The Town should forward any property addresses to DPW&T where storm water tends to build up and cause problems.

### 3. Discussion Items

**FOIA request for emails relating to bond issue:** TM Broadbent said a resident had requested copies of emails related to the bond issue from which Berwyn Heights was recently removed. She was informed that most of those emails are not subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) because they fall under Attorney-client privilege or are of internal deliberative nature. Unless the attorney and/or the Council give permission for release, the information remains undisclosed. The resident has since withdrawn the request but will be notified that information about the road improvement project, which the bond was intended to fund, is open for public inspection.

Rain garden revitalization: CM Dewey said the Green Team has undertaken the task of looking into revitalizing the rain garden that was installed on the Town Center property in 2004 to hold runoff from the parking lot but no longer functions as intended. This project would be of value to the Town as well as be a good demonstration project for residents. The Green Team would like the Town to consider taking on the maintenance cost of the rain garden and use Green Team funds to fund the educational event. A cleanup and planting event is planned for fall has been moved to spring since the Green Team has partnered with the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) in drafting a plan for revitalizing the garden. The cost to the Town is estimated at \$1,500 mostly for purchasing plant and educational signage.

Internship for individual with disabilities: Mayor White welcomed Abigail, Karen and Arnold Reznek. She asked whether the Town has a policy about hiring interns and whether the policy could accommodate an individual with developmental disabilities. Clerk Harper said there is no formal policy. Each department has its own approach. This summer, the Administration Department for the first time took part in the County's youth employment program and had two interns who helped with filing and shredding documents. The Police have a more structured internship program and Public Works has occasionally hired local youth to help with various projects. TM Broadbent said, in her experience, it requires time and organization to make an internship experience meaningful. The Administration Department might be able to use someone who can design and carry out a project but does not have enough office support work to keep an intern busy.

In discussion, the following points were made:

- Internships preferably should be project based;
- Internships require an investment of staff time to plan for and super-

vise interns;

- An intern should not be hired unless an internship framework is in place;
- BHPD's internship program could serve as an example for designing a Town-wide program;
- People with developmental abilities will be considered for internships, if there is an opening.

All Councilmembers said they have worked with interns and offered to help create an internship program. Regarding Ms. Abigail Reznek specifically, environmental projects might be suitable. The Arc, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of persons with developmental disabilities, would be able to offer advice and support for working with its clients and members.

Voting protocols for MML and PGCMA: Mayor White said the previous Council decided to "designate a Councilmember planning to attend a Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) meeting ahead of time to vote on any matter that may come up, or, if one Councilmember always attends the PGCMA meetings, to designate that person to vote on behalf of the Council." It was further decided, if more than one Councilmember attends a PGCMA meeting, the Councilmember who received the most votes in the previous election would vote on behalf of the Council. This Council agreed to follow the same procedure. It was also agreed that Councilmembers would rotate attending the 10 PGCMA meetings throughout the year, with each Councilmember attending at least 2 meetings.

**Council Rules:** CM Papanikolas said he requested the Council to review the Council Rules because many appear to be quite outdated. After some discussion, the Council agreed to divide the 19 Council Rules into sets of 5 to be reviewed at upcoming meetings, starting with Council Rules 1 - 5 at the October 1 worksession.

Order of meetings (added item): MPT Isler asked the Council to come up with a solution for handling the increase in side comments that have occurred at recent meetings. While he is fully in favor of allowing citizens to speak to each item on the agenda rather than only during a designated citizen comment period, the spontaneous comments from the audience have made it more difficult to know who said what and to maintain a good order. He proposed that residents be asked to raise their hands, come to the podium and state their name and address to speak.

After extended discussion, the Council agreed that citizens raise their hands to be recognized by the Mayor, then come to the podium and state their name and address before they speak. A notation of this process will be published on the top of each Council meeting agenda. It was further agreed that 'Citizen Comments' be the first item on each agenda rather than the last. For Town meetings, citizens will be asked to write their name, street and topic on a sign-up sheet, which will determine the order in which they will be allowed to speak.

### 4. Minutes

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The Council reviewed the minutes of the August 20 worksession. On a motion by CM Sweep and  $2^{nd}$  by MPT Isler, the minutes were approved 3 - 0 - 2, with Mayor White and CM Dewey abstaining.

### 5. Department Reports

MPT Isler said he plans to meet with TM Broadbent and Clerk Harper to discuss renewing production of a welcome packet. Mayor White announced that she will hold a meeting on September 19 with the leadership of all community organizations to discuss the Town organization policy and succession planning. CM Papanikolas announced that Berwyn Heights Elementary School (BHES) will hold its annual Hello Huskies night next Thursday. Usually one or more representatives of the Town will attend and may give a brief speech. He will go since he has a child in the school. CM Sweep reminded citizens that the mid-term elections are approaching and make sure they are registered to vote. CM Dewey said she and TM Broadbent met with the Police to learn what they are currently working on. She will also go on a ride-along with an officer in the near future.

TM Broadbent said she was informed by the Town's insurer LGIT which Town organizations are covered. As it stands, Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness does not have official committee status and would not be covered. MPT Isler said that he was working with NW/EP to develop an organizational framework for the committee so that they would be covered. The Council requested they be provided the latest version of the Town organizations policy.

### 6. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the upcoming schedule of meetings and events. No changes were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Signed: Kerstin Hasper, Town Clerk

# STREAM RESTORATION COMMUNITY MEETING

### NOVEMBER 8 | 7 PM | TOWN CTR

Please join the Berwyn Heights Green Team for a Community Meeting about the upcoming stream and outfall restoration project.

The Prince George's Department of the Environment is developing a plan to restore the stormwater outfall located next to the Nevada Street trail. The outfall collects stormwater in a natural channel that drains into Indian Creek. The outfall channel is eroded, in some places to a depth of 5.5', and has large concrete remnants along a portion of the banks. The restoration project will stabilize the channel using natural practices. This will also reduce the amount of impurities in the Anacostia Watershed and Chesapeake Bay.

Construction work is expected to start in January 2019 and be completed within 2 months. During construction, trucks will travel back and forth to the construction site and construction noise will be heard on weekdays.

 For information contact Town Manager Broadbent
 at 301-474-5000



# Free Karate Training !!!!

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt, five-time inductee into the World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame & member of Shihan John Roseberry's Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization. Open to all ages/ all levels.

### Berwyn Heights Town Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor: 5700 Berwyn Road

All Ages & Levels: Year-Round | Monday & Friday | 5-7 pm

### Executive Club (Senior Citizens): Thursdays | 12 - 2 pm

### For more information please contact:

Sensei Brett Bentley at 240-678-9103 <u>Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com</u>, Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881



This leading provider of communitybased preventive health screenings will offer their affordable, noninvasive and painless health

screenings at Berwyn Presbyterian Church, 6301 Greenbelt Road, on **Saturday, November 17**. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems: blocked arteries, a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms; hardening of the arteries in the legs, a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat; and a bone density screening. All five screenings take 60-90 minutes at a cost of \$149. To register for this event and receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441, text the word circle to 797979, or visit

www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.

# Building Permit Fees Lowered

In response to citizens comments and recommendations from the Quality of Life Commission, the Town Council at the October Town meeting passed Resolution 7-2018 to enact a two-tiered fee schedule:

- Construction Projects
   ≤ \$25,000 permit fee = \$75
- Construction Projects
   > \$25.000 permit fee = \$125

Please provide the value of your construction project when applying for a Town permit. The Town issues building permits once a Prince George's County permit has been obtained. The Town's Code Department will continue to monitor all construction projects for compliance with permit requirements.

# Canopy Permits Required

Following repeated inquiries with County agencies, the Town was informed that pop-up canopies require a County building permit. Depending on their location, the canopies may also trigger a zoning review.

Interested in Knitting, Quilting, Other Needle Arts Projects?

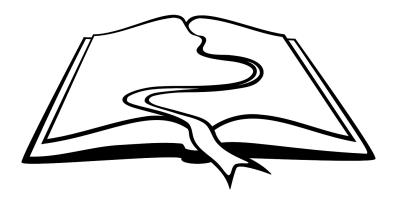
Stop by the College Park Needle Arts Society for camaraderie, conversation and lots of mutual inspiration! There are no group projects and no dues. We currently meet Friday mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 am, at the Berwyn Heights Town Center. For information call Leslie Montroll at 301-277-9630 or Janet Freitag at 301-906-8535, or email <u>CPNeeedleArts@earthlink.net</u>

# Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA

# **Family Reading Night**

Thursday November 8, 6:30 to 8:00 pm, in the school cafeteria, hosted by the PTA. This activity is for the whole family including children K-6. School staff will share ideas and resources about literacy. There will also be a book giveaway.

Spanish interpreter available.



# Walkathon

Thanks to everyone who came and everyone who supported the Walkathon! It was a great day and a successful fundraiser.

# Contact

*Facebook:* Berwyn Heights ES PTA *Mailing list:* www.remind.com/classes/bhespta/ *Website:* www.BHESPTA.org



Upcoming Events November 5, Monday

Early dismissal

# November 6, Tuesday

Election day. No school.

November 8, Thursday

Reading Night/ PTA meeting

November 12, Monday

Veterans day. No school.

# November 21-23

Thanksgiving break



everychild.onevoice.





The BHBGC would like to thank all of our neighbors, family and friends for their support at our annual Fall Festival!

And a very special 'Thank You' to these BHBGC friends:

- Kristen Buker of Exit First Realty, Four Qu33ns Logistics
   & Invisible Fence of P.G. County for our Food Court
- Phil Ventura for his musical talents
- and Tom Hicks of www.InstantPartyandDJ.com for dance tunes & karaoke



Fall Soccer may be in full swing, but it's never to early to think about Spring!



We currently have open seats on our Executive and Athletic Boards. If you are interested in becoming Secretary, Athletic Director, or Soccer Commissioner, we want to hear from you! And we always need coaches, "team parents", and other volunteers. For more info on volunteer opportunities, contact us at <u>info@berwynheightsbgc.org</u>

Stay tuned for registration info!



Follow us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/BerwynHeightsBGC

# Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Co. 14



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

### **Recent Working Incidents**

<u>Sept. 17</u>: Squad 14B operated on the 3rd Alarm Apartment Fire in the 5300Blk of 85th Ave in New Carrollton. The fire was determined to be arson and a suspect arrested by the PGFD Fire Marshall's Office.

<u>Sept. 22:</u> Squad 14 extricated a trapped driver from an accident NB I-95 at the ICC Rt100 in Laurel.

<u>Sept. 25</u>: Truck 14 & Squad 14 were alerted to the 11500Blk of Old Baltimore Pike in Beltsville for a House Fire. Units arrived to find a working House Fire with smoke showing upon arrival.

<u>Sept 27:</u> Squad 14 & Ambulance 14 were alerted to Greenbelt Rd at Kenilworth Ave for an accident. Units from BHVFD arrived to find a mass-casualty incident with a fatality involving a PG TheBus and four cars and a large amount of deasil fuel spilled.

<u>Sept. 29</u>: Truck 14 was alerted to the 7300Blk of Radcliffe Drive in College Park Estates, units arrived to find a working House Fire.

<u>Oct. 2:</u> Squad 14B operated in the 6900Blk of Highview Ter in Hyattsville for the working Apartment Fire.

<u>Oct. 5:</u> Truck 14 & Chief 14B operated on a Working Townhouse Fire in the 11700Blk of Tuscany Dr in Laurel.

<u>Oct. 10</u>: Squad 14 operated in the 8900Blk of Tonbridge Ter in Hyattsville for a working Apartment Fire.

Oct. 12: Squad 14, Paramedic Ambulance 14, and Chief 14B

responded to the IL I-495 at Baltimore Ave in College Park for a reported accident with one trapped. Units from BHVFD arrived to find a multi-vehicle accident with an unbuckled rear passenger ejected thru the windshield. The patient was transported by Paramedic Ambo 14 to an area trauma center. C14B had command.

BHVFD Call Volume:			
September 2018			
Rescue Squads:	13		
	2		
Ladder Truck:	87		
Technical Res-	6		
cue Support	0		
Ambulance:	211		
Total Runs Sept 2018:	43 6		

Remember to Buckle-Up at all times!

### **Christmas Tree Sale!**

It's almost that time of year! BHVFD will be selling Christmas Trees from late November until Christmas Eve (or sold out!) again this year at the Firehouse. BHVFD has ordered 300 Frasier Furs

ranging from 5-8 feet high. **Prices will be in the December Bulletin page**. All proceeds benefit BHVFD. Thanks to sale's popularity we have sold out early five years in a row



# Thanksgiving Safety Tips:

For most, the kitchen is the heart of the home, especially during the holidays. So keeping fire safety top of mind in the kitchen during this joyous but hectic time is important, especially when there's a lot of activity and people at home. As you start preparing your holiday schedule and organizing that large family feast, remember, by following a few simple safety tips you can enjoy time with your loved ones and keep yourself and your family safer from fire.

-Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.

-Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.



-Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay 3 feet away.

-Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.

-Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.

-Keep knives out of the reach of children.

-Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.

-Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children up high in a locked cabinet.

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



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- \* HEDGE TRIMMING
- \* LEAF REMOVAL
- \* GUTTER CLEANING & MORE

BerwynLawnCare@gmail.com

# CODE

### **September Activities**

If you have questions about property maintenance, rental licenses, or want to report a code violation, please call 301-513-9331 or email code@berwynheightsmd.gov

Property Mainte- nance Violations TOTAL	20	
Closed Cases	19	
Open Cases	10	
High Grass/ Tree parts	8	
Vehicle Condition, Storage	5	
Motor Vehicle Parts	2	
Building Materials	3	
Unattended Structures	1	
Commercial Clean Lot	1	
Permits Issued TOTAL	10	
Building	4	
Dumpsters	6	
Portable Storage Units	0	
Rental Units TOTAL	266	
Active Rentals	212	
Rental Licenses Issued	20	
Rental Inspections	17	
Rental Re-inspections	8	
Vacant Properties	11	



# TOP CAUSES OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY AND DEATH IN HOMES AND COMMUNITIES

According to Injury Facts, 161,374 people died from unintentional injuryrelated causes in 2016. Most unintentional injury-related deaths occur off the job, often when least expected — during a vacation, while doing chores at home or while driving across town.

**#1: Poisoning** Deaths are caused by gases, chemicals and other substances. Prescription drug overdose is by far the leading cause.

**#2: Motor Vehicle Crashes** Impaired driving, distracted driving, speeding and inexperience can cause a life to be cut short.

**#3:** Falls Falling is the third leading cause of unintentional-injury-related death over all age groups, but it's the #1 cause of death for those 65 and older.

**#4: Choking and Suffocation** Suffocation is the fourth leading cause of unintentional-injury-related death over all age groups, but it is the #1 cause of death for those 65 and older.

**#5: Drowning** Not including boating incidents, about 10 people drown every day. It's the #1 cause of deaths for children ages 1 to 4, mostly due to children falling into pools or being left alone in bath-tubs.

**#6:** Fire and Burns About 2,646 deaths were caused by burns and injuries related to fire in 2015. Often fires start at night, when family members are asleep. A working smoke detector will cut chances of dying in a fire by one half.

**#7: Natural and Environment Incidents** Weather-related disasters claim hundreds of lives per year.



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Offices Located in Rockville, MD and Greenbelt, MD 6401 Golden Triangle Dr. Ste 130 Greenbelt, MD 20770 Office Phone: 301-441-1100



# Tuesday September 11, 2018 at 6:09 pm, 'FIGHT'

Cpl. S. Krouse responded to the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road for a fight in progress complaint. Investigation revealed that the aggressor is mentally unstable and agitated towards customers. Furthermore, the subject stated that he was off his meds for approximately a week and said he suffers from a severe BI-POLAR condition and he was out of meds. Subject was Transported to Prince Georges County Hospital for EPS with no further incident.

#### Friday September 14, 2018 at 4:40 am, 'COMMERCIAL BURGLARY'

Officers responded to 6327 Greenbelt Rd (Shell Gas station) for a property alarm. Upon their arrival, the business had been broken into through the front glass door. A search of the premises was conducted with negative results. After viewing video footage, it was revealed that 3 unknown suspects pulled into the gas station at 0404 hours in a Silver 4 Door Chevy Silverado pickup truck bearing unknown registration. One suspect gained entry inside the gas station by breaking the front glass door with a sledge hammer, attempted to steal funds but was unsuccessful due to the register being empty. The unknown suspects then left and fled in an unknown direction. Store owner responded to the scene and verified that there was nothing taken.

## Friday September 14, 2018 at 10:39 pm, 'MISSING PERSON'

Cpl. S. Krouse responded to the 5800 block of Bucknell Ter., for a missing juvenile female. Reporting person stated that he left for church at 7:00 pm and when he returned home at 8:30 she was gone. He stated that he had no idea where she could be and was unable to give any information of friends or acquaintances that she could be with. Kamani Jordan is the Missing person, Kamani is a 14 year old black female, she is approximately 5ft tall and 100lbs Kamani was last seen wearing a white tank top with BOSS written across the front, she had blue jeans that had rips in the front of the legs. On 9/21/18 at 1125 AM, BHPD Investigator called the reporting parent to confirm the return of his daughter. He stated that she has been home for several days and that he did not want to notify police in fear they would question her. Kamani Jordan has been confirmed returned by BHPD. She has been removed from NCIC, this case is closed exceptionally.

# Monday September 24, 2018 at 4:45 pm, 'VENERABLE ABUSE ADULT'

Cpl. P. Roberson responded to 6100 block of Seminole ST Berwyn Heights MD for a report of a check on the welfare / vulnerable adult. The resident reports that she lives in the house with her 91 year old mother (who is suffering from dementia) and her grown son. The caller further states that she takes care of her mother along with an elder care assistant who comes to the home 3 days a week. The caller reports that the problem is with her grown son who also lives in the home and has not been participating in the care of her mother. She wants him evicted as he does not work and has "anger" issues. The caller is afraid of her grown son. The caller was informed of the eviction process and given the P.G County hot line number should she need info on further assistance for her mother. The caller reports that her mother is O.K and is not in need of medical care at this time and the officers cursory observation are in concurrence. Investigation continues.

# Friday September 28, 2018 at 10:26 pm, 'VANDALISM'

Cpl. P. Roberson responded to the Xtra fuel gas station located at 5919 Greenbelt RD Berwyn Heights MD. Reporting person stated that while working his shift, he secures his vehicle behind the gas station. While the victim was working, a subject broke out the driver's side window and entered the victims vehicle rifling the glove compartment and entering the trunk. The gas station security camera captured the incident. A subject wearing dark clothing and a hood is seen on the video breaking the window with an unknown object, entering the vehicle and the trunk. It does not appear that the suspect removed any property. The subject fled on 60TH Ave into Berwyn Heights. The owner of the business / gas station reports that he will make a copy of the security camera footage and make it available to this agency.

Homicide = 00 | Rape = 00 | Robbery = 02 | Assault = 00 | **Burglary = 01** | Larceny/Theft = 00 | Stolen Auto = 00

#### CALL 911 For Emergencies

### CALL **301-352-1200** For Non-Emergency Police Assistance

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

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

### BH Elementary School PTA President: Marilyn King President@BHESPTA.org

Secretary: Velma Hamilton Treasurer: Lilly Ridge

Boys & Girls Club President: Brandon Batton Vice President: Angela Wolfinger <u>angela.wolfinger@gmail.com</u> Registrar: Tiffany Papanikolas

240-338-5191 Treasurer: Sandra Zuniga Secretary: Leslie Wolfinger Athletic Director: Vacant Soccer Commissioner: Vacant Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond

### Education Advisory Committee Chair: Katie Curtis

windowdoll@gmail.com

### Green Team/ Shade Tree Board

Chair: Amanda Dewey <u>amandamdewey@gmail.com</u> Public Outreach: Therese Forbes therese@celticclans.com

Historical Committee Chair: Debby Steele Snyder <u>dsteelesny@yahoo.com</u>

#### Men's Basketball League Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness/ CERT

Co-Chair Merrill Weinrich mweinrich2@verizon.net

Co-Chair Michael Attick mikeattick@verizon.net

### Karate Club

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

### Playgroup

Coordinator: Rachel Cicero rachelcicero55@gmail.com

#### Quilter's Club Lois Williams 301-345-6214

Recreation Council President: Susan Jones violindreams@verizon.net Secretary: Theresa Beck beck theresa@yahoo.com

Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482

### **BULLETIN BOARD**

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

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

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

**Piano Lessons** in your home. Former PGCPS music teacher, experienced private instructor. Students with special needs welcome. Ms. Liz 240-601-2825.

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

**Meals-on-Wheels** needs your HELP! This 35-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12:00 if available.

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

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

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

Loving, Licensed Child Care: (CDA) credentialed in BH. M-F 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Ura Daley, 301-313 -9131. Infant or Senior Care: Nurse/ midwife, recent US refugee, legal with work permit, looking for infant care or senior care. Full or part time. IRC internationally certified. Worked in Burundi and Tanzania. Special gift with babies, children with disabilities, and disabled adults. Intermediate English, fluent French. Does not drive. Contact: joselynekanyudo@gmail.com

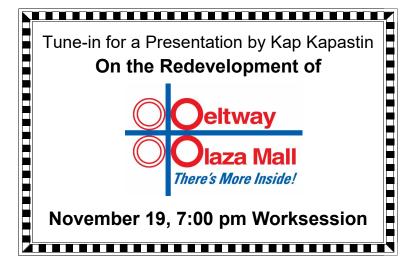
### FALL HOUSECLEANING? STUFF TO SELL OR GIVE AWAY? Call Yvonne at Town Office, 301-474-5500, before October 15 to claim this free space in the next issue of the Bulletin and dispose of

your articles fast.

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# **Berwyn Heights Seniors Club**

Next to the Town Office on 57th Avenue — Open Monday thru Friday,

10 A.M. to 2 P.M. — Phone 301-474-0018

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

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

November 2	Gayle Hillery
November 8	Kurt Hessinger
November 9	Sealani Weiner
November 13	Zykrie Eley
November 14	Ray Smith
November 26	Judith Gardiner
November 29	Alex Ajay

# HAPPENINGS

**NOVEMBER** brings Redskin Football. Come watch the 1 pm Sunday games, and share a potluck late lunch.

**MEAL & PLAY:** November 9 features meal at a local restaurant followed by the play "Beauty and the Beast" at the MADD Theater at NASA.

**BREAKFAST** at the Silver Diner is also on tap.

Call the Senior Center for times and information on other events..



### **NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES**

**BINGO** — Every Tuesday at 12:30 pm.

**WII BOWLING** — Wednesday at 10:30 am.

**GAME NIGHT** — Every Thursday at 7:00 pm.

**SELF DEFENSE COURSE** — Every Thursday at 12:00 Noon, upstairs in the Senior Center.

**POTLUCK & MOVIE** — Second Saturday at 5:00 P.M, (November 10).

**MEETINGS** — Second and Fourth Tuesday at 11:00 A.M. The Fourth Tuesday is also a Pot Luck.

# **MISCELLANEOUS**

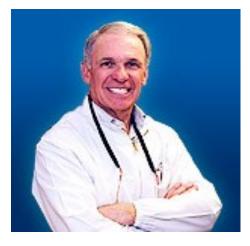
CLOSING: The Senior center will be closed on Thursday, November 22, Thanksgiving Day.

FUTURE: A Trip to Brookside Gardens on Monday, December 3.

Now that Autumn is here, come to the Senior Center. Get a cup of coffee or bottle of water and, of course, something to eat. You can always count on something to eat when you are with the Seniors.

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Just a few of my Listings/Sales last <u>30</u> days!! "Homework" is what I do best, let me do your Homework too! CONTRACT-5608 Berwyn Rd 5 BR 2BA rambler w/screened in porch, new kit.

CONTRACT-5902 Berwyn Rd 2BR/1BA new kit, garage. SOLD-6204 42<sup>nd</sup> Av HYVL 3BR/2BA colonial, \$430,000. NEW LISTING-5962 Westchester Pk Dr 1BR/BA \$115,000. CONTRACT-6100 Westchester Pk Dr 3BR/2BA.

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

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# November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed		Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 j	N 845	2	3
						7:00 pm Team Trivia Night Town Ctr.	12:00 pm Native Species Scavenger Hunt Town Ctr.
4	5	6	7 😒	8 J	N S.S	9	10
		ELECTION DAY 6:45 pm PTA Mtg.		7:30 pm Green Tea	m/Shade		
	7:00 pm Worksession	7:30 pm Rec Council Mtg.	7:00 pm NW/EP Mtg.	Tree Board Restoratio	Stream		
11	12	13	14 😯	15	*	16	17
2:00 pm BHHC Fall Reception: Taverns of PGC Town Ctr.	VETERANS' DAY Town Offices Closed - No Refuse Pickup		7:00 pm Town Meeting Council Chamber	7:00 pm BHEAC Mtg	g.		10:00 a.m. Town Cleanup Town Ctr.
18	19	20	21 🐼	22		23	24
and the second s	7:00 pm Worksession (Beltwy Plaza Redevelopment) ST	REET SWEEPER		THANKSGI Town Offic Closed - No Refuse Pic	es 0	Town Offices Closed	
25	26	27	28 🐼	29	Nas	30	
			7:00 pm BH Leg. Dinner 7:30 pm BHHC Meeting				
	Please do not					Ilk Trash, Yard Waste e Collection	
		treet sweeper is in Town to ensure the treet sweeper cleans everywhere along he curb				Ilk Trash, Yard Waste le Collection	S
herz	the curb.			Recycling	collection	<b>5</b> 3	

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m 5:00 p.m. Call-a-Bus Reservations	Councilmember — Public Safety & Health Town Helpline	Watch Council Meetings
North of Pontiac Mondays & Thursdays South of Pontiac Tuesdays & Thursdays Heavy Trash Day: Monday for North of Pontiac Fuesday for South of Pontiac Recycling Schedule: Nednesdays for the entire Town	Do you have a suggestion or problem or a question on an ordinance, or have a histori- cal 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	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.
Advertising Rates — call Yvonne Odoi,	ww.berwynheightsmd.gov; Follow us o ninistration at (301) 474-5000, or email <u>kharp</u> Administration at 301-474-5000, or email: y ssion Deadline is the 15th of the month Helen Van Doren: Layout	er@berwynheightsmd.gov