

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA

November 14, 2016

Condition Use Hearing

Mr. Carnes called the hearing to order at 8:05pm. A Stenographer was present to transcribe the meeting.

Council unanimously approved the conditional use under Chapter 224 of the City Code to permit expansion of a manufacturing use at the property located a in the City's I-1 Light Industrial Zoning District situate at 21 N. 10th Avenue, Coatesville, PA (tax Parcel No. 16-3-3). Conditional use approval is sought pursuant to § 224-19 (D)(3) to increase lot coverage from approximately 75% to 91% and conditional use approval is also sought pursuant to §224-19(G) to permit a reduction in the number of required off-street parking spaces that would be required pursuant to §224-61.C(6) to provide a total of nine (9) new off street parking spaces to accommodate the building addition.

The conditional use hearing was concluded at 8:40 pm.

Call to Order

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 8:40 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Linda Lavender-Norris, Vice President Marie Lawson Mssrs, Joseph Hamrick, Edward Simpson, C. Arvilla Hunt, Ingrid W. Jones, and Mrs. Carmen Green. Staff members present included City Manager Michael Trio, City Solicitor John Carnes, Fire Chief Garry Alderman, Police Chief John Laufer and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Lavender-Norris announced An Executive Session was held earlier this evening November 14, 2016 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Green made a motion to approve the October 24, 2016 meeting minutes; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mrs. Jones abstained from the vote.

Approval of Accounts Payable

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

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Vice President Lawson added regular action item 1a) James Bookman, Parks and Recreation Commission

Presentations

1. Downtown Beautification – Sonia Huntzinger

Ms. Huntzinger announced the merchants and 2nd Century Alliance have been thinking of alternate ways to green up Main Street. Mr. Tony Buck suggested Steel Structured Trees/structures along Main Street instead of the big pots. No live plants will flourish in the current pots. He showed Council an example of a tree made out of metal. Residents, merchants can provide ideas and build the trees.

Council unanimously voted to proceed with the Downtown Beautification project of steel structured trees along Main Street in place of the pots.

2. “Shop with a Cop” – Sergeant Rodger Ollis

Sergeant Ollis announced this the 13th year for “Shop with a Cop”. He provided each council member with one waiver for a child in their ward. Children ages 7 – 12 are nominated by their elementary school principals and guidance counselors in the Coatesville Area School District, or by a youth serving program in Coatesville. They may be going through a tough time in their life, or they may stand out for doing something positive.

3. Kaboom Playground Video

Vice President Lawson played a video of the 2016 KaBoom ! Playground build in Patton Park. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vdGiWKy_yYI)

4. Natural Land Trust – Oliver Bass

Mr. Bass explained the Natural Lands Trust assembled a list of action items that can bring positive change and respect fiscal limitations. The action items are as follows:

- a. Work with Natural Land Trust to appoint a AD Hoc Parks, Recreation and Conservation Advisory Committee that meets the requirements of the DCNR Peer grant. – No City funding required
- b. Seed Peer professional grant from PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Within the 2017 budget process, determine means for \$1,000 match
- c. Dedicate 4 to 6 hours per week, from Public works staff, to support park and recreation initiatives. – No additional funding beyond the current budget for the public works position.
- d. Approve the City membership in the PA Recreation and Parks Society (PRPS) and the PA Urban Parks and recreation Alliance. Within the 2017 budget process determine a means for funding \$300 fee.
- e. Establish a Friends of Patton Park, with volunteer training provide by Natural Lands Trust
- f. Authorize Natural Lands Trust to investigate funding opportunities, for a master plan and subsequent rehabilitation of Palmer Park

Mr. Bass asked for Council to approve the action items as described.

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

There were no citizens’ comments on regular action items.

Regular Action Items

1a. Receive and consider James Bookman to the Parks and Recreation Commission

Vice President Lawson made a motion to appoint James Bookman to the Parks and Recreation Commission for the term 2016-2019; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

1. Receive and consider the to move forward with action items from “City of Coatesville Parks 2021: An Action Plan for Lively Parks and Healthy People” adopted August 22, 2016

Vice President Lawson made a motion to move forward with action items for “City of Coatesville Parks 2021: An Action Plan for Lively Parks and Healthy People” adopted August 22, 2016”; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Receive and consider second reading and adoption an Ordinance authorizing the condemnation by eminent domain to acquire a portion of certain property identified as UPI#16-5-140 in fee

simple to enable widening of the Right-Of-Way for certain road improvements along the East Lincoln Highway, all within the City of Coatesville

Mrs. Jones made a motion to approve second reading and adoption an Ordinance authorizing the condemnation by eminent domain to acquire a portion of certain property identified as UPI# 16-5-140 in fee simple to enable widening of the Right of Way for certain road improvements along the East Lincoln Highway, all within the City of Coatesville; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Mrs. Hunt was the dissenting vote.

3. Receive and consider a Resolution to participate in Christina Watersheds partnership Pilot Collaboration Project

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve a resolution to participate in Christine Watershed Partnership Pilot Collaboration Project; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Receive and consider a Resolution authorizing the City to participate in the Western Chester County Council of Governments Regional Emergency Management Group (“WCCREM)

Mr. Hamrick provided an overview of the agreement regarding the formation for the Western Chester County Regional Emergency Management Group by the Western Chester County Council of Governments.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to authorize the City to participate in the Western Chester County Council of Governments Regional Emergency Management Group (“WCCREM); Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Receive and consider a Resolution authorizing a representative from the City, City Manager, to sign the TE-160 agreement 3rd Avenue and Lincoln Highway Improvements project

Ms. Barkasi explained the requirements and the TE-160 agreements. The projects are approved and maintained by PennDot and paid by the City. Mrs. Green questioned why the engineer firm was providing the explanation and not the City Manager.

Included in motion for action item 6.

6. Receive and consider a Resolution authorizing a representative from the City, City Manager, to sign the TE-160 agreement Chestnut Street and Lincoln Highway Improvements project

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve resolutions authorizing a representative from the City, City Manager, to sign the TE-160 agreement 3rd Avenue and Lincoln Highway Improvements project and the TE-160 agreement Chestnut Street and Lincoln Highway Improvements project; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Receive and consider conditional employment offers for part-time Police Officers

President Lavender-Norris announced the appointment of part-time patrol officers, the Civil Service Commission has provided us with the certified list of applicants who have successfully completed the oral and written exams for appointment. The Third Class City Code requires that the Chief of Police nominate a candidate from among the three highest ranked applicants on the eligibility list. These appointments are for the position of part-time Patrol Officer within the Coatesville Police Department. Any candidate who is eligible for veterans’ preference under the Third Class City Code, appearing on the list of three candidates must be selected. Candidates appointed tonight by council will be conditionally appointed subject to successful completion of a background check, medical and psychological evaluation.

The first list of three candidates for consideration by Council are ranked by score as follows: 1. Joseph A. Waldron 2. Stephen K. Syska 3. Peter Sandor. From this list, Chief Laufer has nominated Joseph A. Waldron for conditional appointment as a part-time Patrol Officer in the City Police Department.

Mr. Hamrick moved that Joseph A. Waldron be appointed as a part-time Patrol Officer in the City Police Department subject to successful completion of a background check, physical and psychological examination; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. The motion carries and Joseph A. Waldron is appointed as a Patrol Officer on a part-time basis, subject to successful completion of a background check, medical and psychological exam 7-0.

Mrs. Hunt moved that Stephen K. Syska be appointed as a part-time Patrol Officer in the City Police Department subject to successful completion of a background check, physical and psychological examination; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carries and Stephen K. Syska is appointed as a Patrol Officer on a part-time basis, subject to successful completion of a background check, medical and psychological exam 7-0.

Mrs. Green moved that Peter Sandor be appointed as a part-time Patrol Officer in the City Police Department subject to successful completion of a background check, physical and psychological examination; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carries and Peter Sandor is appointed as a Patrol Officer on a part-time basis, subject to successful completion of a background check, medical and psychological exam 7-0.

Mrs. Jones moved that Adam Zeiske be appointed as a part-time Patrol Officer in the City Police Department subject to successful completion of a background check, physical and psychological examination; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. The motion carries and Adam Zeiske is appointed as a Patrol Officer on a part-time basis, subject to successful completion of a background check, medical and psychological exam 7-0.

Chief Laufer thanked Council and explained the hiring of the part-time officers will not impact the budget. The hiring provides more options to fill shifts without overtime.

8. Receive and consider adoption of the 2017 preliminary budget

Mr. Brennan reviewed the 2017 Preliminary budget with the City Council. There is enough money in general fund to cover this year without taking the \$750,000 out of the Reserve Trust fund. The 2017 budget shows a withdrawal of \$1.75 million out of the Trust fund as one of the options. The City currently has \$5.49 million in the Trust Fund.

4 options were provided to cover the deficit as follows: 1)The deficit entirely covered by real estate tax increase of 8.562 or 62.2%; 2) reserve trust fund to fund 2017 capital projects in lieu of GF transfer to Capital Reserve Trust Fund. Remaining amount needed from increased RE tax = \$1,230,000, real estate tax millage increase of 5.742 or 41.7%; 3) \$750,000 from reserve trust fund to supplement GF budget. Remaining amount needed from increased RE tax = \$1,100,000, real estate tax millage increase of 5.151 or 37.4%; \$0 the deficit is entirely covered by a transfer from Reserve Trust Fund.

Council asked for a comparison showing the savings of the Codes Department going to outsourcing and the Financial Firm in place of the Finance Director. We need to explain even though we are not taking out of the Trust Fund this year, we will be next year including the amount for 2016. The City is still going to have to take out the money just not this year. The

residents will not be burdened with a tax increase. We want the resident to be able to stay residents.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the 2017 preliminary budget with option 4; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-2. Mrs. Hunt and Mr. Simpson were the dissenting votes.

9. Receive and consider authorization to bid requesting prices for equipment and operators to support the Public Works department for infrastructure repairs for the City of Coatesville. This is not specific to one project; it is to perform work under the direction of Public Works Director where the work exceeds the capacity of availability of current city staff and equipment

Council questioned the position of the unions and what issues are involved. Mr. Trio explained it would be in place to help the union employees in a case where the work exceeds their availability of current staff, equipment and achievability of the repair required.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to authorize to bid requesting prices for equipment and operators to support the Public Works department for infrastructure repairs for the City of Coatesville. This is not specific to one project; it is to perform work under the direction of Public Works Director where the work exceeds the capacity of availability of current city staff and equipment; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Mrs. Green was the dissenting vote.

10. Receive and consider authorization to bid Materials: Requesting quotes for bituminous and stone materials.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to authorize to bid materials; requesting quotes for bituminous and stone materials; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-3. Mrs. Green, Mrs. Jones and President Lavender-Norris were the dissenting votes.

11. Receive and consider Snow Plowing and De-icing: Hourly rates for snow services, suggesting an annual retainer.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to consider snow plowing and de-icing rates for snow services, suggesting an annual retainer; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion failed 2-5. President Lavender-Norris, Vice President Lawson, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Green were the dissenting votes.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to consider snow plowing and de-icing rates for snow services, without an annual retainer; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion failed 2-5. Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Green, Mr. Hamrick and Mr. Simpson were the dissenting votes.

Discussion Item

1. Boarded up properties

Due to the time, Council moved to discuss the boarded up properties at another meeting. Mr. Trio provided Council with a list of boarded up properties to review. Council stated all properties were not listed.

Solicitors Report

The Solicitors report was not discussed.

City Manager's Report

The City Managers report was not discussed.

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

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans questioned in what year the trust fund will run out. What can we do on the savings side? Not enough revenue will be coming in by development before the time the trust fund runs out.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Hamrick wished everyone a good night.

Mrs. Green stated that she is happy it is close to the end of budget season. Yes, it is better to take out of the trust fund than to raise taxes. Taking it out, is the right decision to make.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for staying. There has been a lot of healthy dialogue and some monologue. She quoted "In the land of the blind, the one eyed man rules!"

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He reminded everyone that this is just the preliminary budget. There are going to be some tough decisions to make. He announced the Coatesville Grand Prix will be donating \$2,000 from the proceeds to go the Parks and Recreation Program.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished them a good night.

Vice President Lawson wished everyone a good night.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. God Bless and Be Safe!

Adjournment

Mr. Green made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 pm; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.