



# Seat Pleasant News

*"A Smart City of Excellence"*

June 2019



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Panelists speaking to attendees at Seat Pleasant's 2nd annual Minority Business Day on how to obtain a Minority Business Enterprise Certification (MBE).

## Annual Business Day Aims at Helping Minorities Obtain Minority Business Enterprise Certification

There are over 8-million minority owned businesses in the United States. There can be a lot more, but some minority business owners are unaware that they have their own certification after all – the Minority Business Enterprise or MBE.

On April 18, 2019 the City held its second Minority Business Day at the Seat Pleasant Community Center. This year's theme for the annual business day was to engage, educate, and empower to compete. The day's activities included a panel of experts on the MBE process and the benefits of obtaining an MBE Certification, a review of contract

pre-requisites and compliances, available resources, and an impressive success story from an attendee of the City's first Minority Business Day.

The City would like to thank the impressive array of exhibitors from Federal, State, and County agencies who networked with our attendees and for giving them first-hand knowledge on how to access and become eligible for government contracts, increase marketing opportunities and general policies and goals for conducting business with and buying from minority, small and women owned businesses.

## Smart Homes Continue To Make Progress In Seat Pleasant

In the Mayor's continued efforts to revitalize the community, reduce crime, and beautify the city, The City of Seat Pleasant has acquired the property located at 420 69th Place. This is the 8th such property that the City has or will be restoring for the betterment of Seat Pleasant.

*Smart Progress* continued on page 3



## Business Spotlight

The City of Seat Pleasant would like to acknowledge our Business of the Month, Nello's Famous NC BBQ. They are located at 6820 James Farmer Way, Seat Pleasant,

*Spotlight* continued on page 8

# City Council Monthly Meeting Legislation

## Action From Office of the City Clerk

The City Council held two meetings in May and approved the following legislation:

Monday, May 6, 2019 Regular Work Session Meeting was held.

- o Ordinance O-19-12 Amendment of Chapter 43-Voting 1st Reading held on Monday, May 6, 2019.
- o Ordinance O-19-13 Amendment of Chapter 68-Commercial Business District 1st Reading held on Monday, May 6, 2019.
- o Ordinance O-19-14 Amendment of Chapter 59-Brush, Grass and Trees 1st Reading held on Monday, May 6, 2019.
- o Ordinance O-19-15 Adoption of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget 1st Reading held on Monday, May 6, 2019



The City Council held the Public Session on Monday, May 13, 2019 and approved the following legislation:

- o Ordinance O-19-12 Amendment of Chapter 43-Voting 2nd Reading held on Monday, May 13, 2019. Approved 5-0-0
- o Ordinance O-19-13 Amendment of Chapter 68-Commercial Business District 2nd Reading held on Monday, May 13, 2019. Approved 5-0-0
- o Ordinance O-19-14 Amendment of Chapter 59-Brush, Grass and Trees 2nd Reading held on Monday, May 13, 2019. Approved 5-0-0
- o Ordinance O-19-15 Adoption of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget 2nd Reading held on Monday, May 6, 2019 Approved 5-0-0
- o The Meeting Minutes for April were approved on Monday, May 13, 2019.

The City of Seat Pleasant has a vacancy on the Board of Supervisor of Elections. We are seeking interested residents to serve in this capacity.

### § C-603. Board of Supervisors of Elections

There shall be a Board of Supervisors of Elections, consisting of three members who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council on or before the first Monday in January following their election. The terms of members of the Board of Supervisors of Election begin on the first Monday in January in the year in which they are appointed and run for four years. Members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections shall be qualified voters of the City and shall not hold or be candidates for any elective office during their term of office. The Mayor with Council consent shall appoint one of its members as chairman. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the Mayor with Council consent for the remainder of the unexpired term. The compensation of the members of the Board shall be determined by the Council.

The monthly meetings for June will be on Monday, June 3, 2019 as the Regular Work Session at 6:00p.m. and the Public Session will be on Monday, June 10, 2019 at 7:00p.m. All meetings are opened to the public with comments being taken in the Public Session. The meetings will be held at the temporary location, located at 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, MD.

**\*Copies of Legislation and Meeting Minutes may be obtained from the Office of the City Clerk.**

# Seat Pleasant Police Department Adds New Mobile Command Center to Cities Smart Crime Technologies

The Seat Pleasant Police Department celebrated the arrival of its new mobile command vehicle that it will use to aid in crime within the City.

The vehicle allows SPPD to have better real time interconnectivity and on-site communication that is critical for the success and transmission of data in the Smart City.

"Our mobile command vehicle further signifies the commitment we have to the safety and well-being

of our residents during the time of an emergency," Seat Pleasant Police Chief said.



SPPD Mobile Command Center equipped with smart technologies.

SPPD noted the mobile command center is equipped with many components to assist officers in fulfilling each

mission such as

processing workstations, awnings, equipment racks, and monitoring equipment like its drone that is deployable up to 145 feet.

**Smart Progress** *continued from page 1*

The City's Economic Development team will be working diligently to redevelop this property as it has caused a devaluation in property values surrounding it and has generally been a blight and an eyesore. This property will be restored into one of the many SMART homes within the city.

We thank you for your patience and look forward to many more opportunities to serve you.



Property, 420 69<sup>th</sup> Place, will become the City's 8<sup>th</sup> smart home.

when they are appointed and during their terms of office.

## Duties of the Ethics Commission:

The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairperson and at such other times as may be requested by the Mayor or the City Council.

(5) Three members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

(6) The board shall submit, not later than January 30 of each year, to the Mayor and to the City Council a report of its activities under this chapter covering the immediately preceding calendar year, including a summary statement concerning the nature of any complaints filed with it and its decisions and advisory opinions.

During the investigation or review of any violation or request for advisory opinion referred to the Commission and until a public hearing, if any, is held on the violation or request, the activities of all members of the Commission in connection with the investigation or review shall be conducted without publicity, and the Commission shall hold confidential any information related to the violation or request, including but not limited to the identity of the officials or employees involved, including the complainant, if any, and the official or employee requesting an advisory opinion, except that any information may be released at any time if its release has been agreed to, in writing, by the official or employee requesting an advisory opinion or by the official who has been alleged to be in violation of this chapter. Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the Commission from discussing and reviewing any and all matters with legal counsel advising the Commission.

**Commission** *continued on page 7*

## Interested the COSP Ethics Commission?

The City of Seat Pleasant is seeking interested parties for the Ethics Commission. In accordance with the Seat Pleasant City Code the duties of the Ethics Commission are listed below. The interested parties shall contact the City Clerk and complete the application by Friday, June 28, 2019

### **S 18-5. Ethics Commission**

There is a City of Seat Pleasant Ethics Commission that consists of five members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council.

(1) All members must reside and be registered voters in the City

## A Recap of Seat Pleasant Day 2019!

On May 4, 2019, the City hosted its annual Seat Pleasant Community Day parade and festival.

Seat Pleasant's 88th annual celebration commenced as one of the City's most fun-filled and family-oriented community events in recent history. "We

are delighted to celebrate 88 years of municipal service and governance with our community," said Mayor Eugene W. Grant.

Spectators viewed the parade from the 5900 to 6000 block of Addison Road and/or 5900 to 7000 block of Martin Luther King Jr. Highway. It included car clubs, character mascots, area high school

marching bands such as Largo, Farimont Heights, and Charles Herbert Flowers. Elected officials and dance groups also made an appearance in the parade.

The festival commenced after the parade, from 12 PM-6 PM, 6 hours of nonstop entertainment, hosted by radio personality, Tony Redz with music from DJ Supa Dan and DJ Remii. The community event featured carnival games, a

rock-climbing wall, a mechanical bull, moon bounces, a petting zoo, exhibitors, food and sales vendors and a Flea Market.

The festival also featured live

entertainment from two concert stages with known musical acts such as New Impressionz, Team Familiar, Mental Attraction 2.0, Top 5 and more electrifying performances.

### **A Big Thank You To Our Volunteers**

Our volunteers were our unsung heroes this year. Our volunteers donated their time to help ensure Seat Pleasant Day become a great success! They sprang into action arriving bright and early lacing and putting on their volunteer tags and vests and were ready to work! We are sure these youths could have chosen something else to do on a Saturday especially during "final exam season". Despite the threat of a thunderstorm watch these dedicated volunteers braved on and followed through on their word. We hope to see them again next year!



**Seat Pleasant Events and Program Coordinator  
JoVone Pender and Ward 5 Councilmember Gloria  
Sistrunk attending Seat Pleasant Day 2019.**

## Nation Honors Teachers During Annual Week

Teachers change the lives of millions of children every day, and their work and impact extends far beyond the boundaries of the classroom—"Out of This World."

They play a pivotal role in our children's lives, inspiring a lifelong love of learning and discovery and making a difference in their well-being and long-term success.

Each year, within the second week of May people show their thanks and gratitude to stellar educators. During that week teachers are given freebies or discounts from some of their favorite stores or restaurants. Thank you, teachers, for all that you do to help our children reach for the stars. Thank you Seat Pleasant



**Seat Pleasant Elementary School Staff pose for a picture during National Teacher Appreciation Week.**

## Pictoral of 2019 Seat Pleasant Day



## THE MAYOR'S CORNER



Mayor Grant visited Nanjing, China as BIT's keynote speaker.

### Mayor Travels To China For 6th Annual BIT

Beijing Institute of Technolgoy (BIT) 6th Annual World Congress of Infotech-2019 in Nanjing China invited Mayor Grant to be the keynote speaker at last month's conference. This marks the second year in a row Mayor Grant will be attended and spoke at the global conference.

Nanjing is the capitol of the Jiangsu Province in East China. This region has a rich history of civilization, dating back over 6000 years. The city itself was founded 2500 years ago. As one of the four Ancient Capitals, Nanjing is a vital cradle of Chinese civilization, having served as the capital of various Chinese dynasties, kingdoms and republican governments dating from the 3rd century to 1949. As a result, it is rich in both cultural heritage and historical relics and has long been a major center of education, research, politics, economy, transportation and tourism.

Infotech-2019 aims to strengthen

the technical and business ties in various IT industries, including Smart Cities, IoT and 5G. This conference brings together tech experts, academia and industry leaders to share technological advancements and business experiences, and facilitates an environment where they can keep up to date with current and incoming technology trends, network with peers, and jointly explore innovative opportunities in IT.

Mayor Grant's keynote speech focused on how Seat Pleasant is leveraging into a smart city transformation to improve economic development, public health, and government operations. He familiarized the audience with Seat Pleasant, *A Smart City of Excellence*, and shared with them the story of the city as well as some of the impacts the transformation has had to date. He also shared with them the importance of creating a citizen centric smart city, and how the "MySeatPleasant" app has

## Does IoT 'Save' Lives?



Mayor Grant speaking at the IoT Saving Lives Conference.

The IoT Saving Lives Conference focused on how the vast array of smart and connected IoT devices interface with first responders in the public safety arena. The event hosted industry experts and speakers from Nokia, Samsung, National Institute of Science and Technology, and the Smart Cities Council to name a few.

Mayor Grant was invited to speak at the conference by a fellow citizen of Maryland, Alan Tilles, a partner at Shulman Rogers Gandal Pordy & Ecker, a prominent law firm with offices in Potomac MD, Washington DC, and Tysons Corner, VA. Mayor Grant presented on how Seat Pleasant, uses data to deliver smart services to benefit its citizens.

## Mothers Honored With Annual Tea Brunch

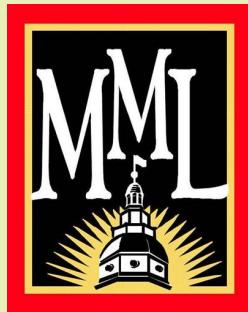
On May 14th at The City of Praise Family Ministries from 11am – 1pm Mayor Grant honored mothers at his annual tea event. This was an Office of the Mayors event. Events by BB catered the event and Vintage Glam Tea & Company provided all the tea accessories for the mothers. Reverend Jamilia Jay Woods from Jabez Christian Community Church in White Plains, MD served as the Keynote Speaker. and Fairmount Heights High School Band Director Lawrence Farmer had a 5-piece

band of students play musical selections during the Tea.



Beautifully decorated table at Mayor Grant's annual mother's day tea brunch.

## City Prepares For Annual Conference in Ocean City



The MML 2019 summer conference is drawing near and Seat Pleasant staff has been prepping for the annual conference. On June 23-26 hundreds of Maryland city and town officials will gather in Ocean City, MD for the annual Maryland Municipal League's summer conference. By participating in the conference municipalities can enhance their knowledge and build skills that will help improve the ability to serve their city residents.

Last year, Seat Pleasant was awarded the MML 2018 Achievement Award: Solving Community Problems to Enhance

Quality of Life for the "My Seat Pleasant" mobile app. Seat Pleasant also had the opportunity of hosting Governor Larry Hogan at their exhibit booth at last year's conference. Governor Hogan had the opportunity to try the city's virtual reality (VR) and some of the other smart technologies that the city uses.

Located in the state capital of Annapolis, MD, MML was founded in 1936 and represents 157 municipal governments and two special taxing districts throughout the state of Maryland. MML is the only statewide organization in Maryland composed solely of municipal officials.

"We cannot wait to show other municipalities what Seat Pleasant has been doing this past year and pass on our expertise," said Seat Pleasant Mayor Eugene W. Grant.

**Commission** *continued from page 3*

### CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD

The City of Seat Pleasant is seeking interested parties to the Personnel Appeals Board. In accordance with the Seat Pleasant City Code the qualifications of the Personnel Appeals Board are listed below. The interested parties shall contact the City Clerk and complete the application by Friday, June 28, 2019.

#### **§ 30-1. PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD.**

There is a City of Seat Pleasant Personnel Appeals Board that consists of five members appointed

by the Mayor and confirmed by the affirmative vote of a majority of the City Council. A member of the Personnel Appeals Board shall not be an employee, elected or appointed official of the City of Seat Pleasant or a member of any other committee, board or subcommittee of the City.

(1) All members must reside and be registered voters in the City when they are appointed and during their terms of office.

All submissions for consideration MUST be filed in the office of the City Clerk, Seat Pleasant City Hall, 311 68th Pl., Seat Pleasant, Maryland 20743, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

## Neighborhood Commercial and Compliance

It's that time of year! During Spring/Summer months, brush and grass are the most common violations within the community. Please let's continue to eliminate blight within the city by abiding by the following codes.

**§ 59-2. Brush and grass; height limits.** A. Brush. Brush of any kind (including but not limited to hedges, shrubbery and bushes) bordering upon any public way, street or sidewalk shall be maintained at a height of three feet or less and shall not encroach upon or project over any such public way, street or sidewalk nor interfere with the free passage of persons thereupon. B. Grass. Grass and weeds shall be maintained at a height of eight inches or less.



**§ 302.4 Weeds.** All premises and exterior property shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of eight inches in height. All noxious weeds shall be prohibited. "Weeds" shall be defined as all grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs; provided, however, that this term shall not include cultivated flowers and gardens.



The City of Seat Pleasant  
*A Smart City of Excellence*  
311 68th Place  
Seat Pleasant, MD 20743  
Phone 301 336 2600  
Open weekdays 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
[www.seatpleasantmd.gov](http://www.seatpleasantmd.gov)

**Spotlight** *continued from page 1*

MD 20743. Nello's Famous BBQ has been located in the City of Seat Pleasant since 2012. They are currently owned by Mrs. Mildred King. Mr. Nello and wife, former owners and friends of Mrs. King, brought Mrs. King to the City of Seat Pleasant. When asked what the advantage(s) was of having a business in Seat Pleasant, Mrs. King stated, "The advantages of having a business in Seat Pleasant is inspiring the youth. I want to be influential in helping the youth by letting them know they can fulfil their dreams of becoming a business owner, no matter what the age or background, if they put their mind to it. I want to see the young people prosper!" Mrs. King is very active in the community and takes pride in her food and the relationships that she has acquired while being a business owner in Seat Pleasant. Have a business or know someone who does? Visit [www.seatpleasantmd.gov](http://www.seatpleasantmd.gov) and tell us who we should spotlight in our next newsletter.

## **Juneteenth Equals Celebration of Freedom**

Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States. From its Galveston, Texas origin in 1865, the observance of June 19th as the African American Emancipation Day has spread across the United States and beyond.

Today Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is a day, a week, and in some areas a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics and family gatherings. It is a time for reflection and rejoicing. It is a time for assessment, self-

improvement and for planning the future. Its growing popularity signifies a level of maturity and dignity in America long over due. In cities across the country, people of all races, nationalities and religions are joining hands to truthfully acknowledge a period in our history that shaped and continues to influence our society today. Sensitized to the conditions and experiences of others, only then can we make significant and lasting improvements in our society. To learn more about the history of Juneteenth you can visit <http://www.juneteenth.com/history.htm>.

