

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
May 26, 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, Mrs. Carmen Green 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 26, 2015, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Mr. O'Rourke announced Mrs. Hunt will not be in attendance this evening.

Approval of Minutes:

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve the May 11, 2015 meeting minutes; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0-1. Mrs. Green abstained from the vote.

Approval of Accounts Payable

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve the accounts payables' Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0-1. Mrs. Green abstained from the vote.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Vice President Lawson made a motion to add Presentation 4.3) Poets from Coatesville Centennial Celebration and 4.4) Coatesville Centennial Logo winner; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Presentation

1. Swearing In – Carmen Green, 4th Ward Council Member
Mrs. Green was sworn in by the Honorable Judge Hines as her husband held the bible.
2. I Am My Brother's Keeper – Mildred Dixon, CEO/Founder
Ms. Dixon explained she is the CEO/Founder of I am my brother's keeper. The presentation the week prior was not associated with her entity.
3. Coatesville Centennial Poets
Aja Thompson, Coatesville Youth Initiative and Aadil Malik, Bypassed: The Coatesville Project, read their poems from the Coatesville Centennial Kick-off celebration. Council thaned them for their beautiful poetry about the City.
4. Coatesville Centennial Logo winner
Syndey Tushar showed the picture of the new centennial logo. Council congratulated and thanked Ms. Tushar on her win. The logo will be on banners placed along Lincoln Highway.

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

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

Discussion Item

1. Discuss chickens to caged birds

Vice President Lawson announced several residents have questioned her about raising chickens in the City. Keeping a few hens in your backyard will give you fresh eggs that are significantly more nutritious than what you normally buy at the supermarket. A healthy adult hen generally lays up to 300 eggs a year. While the idea of raising chickens may not be appealing to some, the fact is that they are no more likely to cause noise or odor problems than any other pet. Most cities that allow raising chickens still won't allow roosters because they often crow loudly at dawn. Some people might think that a rooster is necessary in order to have eggs, but hens will actually lay eggs without one.

2. Yard of the week initiative

Vice President Lawson presented the idea of a "yard of the week initiative" The yard of the week would promote safer, cleaner and healthier neighborhoods through friendly competition! It's about making people feel good about who they are and where they live. It's about igniting those "inside forces" that bring success and happiness! Where negative elements like litter, loitering, poor public service, crime, violence, drug and gang activity exist to tear down communities, our aim is to empower residents to take back control of their streets, one yard at a time. A sign for the yard of the week winner will be placed in their front yard. Each ward will be represented separately. Council agreed.

3. Discuss Redevelopment Authority note and interest deferral

Mr. Simpson explained the City and the Redevelopment Authority work together with development projects in the City. There are regulations the RDA can put on the developers in which the City is unable. The Redevelopment Authority is a big part of the Train Station development and the projected development of 1st Avenue.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider Kevin Towles for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the term 2014-2017

Mr. Towles was not in attendance. Council agreed that Mr. Towles will need to reapply for the Board.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to appoint Kevin Towles for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the term 2014-2017; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion failed 0-6.

2. Receive and consider agreement with the Management service contract between Brandywine YMCA and the City of Coatesville regarding operation of the Ash Park Community Pool.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the agreement with the Management service contract between Brandywine YMCA and the City of Coatesville regarding operation of the Ash Park Community Pool; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1-0. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote.

3. Receive and consider second reading and adoption an Ordinance establishing a fee schedule under Chapter 108-1 (K.1) Public Works fees to cover the costs associated with Public Works projects in the City.

Vice president Lawson made a motion to approve second reading and adoption an Ordinance establishing a fee schedule under Chapter 108-1 (K.1) Public Works fees to cover the costs associated with Public Works projects in the City; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Receive and consider a Resolution and declaration of official intent to enter Lease/Financing
Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve a Resolution and declaration of official intent to enter lease/financing; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

5. Receive and consider an Ordinance authorizing the City of Coatesville to enter into a “Bank Qualified” lease agreement with the First Niagara Leasing Inc. for purposes of acquiring two police vehicles for the use of City pursuant to a COSTAR contract exempt from public bidding and with no pledge of full faith and credit taxing power of the City as security for repayment, a non-appropriate clause which terminates the lease if payments are not appropriated by the City and containing payment terms which are less in duration that the useful life of the vehicles being leased, said agreement to require interest payments at rates set forth in the attachment for a 3 year term for a maximum lease amount of \$76,786.08

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve a first reading an Ordinance authorizing the City of Coatesville to enter into a “Bank Qualified” lease agreement with the First Niagara Leasing Inc. for purposes of acquiring two police vehicles for the use of City pursuant to a COSTAR contract exempt from public bidding and with no pledge of full faith and credit taxing power of the City as security for repayment, a non-appropriate clause which terminates the lease if payments are not appropriated by the City and containing payment terms which are less in duration that the useful life of the vehicles being leased, said agreement to require interest payments at rates set forth in the attachment for a 3 year term for a maximum lease amount of \$76,786.08; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

6. Receive and consider Cohen Law Group and Carlson, Lynch Sweet & Kilpela to represent the City of Coatesville in Verizon claim

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve Cohen Law Group and Carlson, Lynch, Sweet and Kilpela to represent the City of Coatesville in the Verizon claim; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

7. Receive and consider extension of the Redevelopment Authority Promissory Note for 5 years ending December 31, 2019 and defer interest payment for the year 2015.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve and extension of the Redevelopment Authority Promissory Note for five years ending December 31, 2019 and defer the interest payment for the year 2015; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

8. Receive and consider letter of support for the US Soccer Foundation to operate its effective group mentoring program “Soccer for Success”.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve a letter of support for the US Soccer Foundation to operate its effective group mentoring program “Soccer for Success”; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced the 2nd Reading and adoption for the parking tickets will be presented at the next meeting. A Resolution accepting a lease purchase agreement with First Niagara to acquire new police vehicles was approved. The second reading of the Ordinance for authorizing the financing in accordance with the City Code will be on the next agenda with edits. An ordinance has been prepared to address the

use of administrative search warrants in circumstances where there have been code violations within the City and a search without permission is authorized by a warrant.

City Manager's Report

Mr. O'Rourke announced he provided Council with the Codes department reports. The Chief and Lieutenant are working on logs for the Public Works department employees. The Police and Fire Department will be providing monthly reports not bi-weekly. Mr. O'Rourke stated he is working on reviewing the City Manager resumes and will provide a summary of his thoughts on the candidates. The EIP Grant is in the works. The energy saving project is moving forward, the review of the bills has been completed, now the company would like a site visit. The recycling totes are being delivered to the city and will be distributed to the residents starting June 8, 2015. Council asked Mr. O'Rourke to review the Solid Waste contract. Mr. O'Rourke announced he will provide information on the Fire Chief recruitment at the next meeting.

Council appointed Mrs. Green as the Council Liaison for the Fire Department.

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

Ted Skiadas

Mr. Skiadas announced the alley at Walnut Street and 1st Avenue is in bad condition. He voiced his concerns on the inconsistency of the fees for Use and Registration and follow up inspections.

John Pawlowski

Mr. Pawlowski announced the first Gazebo will be placed along the Riverwalk in a couple of weeks. He voiced his concerns regarding one of the Flags place along Lincoln Highway was cut down. The Flag was between 4th and 5th Avenue & Lincoln Highway.

Bill Shaw

Mr. Shaw stated he believes in divine purpose in every circumstance and wanted to address each person. He congratulated Carmen on winning the Council seat. He was going to make a joke that Mrs. Jones should be more talkative, but she has been talkative this evening. Ed, you have been through a lot the last couple of months. Thank you for persevering and continuing the good fight. Mrs. Hunt, I respect your courage as a leader. Marie, you channel energy from your kindergarteners and carry it out. It was a pleasure working with you. Linda, you are a servant leader, and continue to come out with the good things. Joe, you are an American hero and hero to the City. Thank you for your service. Mr. O'Rourke, thank you for your professionalism and experience. Chief Laufer, thank you for taking the Department and working together in a professional manner. Ruthann, keep chugging along. Johnny Law and Johnny Cash, it has been a pleasure to work with you. Thank you and I will continue to bless the City. President Lavender-Norris thanked Mr. Shaw for his service to the City. By no means can you crawl back into the woodwork.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Hamrick thanked everyone for attending the meeting. In the last election, there were two great candidates. Congratulation to Mrs. Green for her win. HE apologized for missing the last meeting, he was in France.

Mrs. Green said she is glad to be here and thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She vows to be open and transparent. She is looking forward to work with moving the City onward. Hope we can work together.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Kudos to Mrs. Green for stepping up again. The tip for the day is: Ask everyone to kindly teach all our little people how to think, not what to think.

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated Memorial g=day was yesterday and to keep in mind the reason why we are here today, because of the people who are and who have fought for us.

Vice President Lawson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She welcomes everyone to attend the cleanups on June 6 and June 13, 2015. A few weeks ago, PAWC hit a gas line going to her home. A neighbor has a porta-potty in his yard. Someone is tipping over the porta-potty at night. PAWC should be more aware of the impact they have on the community and its residents.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. We appreciate you and don't stop coming! Council accepts input and criticism to help make the proper changes. Please don't hesitate to bring issues to City Council.

Adjournment

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.