

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Regular Meeting  
January 27, 2014

**Call to Order**

Vice President Collins called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were Vice President David Collins, Mssr, Edward Simpson and Ms, Marie Hess, Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt, Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones and Mrs. Linda Lavender-Norris. 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.

Vice President Collins announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening, January 27, 2014 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Vice President Collins announced President Hamrick would not be in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the January 13, 2014 meeting minutes; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

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

Vice President Collins explained Council has agreed to table action item to further review the requirements of the applicants and the approval process for various Boards, Commissions and Committees.

Mrs. Jones made a motion to table action item 1) Receive and consider appointment of Malcolm Craig to the Parks and Recreation Commission for the term 2014-2017; Makeda Marley for the term 2014 – 2017; Jay Byerly to the Historical Commission for the term 2014 – 2016; Paul Dodson to the Solid Waste Review Board for the term 2014 – 2016 and reappoint Maitland Harvey to the Planning Commission for the term 2013 – 2016; Darrell Williams for the Board of Housing Appeal for the term 2014-2016 and Reserve Trust Commission for the term 2014-2015 until another meeting: Ms. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to add Discussion item 1) Council's focus actions for 2014; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Presentations**

1. Award for Coatesville Police Department by Lori Aguilera, Project Director, Chester County Highway Safety

Ms. Lori Aguilera, Project Director for the Chester County Highway Safety, presented an award to the City of Coatesville Police Department for prevention, education, and enforcement in the community and for their ongoing support for their Chester County Highway Safety Project in the District Attorney's office. . Ms. Aguilera thanked Sergeant Ollis for his work with the schools as a part of the seat belt, distracted driving and DUI Program. Ms. Aguilera said the Police Department has installed 260 car seats, distributed over 95 car seats (one officer is certified to install the car seats) and has participated in Bike

Helmet Distribution, Survival 101, Shop with a Cop, Buckle Up Pa, Operation Safe Stop, DUI checkpoint and joined the Aggressive Driving Program.

2. Swearing in Officer

Officer Joseph F. Thompson was sworn in by the Honorable Judge Gregory Hines as his daughter Brittany held the bible.

**Citizens' Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (3 Minutes)**

Paul Dodson – Homeowner

Mr. Dodson suggested looking further into the trash records to see if there are more people who did not receive bills. He stated the City needs an anchor store to draw people into the City and then work on a Façade program.

David DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone questioned the Façade Improvement Program. He stated he is not comfortable with the program right now. The City is not business friendly at this time.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items; Ms. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Citizens' Hearings – Non-Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes)**

Michael Richards – Homeowner

Mr. Richards asked for a stop sign at the corner of Millview and Regency. He also asked for the Police Department to have radar or speed traps randomly in the area.

Paul Dodson – Homeowner

Mr. Dodson stated he is here to help the City not hurt the City. He suggested that Codes use email addresses instead of stamps to save money. He questioned the snow removal process on City properties.

Marie Wilson – Resident

Ms. Wilson explained that in the apartment above hers there is an excessive amount of people and noise coming from the apartment. She has complained to Codes and the Police Department and would like help in the matter. Mr. Molina stated he would assist her with the matter.

Mrs. Jones made a motion to close citizens' hearings on non-agenda items; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Regular Action Items**

1. Consider RFP for Municipal Waste and Recyclables collection and extension on current collection contract

Mr. Hudson explained that staff is currently working on a strategy for the Municipal Waste and Recycling and will need more time to work. He asked Council for an extension on the current agreement with Eagle Disposal for one to two months.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to request an extension from the current Municipal Waste carrier for one to two months if extension is at current rate; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Receive and consider a Resolution the waiver of penalties for trash fees for properties owned by Crystal Thomas, (30 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue (TP# 16-06-0401000); 34 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue (TP#16-06-04020000) and 210 Walnut Street (TP# 16-1000360100)

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve a Resolution the waiver of penalties for trash fees for properties owned by Crystal Thomas, (30 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue (TP# 16-06-0401000); 34 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue (TP#16-06-04020000) and 210 Walnut Street (TP# 16-1000360100); Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion failed 3-3. Mrs. Jones, Mr. Simpson and Mr. Collins were the dissenting votes.

3. Receive and consider a Resolution of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the City to prepare a revised budget for 2014 by the advertising of a Public Hearing to amend the budget and Ordinance amending the budget to include additional appropriations in the amount of \$250,000 to address; 1) \$100,000 for paint an façade property improvements in the downtown business district; \$100,000 to promote business start incentives to encourage new business growth in the Downtown Business District; and \$50,000 to issue a request for proposal and obtain the services of a grant writing consultant for the Downtown Revitalization District and the “Flats”

The City is looking to revitalize the Business District on a larger scale through the comprehensive study and marketing analysis which is currently in development by the Planning Commission and the Thomas Comitta Associates.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, authorizing the City to prepare a revised budget for 2014 by the advertising of a Public Hearing to amend the budget and Ordinance amending the budget to include additional appropriations in the amount of \$250,000 to address; 1) \$100,000 for paint an façade property improvements in the downtown business district; \$100,000 to promote business start incentives to encourage new business growth in the Downtown Business District; and \$50,000 to issue a request for proposal and obtain the services of a grant writing consultant for the Downtown Revitalization District and the “Flats”; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Receive and consider a Resolution of the Council of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, releasing the Surety Bond for Walgreens Store No. 11461 as all work has been completed and been inspected and there are no public improvements subject to maintenance bond for this project.

Mr. Carnes explained that through its Planning Commission and consultants had reviewed and approved certain plans for a Walgreens Store #11461 located at 810 East Lincoln Highway, which plans were prepared by Robert E. Blue Consulting Engineers, PC of Blue Bell, Pennsylvania, dated October 27, 2008 and last revised on September 22, 2010.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve a Resolution of the Council of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, releasing the Surety Bond for Walgreens Store No. 11461 as all work has been completed and been inspected and there are no public improvements subject to maintenance bond for this project; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

### **Solicitors Report**

Mr. Carnes explained he has been working with the Finance Director regarding the Budget amendment. He announced there will be a Public Hearing on the Budget amendment prior to the next Council meeting.

### **City Manager’s Report**

Mr. Hudson announced the Coatesville Youth Initiative is now and independent non-profit organization. He announced the Chester County Planning Commission has opened up the process for two rounds of reimbursable grants in 2014 with up to \$125,000 available in round one. Mr. Hudson announced the City was awarded two

grants that Cedarville Engineering applied for 1) Watershed Restoration and Protection for \$127,500 and 2) Growing Greener II for \$150,000.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **1. Council's focus actions for 2014**

Vice President Collins explained there will be \$5.5 million left in the Reserve Trust after the deductions this year. If the City continues down the same path of using the money it will be depleted in a few years. Mr. Collins asked if Council had any goals. Mr. Simpson asked to confirm and validate Coatesville owned properties. Mrs. Lavender-Norris and Mr. Simpson suggested improving Quality of life issues. Mrs. Hunts stated that she would like to see Council to begin planning early for the 2015 Centennial. Mr. Collins provided Council with a list of goals that he has suggested such as stabilizing the tax base. He asked if the resident had any ideas. Council will be forming sub committees.

Mr. Evans suggested land lords and business owners cooperate and develop plans for vacant buildings in the city. Mr. DeSimone suggested cleaning up the City. Everyone needs to work together. He suggested making the streets more attractive by maintain overgrown brush and improving property fronts. One resident stated that we the city need to clean up after ourselves. Ms. Hess explained that there have been several clean up days throughout the City.

### **Special Events**

There were no special events at this time.

### **Council Comments**

Ms. Hess thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked Mr. Wilkinson and his crew for the great work. She has never seen such a positive response on the snow clean up from the social media.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She appreciates the input from fellow Council members and the residents. She asked everyone to continue to come to the meetings.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She is looking forward to working on moving the City forward.

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The City is moving in the right direction.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She quoted "Being challenged in life is inevitable, being defeated is optional."

Vice President Collins explained it is not his intention to offend anyone and it is not to be offended. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He is looking forward to working on the sub committees.

### **Adjournment**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Kirby Hudson  
City Manager