

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
March 9, 2015

Call to Order

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Linda Lavender-Norris, Council Vice President Marie Lawson, Mssr, Joseph Hamrick, Edward Simpson, Bill Shaw, Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt, and Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones. Staff members present included Acting City Manager Michael O'Rourke, City Solicitor John Carnes, Finance Director John Marcarelli, Public Works Director Donald Wilkinson, and Police Chief John Laufer and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Lavender-Norris announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening March 9, 2015, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the February 23, 2015 meeting minutes with edits; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Accounts Payable

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Council added Presentation 2) Brett Whitten – Billing Data Comparison

Presentations

1. Young Lungs at Play - Mike Barnard, MPH, ChesPenn Health
Lula Defersha, Coatesville Youth Initiative
Jaclyn Gleber, RDH, Ph.D., ChesPenn Dental

Ms. Gleber explained the goals of young lungs at play are to change the social norms; improve children's health; and contribute community cleanliness. Mr. Barnard explained municipalities, school districts, youth sports organizations and other groups are invited to join in eliminating children's exposure to second hand smoke at public parks and playgrounds. Adopting 100% tobacco free laws, ordinances, policies or resolutions in public areas where children play help to accomplish this. Ms. Gleber explained policy initiatives are key strategies in influencing community norms and effective ways to limit exposure to the dangers of second hand smoke. The initiative will protect the environment and protect the health of all. We will support you as you work or create tobacco-free parks and playgrounds.

Ms. Defersha explained the beautification program. Tobacco waste makes parks and playgrounds look dirty and uninviting. Tobacco-free parks provide children with a clean and healthy place to stay.

Mr. Barnard explained Young Lungs at play will provide information to educate the community and sample press releases to notify the general community and media. The signs are free. There is no cost to the City.

Mrs. Horton-Lewis explained that this is much larger than health education.

2. Billing Data Comparison – Brett Whitten

Mr. Whitten said Mr. Paul Evans requested that he compare several spreadsheets by the City of Coatesville within a robust database to: identify properties that have toter trash bins that may not be getting billed by Berkheimer; identify differences between the number of toters at properties and the billing data of Berkheimer; and identify rental properties that have incorrect mailing address information of the property owner. He used the following data sources: Coatesville toter delivery file provided by Toter Corp, GIS property data; Berkheimer billing data and the Coatesville rental properties file.

There are approximately 500 properties where the mailing address from the rentals files does not match Berkheimer or GIS. Many have an incorrect city and zip for the mailing street address. There are approximately 100+ properties that are listed as having toters but do not have a corresponding Berkheimer account. The next step is to programmatically cross-reference and filter data where customers are not billed or under-billed for service and continue to sift through rentals to identify property entries that need to be corrected.

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

David DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone had no comment at this time on regular action items only.

Alphonso Williams

Mr. Williams had no comment on regular action items.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans announced he emailed an article on how another Municipality outsources Codes. He provided a petition to Council regarding outsourcing the Codes Department. He suggested to outsource information technology.

Joe Leofsky

Mr. Leofsky thanked Council for their hard work on the budget and tough decisions ahead. He questioned the Earned Income Taxes and Real Estates Taxes payments.

John Pawlowski

Mr. Pawlowski asked Council to approve the Resolution for the Gazebo Project.

Rodger Ollis

Sergeant Ollis spoke as a resident and father. He thanked Young Lungs at Play for attending the meeting and would appreciate Council to consider the Ordinance.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Discussion Item

1. Discuss Updating Procurement and Purchasing Ordinance to stay in Compliance with Pa State

Mr. Marcarelli announced the State has updated and increased their Procurement and Purchasing amounts. The City will need to approve an Ordinance to update their Ordinance to be compliant

with the States. Mr. Carnes believed the current Ordinance has a cost of living adjustment. He will review the Ordinance and advise whether a new one is required.

2. Discuss Group Homes

At the last meeting the Group Homes were discussed and Mr. O'Rourke was asked to provide the different classes of disabilities for the group homes.

Mr. O'Rourke explained the Federal laws define a person with a disability as "Any person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; has a record of such impairment; or is regarded as having such an impairment."

In general, a physical or mental impairment includes hearing, mobility and visual impairments, chronic alcoholism, chronic mental illness, AIDS, AIDS Related Complex, and mental retardation that substantially limits one or more major life activities. Major life activities include walking, talking, hearing, seeing, breathing, learning, performing manual tasks, and caring for oneself. Mr. Shaw announced two meetings to help homelessness and housing.

3. Discuss 2015 Budget

President Lavender-Norris announced the Council will be holding an Executive meeting to discuss personnel impacts.

Mr. O'Rourke provided Council with a plan for balancing the budget. The plan consisted of ways to cover the expenses of the handicap signs; Public Works clean up fees; Parking Meters doubled and all Parking Fines doubled. The total revenue enhancement would be a little over \$400,000.00. Council asked Mr. O'Rourke and Mr. Carnes to see if Handicap signs can be designated for an individual.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider RFP for Conti Property Lease

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the RFP for the Conti Property lease with additional clauses; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Receive and consider RFP for Fireworks on July 11, 2015

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve the RFP for the Fireworks on July 11, 2015; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Receive and consider a Resolution by the Council of the City of Coatesville appointing Tax Collection Committee Delegates

Vice President Lawson approved a Resolution by the Council of the City of Coatesville appointing Tax Collection and Committee Delegates; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Receive and consider liaison position for Various City Department

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve Mr. Simpson for liaison in Finance, Mr. Shaw liaison in Administration, Mr. Hamrick liaison in Fire, Mrs. Hunt liaison in Public Works and President Lavender-Norris as a floater; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Receive and consider Resolution of the Council of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, authorizing application to the 2014 PECO Green Open Space Program for the Gazebo Project, identifying a match of up to \$10,000.00 and establishing that this Resolution supersedes any inconsistent Resolutions

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve a Resolution of the Council of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, authorizing application to the 2014 PECO Green Open Space Program for the Gazebo Project, identifying a match of up to \$10,000.00 and establishing that this Resolution supersedes any inconsistent Resolutions; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

6. Receive and consider First Reading an Ordinance amending Chapter 108-1. Fees in the City of Coatesville Code to remove inconsistent duplicate fees

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve First Reading an Ordinance amending Chapter 108-1. Fees in the City of Coatesville Code to remove inconsistent duplicate fees; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Receive and consider First Reading an Ordinance amending Chapter 169-7 Behaviors in City Parks by adding a new subsection N. Smoking ban in all City Parks including all tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, pipes and chewing tobacco) as well as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes and all alternatives

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve the First Reading an Ordinance amending Chapter 169-7 Behaviors in City Parks by adding a new subsection N. Smoking ban in all City Parks including all tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, pipes and chewing tobacco) as well as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes and all alternatives; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced the Family Bond for public improvements needs to be revised. The Zoning Ordinance for the Group Homes has passed and a certified copy will be sent to the County Planning Commission. He assisted DEPG Coatesville Associates in applying for a \$1 million RCP Grant to be used for a parking garage. A revised Riverwalk easement agreement was sent to the Redevelopment Authority and a Resolution was approved in the City's efforts in obtaining a PECO Grant.

City Manager's Report

Mr. O'Rourke handed out the department reports for the Codes Department (2 weeks), Police Department February report and the Public Works scheduled projects and timelines.

Mr. O'Rourke said he called the promotion consultants firm he has previously used in York for the City events. He has not received a call back. He stated that if does not receive a call back he will start to call other companies.

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

Alphonso Williams

Mr. Williams announced light between 3rd and 4th Avenue blinks on and off. He asked for response from City Manager on the Codes Dept.

David DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone thanked Council, he sees a different attitude group working together and getting things done. He asked for Ordinances to be placed on Website before voting on them. He questioned the collection rate.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans stated the Chapter 136 fees do not match up. He questioned the process for late fees on rental licenses, they automatically go to citation. He voiced his concerns on the 2013 budget loss in the Codes Department.

Joe Leofsky

Mr. Leofsky questioned the rental license late fee and going into citation automatically with no notice. He voiced his concerns on the statement that the late fee on rental licenses is not steep enough.

Mohammed Hezkar

Mr. Hezkar stated he had no comment at this time.

Jonquil Patterson

Mr. Patterson announced there will be a Millennial Speaker Series starting March 18, 2015 from 2:00 am -2:30 pm. All are welcome.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to close citizens' hearings on non-agenda items only; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Hamrick announced it is good to be back. He wished everyone a nice evening.

Mr. Shaw resonated with Mr. DeSimone, Council is a serious minded group. He is thrilled to work with this group of people. He thanked staff for working hard and particularly Mr. Marcarelli and Mr. O'Rourke with calculating and figuring and getting things moving.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked Mr. Wilkinson and the Police Department for a job well done during the biggest snow storm of the season. They did the best with what they had. She quoted Elizabeth Barrett Browning "Let today prepare us for a better tomorrow."

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for the well wishes. He feels good. The City Council will hopefully get back on track and get things together. He said to keep in mind that when looking at the unpaid fees that 70% of houses in the City are landlord and 30% owner occupied.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She welcomed back Mr. DeSimone and thanked him for his words and contributions. She thanked administration and Council for their hard work. We continue to work together for the betterment of the City.

Vice President Lawson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked and expressed her appreciation to Ms. Regina, CAPP, the landlords, Mr. Whitten, and Young Lungs at Play for their dedication and assistance to the City. She announced that she experienced her first ride along in a plow truck during the snow storm. It was a great opportunity to know what the departments are going thru. She thanked Mr. Patterson for his work at the Library. She thanked very one for their commitment in making Coatesville a place to "Live, Work and Play."

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked staff, administrative staff and fellow Council. She appreciates you all. She believes Coatesville is a City of expectations and hopes, all we have to do is get together and ad that service and we'll be on our way. Let us get continue to work together and move the City forward.

Adjournment

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.