

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA 19320  
Council Chambers, Coatesville City Hall  
November 12, 2019

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Lavender-Norris, Mrs. Deborah Bookman, Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt, and Mr. Edward Simpson. Staff members present included: City Manager, Michael Trio, Assistant City Manager, James Logan, Police Chief, John Laufer, Finance Director, Richard Troutman, and City Solicitor, Anthony Verwey.

President Lavender-Norris announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening to discuss personnel and legal matters.

President Lavender-Norris announced that Vice President Carmen Green, Ms. Khadijah Al Amin and Mr. Folks would not be in attendance this evening.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the October 28, 2019 meeting minutes; Mrs. Bookman seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

**Approval of Accounts Payable**

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

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

Mrs. Huna made a motion to add action item 8) add honorary signage and table item 2) Redevelopment Agreement; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

**Presentations**

There were no presentations at this time.

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

There were no citizens comments at this time.

**Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider rejecting all bids submitted for the Train Station  
Mrs. Hunt made a motion to reject all bids submitted for the Trains Station due to the project scope significantly changing; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.
2. ~~Receive and consider Redevelopment Agreement for the Flats between the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Coatesville and KNGDM Coatesville, LLC~~
3. Receive and consider Letter of Support for W.C. Atkinson  
Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Letter of Support for W.C. Atkinson Memorial Community Service Center, INC. to apply for the 2019/20 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability

and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE) Grant to fund the rehabilitation of its five supportive houses for homeless men, upgrade men's shelter bathroom and support of the case management team; Mrs. Bookman seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

4. Receive and consider 2020 Caselle Annual Maintenance and upgrade agreement

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the 2020 Caselle Annual Maintenance upgrade agreement; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

5. Receive and consider donation of Christmas Tree from Elite Therapy Solutions

Mrs. Bookman made a motion to accept a donation of a Christmas Tree from Elite Therapy Solutions; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

6. Receive and consider free parking along Lincoln Highway for the Holiday from December 16, 2019 to December 30, 2019

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve free parking along Lincoln Highway for the Holiday from December 16, 2019 thru January 5, 2020; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

7. Receive and consider 2020 proposed budget revisions

Mrs. Bookman made a motion to approve the 2020 proposed budget revisions; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

8. Receive and consider honorary signage for Doris A. Robinson Spann

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the plaque honoring Doris A. Robinson Spann in the amount of \$180.00 paid by City Council and announce the dedication of the plaque above the sign at 10th Avenue and Chestnut Street on November 23, 2019; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Mrs. Bookman made a motion to close action items; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

### **Discussion Item**

1. Meeting Minutes

There were no comments on the meeting minutes.

2. Signage

Mrs. Hunt explained that whenever Council wishes to honor a resident with a plaque or signage for their contribution to the City, the Council, being the City should pick up the cost. The City should honor those who have made a significant impact on the City.

### **Solicitors Report**

Mr. Verwey announced he:

- Worked on a Right to Know request and addressed an appeal on behalf of the City
- Worked with City administration on various agreements
- Provided legal advice and guidance on legal issues

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

1 Minutes

Mr. Trio announced:

- The development at Lincoln Highway and 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue is status quo
- Paving work has been closed down until Spring
- Traffic controls secure for winter
- Working on the timing of the street signals
- Construction fencing will be pulled back
- Planning Commission
  - Merchant Street Mosque – amended Land Development Plan
  - Working with Sonny on determination of parking meter districts
- Security Windows have been placed in the Codes and Finance area.
- Repaving work on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd will commence weather willing week of November 18, 2019

### **Assistant City Manager Report**

Mr. Logan announced:

- Opportunity Zone – Prospects continue to come in (commercial & residential)
- Follow up to symposium
- 2 interested investors for the community center
- Fund development initiative's
  - Unit Day 2020
  - Completion of the Fitness Center
- Parks and Rec continue to move forward with th basketball court
  - Take my hat off to Mr. Bookman for his work with the Parks and Rec Commission

### **Finance Director Report**

No Finance Director report at this time.

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

#### Nathaniel Logan

Mr. Logan offered the Liberian Community to partner with the City and engage in community activities. Interested in obtaining funding and acquiring the Community Center. Will continue to move forward and make presence known and promise to work with the City.

#### Paul Evans

Mr. Evans stated the City is making great marketing effort. He suggested sitting down and working together to help move matter forward. We need to start telling the truth.

Mrs. Bookman made a motion to close citizen's hearings on non-agenda items; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

### **Special Events**

#### 1. Movement Tailgate Party

Mr. Trio explained the event was approved with the suggestion of a Police Presence. Staff is currently working through the cost. The initial fees were too expensive. Chief Laufer stated he

would try to get a part-time officer to cover the event and the fees would be less, if a full timer covers, it is overtime. Mr. Trio will get the fee and submit to Council.

### **Council Comments**

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for coming out. He announced the Chief presented Council with the 2020 Ford Motor Company Calendar which is a National Police Calendar. Chief explained that he submitted a photo for the calendar and it was accepted. The photo was used for the month of September (due to September 11<sup>th</sup>) as the Officers are standing at their vehicles in front of the tridents from the towers. Mr. Simpson stated that our Police Department continues to be a leader in Chester County. There are a lot of Police Departments in the County but we have the best Police Department. If any officer doesn't want to work in Coatesville, then they are not good enough to work in the City.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for coming and spending the evening with us. It's always good to see your faces. I'm excited about Coatesville. We are excited about the things going on and to the Liberian Community. Thank you for coming out, sharing and wanting to get involved and having an active role on what is going on in our City. Aren't you excited driving through the City with a detour here and there. It is exciting to see things moving forward and I am grateful to be a part of it. I just want to thank the community for what we did last Tuesday voting. Thank you for reelecting me to come back. All our City came out with record numbers in all our wards to vote. I think that is attributed to the things that are going on in the City. I'm really excited. Stay warm, go home and we'll see you in two weeks.

Mrs. Bookman thanked everyone for coming out. Thank you to new friends and friends who work with the City collectively and just continue to build in the City. Thank you to those who came out. Chief, I have a question for you. I have received four different calls for the stop sign at 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Walnut Street. They say cars are doing 50 mph, speeding up and down the hill. I am not sure if there is a form they can submit to the Police Department. I told them that there is a traffic study done if deemed necessary. I am not sure what is required. The Chief explained that the issue needs to be brought before the Police Department, we look at it and then go out and survey it, get the City engineer involved. The City Engineer needs to go out and look at it and decide. Mrs. Bookman asked if someone reaches out to her, does she send them to the Police Department. Chief explained there is no form for the issue, some people have come before Council and brought their concern at a Council meeting. We address it and research it. The Police Department and City Engineer work together to get it addressed. Mrs. Bookman wished everyone to be safe and have a good night. Thanks so much.

President Lavender-Norris congratulated Mrs. Hunt and Mr. Simpson on the reelection to City Council. Mrs. Hunt congratulated President Lavender-Norris. President Lavender-Norris stated it wonderful and appreciated. I would also like to acknowledge Councilwoman Bookman who was elected as our Prothonotary. She will be the very first African American in that position and the first African American woman in that position. Congratulations. I'm just echoing Mrs. Hunts sentiments and I'm excited if the direction the City is going. I am grateful we are not spinning wheels anymore, we are moving forward and the momentum is just pushing us in a mighty way. To have you gentlemen here and to say, I want to be a part and how can we help and we so appreciate that from you. We want to help you as much as you want to help us. Our City is growing and we can't afford to leave anyone behind, so thank you for standing up and offering to help out. It is appreciated. Mr. Evans and Ms. Coman, thank you for coming out. Even when our residents aren't around, you are here. I appreciate it because together we are not just

the City but the surrounding communities. We are only as good as our surrounding. Thank you for supporting us and coming out. Sonny, as always, thank you for all that you do for the City and the partnership and collaboration. It's awesome. Rich, thank you. Staff, you're the best. I appreciate you all. God Bless it has been a wonderful evening, not Monday night, so I don't have to run home for football, but ready to go home. So, by the Grace of God, we'll all get there safely and find our homes as we left them.

**Adjournment**

Mrs. Bookman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.