

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 22, 2014

Call to Order

President Hamrick called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Joseph Hamrick, Vice President David Collins, Mssr, Edward Simpson and Ms. Marie Hess, Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones, and Mrs. Linda Lavender-Norris. Staff members present included 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 Mrs. Hunt would not be in attendance.

President Hamrick announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening, September 22, 2014, to discuss personnel and legal matters

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Hess made a motion to approve the September 22, 2014 meeting minutes; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0

Approval of Accounts Payable

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the accounts payable; Ms. Hess seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Vice President Collins made a motion to remove discussion item 10.2; Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Presentations

1. Swearing in

1.1 Steven Dobson – Deputy Fire Chief

The Honorable Judge Gregory Hines swore in Steven Dobson, as the Deputy Fire Chief as his wife held the Bible.

1.2 Polly Beebe – Fire Police Officer

The Honorable Judge Gregory Hines swore in Polly Beebe, as Fire Police Officer while council person Marie Hess held the Bible.

2. Jarrett Jackson – Coatesville Memorial Community Center reply

Mr. Jackson announced that the vision for the Coatesville Memorial Community Center is to assist everyone who comes through our doors. They will use strengths-based, best practices to ensure the creation of a healthy interdependence between the community and stakeholders. In turn, this will assist in supporting the family, the neighborhood and community.

The mission of the Coatesville Memorial Community Center (CMCC) is to serve as a character building organization for the community and the entire family. The focus is on youth development education, adjustment and adult learning. We strive to promote mental, physical, social and educational opportunities for people of all ages, ethnicities, races and religious groups.

We provide constructive, practical and integrity building activities which aid and promoting good citizenship and leadership. The principles and programs are integral elements of the community to provide positive growth, direction, and future to our community.

In a period of transition, the CMCC and the City of Coatesville mutually agreed that, in the best interest of the community, a partnership between the two was necessary to ensure that the mission and work of the CMCC would not be in vain. The structure of the CMCC has not changed with regard to its nonprofit status and volunteer board. Thus, CMCC has continued its ability to receive funding in partnership with the City of Coatesville in order to help meet the needs of the community. Currently, several organizations use the facility: churches, faith-based organizations, line dancing, and the Coatesville Parks and Recreation committee. CMCC is prepared to collaborate with the City to resume serving the community. The CMCC will provide service programs and services including citizenship, leadership and personal development and community empowerment; healthy living, health and fitness and nutrition; science, engineering and technology, environmental science in alternative energy.

The CMCC's next steps are to collaborate with the City of Coatesville and other partners to resume serving the community and continue business development efforts; finalize staffing needs; develop and expand programming to serve the community; acquire the 99th N. 9th Ave. property from the City; and resume planned building renovations and improvements.

Mr. Hudson asked Mr. Jackson for a meeting to discuss the City's participation.

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

There were no comments on citizens' hearings at this time.

Ms. Hess made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

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

Mr. Emondi

Mr. Emondi inquired about residents who were not billed and have not paid for trash bills in previous years. Mr. Hudson explained the process of the new totes and how those residents are now being billed. He announced once the recycle totes have been delivered the trash company will only be picking up the totes. The residents who have not received a tote will not have their trash picked up.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans voiced his concerns regarding the rental license application. He was not here to dispute the regular fee but the cost of the late fee (200% increase penalty fee). He stated the request for the biennial inspection is unconstitutional. He will pay the license fee but will not agree to the inspection.

David DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone voiced his concern on the biennial inspections. He feels the inspections are violations to tenant's privacy. He does not feel right entering into a contract where the tenants' rights are violated. Mr. Hudson explained that regular inspections would help the City and landlords to stay on top of the concerns regarding living conditions.

Ms. Hess 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. Receive and consider Resolution adopting the reduced amortization option as allowed by Act 44 of 2009 for the City of Coatesville Pension Fund, the City of Coatesville Non-Uniform Pension Fund [Retirement Income Plan], and the City of Coatesville Firefighter's Pension Fund.
Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve a resolution adopting the reduced amortization option as allowed by Act 44 of 2009 for the City of Coatesville Police Pension fund, the City of Coatesville Non-Uniform Pension Fund [Retirement Income Plan] and the City of Coatesville Firefighter's Pension fund; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
2. Receive and acknowledge receipt of the 2015 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) from Chief Administrative Officer
Vice President Collins made a motion to approve acknowledgment receipt of the 2015 minimum municipal obligation (MMO) from Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
3. Receive and consider Proclamation for Dr. Michael Margolies
President Hamrick read the proclamation for Dr. Michael Margolies.

Ms. Hess made a motion to approve the proclamation for Dr. Michael Margolies; Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
4. Receive and accept resignation of Elgin Bailey from the Parks and Recreation Commission for the term 2014-2017
Ms. Hess made a motion to accept resignation of Elgin Bailey from the Parks and Recreation commission for the term 2014 to 2017; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.
5. Receive and consider extension to October 31, 2014 to complete the review process for Application for Land Development Approval on the Redevelopment of Property at South 4th Avenue and Lincoln Highway
Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the extension to October 31, 2014 to complete the review process the application for land development approval on the redevelopment of property located at S. 4th Ave. and Lincoln Highway; Ms. Hess has seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced the City review process for the Family Dollar Store is ongoing. The request to the City has been made to extend the review until October 31, 2014. The formalization of the AFSCME negotiations is pending, the City will be amending its City Pension plan and finalizing the Third Class City Pension plan Mr. Carnes announced he will review Mr. DeSimone's concerns regarding the constitutional issues on the biennial rental inspections.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Hudson announced that Lincoln University has asked for no parking on Fourth Avenue. Chief Laufer met with the Lincoln University Police Chief and discussed the parking issues two handicap spaces will be added along with a loading zone.

Mr. Hudson announced the City received a letter from the Redevelopment Authority's attorneys regarding the proposed amendment of the easement agreement for the Riverwalk. He said he would meet with Mr. Pawlowski to discuss the amendments.

Discussion Item

1. Ordinance for maintenance of exterior of home

Ms. Hess explained the Township of Evesham currently has an ordinance for abandoned property and dangerous buildings. The ordinance explains bank/lienholder shall be responsible for the care maintenance security and upkeep of the exterior of the residential property. This obligation applies with a determination that the property is vacant and abandoned. If it is found that the creditor obligated to care, maintain, secured and keep up the vacant in the product abandoned property has failed to do so and it is in violation will be issued a notice of violation. The notice shall require the person or entity to correct the violation within 30 days of the receipt of the notice, or within 10 days of receipt of the notice of the violation presents an imminent threat to the public health and safety. If the property has not been cleaned up within the allotted time, they will face fines of up to \$1500 a day. Ms. Hess explained the city currently has a lot of foreclosed vacant properties. She asked the city could enforce such an ordinance. Mr. Carnes explain that the regulations would have to be changed to fit County standards, but he does think that such ordinance would be possible to implement in the city of Coatesville. Council asked Mr. Carnes to provide an ordinance for an action item at the next meeting.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She quoted "we live in the present, we dream of the future, and we learn external truths from the past."

Ms. Hess thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Ms. Hess stated she was disappointed the flags were not placed along Lincoln Highway in recognition of 9/11.

Vice President Collins thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated it's nice to get out at nine.

President Hamrick announced that he attended the 911 ceremony which is getting bigger every year. He advised Council that he will be sending out an email with various dates to set up a workshop session

Mrs. Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting and further interest in the community. She advised the Codes and the Public Works Department of an issue at Poplar and Boundary Street, it looks like the city dump. She asked the departments to please get it taken care of.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM; Mrs. Jones seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Submitted by:
Kirby Hudson
City Manager