

MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA 19320  
July 10, 2017

Vice President Lawson called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President C. Arvilla Hunt, Vice President Marie Lawson, Mssrs, Edward Simpson, Joseph Hamrick, Mrs. Carmen Green, Mrs. Linda Lavender-Norris and Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones. Staff members present included City Manager Michael Trio, City Solicitor John Carnes, Police Chief John Laufer, Finance Department Joe Egan, Codes Department Scott Mulderig and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Hunt announced an executive session was held earlier this evening July 10, 2017 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

President Hunt announced Mr. Simpson would not be in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the June 26, 2017 meeting minutes; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

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

Mrs. Green made a motion to table action item 3) Receive and consider Credit Card Policy; 4) Receive and consider Facsimile Signature Policy; 5) Receive and consider Resolution for selling property on Municibid; Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1. Mr. Hamrick was the dissenting vote.

Mrs. Green made a motion to add action item 3) Receive and consider Kareem Johnson as Constable; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Presentations**

1. WCCCOG report for June

Vice President Lawson announced Lanchester landfill is still accepting Televisions. She asked Mr. Carnes if the Flood Plain Ordinance is done. Mr. Carnes explained First Reading for the Flood Ordinance will be considered during the first meeting in August. Vice President Lawson announced there will be no meeting in July.

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

Laurie Shannon-Bailey

Ms. Shannon-Bailey inquired about discussion item 5 and 6 regarding high grass and road conditions. She is in support of the efforts to beautify the City. There is a nasty pothole in the alley behind 131 South Third Avenue.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans asked when the last set of minutes will be posted on the website.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance authorizing the lease of the Olivet United Methodist Church parking lot located at North Third Avenue (Tax Parcel No. 16-5-88) pursuant to a long term (30 year) lease

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance authorizing the lease of the Olivet United Methodist Church parking lot located at North Third Avenue (Tax Parcel No. 16-5-88) pursuant to a long term (30 year) lease; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Receive and consider honorable discharge of Firefighter Michael Pawlowski to disability pension  
Mr. Carnes explained Mr. Pawlowski is currently out on disability. The City and Mr. Pawlowski have reached an agreement regarding the honorable discharge to disability pension.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the honorable discharge of Firefighter Michael Pawlowski to disability pension; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Receive and consider Kareem Johnson as Constable

Mr. Hamrick explained Mr. Johnson was voted for Constable in the election and previously was a constable.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve Kareem Johnson as Constable; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to close regular action items; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Discussion Item**

1. Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hamrick asked the Chief about providing better information on the tickets for citizens. Chief Laufer stated he would look into it.

2. Council Packets

Mrs. Green asked for the packets to be more informative, more documentation. The packets used to be more informative with all the relevant information for each item. Mrs. Lavender-Norris asked for more supporting information.

3. Advertising and signs ordinance

Vice President Lawson asked about advertising and the sign ordinance on what is permitted and what is not. Mr. Mulderig explained the sign cannot block the pedestrians and must be anchored down. Mrs. Lavender-Norris asked to provide a copy of the code to all the businesses. Mrs. Green stated we need to provide the businesses with the information so they have a better understanding. Mr. Mulderig announced no citations have been issued for sign violations.

4. Oak Street and parking on 400 Block Oak

Vice President Lawson announced there was an accident on Oak Street. People are asking for the area on 400 Block of Oak Street to be one side parking, only one car can go thru at a time. It is very tight. Chief Laufer stated he would look into it. Which side of the street would be the side for parking? There are homes on both sides.

5. High grass city wide and instant ticketing update

Vice President Lawson announced there are a lot of places/properties that look like jungles. At Cambria Terrace, you cannot see the signs. President Hun stated Church Street & Lincoln Highway parking lot looks horrible; Fleetwood and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue grass is overgrown. Time limits need to be put on to get things done.

6. Road conditions – sink holes and uneven spaces

Vice President Lawson explained 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Walnut Street is roped off. South 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue there is a spot where the car sinks into. On Oak Street the pavement is sliding. Mrs. Lavender-Norris stated there are several issues on Coates Street. The entities fixing the roads need to be held accountable.

7. Certificate of appreciation

Vice President Lawson announced a car was broken down in the middle of an intersection. She stopped at Turkey Hill and two people came out along with herself and helped the people get the vehicle out of the intersection.

8. Certificate of Appreciation – Alpha Kappa Alpha – efforts in Palmer Park

Mrs. Lavender-Norris announced this the third year the sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha has cleaned up Palmer Park. They weed, purchase flowers, plant and mulch the park. We want to show them we appreciate them. President Hunt asked for information on Paul Palmer.

### **Solicitors Report**

Mr. Carnes announced he:

- Worked with the City Manager and the City team on the process of contracting the renovation of City Hall and the construction of District Court.
- Worked with the RDA and Olivet Methodist Church to revise the lease for the Olivet Methodist Church Parking Lot – for use by commuters, with repairs and improvements being supplied by grant funds.
- Reviewed various draft contracts and agreements and assisted with various miscellaneous matters involving litigation and enforcement and has assisted the City it's interpretation of codes, rules and regulations.

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

Mr. Trio announced:

- He will be on vacation the rest of the week.
- The bids for the renovation demolition is tomorrow July 11, 2017.
- City Hall will be relocation to the Benner Building by mid-August
- The Codes Department received \$18,000 in permit fees - \$4,000 net - \$1,700 in enforcement fines.
- Scott will get the quality of life issues addressed

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

#### Laurie Shannon-Bailey

Ms. Shannon-Bailey thanked everyone for being part of Unity event. It is good utilizing our tax dollars to unify the love for our City.

#### Fran Scamuffa

Ms. Scamuffa asked when the City will be getting an Assistant City Manager. She explained the City is diverse. She does not think there should be any racism, bigotry from any City Official at any time. Council asked Ms. Scamuffa to be more specific. She stated she would discuss with them after the meeting.

#### Joel "Fonix" Moreinjo

Mr. Moreinjo thanked the City for Unity Day. Ms. Shannon Bailey invited the motorcycle clubs to attend the event. We want to continue to make the City proud. He announced the club would like to have a block party for a brother that passed away. He offered the clubs services to help clean up the City.

Nick Panagakos

Mr. Panagakos asked for more police presence in Millview. There is dirt bikes, speeding, littering and loitering and tempers are getting high in the area. He asked for a little TLC in the area. Vice President Lawson inquired about the soccer goals at the field, the City will move them to Ash Park.

Kennya Dancell

Ms. Dancell asked that 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and Fleetwood Street be maintained. The grass and weeds are overgrown. It would be nice to see people held accountable.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans announced he has not seen any un registered bike riders. He hopes the tranquility continues. He asked Chief Laufer about a program in the Daily Local News. He hopes Finance gets the quarterly reporting done.

Deb Bookman

Ms. Bookman thanked everyone for attending Unity Day. It was the best one in 13 years. She saw so many Council Members, City Manager, Chief, Finance and Codes. It feels like the City is alive and moving forward in a positive way. She asked when posters will be up and advertising will begin for the Grand Prix. She asked where Commissions will meet during the renovation.

Jamond Harris

Mr. Harris asked if there are areas for atv's and dirt bikes to ride. He noticed there have been a lot of people riding on the streets, which is not something that he and his friends do. Council explained the City does not have land for bike trails. They asked Mr. Harris and his friends to set up a meeting with the Chief.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to close citizens' hearings on non-agenda items; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

**Special Events**

There were no special events at this time.

**Council Comments**

Mr. Hamrick thanked the Committee and volunteers for Community Unity Day. It turned out to be a great day and the fireworks were good. He thanked everyone who stepped up and spoke at the podium this evening.

Mrs. Green announced Unity Day was a big success. She stated Coatesville is a diverse Community and full of wonderful people who get along. Hopefully, Ms. Scamuffa what is out there is an

oversight and whatever someone has done, hope it is a misunderstanding. Diversity in the City is an added benefit. Thank you for coming out to the meeting.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting and sticking it out until the end. It is good to see you. She attended Community Day for a little while off and on. Cannot stay out in sun for long periods of time due to health reasons. Unity Day was a nice little change. She told President Hunt that she may have information on Paul Palmer in her Black History Library at home. She quoted "In mass civil resistance leadership is essential. In individual civil disobedience every resistor is his own leader." By Mahatma Gandhi.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She asked Mr. Trio for an update on the pools. Mr. Trio explained he spoke to the third parties and explained the City does not have the funding to fix the pools. Mr. Johnson explained that Mr. Talucci came and looked at the pools and will be providing a cost for the repairs. There is a lot of work required to get the pools into compliance. The 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue pool should come out now. Mrs. Lavender-Norris explained that Palmer Park is being addressed. The pool is beyond repair. We are looking to go in another direction without the pool. The problems with pools closing is not just a problem in Coatesville. Pools are closing due to cost of running versus not enough revenue generated to maintain. There is not only diversity in the community but also there is diversity in my family also, it is who I am and I can joke about it all day long, I am not offended by that kind of stuff. We are not trying to get stuck in the negative light here, we are trying to accept one another for who we are, that make the difference, not the color. Thank you, have a good evening and God Bless.

Vice President Lawson everyone for coming to Unity Day. She has never seen as much positive press in the City for one event before. She explained she was so worried about having a new fireworks company. Wow, people were impressed with the new company. The fireworks were brighter. We are going to start planning next month for next year's event. Not wait until next year. There is a new company in the City and hopefully next year we will be able to host our own carnival. We support our own first, we support and work to keep it in our community. Thank you to the Motorcycle Club for bringing your bikes to Unity Day. She hopes the other bikers have a solution for riding their dirt bikes. Thank you to the Police Department, Public Works and the other departments who helped make Unity Day successful. Thank you staff for getting all the last minute stuff done.

President Hunt echoed Council's sentiments. She announced Layla Durrell is a State Finalist for the National US Miss Pre-Teen Pageant. Ms. Durrell is looking for sponsorship. If anyone is interested there are flyers available. She needs \$500 to qualify in the pageant. President Hunt announced Senior Day held by the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held at Ash Park on July 22, 2017 from 11 am to 2 pm. Kudos to everyone for Unity Day.

## **Adjournment**

Mrs. Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 pm; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.