

Minutes  
City of Coatesville  
Via – Virtual Meeting via Zoom and You Tube – COVID 19  
Thursday October 26, 2020

---



Council Present: President Linda Lavender-Norris, Vice President Carmen Green, Ms. Khadijah Al Amin, Ms. Nydea Graves, Mr. Donald Folks, Edward Simpson  
Council Absent: Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt  
Staff Present James Logan, City Manager; Anthony Verwey, Solicitor; Chief Jack Laufer, Police Department; Richard Troutman, Finance Director and Ruthann Mowday, Recording Secretary.

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:40 pm.

President Lavender-Norris announced an executive session was held on Monday October 26, 2020, to discuss real estate and personnel matters.

President Lavender-Norris announced Mrs. Hunt would not be in attendance this evening.

Mr. Logan announced this is the first live zoom broadcast with public comments. The public will conduct themselves as if this is a live in-person meeting. The guidelines for citizen hearings, you will be asked to go into the chat portion of your screen, into your name and address. Once we receive that your mic will be unmuted. You will have three minutes. If you go over three minutes, your mic will be muted. That is for the citizens hearings on regular action items and citizens hearings on non-agenda items as well.

### **Approved Minutes**

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve the October 12, 2020 meeting minutes; Mr. Folks seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0-1. President Lavender-Norris abstained due to her absence at the last meeting.

### **Approval of Accounts Payables**

Vice President Green made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-2. Ms. Al Amin and Ms. Graves were the dissenting votes.

Ms. Al Amin questioned the constant repairs on the boiler. The City needs to look into replacing the boiler.

Ms. Al Amin questioned the SPCA billing and asked if the City is invoicing people for dropping off their animals. We have the ordinance on the book to collect the money.

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

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to delete action item 2) revised Ortiz settlement;

### **Presentations**

#### 1. Elite Physical Therapy- Tree Lighting

Elite Therapy Solutions wants to donate the Christmas Tree again this year to Gateway Park in conjunction with Parks and Recreation. We are looking to do this on December 12, 2020. James Bookman and I went down to Gateway Park the other day. We looked at some spacing, a couple of things that we would like to do to this year to have the event and be COVID safe, is we want to

be able to want to put the tree in a different location to get it out from underneath the wire so that it's safer. We want to paint basically like a 10-foot diameter square or 10-foot diameter circles and then use for anybody who's looking to participate in the tree lighting ceremony. This is the same health and safety plan that the high schools use. Basically, what that entails is for participants is a check-in center, masks mandatory, temperature, and then have a waiver with a sore throat, a fever, any contact, and basically all the essential components of the COVID check-ins that everybody's using at the medical facilities and the high school. We weren't thinking about doing the Wonderland and the ornament component this year, but instead is using the blow-up movie screen. We have been talking with the Meister singers at the high school, and they said that they're more than willing to do their virtual Carolyn services. So that is basically as we're keeping people socially distant is have the Meister singers on the movie screen. So, we can have some caroling while we do this. We'd like to donate the tree. It's a four or \$500 donation to the city. We have all the decorations and stuff from last year. We'll get the tree. What I would need from the city is, last year we had one of the cherry pickers come down. So, it was a little bit easier to decorate. The decorating component and the breakdown component, that's really all I need from the city. Last year, David Terry came out and helped us set up and he did a wonderful job with it too. For all intent and purposes, very similar to last year. We want to stay very COVID conscious and safe, um, but basically provide the donation for the city and give us a little holiday cheer. I think last year; the guys came with the bucket truck to help out. And it was a wonderful event. It's beautiful. Thank you

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

#### Paul Evans, Coatesville Housing Association

Mr. Evans voiced his concerns regarding cronyism and votes before Council or RDA when special consideration is before them for a vote. He asked for the City Manager and City Solicitor to protect the residents of the City of Coatesville by considering the rules of the State Ethics Commission. He wished all developers and investors all the best in their endeavors.

Vice President Green made a motion to close citizens hearings' regular action items only; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

### **Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider First Reading an Ordinance amending Ordinance no. 1186-2002, authorizing the City of Coatesville to enter into a commitment agreement to lend up to \$500,000.00 to the Downtown Revival Limited Partnership for an Urban Renewal Project subject to a Promissory Note and Mortgage and Security Agreement and conditional assignment of leases and rents to the City providing for the repayment of same in forty (40) years, to authorize the City of Coatesville to enter into a Subordination Agreement with Downtown Revival Limited Partnership to change the City of Coatesville's fourth priority junior mortgage to a second priority junior mortgage subject to any additional terms and conditions advantageous to the City of Coatesville

Vice President Green made a motion to approve First Reading an Ordinance amending Ordinance no. 1186-2002, authorizing the City of Coatesville to enter into a commitment agreement to lend up to \$500,000.00 to the Downtown Revival Limited Partnership for an Urban Renewal Project subject to a Promissory Note and Mortgage and Security Agreement and conditional assignment of leases and rents to the City providing for the repayment of same in forty (40) years, to authorize the City of Coatesville to enter into a Subordination Agreement with Downtown Revival Limited Partnership to change the City of Coatesville's fourth priority junior mortgage to a second priority junior mortgage subject to any additional terms and conditions advantageous to the City of Coatesville; Mr. Folks seconded the motion. Motion failed 3-3.

Ms. Graves stated we don't need to take an economics class to know that with inflation money depreciates and receiving this payment, not at the sale of this property, but in 40 years, it's going to depreciate this half a million dollars that the city is owed, which is a lot of money to be depreciated. So, I would consider going forward with this deal to be a bad business decision on the city's behalf. And I believe that if we either demand that we get our payment back, or that's up to the person who is trying to get those properties to decide, but half a million dollars is a lot to take off the table.

Ms. Al Amin commented that any time you purchase properties, be it residential, commercial, you know, what mortgages are owed on the property. And, you know, you generally have a real estate agent and, or broker, some folks have attorneys involved, but whenever you go to the settlement table, mortgages that are due are to be paid. And I just believe that, with this deal too, our mortgage should be paid and the money should be paid at the table at time of settlement.

Vice President Green stated that she thought this is just a bad deal. However, I listened to the conflicts of interest and I just think that I don't really see the conflict of interest being a decision maker for me. The decision is just, it's a bad deal and, the lack of negotiation, the lack of the city's interests, being the forefront and most important thing. I think that this is a mortgage of \$500,000. This should not be extinguished and to put it off for another additional 40 years, this a bad business decision.

Mr. Simpson asked Mr. Verwey, as long as he does not have any direct financial interest or any financial gain from this, I mean, I'll admit that Mr. Wood and I do have a business relationship for an entirely different business that had nothing to do with that. And I have no financial interest or gain in anything to do with this transaction. So as long as I don't have any financial gain out of this, that I have a right to vote, right?

Mr. Verwey replied to Mr. Simpson, and looking at both the state ethics act and the city's ethics provisions, absent, a gain or benefit or advantage from the transaction or some type of direct financial benefit from the, the contract itself, which in this case is a subordination agreement where no money is changing hands. This does not qualify as a contract for services, goods, or anything else that would qualify under the provisions regarding conflicts. I do not believe you have a conflict of interest to vote on this particular matter.

President Lavender-Norris stated her comment would be to question my integrity because I serve on another board and I do not conduct business in the manner that Mr. Evans does is offensive to me. I have extended family and friends. There aren't very many people in the City of Coatesville that I'm not either a friend with or a family member of. So, it would be almost impossible for me not to have an acquaintance with those that are business people or not. Therefore, when I sit and make a decision and I vote, I don't vote for a friend or a family member in that manner that you're speaking up, I vote for the residents for the betterment and the good of the city.

2. Receive and consider conditional offers of employment for four part-time officers

Mr. Folks made a motion to approve the conditional offers of employment for the four officers; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion postponed.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to postpone the question of the conditional offers of employment of four part time officers until the next meeting; Ms. Graves seconded the motion. Motion to postpone passed 5-1. Mr. Simpson was the dissenting vote.

Vice President Green stated we are in the process of putting together a budget. Is there a reason why this has to be done right now? And instead of, once we look at where we are in the budget. I just don't like this right at budget time until we've gotten the proposed budget.

Chief Laufer explained the department is currently down to five part-time officers who are available to fill shifts. We do have a current civil service list that's active for hiring part-time officers. That list was approved back on April 27th, by council, after being signed off by the civil service commission, and then on the same night of April 27th, we gave conditional employment that our first four on the list of those four, we only have one officer that's currently employed here with the city. He is one of the five that I spoke of initially. We are here before you tonight, just to simply get conditional offer of employment authorization for the six that are on the list, two of which are no longer interested. So, we're down to four, which will exhaust the current list. It is a long process to get them on board between the background, the psychological, the medical, it's a long process, and then to get them through training. It is well into next year before they would even be available to work shifts for us and, and fill in the schedule. That allows us to advertise for a new list, provide a new test, hopefully sometime to the end of January. That is our calendar, if you will, with regard to this. And that's why I bring up before council tonight, just because the process is somewhat cumbersome and it just allows us to continue to try to fill the vacancies that occur in our part-time officers staffing.

Vice President Green asked if there is a hardship if postponed until after our budget meeting, I would like to see what we're working with. I just would not like to decide on this at this particular time. I would just like to see what we're working with. Ms. Al Amin asked the Chief, when we approve those individuals from the civil service, we're just acknowledging that they made it through the civil service. We're not actually hiring them. I know we asked this every time, but you know, you always seem to make reference that you brought names before us and we approved them. And every time we approve them, that question is always asked. We're not approving for hire. We're just approving the names that passed the civil service tests. And I don't have to say we're just required to accept the list. That's all correct. We're just accepting the list. We're not saying we're hiring them, right?

Chief Laufer explained that is not correct. The list was accepted back on April, the 27th of this year, the list was accepted. Then we did immediately, at that time, we did conditional offers or employments to the first four, but one of which has been hired because the other three didn't make it through the process. So, basically, we asked council to do two things, One adopt a civil service list after it's been approved by the Civil Service Commission and that's the entirety of the list. In this particular case, there were 10 people on the list is scored high enough between the written and the oral to be considered for employment. So that's the first step and the second step is we come before council and ask for conditional offers of employment. In this case, we initially did four back on April 27th of those four, we managed to hire one after completing background, psychological medical, and so on. We only have one that's the completed the process. So out of the four, we only got one body to help fill the schedule. So, he was hired. When we give conditional offer of employment, assuming they pass the background, the psychological and a medical, then we onboard them and we begin their field training. That has been the process for the last eight years since we started the part-time officer program in 2013. And that's why we're here, I'm here before you tonight asking for conditional offers of employment from the last four on the list, which will exhaust the list. And we will begin their backgrounds to see if they're going to make it to the point where we

can officially bring them on board.

Ms. Al Amin agreed with Councilwoman Green. We are just starting our budget season and we need to see where things stand. And you already said with training and different things, they would not start till next year anyway. I think that we really need to get through our budget season and see where our budget sets before we hire anybody else.

MS. Graves explained that after the last time she stated Council does not see any information about the background of these officers that were being asked to conditionally hire and the interests of our community safety. I think that we should be able to see something about these officers' backgrounds from records from previous departments and disciplinary records. Before we are asked to make an offer for conditional hire to people who are bringing into our community. Everyone has said, we are in the middle of allocating our budget. So this isn't the best time, but also don't want to forget the background check issue that we haven't quite yet resolved. Vice President Green asked Mr. Verwey, if he could you refresh everyone's memory on this, as far as them asking for background information that they're not entitled to. Mr. Verwey explained that he has been working with the Chief to revise a Civil Service Regulations to require additional background information by applicants on the front end, to basically, red flag, any potential problem applicants. That information would then generate a pre-investigation by the Chief before that person even gets through the civil service process. Assuming those regulations are adopted by civil service and approved by the city. Right now, those personnel records generally aren't provided as a matter of a recommendation by civil service and then a background check by the Chief of Police. Generally, individual council people aren't privy to personnel records. You wouldn't generally have access to some of that information anyway. You can legislate the, have the Chief provider report to you, he certainly could do that. As I had spoken to this the last time this came up, there is legislation has been adopted. That will be in effect and summer of next year, which would be about the time that you you'd be bringing your next set officers. But at this point, you certainly could talk about having an ordinance to direct the Chief to bring information regarding any negative information, but that should take place through the civil service commission process, which is designed to eliminate potential employees that are not qualified by virtue of failing a background check.

Vice President Green stated my question is clear and with that and I do trust the Chief's judgment when it comes to the background. But my question is that when we adopt received the list on April 27th or whatever that date was, it was to receive the list. And there's a process. Are you saying that we did both things the same time, because that was my question when we received the list. The list is received and accepted by council. That's the list of Civil Service has a process to test the applicants and gathering information on the applicants. And then once completed, they make a recommendation, they have a recommended list of these are the folks that are employable. Then the Chief, when he needs to increase his manpower comes to council, says, here's the list. Civil service commission has vetted. If you make an offer for employment, then he does an additional background check on those individuals. After we accept the list, the Chief comes back to us and says okay, from the list that we accepted, I'm going to hire one person or two people. It's not an automatic thing.

Chief Laufer explained the copy of the minutes from the April 27th meeting, show that we did do it as two different items. We did officially adopt the list as approved by civil service. And then we had a second action item just as we're here tonight. The second, you know, there

was another additional item on the regular action items, and that was to receive and consider conditional offers of employment for four part-time officers for the police department. So we had two separate regular action items, one recognizing and approving the list as provided by civil service commission and then separate action item was the conditional offers of employment both on April 27th.

Vice President Green asked for the approval/denial to be moved until after the budget process.

Mr. Verwey suggested a subsidiary motion to postpone the question until the next regular meeting of city council. If that's Council Pleasure. Mr. Simpson asked for the subsidiary motion rules. The subsidiary motion comes under article five subsidiary motion, section 30, one of Robert's rules of order. Mr. Simpson asked for it to be read. President Green read a subsidiary motion is a type of motion by which a deliberative assembly deals directly with the main motion prior to, or instead of voting on the main motion itself. Each subsidiary motion ranks higher than the main motion and lowered, and the privilege moves and yields to applicable incidents, motions. Mr. Simpson state he could use this at any time. Anytime there's a motion out there and there's something I don't want to agree with at any time, I can just say, I want to make a subsidiary motion. And as long as it gets a second, we can shoot it down. Is that what you're telling me? Mr. Verwey stated if it's an appropriate subsidiary. Mr. Simpson said this is just like waiting for somebody to block a motion and a second, this is the way we're going to work. Then I'm going to continue to use this. Thank you. No, no, no, no more explanation, Mr. Verwey, just no more. President Lavender-Norris asked Mr. Verwey to finish his statement. I appreciate the information and I think it's good for the public to understand exactly where we are right now. Mr. Verwey explained that he is not trying to take a position one way or the other as to what council should do. I'm just really trying to inform council of its options in regard to how to address the motion. Council certainly could vote it. So, in any event it could be a straight up or down vote. If that's council's desire is attempting to provide council with information, because this is something we had addressed. I believe at our last meeting regarding a particular vote that was being taken. So, I had the information handy. Council may not recollect it, but I did remind them. This does not block the vote or eliminate the vote permanently. The purpose of the motion is to set a date certain to make sure that the matter is called for a vote at the next meeting, not only postpones it to the next meeting and the vote must be taken to the next meeting on this particular. Ms. Al Amin stated then we don't have the option to postpone it. It has to be voted on. That is correct and if we vote on it tonight approved or disapproved, that would be the end of it, correct. It wouldn't come on the next meeting. Mr. Verwey, if we physically voted on it tonight, and for some reason it didn't pass, then it wouldn't be postponed until the next meeting. It just would pass or fail. Is that, am I understanding that correct? Mr. Verwey answered, it would pass or fail and then it could be brought up at a subsequent meeting as a new agenda item.

Ms. Graves asked Mr. Verwey, did you say what had to be passed was an ordinance for the Chief to asks about these officers backgrounds? Is there any way you could, does that have to be a discussion item first or is there any way we can have that? Vice President Green explained that would have to be a discussion item first. Okay. Remember, Council Person Graves that the background information will not be given to us. We are not permitted to have them. So it's about the Chiefs agreeing to give us a report on the fact that he did the background. Chief Laufer explained that is part of the revision to the civil service that Mr. Verwey and him are working on. And we'll be putting before the Civil Service Commission

for approval, which will include that sort of additional step, where we do report back to council, with the results of the background investigation, but not the content.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to close action items; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

*Mr. Simpson excused himself from the meeting at 8:41 pm.*

### **Discussion Items**

1. Meeting Minutes  
There was no discussion on meeting minutes

### **Reports**

1. Solicitor

Mr. Verwey announced he:

- worked with his colleague, Mr. Jefferson on a rather substantial right to know request. I believe that came in five parts. The requesting information required substantial time and effort to prepare a response to that.
- worked, as chief noted and discussed earlier on civil service regulations, trying to create language and additional provisions regarding background checks and investigations.
- worked on a personnel matter regarding some provisions of the Third-Class City Code as they are maybe applicable to the city.
- worked on grants from the DCNR, for our parks regarding certain deeds. The deeds are required for part of the grant process in order to obtain those grant funds from DCNR

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan announced his report this evening is fairly short because we had a meeting just recently. Just a few updates on the business and community updates, the work continues with TN Ward. The mobilized the construction on First and Second Avenue. Many of you who have driven throughout the city, probably see some sidewalk work that's been done. This work will be completed hopefully within the next two weeks provide that we have great weather. Work is also near if not completed on Diamond Street and the North Main Lot, in addition to that work continues on the South side, streetscape of Lincoln, and the bank lot, which that's pretty much receiving the work. That should be completed in November. Palmer Park, Cedarville Engineering, they should have an 80% design submission completed by next Friday. The review will follow, in addition to that, the building will follow for construction of pavilion in early spring. Onto the community update. There was a bypass premiere, that's the documentary that is, directed and produced by Sarah Alderman. The premiere was this past Saturday, Abdala Park. I was informed by its director and producer that the documentary was an overwhelming success. And I'm very proud of Ms. Sarah Alderman, for doing such a wonderful job on the documentary of this great city. We hope to see more of that in the coming months and years. Coatesville as many of you know has been looked at, most recently for filming. If you recall last year, we had HBO here, for a series, and we now have another project that's going on over in the Coatesville Area School District at the High School that's produced by LeBron James and Adam Sandler is a part of that particular production. Coatesville is getting some attention. Moving onto COVID, have you all have

been reading? If not, you've been listening to the national news. Our country is experiencing an uptake in COVID case. The severe protocol alone has been experiencing, a very severe uptake for up to 205 cases. Again, we look at being vigilant, everyone to wear masks, hand sanitizer, distance yourself when you can. As you heard earlier from Patrick from Elite Therapy, they are going to some greatness to make sure and ensure that people are going to be safe and social distance. So we appreciate that, but folks, you know, be smart about how you move about the community and if you can with Halloween coming up and Thanksgiving, you know, people are asked to maybe stay in some small parts, if you can, or just know the people, if you're going to be out visiting friends, I try to do it in a way that you are outside in that you are distancing yourself, that you can still have a great time doing that. Onto, testing sites, how we continue to have a test in available at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard on South 17th Avenue. They are there on Thursdays between the hours of 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM. For those of you who are planning to trick or treat, we do have on our website, guidelines for a healthy and safe trick or treat experience. Some of these guidelines are very creative. Mr. Logan announced that our fire chief, Chief Alderman will be leaving of the Coatesville Fire Department in January. He has served with the City since 1972. We are certainly going to miss him. He will be here until January.

Ms. Graves read a you tube comment form Tara Davis. Hello. My name is Tara Davis and I run the small rescue group called the Coatesville Community Cat Program. I'm interested in what the city plans to do to help address the major problem of stray cats. I would appreciate getting contacted about this major and heartbreaking issue taking place in Coatesville.

3. Finance Director

There was no financial director report at this time.

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

Vice President Green made a motion to close citizens hearings on non-agenda items; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

**Special Events**

There were no special events at this time.

**Council Comments**

Ms. Al Amin thanked everybody that joined us. I love it when the residents join. It actually gives them more understanding on what each of us are trying to do. I'd like to thank Chief Alderman for all his years of service and wish him a very happy retirement. Enjoy yourself! I'd like to remind everybody to please, please, please. COVID numbers are going up Coatesville acquired 13 more cases, 13 more positives, please make sure that you're wearing masks. Our cases are going up every day, safe distance, you know, just do what you can to keep yourself and your family protected. I'd like to remind everybody that next Tuesday is election day. So please make sure you make your voice heard by voting. And I just hope everybody has a good night. And thank you again all for coming.

Mr. Folks thanked everybody for joining us tonight. To echo Jackie, wear masks, social distancing. Friday was the first time I held one of my great-grandkids in six months. This COVID is for real. Please be careful with holiday time. I know you have plans to eat and drink, this year, slide back a little bit. Gary, I remember, you said you started out in Modena Fire Company years ago and you

stayed right here. So, I hope you enjoy your retirement because, boy, ain't nowhere to go, but just stay home, be safe and thank you for all your service. Don't forget to vote. Have a good night.

Ms. Graves thanked everybody for attending by YouTube. Thank you for all the people who attended the meeting. Thank you to everybody who is going to be really watching this meeting later. I would like to congratulate Sarah Alderman on our premier of bypass Coatesville. That was really great, and well appreciated by the entire community. I also thank you, Chief Alderman, for all the work that you've done with the fire department. Please enjoy your retirement. I would like to acknowledge, Mr. Dixon, and may his memory be a blessing to all the people who he helped and all the work that he's done in Coatesville. I would just want to echo what everyone else said about social distancing and continuing to wear a mask. And, I know that you want to celebrate with friends and family, especially as the holidays come up, just do so in a safe manner. Importantly, make sure you vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup> not only should you vote, but encourage all the in your household to vote, text all your friends and make sure they vote because our voices are strong and we're powerful when we go together. So, thank you everybody and make sure you vote on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and have an extremely good night.

Vice President Green Yes. I have a couple of things. Mr. Logan, if we could look into the fidelity contracting, I guess they're the contractor that's doing the work for Pennsylvania American on 12th and Olive. There is a couple of issues, like you're taking the sidewalks up when I know that they're going to replace them when they're done putting whatever they're doing there. However, their trucks are damaging curb lines all throughout the block. And I just want to make sure that they fix those, and fix other sidewalks that are not being dug up. They're doing some damage to work. It is a little sloppy over there on some of the curves and the sidewalks. The other problem with it is, they're leaving their vehicles now and the cat vehicles that residents don't mind, but they're leaving great big dump trucks parked all over the street there all weekend long, which takes up all the parking. I'm not sure why they would need to leave those big dump trucks on site, and it's not just one it's several and they take up all the parking for the whole entire weekend. If we could just reach out to them to ensure that they're going to clean up what they're messing up aside from, you know, what the contract calls for. The other thing that's being affected, which we did get fixed is the trash pickup because of the equipment and all the stuff that the trash vehicles can't get for those that have pickups on the front, the one resident had not had their trash picked up for four weeks. We did get that resolved with the Eagle pickup. But, I just want to make sure that they're doing this contract for PA American, that they are not doing damage unnecessarily on that block to curbs and sidewalks, because there's some of them that look really bad. The other thing is, I just want to wish Gary well on his retirement and thank him so much for his service to the city. He has been with us, since I've been on council, and I'm very proud to have known him in that respect. I just want to also say to the family of Ellwood Dixon, are our condolences to you al. Mr. Dixon is an icon when it comes to community activism in and around the city of Coatesville. Mr. Dixon stood tall with the union and working with the school district, with the maintenance men there at the school. Mr. Dixon, I remember I worked with him on the Edmund Dell campaign. Mr. Dixon was a fighter. He did a lot for the community and he worked very, very hard at what he did. Anyone who had anything, regardless of how small or how large, if he felt that injustice was done, he was right there to fight that fight. And I just want to acknowledge him in the legacy that he leaves in his memory. And I want to thank everyone for attending the meeting tonight. I hope that you heard some things and clarify some things, and we just appreciate you all. Thank you. Good night.

President Lavender-Norris echoed her colleagues' comments. I missed the last meeting, so I didn't have the opportunity, to congratulate Sergeant Ollis. I would like to congratulate him for being

chosen by the VFW as the officer of the year. That's an awesome family, not just him alone. They work as a unit and they've worked very well together in the community when he's not in uniform. I want to congratulate him on that. I also want to acknowledge that Mr. Joe Sandowski, he worked in the code's office for years and recently passed away. I had the opportunity to work alongside him. He actually trained me in the code's office, wonderful gentleman. He passed away. I want to offer my condolences to the Sandowski family, and tell you how much we appreciate the time he served in the city in the code's office. He kept it in order. Chief Alderman, thank you for your service, enjoy your retirement. To our community. I need you to know that you are our reason as a council. You are our reason. We appreciate you. We want to do what's best for you. We're not here on personal agendas. This is about our community and doing what's best for you. So, thank you for each and every one of us that you have elected into office to represent and serve you. And hopefully we're serving you to the best of our abilities. I want everybody to have a blessed evening. I received a card out, I almost forgot, but I received the card from Maxine Filler, Henry and Judy Eggleston. And they said to the city council of Coatesville, it was so nice of you to remember our mother, Mrs. Annie B Eggleston it is such a thoughtful and beautiful letter. We just want to let you know that we appreciated it and your kindness is such a blessing to our mother. And she really appreciated it. Thank you so much. And that's from Maxine, Henry and Judy, but I want council to know as along with our administration, that they reached out to say, thank you and let you know, they appreciate it. And to our staff, our administration, Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. You've been wonderful. Chief, thank you for being the leader. Your department is doing wonderful things in our community. I just want you to know that I appreciate it, and I'm sure our residents do too. So, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Logan, we don't have the opportunity to speak directly to our public works guys, but please convey to them that they're appreciated and their work by no means goes unnoticed and thank them. And with that, I say, God bless and have a good night.

Ms. Al Amin announced an email was just sent out by a city resident, and unfortunately, she was having issues logging on. She was not able, she sent an email for non-agenda items that she wanted read. I do not want her to think that we're overlooking her and I don't know how that can be addressed since we've closed non-agenda items. I just wanted to bring it to your attention. Does this get addressed in the next meeting? Mr. Verwey explained there's two options. One would be to address it to the next meeting or to have Ruthann to include it in the minutes for the next council meeting. I would suggest depending of appending it to the minutes and then if the citizen wants to make comment next week, she could her next meeting. She certainly could join the meeting. President Lavender-Norris asked Ms. Al Amin to encourage her to come back to the next meeting so we can address her comment and she can actually make the comment herself.

### **Adjournment**

Vice President Green made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 pm; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.