

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Regular Meeting  
June 22, 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, 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 June 22, 2015, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

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**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the June 8, 2015 meeting minutes; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

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

Mrs. Green made a motion to add regular action item 8) Open solicitation for City Manager for an additional two weeks; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Vice president Lawson made a motion to add Special Event 2) First Baptist Church of Passtown host a carnival at Gateway Park; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

**Presentation**

1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Jarrett Jackson

Mr. Jarrett explained the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Parks and Recreation Commission are having a difficult time scheduling meetings at times that work for everybody. He asked to merge the two groups temporarily to allow them to combine their resources and expedite making recommendations to City Council. As it sits now, the Advisory Board meets and forwards recommendations to the Recreation Commission and the Commission will make the recommendation to City Council. Ms. Urban explained the Parks and Recreation Commission has lack of participation and low membership. There are currently two members attempting to meet. Ms. Salinas explained that given the current capacity of the two groups individually, they are unable to accomplish their basic tasks.

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

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

Mr. Simpson made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

### **Discussion Item**

1. Discuss Community Center Fees

Vice President Lawson asked for the item to be placed on the agenda. The Community Center is currently closed. The City still pays for the utilities. She suggested opening the Community Center for events charging \$50.00 per hour and the \$150.00 security deposit. . We should encourage the use of the Community Center. The entities in the City and surrounding municipalities have raised the prices for their events in their buildings. Mrs. Green explained the building has a lot of meaning in it. The City spent a lot of money renovating the building years ago. Mr. Hamrick stated the costs for running the center will need to be covered by the fees charged. Council asked Mr. Marcarelli to provide them with a cost schedule for the Community Center usage.

2. Discuss 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue Pool

Vice President Lawson asked for the item to be placed on the agenda. She explained she has received several questions about the sprinklers (splash pad) on the Riverwalk and the 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue pool. The splash pad requires parts and may not be up and running this year. The 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue pool is in need of major repairs. She asked for a breakdown of these repairs and costs to fix the pool. The City has received notice of entities willing to help get the pool up and running. President Lavender-Norris suggested fundraisers to help get the funding for the repairs and maintenance.

3. Discuss information regarding the 2015 Solid Waste billing

Mr. Marcarelli announced the Solid Waste Bills will be mailed July 1, 2015. Customers will be a bale to pay the annual fee over four equal installments. Any payment is late will incur a \$28.00 late penalty fee. The City staff has worked diligently to get the Solid Waste billing records up to date. Mr. Marcarelli thanked Mr. Evans for his assistance. We will be reviewing all prior SW records to determine the delinquent status of customers and pursuing outstanding balances. For rental properties, the City may revoke the rental license for any properties that have delinquent trash fees, as well as taxes.

### **Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider Garry Alderman for the position of Interim Fire Chief

Mr. Simpson made a motion to appoint Garry Alderman as the part-time Interim Fire Chief at \$36.00 per hour; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote.

Mr. Alderman said he is glad to be back in the City of Coatesville. He is excited to work with the Fire Department staff and volunteers.

2. Receive and consider Nick Saites for the position of Interim Public Works Director

Mr. Simpson made a motion to appoint Nick Saites as the part time Interim Public Works Director at \$36.00 per hour; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Mrs. Jones was the dissenting vote.

3. Receive and consider first reading an Ordinance amending Chapter 218-Vehicle and Traffic for the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania  
Vice president Lawson made a motion to approve first reading an Ordinance amending Chapter 218-Vehicle and Traffic (No Parking on Coronet Drive between Regency Drive and Coronet Drive) for the City of Coatesville, Chester County; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
4. Receive and consider Resolution designating the signatories for the PennDot agreement to authorize electronic access to PennDot Systems  
Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the Interim City Manager and Executive Assistant as signatories for the PennDot agreement to authorize electronic access to PennDot systems; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
5. Receive and consider approval of the licensing agreement to provide temporary parking for Senior Center.  
Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the licensing agreement to provide temporary parking for the Senior Center; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
6. Receive and consider authorization to pay the 2015 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) via wire transfer to PNC Bank for the total principal amount of \$1,200,000.00 plus interest  
Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve paying the 2015 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) via wire transfer to PNC Bank for the total principal amount of \$1,200,000.00 plus interest; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
7. Receive and consider to temporarily combine the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Parks and Recreation Commission to perform their outlined duties (including, but not limited to: Spring Cleanup; Easter Egg Hunt; Kite Day; and the Halloween Parade); until the groups are able to build the necessary capacity to sustain their respective duties  
Mr. Hamrick made a motion to temporarily combine the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and the Parks and Recreation Commission to perform their outlined duties (including, but not limited to: Spring Cleanup; Easter Egg Hunt; Kite Day; and the Halloween Parade); until the groups are able to build the necessary capacity to sustain their respective duties and appoint Kimberly Urban and Jay Byerly to fulfill the resident terms on the Advisory Board; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
8. Receive and consider open solicitation for a new City Manager for an additional two weeks  
Mrs. Green made a motion to open solicitation for a new City Manager for an additional two weeks ending on July 6, 2015; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

*Mr. Simpson excused himself from the meeting at 8:50 pm.*

### **Solicitors Report**

Mr. Carnes announced the forms for the Family Dollar Store are being finalized. He met with the Coatesville Area Senior Center and the City Manager and prepared a lease agreement to supply parking while the Senior Center takes action for an special exception to reduce the number of parking spaces required. He prepared an ordinance to address the use of Administrative Search warrants in circumstances where there have been codes violations within the City and a search

without permission is authorized by a warrant. He 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 provided Council with the Codes and Public Works Department reports. He will be sending them via email from this point on unless a Council members would like them in paper format. There will be a special meeting on Monday June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm to award the recipient of the consultant for the parking Study. He is currently working on the labor counsel RFP. He announced Mr. Simpson took Mr. Baise around the City for the energy savings audit.

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

Fran Scammuffa

Ms. Scamuffa voiced her concerns about the crime recently in the West End. She asked for a car to monitor 5<sup>th</sup> and Madison more frequently.

Paul Dodson

Mr. Dodson voiced his concerns regarding the installation of the pressure valve in the building.

David DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone voiced his concerns regarding the overgrown grass on the Dollar Store lot.

Rita Misero

Ms. Misero voiced her concerns regarding the City's elimination of financial support of the Coatesville Link. She read a public notice posted in the buses stating the "Coatesville Link in danger of major services reduction."

Helen Walls

Ms. Walls voiced her concerns regarding the Coatesville Link. Many seniors use the link to get to the Senior Center.

*Mrs. Lawson excused herself from the meeting at 9:20 pm.*

Ronald Petty

Mr. Petty voiced his concerns regarding the Coatesville Link. Many veterans are dependent on the link to get to their appointments at the VA.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans questioned Mr. Carnes and Mr. O'Rourke questions about the Codes Department investigation.

Joe Leofsky

Mr. Leofsky questioned the monies lost due to assessment appeals. Everything is delayed, time is money.

Paul Trizonis

Mr. Trizonis voiced his concerns regarding the crime in the West End and the need for cameras. He suggested getting ideas for funding.

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

### **Special Events**

1. Receive and consider a Special Event application from the Freedom Life Christian Center for an Athletic event July 15, 2015 to July 18, 2015 from 1pm to 5pm at Ash Park Basketball Courts.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the Special Event application from the Freedom Life Christian Center for an Athletic event July 15, 2015 to July 18, 2015 from 1pm to 5pm at Ash Park Basketball Courts; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Receive and consider a Special Event application from First Baptist Church of Passtown for a Carnival at Gateway Park from August 25, 2015 to August 29, 2015.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Special Event application from First Baptist Church of Passtown for a Carnival at Gateway Park from August 25, 2015 to August 29, 2015 pending proof of liability insurance; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Council Comments**

Mr. Hamrick thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked Mr. Evans, Mr. Leofsky and Mr. Dodson for their help in the City. Mr. Hamrick stated Council agrees about the cameras. He thanked Chief Laufer for his work in the Police Department. It is the best Police Department in a long time.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She hopes all the gentlemen had a Happy and Prosperous Father's Day. She quoted "Make failure your teacher, not your undertaker" by Zig Zigler.

Mrs. Green thanked everyone for attending the meeting and is glad you're around. She asked people to continue with the good communication. It takes a minute for things to happen. Council is committed to improving the City. We are welcoming all new types of development whether business or residential. Be patient, we are heading in the right direction..

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. It is good to see everyone. She echoed Mrs. Green. We continue to work together, to keep things moving.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She welcomed Mr. Alderman and looks forward to working with him. She thanked staff and the residents. We will not agree on everything, but we will agree on something. We have the City's best interest at heart. "We are what we're waiting for!"

### **Adjournment**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.