

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Benner Building Auditorium, 545 East Lincoln Highway Coatesville, PA 19320
September 11, 2017

Vice President Lawson called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were Vice President Marie Lawson, Mssrs, Edward Simpson, Joseph Hamrick, Mrs. Linda Lavender-Norris, Mrs. Carmen Green 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, Fire Chief Garry Alderman, Codes Department Scott Mulderig and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

Vice President Lawson announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening September 11, 2017 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Vice President Lawson announced President Hunt will not be in attendance.

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the August 28, 2017 meeting minutes; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Accounts Payable

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

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

Presentations

1. Swearing in – Full Time Firefighter Joshua Schreiber

Chief Alderman provided a back ground on Firefighter Schreiber. Vice President Lawson read the Oath of Office.

Firefighter Schreiber was sworn in as his son held the bible by the Honorable Judge Grover Koon.

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

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

Mrs. Green made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider Resolution for the Coatesville Invitational Vintage Grand Prix.

Vice President Lawson read the Resolution.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the Resolution for the Coatesville Invitational Grand Prix, Mrs. Lavender-Norris seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Branca provided a short video of last year's event and a brief overview of this year's event. Mr. Trio thanked everyone for all their help in setting up this year's event. Mr. Wood stated the importance of the event and how it has shone a bright light on the City.

Discussion Item

1. Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Green asked when the minutes from previous meetings will be posted on the website. Mrs. Mowday explained the minutes will be posted on Tuesday. The previous minutes required edits pertaining to who made motions, the information was received earlier that day. Mr. Trio explained the information will be posted with up to date information. Mrs. Green asked for the minutes to be posted on the website the day after approved at a meeting.

2. 2nd Quarter finance reporting

Mr. Hamrick announced the 2nd quarter finance meeting with the liaisons was held on September 8, 2017. Mr. Egan announced that the City is within budget of all funds. There are a few large expenses coming up which were in the budget such as \$1.2 million for the pensions. Mr. Hamrick stated that Ms. Gattuso has been working with the departments on their budgets. Mrs. Green thanked the Finance Department and appreciates all the work done to provide Council with up to date reports.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced:

- City Hall Renovations – A special public meeting was advertised and held on Tuesday August 22, 2017 at which time the lowest responsible bidder for the demolition work was accepted and the contract was approved with an addendum thereto requiring the use of local labor. The other construction work prime bids for General Contractor, Electrical, Plumbing, and HVAC are out to bid with bids due to be received on September 14, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. so that the construction can directly follow the demolition work. The bids require the use of 30% local labor (i.e., employees, tradespersons, laborers) from the 19320 Zip Code.
- Floodplain Ordinance – The Flood Plain Ordinance has been forwarded to the DCED to establish compliance with FEMA and a certified copy is being sent to the County Planning Commission within 30 days of passage in accordance with the Municipalities Planning Code.
- Filed a challenge to the tax exemption claimed by the CYWA with respect to property located at 744 Merchant Street with the Chester County Tax Assessment Appeals Board.
- Filed an appeal from the award of tax exemption to the Home of the Sparrow by the Tax Assessment Appeals Board relative to property located at 1242 East Lincoln Highway in the City of Coatesville and taken further action in support of such appeal.
- Reviewed various draft contracts and agreements and assisted with various miscellaneous matters involving litigation and enforcement and has assisted the City in its interpretation of codes, rules and regulations and involving various personnel matters.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Trio announced:

- City Hall renovations are underway and demolition is continuing and expected to be completed by this week.
- Code Enforcement – 87 permits (including 49 rental permits) were issued in April 2017 resulting in \$7,096.00 of permit fees.
- Attended a board meeting and presented a Blight Program update with Scott Mulderig
- Received about 15 resumes for the Assistant City Manager position.

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

Steven Lamb

Mr. Lamb questioned the Chief regarding his vehicle that was impounded and released on the same day and he was not notified. The fee is now \$1,600. The Chief explained the vehicle was towed by Flings Towing and arrangements could have been made to have it picked up by the family. Vice President Lawson explained City Council cannot encroach into the legal matter. Mr. Lamb asked City Council to go to the jail cells and look into their conditions.

Connie Ellis

Ms. Ellis thanked Public Works for the nice service on 1st Avenue. There is a problem at the park where children are throwing sticks and rocks on the pavilions. She resigned from the Parks and Recreation Commission and would like an apology for being called a liar at one of the meetings by a Council member. She voiced her concerns regarding the problem with theft at the Family Dollar Store.

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

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Hamrick thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He announced that he is attending the annual 9/11 ceremony held at Gateway Park. The ceremony was very nice.

Mrs. Green thanked everyone for attending the meeting. We had a nice visit from the Governor and am excited about the City. It was a very eventful summer and it looks like the Grand Prix is going to be bigger this year.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting, it is appreciated. A special thanks to Josh Schreiber, very thankful he was hired fulltime. He is one of the firefighters that assisted with the Hunt's fire years ago. She quoted "The secret to change is to focus all of the energy, not on fighting the old, but building the new." by Socrates.

Mrs. Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Appreciate the Governor's visit, he shined a lot of hope for us. It was a wonderful day interacting with the community. We are in a good space as long as we work together. I appreciate fellow Council and Administration, we have come a long way. We have made a difference. She announced the Laborers Union meeting where you can go to discuss learning trades and apprenticeship opportunities.

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting with Governor was very encouraging. On September 21st, Cocktails with Coatesville will be held by Crosby Wood. The Grand Prix event will be on September 23rd. It will be a great day.

Vice President Lawson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked her fellow council members for filling in the gaps and attending the meetings. Would like to be on the Grand Prix committee but meetings are held during the day. I look forward to the event this year. Thank you and have a good night.

Adjournment

Mrs. Lavender-Norris made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.