

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 9, 2015

Call to Order

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Linda Lavender-Norris, Vice President Marie Lawson, Mssr, Joseph Hamrick, Mrs. Carmen Green, Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones, and Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt. Staff members present included City Manager Michael Trio, City Solicitor John Carnes, and Police Chief John Laufer and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Lavender-Norris announced an Executive Session was held on November 9, 2015 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

President Lavender-Norris announced Mr. Simpson would not be in attendance this evening.

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Green made a motion to approve the October 26, 2015 meeting minutes; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0-1. Mrs. Jones abstained due to her absence.

Approval of Accounts Payable

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve accounts payables; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

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

Presentation

There was no presentation at this time.

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

Michael Robinson

Mr. Robinson questioned the approval of the minutes. President Lavender-Norris explained this is not a regular action item. She asked him to sign up for the citizens non action items.

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

Discussion Item

1. Discuss Adopt-A-Wreath

Vice President Lawson announced the City has 100 wreaths that stretch bridge to bridge. The adopt-a-wreath program will be held on November 14, 2015 from 12 pm to 4 pm at the Coatesville Memorial Community Center. Come out and decorate a wreath with your friends! You can have your name placed on the wreath for a small donation of \$10.00.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider proposal for professional engineering service from Cedarville Engineering Group, LLC for Comprehensive Capital Improvements Program

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve a proposal for professional engineering service from Cedarville Engineering Group, LLC for Comprehensive Capital Improvements Program; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

2. Receive and consider USEPA Urban Waters Small Grants Program proposed by Cedarville Engineering.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the USEPA Urban Waters Small Grants Program proposed by Cedarville Engineering; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Receive and consider Central Chester County Recycling Authority request for 2016 share of \$2,000 to help maintain equipment at the composting facility and recycling center.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve the Central Chester County Recycling Authority request for 2016 share of \$2,000 to help maintain equipment at the composting facility and recycling center; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Receive and consider a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant of up to \$3.0 million from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to be used for improvements to Route 82, and related infrastructure and streetscape improvements

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant of up to \$3.0 million from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to be used for improvements to Route 82, and related infrastructure and streetscape improvements; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced a Resolution was passed authorizing signature of plans and development agreements upon finalization for the Family Dollar Store. The developer's attorneys have stated that they will be supplying the requested documents on Friday, November 6, 2015.

The City Solicitor has advertised the Emergency Ordinance to withdraw \$140,000.00 from the Reserve Trust Fund to pay for the emergency repair to the City Hall Roof - with funds to be repaid to the Trust. As an emergency Ordinance this does not require a second reading as it lapses after 31 days without further action being taken.

Trash Ordinance - The City Solicitor is moving forward with the preparation of a draft Ordinance to address commercial trash fees per parcel. This will connect the trash fee to the benefited property and provide enforceability and responsibility for the property owner. Additionally, revisions are being drafted to address a \$5.00 pre-payment discount for trash fees.

Assisted Linda Grant, Human Resources Manager in obtaining Insurance Certificates for use of parking lots on Heritage Day.

The City Solicitor has worked on various matters involving litigation and assisted the City in its interpretation of codes, rules and regulations.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Trio announced he attended the PELRAS Association of Professional Municipal Managers (APMM). The meeting was helpful to get up to date on various managerial rules and regulations.

The Landlord meeting was successful, put together initiatives to work with the City and the Codes Department. There were 15 – 17 landlords in attendance.

The RDA has issued an RFP for site characterization and environmental assessment for the 1st and Lincoln project.

We are working with Johnson Controls to get better lighting for safer streets and half the cost.

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

Michael Brown

Mr. Brown voiced his concerns regarding an incident involving name calling at the polls by a Councilman Simpson. He asked for the Councilman to step down. There must be a code of conduct. President Lavender-Norris explained that Council has no jurisdiction in requesting a council member to step down. Council is an elected official, at the polls are not in the capacity of an elected official but as a candidate. The Council does not govern the polls and the candidates. If a person has a problem with an occurrence at the poll, they should forward the issue to voter services. Council has no authority. Mrs. Green explained Council has no jurisdiction and the people should go to voters services and the Commissioners. Mrs. Hunt explained the people put Council in.

Alex Broussard

Mr. Broussard expressed his appreciation for Ms. Taggart.

Vanessa Toole

Did not speak at this time.

Grace Harvey

Did not speak at this time.

Melissa Lopez

Ms. Lopez voiced her concerns regarding the incident involving name calling at the polls by a Councilman Simpson. There was no need for that. The Councilman should have carried himself more professionally. Mrs. Green explained that she hopes the people in the polls stand by what was said when asked by voter services.

Cheryl Taggart

Ms. Taggart voiced her concerns regarding the incident at the polls where she was called names by Councilman Simpson. She was unaware of the incident until someone told her.

Bill Schoell

Mr. Schoell, Democratic Committee, thanked Council for letting him address them about the incident on Election Day. It will be addressed at the Democratic meeting and voter services. The Councilman was adamant and rude.

Emery Gigger

Mr. Gigger expressed his appreciation for Ms. Taggart.

Khadijah AlAmin

Ms. AlAmin announced she is here for informational purposes. She is on the Democratic Committees and was called to the Ward polls, she followed the proper procedures by calling the attorney's regarding the incident. The Councilman's behavior was uncalled for.

Michael Robinson

Mr. Robinson questioned the process for a formal complaint. He inquired about the reports he has submitted to the Police Department and previous City Manager. President Lavender-Norris told Mr. Robinson he could contact her to discuss the issues.

Paul Dodson

Mr. Dodson explained that he is having a problem with his dumpsters. People are placing the trash in the dumpster or next to the dumpsters. He was cited for a TV set that was left on his property.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She is encouraged by the attendance and would like to see this much attendance when there are not any issues.

Mrs. Jones stated it is good to be back in the saddle again. She thanked everyone for attending. It is good to see everyone in the good times, bad times, all times. She quoted "Strength of numbers is the delight of the timid. The Valiant in spirit glory in fighting alone."

Mrs. Green thanked the Chief, Lieutenant and Sergeant for their participation in the Police Forum. She appreciates their level of commitment. The Chief was open to any comments. She thanked Mr. Trio for moving forward with the meetings. She voiced her concerns regarding Eagle Disposal. They are not picking up the recycle bins, not completely emptying trash totes.

Mr. Hamrick thanked the Chief for receiving the award from Domestic Violence. The Police Department works hard in our community. He thanked and commended Mr. Pawlowski for always being for the City. He will be out of town for the adopt-a-wreath event but would like to donate for a wreath.

Mrs. Green congratulated Mrs. Hunt and President Lavender-Norris on their win for Council.

Vice President Lawson thanked everyone for coming out. There is so much positive going on. Thursday Nov 12th is her ward meeting and Ramsey Colder, Colder Credit Counseling will be here to offer credit advice. On the 14th at the Community Center will be decorating wreaths for the downtown. When we need something done, we get together as a community and do it. She thanked the Chief and the officers for the work. She has never seen so many awards for the Police Department before.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She had the opportunity to award Judah Ministries along with Mrs. Hunt for their dedication and restoring back the Church. The Church will be feeding on Thanksgiving. The doors of the ministry will be open to the community for any event at no cost. She stated "We want our City to be restored and we can't do it alone."

Adjournment

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.