



Minutes
City of Coatesville
Regular Meeting – COVID 19-2020 – via ZOOM and YOU TUBE
Monday April 26, 2021

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

Vice President Green announced Council held and Executive Session earlier to discuss personal real estate legal matters.

Vice President Green announced President Lavender-Norris would not be in attendance this evening.

Approved Minutes

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the April 12, 2021 meeting minutes; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Accounts Payables

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to add presentation 2) C-Town; Councilperson Graves seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Presentations

1. Brandywine Valley Active Aging

Mr. Pierce provided an update on the work over the last year during COVID-19 and to let you know all the wonderful things we've been doing in addition to hopefully answering some questions that have arisen since January, when Coatesville Area Senior Center became Brandywine Valley Active Aging. I prefer to start back at January of 2020 when the first known case of COVID was announced in the United States. Not long after in March is pretty much when the world, as we knew it, turned upside down on its head for a moment, at the senior center, we met to determine what services would be most critical, continue to provide to the community. And when considering those services, we had to obviously, draft plans that would be presented to the health department to demonstrate the safety of operating those programs.

We decided that we needed to pay attention to food insecurity, social isolation, and the continuation of the support services that we provide. The three topics are actually the founding principles of senior centers dating back to 1943. It was interesting to us to see that as we reached a pandemic that nobody was prepared for the three founding principles would still be relevant today.

First, we dive into our food insecurity. Many of you are familiar with what we used to call the congregate meal program, which would have been about 80 people per day, gathering in the dining room, inside the senior center, having lunch congregate, indicating that folks would talk

with their friends, clearly as mitigation efforts unrolled, we realized that we wouldn't be able to have in person dining. We quickly switched over to a drive-through with our grab and go meal program. Many of you will probably remember the difficulty that it was to make that pivot with several traffic jams early on. I think 14, almost 14 months later, we finally have the traffic jams figured out. We are continuing to operate the grab and go and the drive-through meal program to date. We also realized at the height of the pandemic back in the red phase, when we were reaching about 300 people a day who were coming to us for food, that we wouldn't possibly be able to serve all of those people through the drive-through itself. We partnered with the National Guard and we were able to distribute to all of the senior housing facilities within the city limits. We then continued and expanded our collaboration with the food bank in order to make sure that folks still had fresh produce dairy products and other groceries available to them. What that resulted in was, over the 12-month period. So, looking at March 3rd or March 16th, 2020 to March 15th of 2021, we served more than 35,000 lunches to 380 seniors. We moved 21,000 MRAs to another 300 seniors and we provided more than 75,000 pounds of produce groceries and dairy, with the help of the food bank to another 250 older adults. As the pandemic continues, as we wait for the results of vaccine rollout, food is still the number one demand of service, with about 200 people per day, coming to both of our campuses, for some type of food service. What that represents just about 35,000 lunches alone, that is a 200% increase in demand for lunch over the previous year. So, a 200% increase over pre-pandemic numbers. Isolation was another key component of our response. The social isolation and physical decompensation, or normal processes to aging. However, both of these were magnified during COVID. We know that social isolation can lead to dementia and other serious health risks and physical decompensation leads to more than 2.8 million visits to an emergency room as a result of a trip or a fall. We needed to focus our energies, this was critical to our success.

We also knew that we needed to keep our folks informed in order for them to be safe. We needed to keep them engaged so that they could be social in a socially distant world. And we needed to keep them connected to the opportunities that keep them healthy and what that looked like for us was the rollout of a mass broadcast telephone calling system. We went the plain and simple route of just telling people what they needed to know. The mass broadcast system allowed us to reach out to more than 2000 individuals during the pandemic, provided them information on stay at home orders, services that were available to them. And of course, we used that system to announce inclement weather closings that would affect the drive-through as well as alerting them to the ability to receive testing and vaccinations around the County. As mitigation efforts continued to make progress from last January, we were able to introduce outdoor events. The parking lot quickly became a place to have concerts, themed parties, drive through health fairs, socially distance, socially distanced, fan distribution, events, voter registration events, and more. I think the theme parties have become very popular just as popular outside the building as they were inside the building. And if you know us, we like to throw a party. Our virtual campus that we introduced to during the pandemic and formalized in January, the virtual campus obviously speaks for itself. It is all of the programs that people have come to know and enjoy available now and the comfort and safety of their own home. We have programs that run on free conference call lines. So our folks like to call that once a week, they will join the party line to play bingo and, then they will come back again another day that week to play pro Keno. And then if they are able to, they can join the exercise programs, lecture series. We even did a beer making and beer tasting series, all through Facebook live, zoom and YouTube. If folks don't have technology accessible to them, we now have a technology lending program where they, the seniors are able to borrow from us a tablet that is preloaded with Verizon 5g service. They don't need the device and they don't need the internet. We provide that for them as well. As receiving instructions on how to use the device and us being available for tech support. George is the coordinator of our virtual campus. If

you tuned into a virtual program, you can hang out with George some more. The virtual campus is actually much more popular than we anticipated.

The last challenge was to figure out how to continue to provide the support services that many folks use year after year. In a non COVID environment, we would assist probably 1000 individuals with a number of benefits or entitlement programs that they would be eligible for. There's too many to list here. I focused on some of the larger ones, the complimentary tax preparation program, which we do in partnership with the AARP. If you're not an older adult, you may be familiar with a very similar program called Vita, the volunteer income tax assistance program. It works very much the same way, but through the AARP and intended for older adults, other programs we can work with are the Pennsylvania property tax and rent rebate program, enrolling folks for the step program, providing Medicare counseling, just a myriad of services. Clearly, we needed to identify how that could be done virtually. And for those who couldn't do it virtually again, submitting plans to the County on how we would be able to do those, offer those services safely in a one-on-one environment. So far, what that has meant was now, bear in mind, this does not include numbers from this year's survey or from 2021, because those programs will not be counted yet. So this is all last year during the pandemic. We managed to figure out how to help 400 individuals get their taxes done, that was down from about 800 in a normal year. We managed to support 300 people with property tax and rent rebates, again down from about 800 and astoundingly. We managed to track and record more than 25,000 phone calls requesting information assistance, other services, maybe even referral to another community organization or to a government agency. I think that that was enough work, but because we are continually looking for ways to improve our services. We thought that a pandemic was a very good time to do a merger that wasn't really a merger. You are probably familiar with another organization that was situated just to our East, the Downingtown Area Senior Center, who for the past several years has been renting space from Thorndale United Methodist church. Unfortunately, Downingtown was a struggling organization. The County had asked us a couple of times to step up and submit plans on how we might be able to help Downingtown succeed. We as Coatesville were not really in a place to be able to lend that hand. We were, we were still writing our own ship. As COVID has done to many organizations, it took a struggling organization and, and caused further damage. The County reached out to us again, and we sat down with the County and with Downingtown and worked out a plan of what we could do. The Downingtown Area Senior Center will legally cease to exist. They have filed their dissolution paperwork. The organization will not be a legal entity. And when the courts make that final announcement, in the meantime, the County contracted with us to provide senior center services in the Downingtown community. We recognized that Coatesville Area Senior Center may not be an adequate name in the Borough of Downingtown. We went through a rename and rebrand coming up with Brandywine Valley Active Aging, paying a little homage to the fact that the Brandywine travels through both of those communities, sort of ties us both together. And we have three campuses now through Brandywine Valley Active Aging. We have our main campus, which is in the City of Coatesville, the Downingtown campus, which we have successfully moved back to the Borough of Downingtown, temporarily using space at Brandywine Grace Church, which is basically in the center of the borough. And then our third campus would be our virtual campus.

Vice President Green thanked Mr. Pierce. You've been so busy. I'm so grateful for how you taking care of our seniors in our community and provided so much and just met every need. And, I know that was for the calls because I get one every day, I guess I'm a senior, but your work is so needed and so appreciated in our community. And as you were going through the numbers mean 35,000 lunches. I mean, it's just phenomenal and I'm just very grateful for your organization and all the hard work that you put into it. You guys are fabulous over there. I enjoy every time I come there.

Councilperson Graves stated I used to do caregiving and it struck me as really important, when you were talking about social isolation and the relationship between social isolation and dementia and how you guys were considering that I took like, you know, a very quick course was maybe about eight hours, but a ton of information on dementia. I actually used to run the training. I like listened to the videos over and over again. And that's one of the things that is so important. And that honestly concerned me at the beginning of the pandemic. Cause like what's going to happen to folks who are isolating, what's going to be the effects. So, I just want to appreciate, the work you guys have done around mitigating the social isolation and therefore mitigating, the consequential symptoms and possible onslaught of rapidly aging and possibly exposure to dementia.

Mr. Folks stated you are a beacon of light in our town. I see it because I seen you in action. You don't hesitate to help or to be for our seniors. We are impressed, with your people that work there, how they came together and helping everybody, they got each other's back. I saw what while I was sitting in there, for a couple of hours just watching that. They learn a little bit. If you ever need anything, I got your back. If I could help. Well, we already talked about that. So I'm just waiting on the phone call. We'll be calling. So, um, keep up the good work

Mr. Simpson stated job well done. We appreciate everything you do for the community.

Mrs. Hunt echoed the sentiments of her colleagues. Thank you so much.

Ms. Al Amin thanked Mr. Pierce. I think everything you do there is phenomenal, but you already know that because you service my sister. Thank you for all you do. I do have one question. So your vaccinations that you do, are they now open to everybody or is it just 65 and older? Mr. Pierce replied yes, the health department is still managing the vaccinations. We are just providing them the space. I keep telling folks we're just the ballroom, they're the wedding. It's my understanding that they are trying to use. There are three Senior Centers that they're using as vaccination sites. They're trying to reserve the senior centers for people in the 60 and older population, just as, you know, making them familiar and friendly places who are already intended to serve that population. It is my understanding that if you go out to the county's website to schedule your appointment, you're able to select whatever location is available on the day that you're looking for. I think it's a two two-sided question there with, or the answer is two-sided that the intent is for it to be people 65 and older, the opportunity is for everybody. Ms. Al Amin explained I gave them a lot of names and they scheduled the appointments, but they were all 65 and older. I just didn't know if that had changed. Mr. Pierce explained over time, that's going to continue to expand. We've been asked to continue the site through the end of October at this point. It would be my belief that we would get out of the 60-plus population at some point.

2. C-Town

Mr. Logan announced we have representatives of C-Town here tonight that are interested in putting a grocery store in Coatesville. They have identified a Coatesville as a food desert, which we all have known for a number of years. Chip Houston, our assistant city manager, has actually visited a C town. He was very pleased to the product that Ctown provides. This is something that actually started a little bit before I moved into this position and that Mr. Huston came on board. We have been trying to work closely with, C-Town letting them know the demographics of our community as well as the need in the City of Coatesville to have good produce, a good grocery store that can serve our residents and citizens here in Coatesville.

Mr. Dave Keener, project engineer. We have the Ken Budd, project architect and Juan Almanzar, is the representative of the owner for the project. Mr. Logan asked the gentlemen to provide a little bit of history about how we got to this part. Mr. Budd explained Mr. Almanzar was interested in bringing the grocery store to a Coatesville. He found the property at 245 East Lincoln Highway. We have been in the process of working on this project now since April of 2019 and moving along steadily to this point. We went through and did a set of working drawings, submitted them to the Health Department for their review, submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for their review and sent them over to LTL consultants for their review. At this point everybody's signed off on it. This is pretty much one of the last hurdles, that we're looking at. Mr. Keener is taking care of our issues for the site and parking. I mean, it is an existing mercantile building. We plan on converting them into one grocery store. There is a couple of apartments upstairs on the second floor that we're just going to clean up and, and rent out as market rate apartments. At this point, we're looking for the approval to put the grocery store on the first floor.

Mr. Keener stated that there are two structures that Ken mentioned here at 245 East Lincoln Highway. There is a public parking lot here that adjoins the building which we will discuss later. Ctown has three supermarkets and the City will have the 4th one. There is one in Lancaster and Two in York. This is the layout of typical store. This one that opened up in York recently. It's just to give you an idea on what the layout will be or a representative of the layout in the store that we anticipate there and the Coatesville location. As you can see, it's pretty much a typical layout of the grocery store.

The C-Town stores are independently owned and operated. The store in Lancaster, as noticed there are no carts located in front of this store. And I guess we understood that that wasn't necessarily a desirable thing there at the Coatesville location. The architect looked at a space inside the store. The loading area will be in the rear at Diamond Street. There will be some changes to the facade of the building, they look like two separate buildings, but as we develop this plan here to create a more of a uniform look at the street level for the grocery store. And, this is what it looks like now. This is artist's rendition, just kind of showing the new storefronts in there, the windows to make it look uniform across the two different structures. This is the layout of the store. Again, this is on the East side, and then there's a party wall that goes between the two stores or between the existing stores, but that'll be eliminated to allow for it to be all open space there between the two separate structures.

Mr. Budd stated we just want to tie the street level facade together to make it a one uniform or make it look like one uniform building, but everything above the first-floor level, I want to try to maintain as the existing building. I don't want to change a structure. I don't want to change the facade of the original building. We will be using a sign panel over the front entry and that's about it for the front, except that you know, we're just going to tie the two buildings together. I do understand that you're going to be doing some modification on the streetscape, and we get the information for that. We'll try to incorporate that in. Mr. Keener explained we wanted to cover it as far as the, the parking requirements. This is in a commercial area. As far as the I'll share the parking calculation, but this circle here represents the 500 feet from the store location, and that comes into play as far as the calculation for parking. With the retail space zoning requires there to be one parking space for every 500 square feet of retail floor area. And you divide that out as 29 spaces. You have one space for each dwelling unit. There's four dwelling units. That's a total 33 spaces. Within this mixed-use development area, there's an

allowance for a 40% reduction in the parking requirements. If there are publicly owned parking lots. I mentioned the one that's adjacent there, and there's also another lot located at the Southeast corner of Lincoln highway in South Third Avenue with that 40% reduction that's 13 spaces. There are more than 50 spaces out on Lincoln Highway. There's an allowance for a 40% reduction of those spaces. You can count towards your parking requirements. So between those spaces and public parking lot there is 30 spots for this use. Diamond Street looking into the public parking area there on the East side of the building. You can see there's a, an offset here. This area will be cleaned up and this would be the area where deliveries would be made into the rear of the building. There on Diamond Street there is enough space for the trucks for traffic to, to be maintained on Diamond Street.

Mr. Almanzar explained he has one store in Lancaster and two in York. We see Coatesville as a growing town, which we would like to be part of the development and driving around Coatesville we didn't see a grocery store with the varieties of products that we could carry. And that was one of the main thing. Plus we read on the news that Coatesville is the 10th biggest Hispanic, City of PA. Mr. Keener asked how many jobs you typically have at a store the size and how do you get employees? Where do you look for employees for a location such as Coatesville? Mr. Almanzar replied before we open the store, we just let people get an application to fill out. And that's how we start getting our employees in all the stores that we have. They will come in and just fill out applications. We might start with 20 or 25 employees. It depends on how the store started growing. Mr. Budd explained most of the customers are probably going to be residents within a few blocks of the grocery store itself. A lot of people are probably going to be walking into these grocery stores instead of driving to it, um, because everything is that's what we're looking at. You're a walkable City. That was going to be another one of the benefits of being downtown while you guys are aware that the parking lots are a pay parking lot. They're not free parking. There is a kiosk there where you would pay to park and parking meters on the street as well. It's all public parking.

Vice President Green asked if this grocery store is going to be primarily a Spanish grocery store? Mr. Almanzar replied No, it will be diverse. We carry products, huge varieties of products, for I would say every customers outlet, a grocery outlet, like is the products, all fresh products. Vice President Green asked is this like an outlet kind of store? Mr. Almanzar replied I would say similar to a giant, a little bit smaller. Councilperson Graves asked what is your ratio from fresh produce to process foods? Will you guys take EBT and snap benefits. Okay. Are you willing to work with programs that match snap dollars? Like when people buy groceries with their snap dollars there's programs that like match snap dollars and give back like snap bucks that you can use the next time. You mentioned that there'll be 25 employees. What are the wages? What's the starting wage? Mr. Almanzar replied that it all depends on the area. Okay. Go ahead. Like, for example, with the starting wage in Lancaster \$9 for the cashiers. Councilperson Graves asked if you guys a franchise, because you said independently owned and operated. Mr. Almanzar replied yes, it is a franchise with our roots planted in New York City. If you go online, C-Town supermarket, there's a website with a lot of info, so you can learn more about the project. There are no tenants on the second floor. We are going to fix it up.

Mr. Folks asked, do you own the building now? Do you have the money to do this job? Mr. Almanzar replied yes, that's why we bought the building. Mr. Folks stated now, if we say yes, how long will it be before the store opens. Mr. Almanzar replied with the COVID situation right now, it will take us like a year. It will be less than a year. Mr. Folks stated we hear this, we see

this, but you know, we've been here before, when people come into our town. I just want to be sure. I don't want these residents in this town. It's been starving and we have been telling them this is going to happen, that's going to happen, and it never happens. So that's why I'm asking you right now upfront. Mr. Almanzar replied I understand, I felt the same way before we bought the building. We met with the last City Manager, trying to get approval for this project before even buying the building. And he was the one who gave us the okay to purchase the building.

Mr. Simpson asked you're not going to require any variances or anything like that to open? Mr. Budd explained we just basically got finished getting the Health Department approval, the sewer approval. We just got an approval from LTL Consultants. The only thing that's keeping us from getting the building permit is with the meeting with the city council. This is our last step. The only issue we had was the site parking and this was an existing mercantile building. It was all retail space before. Um, um, maybe Dave, maybe you can help jump in here, but, um, I really don't see anything, anything that's going to hold us back from completing this project.

Vice President Green thanked them for the presentation. We know that this is a zoning and a codes issue, not really Council, so issue for us to vote on. So we appreciate you coming and giving us a presentation and hope all goes well. Thank you. I'll see you in nine months, the city council recommend that Coatesville issue a permit for us to abide by, you know, whatever they require.

Mr. Verwey explained there is no vote from us or anything like that. Council can offer a statement of support or whatever, but they cannot direct the Codes or Zoning department. That's an independent decision that is made by those folks. And the Council cannot just override that. So, you're still going to have to address the zoning and codes issues, independent of whatever happens tonight.

Council unanimously gave their blessing for the project.

Discussion Items

1. Meeting Minutes

There was no discussion on meeting minutes.

2. Summer Events

Mr. Logan explained as mentioned in previous meetings, The City of Coatesville, as well as other municipalities are beginning to open up a little bit more, this week, we have received about four special Event applications for our parks. These are things ranging from the soccer league that normally rents out to park for the summer year, the Rugby team will be coming back. All of these, or I should say both of these have submitted with COVID guidelines for the protection of their players. We have informed them what our guidelines are in the here in the City of Coatesville. In addition to that, I think we have one or two requests for June events, these will be outdoor parties for families. I just want to make note to the council members is that when we talked about special events earlier this year, we talked about how we would gradually start to accept applications. We have a total of six at this time.

I have been speaking to Mr. Simpson about the Grand Prix. Mr. Simpson announced the Grand Prix would be held the same weekend that we've always had at the third weekend in September. There has been a lot of buzz. Everybody's asking, are you going to have it? Everybody wants to know. We have spoken to the same people that helped us run the actual pit road and the flaggers.

And they did all the starting and everything like that. They would like to make this thing grow a little bit. They'd like to add a cruise night, which is basically just people coming in and cruising through Coatesville and street rods, whatever kind of car they want to bring plastic sports cars and have a cruise night. And it basically just be a nice, slow, just people would cruise through town. They do it in different cities. People just come show up right through town, nice and slow with your classic cars. And everybody looks at them and the streets would be closed with the fencing because of the race, the following morning. It'll be a nice thing for the guys that come in and all different types of cars, there's, there's no, you know, like the, the grand Prix is just for classic sports cars, race cars. The cruise night will be for anybody that has a car, like a street rod or hot rod or something they wanted like to do that on Friday, have the race on Saturday. And then they are trying to do, what's called an auto cross, which is a race, a timed race on like a closed course, like a parking lot, or there's a tarmac at the end of the runway up at the airport. That is one of the things they are talking about and would like to do and kind of make this thing, like a weekend event that people would come in from outside of town, come in for the weekend and kind of hang out and stay. And they'd like to make this thing grow. And I mean, I think it's fantastic idea. And, there's a lot of buzz and talk that, Hey, that would be great add in the cruise night and you know, the race. They said they would come back and help us run the race. Vice President Green asked if you would be interested and open to adding maybe a cruise night to allow people to register those bikes and stuff that they brought in here? Sometime that would be really cool. The dirt bikes. Mr. Simpson said I'd rather keep it to the cars if they want to, if we want to do a separate thing for bikes and somebody wants to pick up on that. I think we are just trying to keep in the tradition with the cars they've actually are going to cut back on the motorcycles in the race. They are not going to there, there's not going to be a class like that. It's just going to be like a touring bike. They want to get back to just more traditional with the course. They are super excited about it, they have a, a club, for anyone motor sports club and they're super enthusiastic about it because nothing happened last year. I think everybody and their brother is going to want to come out to it this year because you know, because, we didn't have it last year. We're going to be scrambling to come out. But what I'd like to do is if we could get this going to take some planning and we need to start fundraising right away. If we could get a motion tonight that council supports it, then we can start with that and get it instead of waiting for another couple of weeks, you know, I have a question for you. Ms. Al Amin asked if the folks that are up and down the street that, you know, stand along the streets and stuff, how are you going to ensure that they follow all the guidelines for COVID? Mr. Simpson explained that whatever COVID guidelines that are at that time will be followed, if it's a requirement for masks, then everybody wears a mask. Ms. Al Amin asked if there's a requirement for some type of social distancing, how are you going to ensure that for the folks that come out to watch it? Mr. Simpson explained I don't know that we have to, it's just ingrained in everybody's mind right now that you just stay apart. You know? I know I find myself if I go somewhere and somebody gets close to me or whatever like that your natural reaction is to back away. And I think most people would, I don't know if we need to COVID police out there, but there will be social distance requirements. And especially right now, because you know, we are in the red. Right. Great. I know. That's what I'm saying. I mean, and that's why we want to get this plan for September and hopefully, and if something comes up and it's gets worse by then and they shut the state down again, then we comply with what we're doing, but at least start putting plans in motion. Yes. And that's why, you know, I'm asking him if we could, you know, I'll make a motion now that we get council's approval to move forward with this thing and start planning on. I'd like to do with council's blessing. If somebody would second it. Mr. Verwey explained that there is no further action other than a statement of support. Mr. Simpson stated that's all I'm looking for is just council support it. Council provided unanimous support as long as COVID guidelines are met.

Mrs. Hunt asked if there is anything that we need to talk about regarding our emergency declarations? Or are we still talking about special events, but I'm saying, because we are talking about that, I just was asking a question if we needed to discuss our emergency declaration. Mr. Folk stated the Declaration has been cancelled. Mr. Verwey explained the City's Emergency Declaration has expired and we are still under the State's Commonwealth Emergency order, but the City order has expired. Mrs. Hunt asked why it wasn't brought back to us to discuss again, to see if we wanted to reinforce it. We did discuss that a couple months ago. Yeah. That's what I'm saying. We extended it then, but now it's expired unless it was at the meeting that I wasn't here to discuss it again, to see if we wanted to keep it where it was. Mr. Folks stated it was at the meeting that you were absent and out of town. Mrs. Hunt said as long as council as a whole discussed it, I am fine with that.

Councilperson Graves asked Mr. Logan since we are talking about annual events, is the City having Unity Day this year? Mr. Logan replied no, we are not considering Unity Day. We are going to continue with the second part of Unity Day with our Music event. We are going to be planning our Summer Jaz Series, moving forward. The events will be in the various parks this year. Councilperson Graves asked if other genres like rap, hip hop to the Jazz theory. Vice President Green stated there were different genres last year. Mr. Logan stated that is for the committee to discuss. Councilperson Graves has a suggestion for the committee, is that, I seen a lot of communities have those like closed off wine and beer gardens. I don't know what it takes to run that. I know it's like laws and stuff like that, but you know, sometimes people like a little added fun to partake and get a wristband and sit in the closed off area with the wine and beer. Mr. Logan explained that to answer your question, those are the things that we can look at. The Local Chamber, they do work with a local brewery company that might be able to do something like that. We did have one at the Grand Prix, which hopefully there'll be back. But yeah, those are good ideas.

3. Fresh2You

Mr. Logan announced that Fresh2You came in a couple of weeks ago. I had informed Council that Fresh2You had planned on having their food truck in the City of Coatesville, on Saturdays starting June 5th in the gravel lot. The Food Bank revisited the idea for that. And, I think they're going to pivot and they're going to just remain they're going to be in the gravel lot on Thursdays from two 30 to four 30, and they will go back to the library location, on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. I think there is a request that they moved from Lincoln highway, back to Fifth Avenue. If they have to, due to traffic, they would actually move into the libraries parking lot if they needed to do that.

Ms. Cosentino thanked Council for having her here tonight. Um, I'm super excited to hear about all the developments, especially in the grocery store that's coming in. And hopefully once that comes in, um, I'd be happy to work with them to, um, offer our matching dollars for, for snap, just like we do at our market. So very excited to hear about that and potentially working with them in the future. Um, but for this season, yes, we, as our response to kind of the previous year, um, and just knowing, um, how much our services are needed right now in Coatesville, we want to up the number of markets that we're doing week. So not only are we going to be doing two regular, weekly markets in Coatesville, but we will be rotating through senior centers every Friday. And one of those senior centers is the Coatesville senior center parking lot. We will there about once a month throughout the season. But just like James said, we're looking at the lot at Third, just like we've been at all season long. Councilman Folks, I saw you out there. Thank you for visiting. And, then back on Fifth Avenue and Councilwoman Hunt, I'd like to offer my email and phone number. If you ever need the spaces on Fifth, just shoot me a call or an email, and we'd be happy to kind of pivot our space. The reason why we'd like to be on Fifth is because it's the lot, the

space on Fifth has that nice long grassy area and because of COVID and because of spacing, it's just really tricky for us on 30 to keep people safely distance. That was our experience last year. That's why we asked to move to Third originally, if we can be back on Fifth on that little grassy area and really spread out, I think we can be safe about it. There's fewer people walking on the sidewalk. It's just a better space for us. And like Mr. Logan said, if it comes right down to it, Penny has also offered the parking lot. It's tight, it's a very small space, but we're kind of willing to make whatever we need to work. Mrs. Hunt thanked Ms. Consentino, and explained her concern is not just for my business purposes. My concern is for the Fifth Avenue area as a whole, it's a much busier place. Now, since we have the OIC, we have the CYWA. You have people, residents that are coming, parking, going in and out of the library. And then needless to say, my clientele coming in daily on Fifth Avenue, there is no parking. So my concern is for safety. If we have your big truck there, and I know that it's providing a great service, I do not knock that or try to soften that in any way. But I just think it's dangerous. People trying to turn the corner both ways they're coming across Fifth Avenue, they're trying to go across to the other side of the Avenue and then have to negotiate coming around that truck. It's just, I think it's a hazard and it's an accident waiting to happen. That's why we had suggested before for the lot on Third Avenue is safe. People can park, you don't have to worry about the traffic form back and forth because a lot of times, and I'm sure you are aware too, there's not a parking space and they want to get to your truck. They will double park put on flashers and come across the street to the truck. It's just dangerous. If the library is offering you their parking lot, I will suggest that, or I would suggest that you stay on Lincoln highway or utilize Third Avenue more. I just think the corner of Fifth Avenue is just dangerous. I live here, I see it. I hear the skinny, you know, and there's been plenty of times. And if you're over there working, you've had to hear, you know, the cars stopping, getting over and trying to make sure things are right. And I just think it presents a hazard in a dangerous situation for us. Ms. Consentino asked if she thought it would be any better if we pull up a little, we pull up further to the end of the library. Mr. Hunt replied No, Fifth Avenue is busy, come down Fifth Avenue. Any of you come down Fifth Avenue on a daily when OIC first took possession of their building, their first opportunity for parking was supposed to be in the spots that they were renting from New Life in Christ. They don't do that. They take the parking on Fifth Avenue because it was closer to the building that I'm having families coming in and out, whether it's to make funeral arrangements, whether it's to bring me clothes, whether it's an actual funeral. If I don't put cones out at five o'clock in the morning by seven o'clock, there's no place for anybody to park. It's just a hazardous area. And to add that truck, even though it's just for two or three hours to add that, I just think it adds to the opportunity for someone to have an accident that could be avoided, if we didn't have the truck there. It's a great service that you have, you have great food items, but I just think park on Fifth Avenue is not the place for it. Councilperson Graves asked to park the truck at the library in the library parking lot, does that ruin the setup that you have with the grassy lawn and the social distancing? Ms. Consentino replied yes, the setup in the parking lot is concerning because we would block ourselves in meaning we wouldn't be able to do our full setup the way we usually do. We might end up taking their entire parking lot. People wouldn't have any place to park at the library for folks going to the library. I've never set up in there before we managed to make pretty much any space work. So I'm sure we could make that space work if we have to. It just won't be as pleasing to walk through for, for people, similar to when we park on 30. If any of you kind of saw our set up on 30, it was just a little disjointed. It didn't have that farmer's market sort of feel for people. It's just harder to set up in a way that makes sense and gives good flow for people. We would have to work a little harder to make sure everyone stayed safe in the lot.

Councilperson Graves asked is have you noticed being on Fifth Avenue, any accidents or have you ever gotten to something that happened that was dangerous or almost dangerous in your observation with your truck being out there? Ms. Consentino replied we have never experienced

an actual accident when we've been parked on Fifth or on 30. I have seen some cars make that turn and it be dangerous. I do know what Councilwoman Hunt is talking about. I do think if we were able to come up a little bit more on Fifth, it would be a little bit safer. When we parked on 30, we also were worried about our own personal safety because we were in on Lincoln highway operating the market. I was concerned about my staff safety with cars, screeching to a halt at that red light on Fifth and just being on that main street. So it's not ideal traffic wise. I totally get it. I'm thinking about not only driver's safety, but staff safety, volunteer's safety, customer safety as well. There's a lot of safety issues coming at play here. And, you know, Third Avenue has been absolutely wonderful and we've gotten a really positive response about being there. I do feel it's important for us to be a couple blocks down on Fifth again, and just be open to people down that way who might not come all the way down to Third. Vice President Green stated this is proposing a zoning issue and the discussion needs to be looked into and addressed. Mrs. Hunt stated her concern is that we want to be concerned about making a nice presentation, having a nice setup, but we need to have that level of concern before an accident happen. We don't want to wait until an accident happened to say, Oh my goodness, we need to move this. Oh my goodness, we need to change this. We need to be proactive to make sure that an accident does not happen just because people are trying to patronize your truck. That's my concern. So I'm not, I'm not even entertaining whether or not an accident has happened or whether or not you've seen somebody having an accident. You've heard the cars, I hear the cars. I've seen the people double park to put their flashers on, to run across the street, to get their produce. It's not safe. And if we have, if you have access to Third Avenue, then maybe a little more advertising to let people know that you're going to be there on Wednesdays and Thursdays or whatever would help out. I'm not opposed to your truck being in the city at all. I think it's a great service. I just think the location is bad. I'm out because I'm here and I see it firsthand. So I'm not just going to sit back and wait until something happens and then come to council the city and say, look, there was an accident down here. I knew this was going to happen, but I just know I'm going to speak out on it because it's not safe for that truck to be on Fifth Avenue, especially with the added activity daily activity. That's out here to include the library patrons to include those that are going to the OIC, the CYWA and the funeral home. It's just too much to now add a truck there for a few hours is I just think it's too much and it's a hazard. Vice President Green asked if this maybe something to consider, keeping the truck on Third Avenue. Mr. Logan, is this something that you need to act on right now? Mr. Logan replied no, it's not an action item. It's just more of an awareness. It's a plan that fresh team plans to expand their services in Coatesville. I'm sure Ms. Consentino and I can go back and think about some ideas. Ms. Consentino, I do think to Councilwoman Hunts point, it has been very busy out there. I was just over there the other day, and this was a weekend. And, um, and there was no parking spaces. I don't know what's going on Fifth Avenue, but, it just seems like there has been over the last several weeks, a lot more cars parked over there. Mrs. Hunt explained residents who can't park in front of their houses on Chestnut street, are parking on Fifth Avenue now, because you know, people from the OIC that worked there, or wherever are getting there early and getting parking spaces. So you have all of that, you know, but just take into consideration. And I also want to say, to refer to, as far as my relationship, when you guys were here, it was fine. If I had a funeral, I would call over to your office. And I would say, listen, on this day, I know you're scheduled to be here. I have a funeral I'm going to need these parking spots will be done by then. So that was perfect, but it's not just about me. It's not just about my business. It's about all the entities, entities that are around us and the safety of those that are coming to shop. It's not just about me, but you know this for everybody involved that's, we need to think it out a little more. Vice President Green stated greatly noted. Mr. Logan, you and Ms. Consentino can meet and discuss this and get back to us.

4. Tax Mailings

Ms. Al Amin explained that she asked for this to be a discussion item. Last year when the bills didn't come out on time, we waived that it's not a late fee. If you pay your bill by March 31st, I think it is you get like a 2% or a 20 some dollars discount, right? So I've had quite a few residents call me and tell me that they did not receive their tax bill. Mr. Troutman had to get mine for me, for me to get the early discount. And I've been in my place for almost 30 years. So I called, first I called Mr. Logan, then I talked with Mr. Troutman, and then I talked with the actual company. In my opinion, and a couple other people called they were not really customer friendly. Um, they asked me some questions that I don't think they should have asked. They were asking questions about my name. And then they said they most certainly sent the bill to my house. And of course I didn't get the bill again. I had to get the bill from Mr. Troutman. And I don't understand being here almost 30 years and the other people that call in as well. So it is my suggestion that individuals that do not get their bills, if Mr. Troutman can do the research and it is shown, they can show that they've paid their bill to get that discount, you know, every year, then I think we, we need to waive that. And they actually had the nerve to tell me to suggest for me and suggest for others, that residents should call in February to make sure they're getting their bill. I think they should send them out in a timely manner. And if somebody says they didn't receive it and they can show that they've always paid their bills on time, you know, to receive that discount. I don't really think the folks that are collecting the money for us should just say, and not in such a nice manner that the bills are being sent out. Just make sure you call in February. And I would like council to consider waiving that I don't know if it's 20, \$25 fee. If the folks can show that they've always paid their bill to receive the discount. I don't think our residents should be penalized for not receiving a bill. Now, if somebody is always late, that's something different. But for those that always pay to get the discount, I just don't personally think they should be penalized.

Vice President Green stated this happened last year. I had an older gentleman, but I did reach out to him. He received his tax bill on time and has paid it. I think we just have to ensure that these people normally pay it during that time period. It can't be a blanket thing if we are to consider it. I'm not sure legally because we can't change dates and extend dates. We just have to ensure that they are the ones that they normally pay them before that expiration. You know what I mean? Ms. Al Amin explained that she is one of them people, Carmen, and last year, the only reason I got my bill is because Mr. Troutman got it for me. And he got it for me in enough time for me to get the discount. And I'm just saying almost 30 years, I just find it ironic that for the last couple years, I'm not getting my bill and I can definitely show that every year I've paid to receive the discount. And when I called them folks, they were nasty people to talk to. I don't think our residents should have to call in February to make sure bills come to them. The bill should come to them. And if that means we have to send them certified, if we have to do something different, but those that pay to receive the discount, I don't think they should be penalized for not receiving a bill. And if they can show that they do this every year, you know, I don't know if it's the mail. I don't know if it's the company we use. I don't think they should be nasty with our residents either. Vice President Green stated I think it's the mail because I got mine a long time ago and I called that one resident who had the issue last year. He got his, so I believe it's the mail system which is so messed up. Councilperson Graves said I think if someone hasn't received their bill on time or in enough time to receive the tax discount, there should be an exemption for them. Cause we don't even, it's hard to know if someone was intending on turning it in early for the discount this year, or not. But I do think that we should wave it if you know, they haven't received their, their bill in time because it is a service that we offer, we offer this discount. I think the people should receive it if they didn't get their bill on time for the discount. Cause that's not really their fault.

Mr. Verwey stated his recollection is that last year, the state government took some action that allowed the city to grant an extension. Generally, what's being requested would require likely to require changing the ordinance that where the section of the code that governs payments, isn't

something that you can just make a motion or pass resolution would require an ordinance process, because it's a tax matter, it requires substantial advertising requirements, et cetera. So it can be done, but it's going to take, it would take some time to rewrite the ordinance if that's what council wanted to do. Vice President Green questioned about when it was brought up last year, you distinctly told me that we don't have the authority to change the tax dates that that's something required from the state and that we had to, anything that we did, we had to do individually, um, because people have proved that they paid early. Now you're saying that we can change the ordinance, but I remember last year. Mr. Verwey explained that last year it was a request as it was an extension of time from the Governor. We would have had to have changed the, the ordinance structure to make an extension. If the governor's order. Now this is a different situation. We're not talking about an extension that was authorized by the Commonwealth, we are talking about a change, the tax code. Vice President Green stated no, we weren't talking about an extension that was authorized by the Commonwealth. Now we were talking about a resident who did not get to pay his tax before the expiration of the 25 to 20% discount or whatever. We wound up waiving the fee for him and allowing him to do it, but when I brought it to Council, you very distinctly told me that we don't have that authority, with changing dates and that kind of thing, that it would have to be a case by case which the city manager at the time, Mike Trio at the time did waive the fee, and allowed him to pay to get that 20% discount. It had nothing to do with the extension that the governor had put in. Mr. Verwey stated he did not remember that conversation. Well as I said, generally, changes in tax law have to be done by ordinance. They can't be done on a case by case basis. Generally, you can't waive a fee just, just because you want to, you would have to have a specific provision that allows a certain action to be taken. And you would, I might have to look at the tax code, but generally speaking, you don't have the authority to change the tax code just by saying, we're going to waive it for X citizen and not for Y citizen. It has to be uniform across all treatment under the constitution of Pennsylvania. So we have to change it application of the tax application. That tax code has to be uniform as to all similarly situated tax payers.

Mr. Troutman stated if I may, a couple of comments. One is that, I confirmed a couple of things, facts with Keystone, who is our collector. First, all the bills were mailed on February 1st. Second is that the monetary piece of it is, is a 2% discount and it would apply to the real estate tax and the solid waste portion if paid by March 31st, and then April may would be at face value. The next is, I did follow up on Ms. Al Amin's comments about how she was treated and Keystone is reviewing their tape. And I don't have any results back on that, but I wanted to let you know that we did follow up on that, and we do take customer service seriously through our agents in this case, Keystone. I had that conversation with their supervisor and they're going to follow up on, on that. I have to defer to counsel and, Mr. Verwey has guidance on what can and can't be done, but there are some factors that I would absolutely encourage you to consider. And that would be how long do you allow for the period after the March 31st timeline? Just take into fact that I'm not saying it's right or wrong, but there is a burden on researching each one of these. And, lastly it also would be a factor as to, in general, for all aspects of our government management. We rely on owners, whether they're apartment rental owners or owners for permitting or whatever our basic tenant is that the individual is expected to know the rules and, and comply with them. And so that's why Keystone shouldn't be nasty and we'll follow up on that. But we do understand that they need to be quite firm persistent and what the rules are. Ms. Al Amin stated Mr. Troutman, I'd like to say of course, homeowners, whatever, you know, most do know that, I guess certain bills are due at certain times, but I don't think it's the individual's responsibility to call the company and say, make sure you mail my bill. And I'm going to say this. They may have said they sent them out February 1st, but I did not get a bill. So I'm going to suggest that maybe Council for next year, these bills get sent out certified. And here's the reason why, if you get a pink slip, green, orange, whatever it is, and you signed for it, then they know that you received

the bill. If the post office does not return a slip, showing that attempts were made for it to be delivered at that address, then you know, the person didn't get the bill and Mr. Troutman, you know, last year, the only reason I got my bill is because when I didn't get one, I called and you said that you would give me one, but it, I don't have to call PECO every month to tell them to send me my bill. I don't have to call cable every month. I don't have to call the water company. I don't, I don't have to call the School District. I don't have to call the County. I got my County taxes. I paid that, you know, with the early discount, I've never with any tax bill not paid before the discount, except this issue that I'm having with the city tax bill. Mr. Troutman stated he understands and I've had several conversations with Keystone about your situation. We don't know why it has happened now. They have checked the records three years in a row for you. They just honestly don't know why. We've been researching trying to figure out what has happened with your address. And we know that it's been three years in a row. And so we have put a flag to, to manually double-check next year. But I would comment that if council does entertain the certified piece of it, that would be a real burden on Keystone. And it would cost us probably 4,000, mailings times, roughly \$7 ish dollars. That was \$28,000 a postage. So that's, that's a heavy price to be paying for potentially and I don't want to minimize it for the few, but there is an overall cost to go down that path.

Vice President Green asked when their taxes were postmarked, like what was the postmark date on sheets? Ms. Al Amin replied what she told me is I should call each year at the beginning of February and Carmen, you know, I've been here 30 years. It's ironic that for that whole time, uh, bill has never been late now. I didn't get a bill in 19. So when, when I paid, when, when I got the bill from city hall, I paid it at face value last year. I didn't get the bill, but Mr. Troutman got me a bill in time to get the discount. I never got a bill last year, either. And this year a resident called me and said, I didn't get my city tax bill. I said, I didn't get mine either. I got a call from four or five people. They never got it at all. And when, when, uh, when I called Keystone to discuss it with them, they were rude. And then they wanted to know why my tax bill said Khadija Al Amin, AKA my name before I changed it. Well, really that's none of their business. When you change your name and a property is still under a deed where you owe a mortgage that AKA is put there, but once it's paid for they take it off. So even though it shows that the County, my other bills don't come like that, but why would they question me about that anyway? And then the lady said to me, well, I'm helping you. We mailed it. And I said, ma'am, I'm not saying you didn't, but what I'm telling you is I didn't receive it now. It's not a hardship for me to pay the bill at face value, but for some of the seniors, that extra \$25, I can't say it's not a hardship for them. Mr. Troutman, have you taken any calls from residents complaining about that? Mr. Troutman replied no, I haven't gotten any. Obviously, I've talked to Ms. Al Amin and, and I asked Keystone, how many have they reissued for requests? And they haven't. So we're, we're trying to figure out how and why this is happening, but somehow we're attributing it to the mail, but we also don't know why three years in a row one person has, has had the same issue. The best I can figure out moving forward with Councilwoman Al Amin is if there is a resident who's having multiple years like that, we can do a runoff and get a copy of it and make sure it's dropped in their mailbox or something of that nature on a one-on-one basis. That is what I've already counted that for next year, so that we can remember to address it and hope the mail works, but have a safety net. Vice President Green asked if we can put out like, say next year, February 1st, the bills are in, put something on our website stating that tax bills have been sent out if you've not received. Mr. Troutman replied absolutely, in fact, I tend to remember in my report in January or February, if not both, that they were out there and to encourage people to be paying. I don't recall exactly, but, but I tend to remember that I mentioned it once or twice on, on my communication. I don't know exactly what was posted or not posted. Vice President Green explained a newsletter would be cheaper doing certified mail on all the tax bills. Well, I'm just trying to save us from redoing the ordinance for taxes based on the few people not receiving. And now Mr. Verwey is saying for the one-offs, we

couldn't, um, just approve them because they all, they always pay by the deadline, which I mean, to me is a simple fix. That's why Mr. Troutman received other calls or Keystone has received other calls and they have not. So for the five people that we have, if we can make that adjustment and then next year, just put a little bit more effort of notifying the residents that the tax bills are going out and to look for them. Um, that's all I'm asking. Listen, it's not a hardship for me to pay the bill at face value. I'm just saying, but for others, that might be an option. The option should not be taken away from me or anybody. Yes, exactly. I agree. Mr. Logan explained it's a ritual. We'll work on what the process is going to be. Um, you'll follow up with Keystone. And, as I said, it sounds like there's a few other additional steps that we need to take, and if we need to consult with Mr. Verwey on, the ordinance changes, we'll do so and present it back to council.

Mr. Simpson excused himself at 9:15 pm.

Citizens Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (3 Minutes)

Due to no action items, there were no citizens hearings.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to close citizens hearings on regular action items; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Regular Action Items

There were no action items at this time.

Councilperson Graves made a motion to close action items; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Reports

1. Solicitor

Mr. Verwey announced he addressed zoning and Codes issues with staff; attended meetings regarding updates on pending projects in the City of Coatesville; and worked on certain real estate matters related to leases by the City.

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan provided a couple of updates. The Coatesville Train Station call with Penn dot and Amtrak worked out the early design issues, giving way to a June construction bid packet going out to the contractors. We are very excited about that. Many of you, Council received a notification from me last week, that notification, was from our grant consultant, Coleen Terry, notifying the City of Coatesville that we were awarded \$650,000 for a Multi Modal Transportation Fund Grant from the DCED program. Congratulations to the City of Coatesville that particular grant was supported by our friends, Representative Williams and Senator Comitta. They both supported the Grant, helped push it through. We are very grateful that they are supporting the City of Coatesville on the team. In addition to that, we also received the support of our County Commissioners, to keep moving this project forward. The Multi Modal Transportation Fund is a fund designed to improve Pennsylvania's Transportation and infrastructure and insurance safer, more reliable transportation accommodation across the Commonwealth. So, for the City of Coatesville, this means a tremendous amount going towards the completion of our garage, as well as our Fourth Avenue Train Station. Congratulations again to all of you. Thank you for this work from Representative Williams and our commissioners. Councilperson graves asked if any of the transportation fund is going towards extra bus routes? Mr. Logan explained this is a specific grant, not for bus routes, so that would be something separate that we can talk to Tim Phelps from T-Mac and the Commissioners on that.

On the community update side, the City will reunite with Kutztown University this year to launch its entrepreneurial program. The sessions will begin June 8th and following the sessions as we did last year, we will have a pop-up events starting June 26 and throughout the year, last year, even with COVID, we did outdoor pop-ups. We had the tent spaced out probably more than 10 feet apart. We only had 15 vendors. This year we make it 20 depending on what our numbers look like, but they have been very successful in bringing people out, looking at some of our local entrepreneurs shopping with some of our local entrepreneurs in this year. We plan on combining not only the emerging entrepreneurs, but also individuals who are in their let's say stage one to stage four of their businesses. It should be a nice kind of blended event, with emerging and existing businesses. In addition to that, we are partnering score on this to provide a mentoring component, so that these individuals, or just getting their feet wet into entrepreneurship in business. They will have mentors from score to provide them with some guidance, guiding tools and support, as they're continuing their journey in running a business. I want to give a special thanks to Ms. Arlene Miles, she coordinated the cleanup days over the last two weeks. I think the first one was on Charlotte street. The last one was on the 100 and 200 block of West Chestnut. This is Arlene Miles, if you are listening, thank you very much for your efforts. She had pizza for the folks that were out there and again, just thank you for what you're doing to keep Coatesville beautiful. Mr. Fox. I saw you raise your hand. I think you were out there too, right? In addition to the volunteers in our community, just another note, many of you have been hearing about vaccination centers popping up. Bill Pierce mentioned, what they're doing over at the Coatesville Senior Center. We also have a council member, although she doesn't like to be mentioned sometimes, but we have a Councilor that has been spearheading and supporting a number of these actually up, Ms. Al Amin. Thank you very much for your support in getting these vaccination centers up and running and also Mrs. Green, thank you for your support in getting them up and running. And I'm sorry, but I also have to give a shout out to Mrs. Hunt because I know she's been doing some things behind the scenes and she probably think, I didn't know this, but I do know, thank you very much for, for what you're doing to get folks vaccinated as well. So, our three divas are doing some tremendous work on Council this evening, and, uh, I really do appreciate that. And the reason why I bring this up folks is because this is done outside of the County, and I'm not trying to throw the County under the bus. This is grass root volunteerism, people coming together for the people they care about in this community and tip my hat off to you, three women of our council. So thank you very much.

3. Assistant City Manager

There was no report from the Assistant City Manager at this time.

4. Finance Director

Mr. Troutman announced the pension committee meetings for each of the three pensions. So we'll be conducting those. The independent audit is substantially ahead of last year schedule. The DCED report is required by April 30th. It looks like we expect to be filing it by Friday. So we're on time for that one. And, regarding the financial statements that you have in your package, what we refer to as the circle and square schedule, , you'll see on it, the two areas I'll comment on most strongly are the general fund and the liquid fuels fund both have negative \$300,000, variances to budget, which what a difference a day makes on these numbers are through March 31st on April 1st, we got a million dollars from real estate tax payments. That flipped it to a \$3 positive for the first quarter. If we include April 1st and the similar thing happened a week or so later into April, we got the state funding for the liquid fuels of over 300,000, which flipped that into a positive. So those are the larger parts of the financials at this point. It's still somewhat early in the year, so there still are going to be timing fluctuations, and we'll continue to monitor, but at this point in time, we're doing well. We just keep moving forward.

Mr. Logan explained as he mentioned earlier, we have five applications or six applications and they will continue to come in. I'm sure. We are slowing them down. We don't want a whole bunch of people in our parks and we're happy that people are returning to our parks. Just one thing, before I get off of special events, in my earlier notes about the MTF grant. I did forget to mention the two organizations that have always supported the City. One being your RDA, Redevelopment Authority, their work is just unbelievable in putting the grant together, helping Coleen, and then Second Century Alliance, Sonia Huntzinger who we've been able to work together closely on number of projects. Sonia is in the thick of it with the City of Coatesville when it comes to getting the funding's for the train station and for the garage. I apologize for missing them early, but just wanted to acknowledge, those two organizations, Second Century Alliance and the RDA for, for their help.

Mr. Folks asked about the fencing at Ash Park. People are in my ear about when we're going to get that fence fixed, now I said two weeks, but you said that was just to get the bids in what's going on. You know, some of the council, people don't know somebody that ran through the fence on Walnut and it's been down now. We just have tape up. I thought it would move a lot faster since it's a playground and then residents use that sidewalk. Um, what's the status on that? Mr. Logan replied we are awaiting all the bids for the fence, sometimes the quotes come in a little bit slower because we try to get at least three bids. I think we are waiting for one more if I'm not mistaken, but I'll double check that in the morning. Once, the bid is selected or the quote is selected, then we'll move forward with repairing that fence there. Public Work has been asked to go out and secure the fence. The sidewalk is a different project. That is what the Veteran's going to be working on. I think this is the week that there'll be out there. One of the things with the sidewalk is we need to repair the sidewalk and do it in a way that if sidewalk repairs are going to be part of the Ash park plans. We are just looking to get the most critical areas around Ash Park repaired. I just want them to fix the bad parts because eventually that's all going to be torn out anyway. We don't know if it's all going to be torn out, but we want to just be on the safe side and eliminate risks for the broken sidewalk. The priority for us right now is just getting that broken concrete repair.

Citizens Hearings Non-Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes)

There were no special events at this time.

Mr. Folks made a motion to close citizens hearing on non-agenda items; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Special Events

Mr. Logan announced there are six special event applications at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Folks wished everyone a good night. I heard the presentation for the market. I'm not going to get happy. I'm not going to jump over hoops now because I heard this before. Until, I see something, then I'll get happy and then I'll tell you, but I'm not doing this that no more. I'm not going to say, Hey, we're able, we got a Market coming to town. It would be here. And two years from now, there'd be another hole in the wall. I'm not going to do that. Have a good night. God bless you.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everyone for attending the meeting, those that are on zoom, those that are on YouTube, Coatesville has a lot of exciting things happening. I'm going to stay hopeful for the grocery store and hope that they can make it through the zoning and the codes and Mr. Folks in nine months, we're sending you out there for the pictures. I'm going to stay hopeful. Mark your calendar for nine months, my colleagues, to make sure you're out there getting pictures. Mrs. Hunt thank you for all that

you do behind the scenes. Coatesville really has a lot of exciting things coming. I do want to make everybody mindful that as Council Vice President Green said earlier, we are in red when it comes to COVID and our numbers continue to rise. When I checked the dashboard today, we were at 1,105 cases. Since our last council meeting, we unfortunately, had two more deaths. As Mr. Logan mentioned, there's a lot of different places that are trying to make sure that vaccine clinics are coming. Jubilee Evangelists on May 6th is having another vaccination clinic and it will be from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. So you can call and leave a message on the church phone at (610) 380-9601. You do have two other options, you can either call Mrs. Green or myself. Mrs. Green's phone number is (484) 401-1446. And mine is (610) 563-4026. If you call either of us, the required information is your name, your address, your birth date and your phone number. And when you call us once we obtained that information from you, we will give you an appointment. So by the time you hang up, you already know it's May 6th, and we will give your appointment time to you before you hang up. And then you'll return there for your second vaccine. Also on that day, there will be food there that the vaccination clinic is inside. The food distribution will be outside. So those that are in need will be able to receive food as well. Mr. Folks, thank you for the folks that you referred. We have also reached out to the school district and the parents have all received emails. So we have been blessed enough that we have scheduled teenagers with the consent of their parents, age 16 and 17. So, you know, hopefully that will help too within the schools because the schools are open again. So with getting the children vaccinated, maybe that will help prevent the cases within the school too, because when there's a case in the school, then they have to shut back down and sanitize. Please, if you know anybody or you yourself, please reach out to us. And again, I just want to thank everybody for coming, Mr. Logan, thank you for putting the flyer in City Hall, and Chief, thank you for putting the flyer in the Police Department. Tomorrow, I will be bringing you each another flyer. We now have flyers in Spanish as well. So, I'll bring each one of you, one of the flyers in Spanish and thank you guys for posting them, because I think the more that we work together on this and you're right Mr. Logan, this isn't a city issue. It's a caring issue. Thank you to the city for posting and thank you Chief as well because, we really do need to all work together to get folks vaccinated. And with that everybody has a good night. Mrs. Hunt asked what vaccine is administered. Ms. Al Amin replied Pfizer.

Councilperson Graves thanked everyone for watching on YouTube and watching, and the people who rewatch it and people who are on watching live. Also, thank you to, to my colleagues for the works that you guys have been doing around the vaccine and the upcoming Jubilee Event on May 6th. Roberta, since you're here, thank you for the food distribution that is, uh, going to be along with it. I'm really excited about the prospect of a grocery store coming to Coatesville. We the people in working class communities do eat, that's how we're alive, contrary to the belief that you need a tax base for a certain type of place where a grocery store we do eat. It's good to have a place to get groceries here and not have a food desert. It's also important to support the food bank for people who rely on the food bank for their produce and edible consumption goods. and I really don't have much to say other than just have continued to have a great night everybody.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for joining in tonight via YouTube, it's been a great meeting an interesting night. As always, I want to thank our administration for the job that you do. You're second to none, always coming through is so great to hear reports of us being above water and not always sinking under. I just want to give kudos out to our Police Chief, to our City Manager, our Solicitor, the Assistant City Manager and all of those, and that makes things happen city. And I want to thank my colleagues. I'm proud to be a part of the seven people. We all have little areas that we Excel in. We all have passions and we all have compassion for the things that we're doing. I'm just grateful to be a part of you. And I just want to say, and I guess I could say because I'm not up for reelection, but we have four council members that are up for reelection in the May primary, that's Mr. Folks, Councilwoman Green, Councilwoman Al Amin and Councilperson Graves. And I just wish you all best in your campaigns. Hopefully we'll see you all back here after the November election, I do want to just address, Roberta once more about the Fresh2You truck. And just to make sure you understand that, it's not about not having the truck in the

city, your truck means a lot to so many. And I have gotten things off that truck. We just have to make sure that the location is right and that the environment for it is safe. I felt a little way about the comment being addressed to you. Have you seen or heard of any cars or any accidents? It's not whether we've seen it or whether we've heard it it's about preventing it from happening. We don't want to have a statistic happen in order for us to say, Hey, this is a bad location. So I do wish you well. And, just know that I am here to help and do whatever we can to make sure things are secured for your truck as it comes into the city. Thank you, Vice President Green, you did a good job tonight standing in for our president and we just pray for her. And I just needed to God bless each of you. Those that are on zoom, those that are on YouTube, God bless you all in your various walks and your lives. Thank you.

Vice President Green asked Ms. Al Amin, I know the County is up Jackie, correct me if I'm wrong, but they're up over 50% of vaccinated. Right? Ms. Al Amin replied, yes. That's all of Chester County. Vice President Green stated you and I are still waiting for the information that we've requested for. I would like to think that we're probably in the teens or low twenties. So, you know, I just want to encourage everyone. If you, if you have questions and you have concerns, Penn medicine will answer whatever questions that you have, they will fill you in. They will give you all the information to inform you of anything, any side effects or anything that you may be concerned about. So again, I, I like to a thank our Lieutenant, I forgot. I would like to thank him. The Chief and everyone who calls for growing greater, everyone who has been sharing and everyone who has been promoting. God bless you all. Thank you so much and have a great night.

Adjournment

Mr. Folks made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 pm; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

This meeting live-streamed over the internet on YouTube at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1u3VUIQr4r0xII0xv1HmvA> and <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86429711249?pwd=U2pxdDByYkhqQmFsMzB5TE0rdVdCdz09> Zoom Meeting ID: 864 2971 1249 Passcode: 562540 The general public may offer comment, during the meeting