

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Regular Meeting  
May 11, 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, Bill Shaw, Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt, and Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones. Staff members present included Interim City Manager Michael O'Rourke, Finance Director John Marcarelli, City Solicitor John Carnes, and Police Chief John Laufer and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Lavender-Norris announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening May 11, 2015, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Mr. O'Rourke announced Mr. Hamrick and Mr. Simpson will not be in attendance this evening.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the April 27, 2015 meeting minutes with edits; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

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

There were no additions, deletions or modifications to the agenda at this time.

**Presentation**

1. Proclamation – Raider Starz, Youth Sparkles

President Lavender-Norris read the Proclamation for the Raider Starz Youth Sparkles. The Youth Sparkles won the Cheerleading US Nationals in Rhode Island. Each Member of Council read the name of a cheerleader or coach and presented them with a Proclamation. The Youth Starz cheered for Council, Staff and the audience and thanked the City.

2. "I am my Brother's Keeper" – Jonquil Patterson

Mr. Patterson asked City Council to join the 200 plus local officials across our nation by answering the President's call to become a "MBK Community" With Council's approval, he stands ready and able to commitment to these efforts through AmeriCorps, which means no cost to the City, but a high impact on our community. A well-defined, synergistic, and streamlined approach to implementing systematic change can yield long-term solutions.

On February 27, 2014, President Barack Obama launched "My Brother's Keeper" (MBK) and issued a powerful all to action to close opportunity gaps still faced by too many young people, and often by boys and young men of color in particular. The President's announcement encouraged candid dialogues around the country and a greater sense of responsibility among community leaders, and young people themselves to put all youth in a position to thrive, regardless of their race, gender of socioeconomic status. Over the course of the past year, efforts have advanced along three areas of focus based on the goals laid out in the MBK Presidential

Memorandum: state and local engagement, private sector action – independent nonprofit, philanthropic and corporate action; and public policy review and reform.

3. OpportUNITY Inc. – Pastor Rodriguez and President Webb

Pastor Rodriguez announced the Hispanic community is growing. The Hispanic community is a growing community. He feels the community has failed the needs of the City of Coatesville. It is time for a positive and social change in the City. Training faith includes more than faith in the church, but also faith in the community.

William Webb, President, spoke about the integrating spirituality and human services to help people of faith within the Hispanic community.

The vision for opportunity, Inc. is to form alliances to address the lack of housing and employment, locally first, then ultimately globally. The mission is to encourage and inspire all communities to humanitarian action and foster economic empowerment, advancement and achievement. The purpose upon of the legacy of Richard Allen and Rev. Leon Sullivan aspiring to restore dignity, upgrade the social status, and promote civil engagement for and within the African American and Hispanic communities.

The Overarching Goal: To assist others in creating and distributing wealth through the implementation of training programs and brokerage of human services for personal and vocational success through spiritual implications and cooperative economics.

The charge is to build human, social, and economic capital within the African American and Hispanic communities by undertaking massive public housing projects that replace blighted areas, as well as, become a vehicle for employment and minority business ownership across the nation.

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

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

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Discussion Item**

1. Community Center

President Lavender-Norris announced the Community Center contracts expired in 2013 and have been going on a month to month basis. Each entity was provided 30 days' notice. The center was supposed to be closed, but has continued to be open for events. There was no staff in the budget for the Community Center the person opening and closing was the person hired for part-time parks. The person is no longer opening the center. President Lavender-Norris will continue to open the center until June 1. Council suggested seeking viable business plans for the Community Center. The City cannot financially maintain the Community Center but will continue to look for grants and entertain business plans (that will financially cover the expenses for the building).

2. Discuss 2015 Vehicle release

Mr. Marcarelli announced the City is planning on acquiring two new vehicles through lease financing and is soliciting proposals for leasing. The City will obtain ownership upon final

payment and termination of lease. All leases will have a one dollar (\$1.00) buy-out provisional the end of the lease term. The vehicles are being acquired through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania CO-STARS cooperative purchasing program. The vehicles are two (2) 2015 Ford interceptors for the Police Department. Proposals are due May 15, 2015.

### **Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider second reading and adoption an Ordinance amending language in Chapter 108 Fees of the Code of the City of Coatesville, to identify that the penalty provision for allowing “illegal occupancy” shall apply to the rental of a unit without a prior inspection and the rental of a unit without prior licensing: spate violations will be addressed with separate non-cumulative penalties..

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve second reading and adoption an Ordinance amending language in Chapter 108 Fees of the Code of the City of Coatesville, to identify that the penalty provision for allowing “illegal occupancy” shall apply to the rental of a unit without a prior inspection and the rental of a unit without prior licensing: separate violations will be addressed with separate non-cumulative penalties. Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Receive and consider second reading and adoption an Ordinance amending Chapter 136 “Housing Standards” to address leasing licenses by identifying that the penalty for allowing “Illegal Occupancy” shall apply to the rental of a unit without a prior inspection and without prior licensing (as well as separate penalties if only lack of inspection or lack of license is at issue)

Mrs. Hunt made a motion second reading and adoption an Ordinance amending Chapter 136 “Housing Standards” to address leasing licenses by identifying that the penalty for allowing “Illegal Occupancy” shall apply to the rental of a unit without a prior inspection and without prior licensing (as well as separate penalties if only lack of inspection or lack of license is at issue); Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Receive and consider a Resolution authorizing Johnson Controls to obtain an operational analysis and benchmark analysis of the City’s energy usage

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Resolution authorizing Johnson Controls to obtain an operational analysis and benchmark analysis of the City’s energy usage; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Receive and consider Fireworks proposals

Mrs. Hunt made a motion East Coast Pyrotechnics for the July 11<sup>th</sup> Celebration and inquire about smokeless fireworks; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Solicitors Report**

Mr. Carnes stated he has worked on various matters involving litigation and assisted the City in its interpretation of codes, rules and regulations.

### **City Manager’s Report**

Mr. O’Rourke announced the Codes Department is currently working on the owners affidavits forms for property managers. The City Manager resumes and answers to the questionnaires have been provided to Council for their review. He will review and then provide his recommendations. The narrative for the Early Intervention Grant is in process.

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

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

### **Special Events**

There were no special events at this time.

### **Council Comments**

Mr. Shaw thanked Mr. Marcarelli and staff for doing a great job following the budgetary guidelines within their departments. He commended Mr. Marcarelli and his department for the perfect record from the PA General auditors of the liquid fuels reports. Mr. Marcarelli stated he would forward the message to his department. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Hope everyone had a good mother's day and grandmother's day. I am a very particular old fashioned person, so my views may be quite different from everyone else's, but a lot of people are like me. She quoted the Pa Constitution Article I § 8 (and the Fourth Amendment), 11 years older than the US Constitution. "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." She rests her case.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Get ready for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration to be held on July 11, 2015. The date is the following weekend to give other communities the opportunity to attend. There will be fireworks, vendors, bounces, Gospel segment, DJ's, etc... It is going to be a great day. Thank you.

Vice President Lawson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked and congratulated the chief and members of the department who were honored with the Healthy Hero Award at the YMCA Healthy Kids Day at Ash Park. The annual presentation is made to an individual who is "passionately taking action towards promoting health and wellness and creating a healthy community in the Coatesville area." She thanked Sergeant Ollis and asked him to thank his wife and daughter for taking time out and weeding around the "Welcome to the City of Coatesville" sign on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. She announced she was honored with the Hometown Hero Award. She explained that last week, PAWC hit her gas line while they were working on her street. There needs to be more care and more concern given before opening up the streets. The people were rude and inconsiderate to her and her husband regarding the matter. She was concerned for her dogs. What if her children were home? What if something happened to her home? What about her neighbors? We need to pay better attention.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished everyone a good evening. God Bless and Be Safe!

### **Adjournment**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.