

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
May 27, 2014

Call to Order

President Hamrick called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Hamrick, 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, Finance Director John Marcarelli, Director of Planning and Codes Enforcement Damalier Molina, Public Works Director Donald Wilkinson, Police Chief John Laufer, and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Hamrick announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening, May 27, 2014 to discuss personnel and legal matters

President Hamrick announced Vice President Collins and Mr. Simpson would not be in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the May 12, 2014 meeting minutes; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the May 19, 2014 special meeting minutes; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Accounts Payable

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Mrs. Jones made a motion to table regular action item 3) Receive and consider Parks and Recreation Commission budget of \$1,000 per year to accommodate \$100 per event (10 events per year); President Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion failed 1-4. President Hamrick, Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. Lavender-Norris were the dissenting votes.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to add regular action item 7) Extension of lease terms for Warihay Farms to continue farming the Conti Property for a set price; Motion failed 3-1. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote. Motion requires majority of Council as a whole.

Presentations

1. Coatesville Towers Flag Day Celebration – Thomas Gallagher
Mr. Gallagher was not present at the meeting.

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

There were no citizens' hearings on regular action items only.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

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

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans announced the Coatesville Housing Association met with Mr. Molina and Ms. Fickes and explored costs versus revenue. He discussed 4 scenarios for work permits and rental license revenue.

Bryan Clark

Mr. Clark announced Mr. Wilkinson met with him regarding the falling tree. He voiced his concerns regarding the Codes Department.

Lisa Avery

Ms. Avery announced the 1st Adventist Church is holding a Leadership Seminar on June 20th at the Brandywine Center.

Alma Ferrari

Ms. Ferrari expressed gratitude to Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Troupe for their assistance in trash removal in Ally of Madison and Charles. She voiced her concerns regarding landlord tenant issues and code requirements.

Tom Hefferon – Cassandra Johnson

Mr. Hefferon and Ms. Johnson asked Council for use of City Hall on June 20, 2014 for the Child ID Program. The program will be from 1-6 pm, no age group. Each child will receive a free cd, picture and fingerprint card. The program will show people we do care for the children in Coatesville. Council approved the use of Council Chambers.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to close citizens' hearings on non-agenda items only; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider support letter for National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the support letter for the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum; Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Receive and consider Resolution for Participation in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) Grant Program

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Resolution for participation in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's Transportation and Community Development Initiative (TCDI) Grant Program; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

3. Receive and consider Parks and Recreation Commission budget of \$1,000 per year to accommodate \$100 per event (10 events per year)

President Hamrick announced Ms. Hess brought this before Council at the last meeting. Mrs. Jones stated the City needs to save money. The City terminated their recreation Director/Program to save money in prior years. There were a lot of other recreation organizations in the City. The parents should spend more time with the children.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve \$100 per event (10 events per year) equaling \$1000 per year for the Parks and Recreation Commission; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-1. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote.

Mr. Carnes explained a vote would need to be made in the future with the majority of a council in whole officially making a budget amendment allocating the \$1,000.

4. Receive and consider Early retirement due to non-service related disability

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve early retirement due to a non-service related disability; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

5. Receive and consider Policy statement for prayer before meetings

President Hamrick announced the Supreme Court ruled that legislative bodies such as city councils can begin their meetings with prayer. Mr. Carnes stated the City Council indicated its intention of starting off public meetings with a prayer. All members of City Council were given a copy of the recent Supreme Court case, Township of Greece v. Galloway. The Pennsylvania Borough Solicitor's Association prepared a short synopsis of the case and identified the "constitutional prescription" that can be derived from the case

The City should be guided by the bullet points and should adopt a procedure that allows a variety of faiths to provide a prayer, keeps the prayer to the ceremonial part of the meeting and follows the other suggested bullet points such as the prohibition against proselytizing. The bullet points are as follows

- The prayer must be conducted in the ceremonial part of the meeting and not during actions on official policy;
- The municipality can invite anyone to lead the prayers including a member of the governing body;
- The municipality cannot dictate the prayer or the contents of the prayer;
- The municipality cannot proselytize;
- The body can only allow prayers when most of the audience are adults;

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve a Policy statement for prayer before City Council meetings; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-1. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote.

6. Receive and consider 1st Reading an Ordinance authorizing the sale and transfer of City property at 105 East Diamond Street, Tax Parcel No. 16-5-155E to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Coatesville for \$1.00.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve First Reading an Ordinance authorizing the sale and transfer of City property at 105 East Diamond Street, Tax Parcel No. 16-5-155E to the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Coatesville for \$1.00; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced the lowest responsible bid of Eagle Disposal of Pa, Inc. for a 3 year contract (with containers) was approved on May 19, 2014 at a special meeting. He is finalizing the contract with a start date of June 1, 2014 consistent with the bid documents and is obtaining the performance bond and other confirmatory documents. Eagle is working on a temporary extension in the interim.

Council discussed the color of the containers. The trash containers will be black with red letters and the recycling will be green containers.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Hudson announced there will be a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan at the Planning Commission meeting on June 11, 2014 at 5:30 pm. He announced Verizon Fios TV channel and programming changes.

Discussion Item

1. Budget Amendments

Due to Mr. Simpson's absence, discussion was tabled. Mr. Simpson had requested the item of discussion.

2. Council Liaison for Departments

Mr. Carnes explained there is no reason a Council Member cannot be a liaison to the individual City departments. President Hamrick stated the liaison can meet once a month with the department and then brief Council. Mrs. Lavender-Norris stated she will be a liaison to the Public Works Department. President Hamrick stated he is on a Finance Committee.

3. Verizon Franchise audit

President Hamrick announced WCCCOG is looking for the municipalities to join in the audit. Cohen Law Group fee is \$5,000 per municipality. All present Council agreed to move forward with the audit at the cost of \$5,000.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She reiterated the July 5th Coatesville Community Unity Explosion. She is grateful for all the support she has received from organizations. She asked to keep Council Vice President Collins in your prayers for the loss of family members.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She quoted "National commitment to free speech is not a license for vicious verbal assault."

Mrs. Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She asked everyone to keep up their commitment. She thanked staff for their diligence.

President Hamrick thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked the community, staff and council for their show of support to the Vice President Collins and his family. He stated "We are not just a Community, We are a Family."

Adjournment

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Kirby Hudson
City Manager