

MINUTES  
CITY OF COATESVILLE  
Regular Meeting  
1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, Pa 19320  
Council Chambers, Coatesville City Hall  
March 25, 2019

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Linda Lavender-Norris, Vice President Carmen Green, Mr. Donald Folks, Mr. Edward Simpson, and Ms. Khadijah Al Amin. Staff members present included: City Manager, Michael Trio, Assistant City Manager, James Logan, Police Chief, John Laufer, Finance Department, Peter Barsz and Recording Secretary Ruthann Mowday.

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

President Lavender-Norris announced Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. Bookman would not be in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Folks made a motion to approve the March 11, 2019 meeting minutes; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0-1. Ms. Al Amin abstained due to her absence at the last meeting.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Vice President Green made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mr. Folks seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1. Ms. Al Amin was the dissenting vote.

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

Vice President Green made a motion to add a presentation introducing the new part-time Police Officers; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Presentations**

1. Rotary  
There was no presentation from the rotary at this time.
2. Introduction of new Part-Time Police Officers  
Chief Laufer introduced Part-time officers Eric Himmel and Timothy Kemmerle while providing a brief background on each officer. Council welcomed the Officers to the City.

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

There were no citizen's hearings on action items only.

**Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider Resolution No. 2019-04 authorizing the City's sale/trade of Vehicles and other equipment identified herein by means of Municibid or trade-in pursuant to Costars purchase

for new vehicles, or by public bid or auction consistent with the requirements of the Third Class City Code and City Charter

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-04 authorizing the City's sale/trade of Vehicles and other equipment identified herein by means of Municibid or trade-in pursuant to Costars purchase for new vehicles, or by public bid or auction consistent with the requirements of the Third Class City Code and City Charter; Mr. Folk seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Receive and consider Resolution No. 2019- 11 supporting the filing of a grant application with the Chester County Department of Community Development, for the 2019 Chester County Community Revitalization Program Grant funds, for improvements in the City of Coatesville consisting of emergency repairs to City Infrastructure identified in the City's Capital Asset Inventory.

Vice President Green made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019- 11 supporting the filing of a grant application with the Chester County Department of Community Development, for the 2019 Chester County Community Revitalization Program Grant funds, for improvements in the City of Coatesville consisting of emergency repairs to City Infrastructure identified in the City's Capital Asset Inventory; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Receive and consider Resolution No. 2019-12 supporting the filing of a grant application with the Chester County Department of Community Development, for the 2019 Chester County Community Revitalization Program Grant funds, for improvements in the City of Coatesville consisting of a parking garage for the Coatesville Train Station

Vice President Green made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-12 supporting the filing of a grant application with the Chester County Department of Community Development, for the 2019 Chester County Community Revitalization Program Grant funds, for improvements in the City of Coatesville consisting of a parking garage for the Coatesville Train Station; Mr. Folks seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Receive and consider proposal from Intertek for the roof testing

Mr. Folks made a motion to approve the proposal for Intertek for the roof testing; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-1. Vice President Green was the dissenting vote.

5. Receive and consider First Reading an Ordinance amending the General Laws of the City of Coatesville, as amended, Part II, "General Legislation," by adding Chapter 70, "All-Terrain Vehicles and Dirt Bikes" for the purpose of regulating the use of all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes; and including §70-1, "Purpose." Addressing the purpose of the new chapter; §70-2, "Definitions," defining terms used in the new chapter; §70-3, "Registration Requirements," addressing registration of ATV's and dirt bikes; §70-4, "Compliance with State Law," requiring compliance with the Pennsylvania Law; §70-5, "Operation and Use," setting forth the requirements for the operations and use of ATV's and dirt bikes; §70-6 "Violations and Penalties," establishing liability for violations and penalties to be imposed; §70-7, "Impoundment of ATV or Dirt Bike," setting forth the procedure for impoundment and redemption of ATV's and dirt bikes used in violation of the Chapter.

Vice President Green made a motion to approve first reading an Ordinance amending the General Laws of the City of Coatesville, as amended, Part II, "General Legislation," by adding Chapter 70, "All-Terrain Vehicles and Dirt Bikes" for the purpose of regulating the use of all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes; and including §70-1, "Purpose." Addressing the purpose of the new chapter; §70-2, "Definitions," defining terms used in the new chapter; §70-3, "Registration Requirements," addressing registration of ATV's and dirt bikes; §70-4, "Compliance with State Law," requiring compliance with the Pennsylvania Law; §70-5, "Operation and Use," setting forth the requirements for the operations and use of ATV's and dirt bikes; §70-6 "Violations and Penalties," establishing liability for violations and penalties to be imposed; §70-7, "Impoundment of ATV or Dirt Bike," setting forth the procedure for impoundment and redemption of ATV's and dirt bikes used in violation of the Chapter; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### Discussion Item

1. Meeting Minutes

There was no discussion on meeting minutes

2. Flats Lease

Ms. Al Amin stated she is against the lease, and it has already become an eyesore. She asked about the parking across the street. Mr. DiSciullo explained the employee's park across the street. They have done above and beyond what they said they would in cleaning up the lot. They have put new gates up. Vice President Green asked what is being stored there. Mr. DiSciullo explained that the trucks, equipment, and supplies that are needed for the construction will be stored there. President Lavender-Norris thanked Mr. DiSciullo for coming to the meeting and explaining the lease. Mr. DiSciullo explained that some of the monies from the lease will be used to replace the curbs around 190 west Lincoln Highway as they have deteriorated. The lease allows for any developer interested in the property to do their due diligence and any environmental requirements required and also to allow the City to still use the property for the fireworks. Vice President Green asked how long the agreement is. Mr. DiSciullo explained the agreement is one year with an option for them to extend. Vice President Green asked if this is the same lease as last year that was approved but did not happen. Mr. DiSciullo explained yes but with a new company. Mr. Folks stated he heard the extension of the lease to 2024 may come up in the future. Mr. DiSciullo explained that the RDA cannot extend the lease for the time period but can review it annually depending on if any development will be happening. Mr. Simpson explained that the site is not getting the pipeline, there is no excavation, no chemicals, and it is just for storing. Ms. Al Amin stated that she was not present at the last meeting but had she been here she would have voted no. The storing of the equipment promotes a bad image and that we are for the pipeline. If a person call me and says that is how they perceive it, by us storing their equipment we are promoting. President Lavender-Norris stated if people want the information to come to a meeting and not go by presumption or assumption. Ms. Al Amin stated this is her opinion on the staging in perception and she is entitled to it and stands by it. Vice President Green explained she has received the emails regarding the pipeline legalities but the storing of the equipment has nothing to do with it. The emails were offensive because no one thought about the community until there

is something they don't like. Other townships leased property and no one said anything until its Coatesville. Ms. Al Amin asked about the contract from last year. The contract stated there was no public discussion at the Council meeting regarding this. Mr. DiSciullo explained this was discussed at the RDA meeting. Mr. Folks stated the pipeline will be happening no matter what. Mr. DiSciullo and Vice President Green stated that Sunoco should be held accountable for the safety.

### **Solicitors Report**

Mr. Verwey announced he:

- Worked on a code enforcement litigation matter'
- worked on contracting issues
- Worked on pending litigation matters
- Finalized an Ordinance for a first read by Council
- Provided guidance on various legal issues

### **City Manager's Report**

Mr. Trio announced;

- Interviews were held for the Finance Director and Codes Supervisor
- Meeting have been held for Union Contracts and hope to move forward at next meeting.
- Principals of the Veledrome have returned to open discussion with the City
- New large electric signage has been submitted for zoning compliance and permit. Since this is an illuminated channel letter sign, electrical permit is pending.
- County participation in LERTA is open/pending on the term of their abatement.
- The application for the Merchant Street Mosque was heard by the Zoning Hearing Board. The board unanimously recommended approval of variances and conditional use consistent with the criteria for relief.
- The roof study contract ready for authorization. Scope of work will include Electronic Infiltration Testing only.

### **Assistant City Manager Report**

There was no Assistant City Manager report at this time.

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

#### Ron Hershey

Mr. Hershey asked for 5 handicap spots at the Holy Ghost Ukrainian Church on Sundays and use of the public parking lots during Church Services.

#### Maximus Wickel

Mr. Wickel explained he is here for the AFSCME Bargaining Unit and provide support to get a quick Resolution. The pension cost was higher than both anticipated. Hope to have it considered and approved at the next meeting. Council stated Mr. Trio will be reaching out to discuss.

#### Fran Scamuffa

Ms. Scamuffa thanked Ms. Al Amin for her comments regarding the Flats. She asked for the RDA information to be updated on the website as she was unaware of the meeting where the lease for the Flats was discussed. She inquired about the standards for the home inspections.

Vice President Green made a motion to close citizens' hearings on non-agenda items only; Mr. Folks seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Special Events**

There were no special events at this time.

### **Council Comments**

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. I appreciate all the input.

Mr. Folks thanked everyone for attending the Meeting. The Flats, look at the big dirt pile that has been there for years, Downtown Coatesville while buildings are not being used or falling down, that's an eyesore. Everybody has their opinion but one thing about the City, it is getting ready to turn around. Hold on, when we get rid of one eyesore, there is another one to be fixed, so just hold on. I appreciate you coming out and have a blessed night.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everyone for coming out and have safe travels home.

Vice President Green thanked everyone for coming out. I had the opportunity to travel to York on Friday. It's wonderful, so excited about the potential for the Baseball Hall of Fame. Sometimes we are not always agreeable and some decisions we make are right and some decisions are not right. I just hope that as a community that we just keep pulling together and working together for the same purpose to move the City forward. We have a lot of things on the table. It seems like sometimes there is an issue, that here it comes again to try to divide the community. I know that this is such a touchy situation, however, it just seems that it's always different when it's Coatesville because every other community has done it. I have never heard anything, I never even knew they stored in Caln until this starting coming up and I started doing research about it. So I just hope you don't get bogged down on something to me that is important but it's not important. We're not agreeable, we're not saying the pipeline is okay. All we're doing is permitting trucks. It has to be stored somewhere and it has been stored elsewhere. I don't recall anyone going to Caln and talking about it. I don't recall anyone going to Downingtown complaining about anything when they used way more property down there then they are using here and again we're not obligating the City for any long period of time for anything. We're in a help, help situation right now I'm trying to focus on the positive things that are going on now. The Parks And recreation are holding the Easter Egg Hunt on April 13, 2019. I am grateful and thankful today and ask that in the midst of everything that we stay guided and just work together. Thank you.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for coming out and staying. In the midst of all that's going on we've lost community members, not that they have moved away but they transitioned. I kind of put things into perspective and it makes you understand what's really important in life, and not that I don't care about whatever people feel about what we're doing on the Flats, but because I know why we're doing what we're doing. I'm not taken by the emails we received I'm not moved by them. I am concerned about my community. The people we have lost in this community weren't just people who come out the door and go to work and go home. These are people who were involved in our community and for me to be distracted with somebody's displeasure of a vote I made and I know I made it for the right reasons. It's not going to happen at all, for those who emailed us about the staging and the

displeasure with it and saying oh it's because the Coatesville need, you need money. Well if you're aware that we need and you feel we need money, why don't you go wait until we go find some? Somebody comes to the City to stage. Why not reach out to the City and you know we have a shortcoming, is there something I can help you with. I mean don't come saying, oh poor Coatesville now, because somebody steps up and says if I'm allowed to use your lot, I'll pay for it. We are people with hearts, so don't look down on us when we try to help ourselves especially if you're not going to help us up. That's basic bottom line human nature. I personally voted when the RDA came to us and asked if we would allow these people to stage on the Flats, I said please proceed. I don't feel bad about my decision. I didn't make my decision to harm anybody. My decision was made to help my community and if I'm wrong for that, I'll take that knock, so be it. God Bless and have a good evening and by the grace of God, I'll see you at the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.