

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 11, 2013

**Call to Order**

President Collins called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President David Collins, Vice President Joseph Hamrick, Mssrs., Jarrell Brazzle, Edward Simpson, Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones, and Mrs. C. Villa Hunt. Staff members present included City Manager Kirby Hudson, City Solicitor John Carnes, Public Works Director Donald Wilkinson, Director of Planning and Codes Enforcement Damalier Molina, Police Chief John Laufer, Finance Director John Marcarelli, Acting Fire Chief James Lentz, and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Collins announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening, March 11, 2013 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Vice President Hamrick made a motion to approve the February 25, 2013 meeting minutes; Mr. Brazzle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Mr. Brazzle made a motion to approve the accounts payable; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda**

Vice President Hamrick made a motion to add Presentation 3) Proclamation for Louise Pinkney; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Presentations (5 Minutes)**

1. Officer Rodger Ollis – Gun Buy Back

Officer Ollis provided Council with an overview of the accomplishments and projects by Community Policing. He announced the City will be holding a Gun Buy Back on Saturday, March 16, 2013 from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. The rules are; No questions will be asked; turn in unloaded weapon; guns must be in a clear plastic bag and then out in a contained; you may surrender as many guns as you would like, but you will receive payment for up to two guns; Gift cards up to \$100 will be distributed to citizens at the location upon turn in of weapons; and if depositing ammunition in addition to the gun, the ammunition must be in a separate bag. Officer Ollis announced \$9,300 dollars has been donated to purchase the guns. He is afraid this may not be enough money.

Mr. Brazzle made a motion to add Action Item 3) Preauthorization donation for the Gun Buy Back; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0

2. Acting Chief Jim Lentz – Fire Department Grant

Acting Chief Lentz announced the City was approved to receive \$13,100 this year under the State Fire Commissioners Fire Company and Volunteer Ambulance Service Grant Program. The grant program has received legislative approval and been signed by Governor Corbett. The grant program is approved for the next four (4) consecutive years and is expected to total \$52,400.

The intent of the grant is to purchase protective gear for the City's Firefighters and purchase a 2013 Dodge Ram to replace the current Fire Chiefs vehicle.

3. Louise Pinkney Proclamation

President Collins read the Proclamation celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Louise Pinkney.

**Citizens' Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (5 Minutes)**

There were no citizen's comments on regular action items only at this time.

Vice President Hamrick made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Mr. Brazzle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Citizens' Hearings – Non-Agenda Items Only (5 Minutes)**

Marie Hess – Resident

Ms. Hess announced the Easter Hunt. There will be over 1,000 stuffed eggs for the community. She announced the Parks and Recreation Commission is working with the Coatesville United Soccer Program.

JoAnn Gathercole – Resident

Ms. Gathercole inquired about portable basketball nets. There is a net behind her house in the alley. The people are ruining her yard. Ms. Hess explained the City has funds for nets to be placed at Palmer Park.

Ellsworth Stokes – Resident

Mr. Stokes asked Council the status of the parking issue on Mount Pleasant Street. Mr. Hudson explained that the Police, Codes and Public Works Department have looked into the issue. Where the residents were parking is private property and the owner has the right to put no parking signs up. The owner is dead set against anyone parking on his property. The City cannot stop the owner from posting his property.

Vice President Hamrick made a motion to close citizens' hearings on non-agenda items only; Mr. Brazzle seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Regular Action Items**

1. Consider legal contract for Archer & Greiner P.C. as Labor Counsel for negotiations with collective bargaining agreements.

Mr. Simpson inquired if one to do collective bargaining and one to do labor and personnel is the same. Mr. Carnes explained the difference.

Mr. Brazzle made a motion to approve the legal contract with Archer and Grenier, P.C. as Labor Counsel for negotiations with the collective bargaining agreements; Vice President Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1. Mr. Simpson was the dissenting vote.

2. Consider legal contract for Dilworth Paxson, LLP as Labor Counsel for all other general labor and personnel matters for the City.

Mr. Brazzle made a motion to approve a legal contract for Dilworth Paxson, LLP as Labor Counsel for all other general labor and personnel matters for the City; Vice President Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Consider donation for the Gun Buy Back not to exceed \$5,000

Mr. Brazzle made a motion for the City to donate up to but not exceed \$5,000 for the Gun Buy Back Program if needed; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

### Special Events

1. A special event permit has been submitted from the Virtuous Sisters for Christ for a rally on the “7<sup>th</sup> Annual Lock Arms for Christ March for Peace” on April 6, 2013 starting at 9:00 am starting at Gateway Park and ending at Abdala Park. It has been requested for street closures as the March passes the streets.  
Vice President Hamrick made a motion to approve a special event permit from the Virtuous Sisters for Christ for a rally on the “7<sup>th</sup> Annual Lock Arms for Christ March for Peace” on April 6, 2013 starting at 9:00 am starting at Gateway Park and ending at Abdala Park and requested rolling street closures; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
2. A Banner Permit application has been submitted from the Brandywine Health Foundation for street pole banners for the 2013 Strawberry Festival from May 1, 2013 to June 9, 2013.  
Mr. Brazzle made a motion to approve a banner permit application from Brandywine Health Foundation for street pole banners for the 2013 Strawberry Festival from May 1, 2013 to June 9, 2013; Vice President Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

### Discussion Items (5 Minutes)

1. Discuss closing streets for Special Events  
Mrs. Hunt asked what would happen if the parks were being used. Mr. Brazzle explained the roads could be closed then. Everyone should be able to close the streets not just organizations. Vice President Hamrick stated the closings should be for community events and not private events. Mr. Wilkinson explained the process for Public Works on closing the streets. Acting Chief Lentz explained the safety issues of closing the streets. He stated the roads should be closed for a public event but not a private event. Ms. Hess asked for a portion of the money from the park rental to be earmarked for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Council asked Mr. Hudson to meet with staff to discuss a process for street closings.
2. Discuss Timeline actions and completion progress  
President Collins announced the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> to set up the Budget Review Committee and a meeting has been scheduled on March 18<sup>th</sup> to wrap up the Goals and Objectives.
3. Discuss Feral Cat Control  
Mr. Hudson announced the feral cat problem in the City. Mr. Molina explained that he spoke with MS. Campbell from LaMancha Animal Rescue. The cost to implement a program with LaMancha Animal Rescue for the remainder of the year would be \$12,000, plus \$45. Fee per cat for both trapping and the spay/neuter clinic. Council suggested an RFP for Cat control in the City. Council asked Mr. Hudson to look into alternative for the cat control.

### Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes stated he is still working with Millview on the missing or inadequate street signs.

### City Manager’s Report

Mr. Hudson reported to Council on the status of one of his key goals and objectives, He continues to work with the First Suburbs Organization to help affect policy changes regarding Section 8, HUD and slumlord issues as they relate to the City of Coatesville.

**Council Comments**

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He asked for the security system to be checked for the beeping.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She quoted “It's the constant and determined effort that breaks down resistance, sweeps away all obstacles.”

Mr. Brazzle announced Ms. Hess just got engaged. He inquired about the City investing money from the Trust Fund into a Food Store and get revenue from the store.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked everyone for being here and diligent for the meeting. She announced the basketball team is in the playoffs.

Vice President Hamrick had no comment.

President Collins thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Brazzle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 pm; Vice President Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Kirby Hudson  
City Manager