



Meeting Minutes –
1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA
Council Chambers
Monday, October 24, 2022

Council Present: President Lavender-Norris; Vice President Carmen Green, Councilwomen Charrisse Allen, Councilwoman Khadijah Al Amin, Councilwoman C. Arvilla Hunt, Councilman Edward Simpson and Councilman Donald Folks

Council Absent:

Staff Present James Logan, City Manager; Robert Jefferson, Solicitor; Richard Troutman, Finance Department; Chief Jack Laufer, Police Department; Ruthann Mowday, Recording Secretary

Approved Minutes

Vice President Green made a motion to approve the October 10, 2022 meeting minutes; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Accounts Payables

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve accounts payables; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Presentations

1. TMACC – Tim Phelps

Mr. Tim Phillips, the Executive Director for the Transportation Management Association of Chester County. We are an association that serves the county here. One of our goals is to provide alternate modes of transportation so we can reduce the number of single-occupant vehicles that are on our roads. So, it could be bicycling. It could be walking. It could be carpooling. It could be vanpooling. And then also it could be taking the bus. One of the projects that we work on here in the Coatesville Markets place is that we operate the Coatesville Link bus system that travels through the City and then on out to Parkesburg.

We also operate The Outfitter which starts here in this city and goes out to The Urban Outfitter locations. They can work for us out there for that site. James and I had a conversation the other day, and one of the things that we wanted to talk about is kind of where the status of the link bus is, some of the things that we're doing for that. I did provide - and it may have reached your packet - some facts and stats about the service. If you have any questions about that, that's great. Just to let you know, I'm talking with my staff later this afternoon. The ridership for this service last year was 27,892 people with the bus service. And the operating cost for that is \$556,000, \$556,000 for that operation to occur. A majority of that fund is actually paid by PennDOT, and they pay me 80% of that service. And then we are obligated to raise revenue for 20% of that, and most of that actually does come from the county. But we do receive municipal contributions, such as yours, to support this service. And so that is how we meet those revenue goals for that. For the month of September, the fare docs which is what we do count is the rider portion of the contribution to this service was \$3,654. As you can see down below a third of those riders that were on the bus this past month, 873 of them were seniors over 65. So, seniors, when they ride the bus service, the seniors ride for free. So that is one of the things that we continue to work on for ridership as a whole. We just received notice that PennDOT is investing in a study with us that we've requested. You may have heard the SEPTA is going through the redesign work that they're doing with the bus service and also with the train

service. We've been actively involved in that. One of the things that I have raised questions about within our community-- because of the way planning has gone and where people are living and where jobs are located, they're not along the traditional bus routes. So, the bus can't just-- wheels on the bus go round and round down the route. People may be a mile or two off of that route. So, the study that PennDOT is going to be working with us, is actually looking at whether or not we can move the service to a micro transit service. And how we operate the micro transit service and the Coatesville marketplace would be different than we operate in the Southern Coatesville marketplace. Because the Coatesville marketplace does have SEPTA service and the train line, both Amtrak and SEPTA. We would look-- as I kind of say, you look-- you collect people out in the countryside to bring them into the fixed route service that SEPTA is running. And so we would be able to more efficiently use our funds to be looking at this micro transit and picking people up. It's not door-to-door service like [inaudible] is currently. It would be curb-to-curb service. So you may be able to walk to a designated spot that we would have on the map for riders on [inaudible], and so we hope-- we believe that this will help folks better commute from point A to point B. One of the things that does sit in the back of my mind is we can't on a fixed bus route service run a bus to Modena every hour. But micro transit would allow us to provide those key rides to go down to Modena and help bring people into the Coatesville marketplace to go to doctor's appointments to go and do shopping in the [inaudible], so those are some of the things that we are looking with the bus service as it is. The Outfitter continues to grow in its ridership. It's not setting things on fire, but it is getting people to work. Probably every week, I have five additional people who have signed up for that bus service. So, we're running about 20 to 25 people per day on that service, going to the morning shift and going to the afternoon service. So it is getting people to jobs and helping out the community along. And that's all I have to tell you. I was hoping that you may have some questions for me.

Vice President Green asked a question. I had a couple of people stop me last week wanting to know, is there any type of transportation that could take them from here to Honey Brook? Mr. Phillips replied Currently, there is not. And so that is another one of the communities that we continue to look at too, is that if we can get the zones set up correctly, micro transit may be an option for us to be able to move people around between here and Honey Brook and even for the folks in Honey Brook to come into Downingtown to connect into the bus system now yeah. Mr. Folks asked if your bus company is that the only one that's serving corporations or manufacturers? Do you have any other? Morgan Truck Company-- Mr. Phillips explained we had been working with Morgan. And Morgan Truck was paying for that bus service. And they were, at the time, they were not recruiting enough folks on a regular ship pattern to go to the Morgan facility. So there would've been two or three books. So the revenue hour cost for that was too great for Morgan to pay for that. So just to be clear about the Urban Outfitter, that is funded by the state. And then Urban Outfitter actually pays the full match on that. So it is an operation that occurs between the state and Urban that we help manage.

Mr. Logan asked Tim, as far as you are aware of the development and progress that the team is making, what do you see in terms of our transportation needs here? The train station that's going to be completely funded, have you guys sat down and looked at some of the impact that that's having? Mr. Phelps replied and that is the reason why we begin to look at the micro-transit side because it's not a fixed bus route. So, you probably don't need a bus that runs down the road at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. And so my grandfather, when he grew up, when he was living over in [inaudible], he would see the SEPTA bus every afternoon drive down the road. And he would complain that there was nobody on the SEPTA bus. But what he didn't realize was that that was only a leg, and there was another leg in the route that was by the mall that was carrying a lot more people than he saw. So when we're looking at this, the need of folks if they're going to the train station, more than likely for

workforce development purposes and for doctor's appointments, it would be a micro-transit to that service instead of waiting for a fixed bus route. And we're operating every 50 minutes along the corridor. If you would miss your bus, you're not going to wait another 50-plus minutes for the next bus. You're going to find another one. So that's the reason why we're really investigating the micro-transit side. Mr. Logan asked and what support are you guys getting from the county on that? the county currently makes a contribution of \$180,000 for public transit to [inaudible], which is the base amount that we need for the match money to receive from the state. And then, we are actually managing. It was our request to PennDOT for the study that PennDOT has agreed to. And we will be pulling together some folks to be on a study group to look at those issues. South Coatesville and Oxford and Kennett Square are some of those key folks, but, well, as folks like Pat [Vukovich?] in the Chester County Planning Commission, depending on who there is working on public education in Kennett.

Mr. Phelps explained there was an area-- this is what actually started the micro-transit conversation, is figuring out what is the connection between Oxford and Coatesville. Because that is the only link that's in the county, if that link was there, it would create a completely circular pattern through the core of the county. [crosstalk]--I think the last thing I wanted to share with the Council is that [inaudible] has been working with a member of our companies around here, CTDI included. CTDI as you all know, they hire seasonal employees, and they will be doing that again as we get closer to the holiday season, but. [inaudible] is very aware of the transportation gaps in the city. Also, we will be meeting with the management team over at the Marriot. And there are a number of our residents that work at the Marriot here that, sometimes you see them off at maybe 2:00 in the morning. And that can be dangerous. But there's an opportunity to work with them. So we'll certainly do that but just keep in mind that to put in another service or to extend the service, someone has to table that. And with those conversations, what we would like to be able to do is-- that there is a fleet of Rover Buses that aren't tied to state contracts-- is to be able to use those Rover Buses, either in the morning or in the afternoon. Have the employer pay for at least one portion of the run to the facility, and then plan, figure out on the bus schedule when the Fixed Route Bus service is coming through. Right now is that the Fixed Bus Route would make a deviation off of that group, which we can plan for, and then pick up the workforce at that given time. So it is that partnership to make it work. Mr. Simson asked I have a question Tim. So Bucks County, Montgomery County and Delaware County. They have bus service that puts us to shame and we're the wealthiest county in Pennsylvania. Why is that? Not to put you on the spot. [laughter] Mr. Phelps explained so the way that our transit's-- the way their transit is structured with their authority is really more huggled into the county. Because you're in a five-county region, our structure is to set the serving the region. And so what I can share with you-- and I voice my opinion and still do when I, because I it on the calls and then I sit on another advisory committee with SEPTA, is as we are going through the bus route redesign and as we're going through the train route redesign, that that service looks like in the service levels, is to make sure that we are getting the right service for our community. That is really how TMACC ended up in the bus business because SEPTA wasn't going to operate service out into the Coatesville and into the [inaudible]. It was just too far out of their core service area to have that happen. So that's one of the things that we need to do. And it's also the funding mechanism that has happened throughout the county because of the county contributions for train service and for bus service. Montgomery county does make a larger contribution, hence the reason why Montgomery county has more bus service. That's that, so figuring out that priority. And we also then take a look at how Chester County in the last 20 years has grown in population size, and the land planning that has occurred, that's outside of town centers. And so when that occurs, that stretches what that need is. And so you think about a honey brook. And once after honey, you've come all the way down through 322. You have that stretch. ramp planning

resides in this level, and what that means for communities, again, it's the County Planning Commission only has so much authority. But as supervisors and council leaders, you actually have a land planning decision-making process. So 600 houses get put up there because we have an open space and [inaudible]. 600 houses, that's a nice cap space. And so yeah, that actually takes care of the infrastructure. But that's how public transportation starts to get pulled apart. And so when you look at the train stations and even all the great work that's happening Coatesville is to expand that parking lot. You have a great walkable community. That parking lot is to bring people from the outside into that train station. If we can provide a reasonable commute that we don't need to have a parking lot, because we have a really strong robust micro-transit system, then you don't have the congestion or those cars, the single-occupant vehicles coming into the City. Thank you very much for your support questions. You have my email address at the bottom of that sheet. Please send me an email. We can have a conversation at any time. Thank you.

2. 2022 Audit – Rich Troutman

Mr. Troutman explained the 2021 Independent Audit that ended December 31st. For the record, that's the year before the Phillies go to the World Series. So, this ties into your action number of 6.8. So, if you flip it to-- So I'll get started. And there we go. So, we've already covered the first slide. So, let's go to the second one. So, the audit performed by an independent firm and they have multiple municipalities so they know what they're doing as far as audit stuff professionally. We got the best opinion possible. Most people would call that a clean opinion. The best comment on internal controls possible. And so reverse way that the profession does it. But there were no material weaknesses identified. There were no audit findings. And to reinforce the theme, no reserve rainy day funds were mitigated. Council applauded Mr. Troutman. Mr. Troutman said thank you very much. But it's team effort. So now let's go to the next slide. And it has to have numbers in here. I'm not going to read it to you, but basically, we ended up with a better financial stability to the tune of 4-plus million. In a more tangible way, if we look at the amount of cash and investments, it rose by about a million. So that's a tangible way that we've gotten better stability and can pay the bills faster, etc.

We invested 1.4 million in infrastructure and equipment. The pensions were fully paid. And you can see the pension funding two out of the three improved percentage wise. And that's going to be important because obviously we all know what's happening this year, but we have a strong base to work from. I'm going to flip the page and there's one finding that we're just frankly not going to be able to get rid of. It's been there for over 20 years. It's over 20 years. In this case it's just labeled as 2016, but it's been there since the term of the century basically. And that is our 9-year pension plan is technically not compliant with Third Class City Code. We've had it for decades and it just isn't compliant. And we'll be talking about it more in the pension committee meeting tomorrow that we'll be having.

Discussion Items

1. Minutes

There was discussion on meeting minutes.

2. Resolution recommendations for bank building – 112 East Lincoln Highway

Mr. Gill provided a single plan sheet which forms the subject of what we're here to talk about this evening. And the purpose of our presentation here this evening is informational in the lead-up to another visit that we hope to make to you on November 14th when we will ask you to take action on the request that is the subject of this plan, and what we're going to talk about in just a moment. We'll get by. What you see depicted on the plan in front of you is a graphical depiction of the modification

request, which we formally submitted to the City on September 22nd. And that modification request is a request to modify the land development approval for the Gateway project at the intersection of First Avenue and Route 30. Also, here this evening are Jim DiPetris and Mike DiPetris of the DEPG Coatesville Associates. We are representing 112 East Lincoln Highway Holdings, which is the business entity that Crosby is the principal of. That entity would be the buyer of the bank property at 112 East Lincoln Highway. I'll come back to that in just a moment. But I just also wanted to introduce Phil Farrow and Kate Farrow, who would be the restaurateurs who would-- Who would be the operators of the restaurant, which we're hoping to bring to the former National Bank property at 112 East Lincoln Highway.

This entire modification request springs from the fact that the 112 East Lincoln Highway property, even though it is physically separated from the remainder of the Gateway Land Development plan by [inaudible]. Even though it exists as a separate standalone tax parcel as of this evening and always has, as far as I'm aware existed as a separate standalone tax parcel, it is incorporated into the land development plan, which is the subject of the Gateway Land Development approval. So that land development approval graphically depicted - you can take a look at this plan sheet - includes what is shown in gray at the southeast corner of the intersection. The request that we've submitted to the City is to have that property excised from the Gateway Land Development approval. We submitted that request formally at the end of September. We appeared before the Planning Commission earlier this month. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the excision of the property from the larger Gateway Development plan. We went to the Zoning Hearing Board last week to request a parking variance. Because when you remove 112 East Lincoln Highway from the larger land development plan, that also has the effect of removing it from the MOU with mixed-use overlay district that kicks in stricter parking regulations instead of now being one parking space for every 500. Now you're at 1 for every 200. That created the need for a parking variance, which again, we appeared before the Zoning Hearing Board last week in securing that parking base. So all of that, we and ultimately to city council action, which we hope you will take on November 14th, to approve modification of the DEPG planned development approval to remove the bank building from the scope of that approval, essentially to treat the DEPG planned development approval as if 112 East Lincoln Highway, the bank property, had never been part of that plan in the first place, except for one aspect, and that is the parking vary-- the parking easement, excuse me. When you approve the DEPG Gateway Land Development Plan, you impose a condition that the bank property served as the location for 11 parking spaces which would be eased for use by tenants and patrons at the northside of Lincoln Highway, what we all think of ultimately what will be the Gateway project. We will do that parking easement agreement. We've already prepared a draft of it and we're ready to forward that to the city solicitor for review. We think that this is the essence of good planning while for various reasons-- While for many reasons the planned development plan is not ready to be recorded for the remainder of the Gateway project, this proposal presents a ready, present, and ready-to-roll opportunity for there to be real economic activity at that intersection. A bank-- excuse me. A restaurant in the bank building for which floor plans have already been developed for which floor plans have already been discussed between Crosby and Phil and the City Code Official on a pre-application basis for which a parking agreement is ready to be negotiated and ultimately executed between the bank property and the property across the street to provide for enough parking to facilitate the bank. This is real economic activity that is ready to happen very soon after City Council ultimately gives approval for this modification request. I don't think I need to frankly overstate the importance of bringing economic activity to that intersection in a first rate. If we have time I'm going to ask Phil to talk a little bit about the nature of the restaurant that we would bring to the intersection, but at a first-class, first-rate restaurant in that property. I don't need to sell that and I think that

everybody in the room understands the importance of that opportunity for economic activity. So what we've done is we've prepared a draft resolution under which the City Council would modify the prior resolutions that approved the DEPG Gateway project. And the crux of that resolution is to, as I said, excise 112 East Lincoln Highway from the remainder of the plan. Along with that, there are several components of the modification request. And I know we're pressed for time, so I'm just going to run through them very quickly. And those would include that the square footages for the northside of Lincoln Highway, what would remain of the Gateway project, would be as depicted on the plan, and that would 17,500 square feet of space on the first floor to be built, 4,500 square feet of space on the second floor, and then the Cultural Society building would be able to be used to its full extent of 15,000 square feet. But the city engineer would issue a letter, which he essential already has in his review letter for this modification request to confirm that those square footages are consistent with the city zoning ordinance. That the EPG would not need to post financial [inaudible] in escrow-- essentially maintain an escrow of \$10,000 - excuse me - unless and until it begins anew or again redevelopment work with regard to the Gateway Project. So essentially, until they're ready to proceed with the development project on the north side, they wouldn't need to replenish that escrow. That the DEPG would not be required, except as we've set forth in the resolution, to complete any of the conditions of its approval, unless and until it's ready to proceed with the remainder of the development. And then finally, that the deadline for [inaudible] of the DEPG land development plan would be extended until August 31st, 2025. Those are the requests that go along with the modification request. At its core, the modification request is to remove the property from the scope of the land development plan and all of the economic benefits that come with that, and then, as I said, these five additional components that go hand in hand with the modification request. Again, we're not asking city council to take any action this evening. But what we are hoping is that there will be the opportunity for feedback so that we, city staff, the city's consultants, can move forward ahead of this work meeting and be able to address any comments that city council might have so that by the time we get back here three weeks from tonight, city council is prepared to take the action that we're asking for. If that happens, and if we're able to excise the property from the larger land development plan, the plan then is to go to closing on this acquisition by the end of the year, and in the first quarter, to move forward with the redevelopment activities to bring the property back to productive use. I'm not sure I got it all in in 10 minutes, but that's the--

President Lavender Norris stated you're presenting them like they're demands, not requests. Mr. Gill replied They're requests. They have been negotiated between the seller and the buyer as things that should be implemented or should be granted by city council if this project is to go forward. I don't want to characterize them as demands. I want to-- That's how they sound. There's definitely [crosstalk] [laughter] They sound like they're demands, and if they're not met, your project is down the toilet. [crosstalk] Mr. Gill replied What I can say is that if there is feedback on any of these components, then we need to be able to discuss that with the seller over the next several weeks so that we know, coming into the 14th, are these things that city council is okay with? Are these things that city council has concerns about? In order to allow us to close by the end of the year, we would need to know that. Frankly, if there are components in these five additional asks that the city has concerns about, I would like to know that sooner rather than later so that Crosby and Jim can discuss them and decide, "Okay. Are these deal killers or are these things that we can further discuss as private transaction parties to be able to accommodate the city's positions?" What we don't want to have happen is show up here on the 14th and, I'll just pick one, for instance, the square footage. The city says, "No, we're not comfortable with 22,000 square feet, we want it to be 18,000 square feet." Just pulling something out of the air. That wouldn't leave us sufficient time at that point in time to address that concern. So, if there are components of these requests that [inaudible], we should discuss them sooner rather than later. President Lavender Norris asked why are those five components a major contingent with the sale of the

property? It seems like if the property is sold then that's money going to Mr. DePetris. So, he should be able to fulfill the obligations that have already been in place for so many years that we constantly redo, we constantly give more provisions for him to meet those obligations. So I'm not understanding. If he's making the money from his selling the property, why would he not be able to meet those obligations? Mr. Gill stated I'm going to ask him to come up and address any questions that council might have about these requests including the-- Jim do you want to come up and address that question? Councilwoman had a question about why these requests are being incorporated into the modification requests. The modification is to withdraw the property from the plan. Councilwoman's [inaudible] question is why are we talking about things that have to do with the north side of the property-- of the development when the crux of the request is to [exhide?] the property.

Mr. DePetris stated first off, we believe in the future of that corner. So it's important for us to have an understanding with the city as to what our requirements are going to be. Some of the requirements that exist right now, we wouldn't be able to meet those demands that are outlined on the plan. As far as the recording of the plan, we know that that plan as it is today would not be the plan that will be in the future. There will be changes to it. And it takes time once tenants are found to get those new plans approved through DEP, through [inaudible], and through the city. They won't happen automatically. So, before we could even come back in with a new plan we really need to know what exactly is going to happen here. We're very confident with what this man next to us is doing, both in terms of the flats and across the street. And typically, we're not sellers, but we were thrilled once my brother Michael found developers interested in buying his corner. Because we saw that this would electrify that corner and would make it much better for us to attract someone to go there. But that's going to take some time and we've invested heavily and we want to make sure that we're around for the good times when they come. Mr. Simpson stated I'll speak for me. Just replying to what you were saying how you need to know exactly what we're going to do. We're at the point Mr. DePetris, we need to know exactly what your plans are because you know where they've been. Mr. DePetris replied we want to make something happen there. We don't know what it's going to be but we already know that that building won't be as big as it is right now on that plan. It will be reduced.

Mr. Logan asked I guess the question I have, if that's just the crux of the matter the reduction in the size of the building to make it a parking variance, where do we stand with the current plan right now? Are we in compliance with the recording of the plan right now? Mr. DePetris explained I believe [crosstalk] engineer. it said the plan that is now in front of you meets zoning requirements for 22,000 square feet. Mr. Simpson asked what about the cafe or whatever? The bistro? Mr. DePetris replied we had made an application for an economic license and we are expecting to receive good news on that. Mr. Simpson stated well, I thought you already received the economic development liquor license? Mr. Depetris replied we received it but it's still in shelter at this point. It needs to be brought out and then-- Mr. Simpson asked what's the timeline for that? Mr. DePetris stated it needs to happen soon. It needs to happen before March 15th I think it is. Mr. Simpson stated I understand that. But do you have a timeline? When are you working on it? Mr. Simpson stated I understand that. But do you have a timeline? When are you working on it? Mr. DePetris stated it needs to happen before March 15th I think it is.

President Lavender Norris stated okay. So with regard to the bank building, I would love to see the restaurant there, especially after having taste some of your food. I love it. However, I don't understand how the city, after we've already made agreements and we've gave you extensions and whatever else you asked for. I think we've rolled out the red carpet for you. I don't understand how at this point the city has to still make concessions for you to make a business deal with Mr. Woods. I don't understand how we stand in the middle of that. Mr. DePetris stated well, you really don't, except that I own that corner. And I can set the terms for what I wanted to do [inaudible]. President Lavender Norris stated with the buyer, not with us. Mr. DePetris

replied I know but these are terms that I've set forth. Mr. DePetris replied I know but these are terms that I've set forth. So let's speak to the buyer. And by that, you can go through each one and there's explanations. I only addressed one. There's explanations for every one of these if you would like to hear them. your buyer. I'm trying to understand how the city has to make concessions. Why are we pulled in? [crosstalk] asked yeah, why are we pulled into it? Mr. Gill stated I think I can explain it if I can just jump in here. The reason why we're making the modification request is because, as I said, that property 112 East Lincoln, even though it's physically separated, even though it's separately assessed. Way back when the original developing [when?] was created for the Gateway. I'm presuming for parking reasons although I don't know for sure. 112 was included within that development plan. Your subdivision and land development coordinates has a provision, I don't know the [inaudible], but it has a provision that says no lot within approved subdivision can be conveyed until the subdivision plan is recorded.

Vice President Green stated we understand that. But what we're saying is, what we don't understand is, why we need to give him another three year extension on his plan. Okay. All that plan needs to be done is modified and changed. The demands that he's making of the city in regards to, "I'm only going to give him this property if you do this for me. If you don't do this for me, I'm not going to sell to him." We are not part of that. President Lavender Norris stated we are not a part of that. Mr. DePetris apologized as he misunderstood the question. President Lavender Norris stated and I think it's unfair to us, and to Crosby, for those to be stipulations. He's saying, he comes to the podium and he says, he's excited and wants to see something great happen on that corner. He likes the idea of what they want to do. So let them do it. Sell the property. It's going to benefit you because they're going to pay you for it. I don't understand why we have to change after we've bent and we've bent and we've changed since 2014. And then he wants extra stuff. He wants to do some-- he wants us to say, "Okay, here. You've got full reign. Do whatever you want. Have that building. Own it for 20 more years. It doesn't matter." Mr. DePetris apologized as he misunderstood the question. The plan has not been recorded. And it's important by recording that plan we put financial obligation to us to do such things as build a dumpster for a building that's not there. We can go on through the entire list of requirements which makes no sense for us to obligate ourselves for improvements to a lot when there's no building there. Mr. Simpson stated but you want us to obligate ourselves. Mr. DePetris replied this is [inaudible] and the plan is going to change. So why would I record a plan that we know is going to change? Mr. Simpson stated you did it before. You tell us. Mr. DePetris replied why would I record a plan-- Mr. Logan interrupted for a second. Again, there is a lot of-- we've gone over our time [inaudible]. But there are a lot of things that we need to get addressed and we're getting to the point where we're speaking about items and don't— Council asked to have a meeting with Mr. DePetris. President Lavender Norris stated we can have a meeting absolutely. But I do think that this is an opportunity to, as Mr. Gill mentioned and our solicitor, to sit down if there are any stipulations or, I would say, a compromise or any concept [inaudible] would like to give me and our solicitor to take to that meeting, I'd be more than happy to take. We can have [inaudible] come to a meeting that I think that if we decide to have two or three Council members sit down with them you all know, whoever the three, you're going to know what the consensus of the council is. Because we need a meeting. We can't do this no other kind of way. So we just decide amongst ourselves who the three would be. We can't have four but we can have three. And we have a meeting that would be fantastic and that would give us the opportunity to discuss those issues ahead of the 14th and still allow enough time for your closing. I think the sooner the better within the next couple of days. Vice President Green stated she'd be willing to attend the meeting. President Lavender Norris stated its what's best for the city. We're definitely excited. We would love to see it happen.

Citizens Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (3 Minutes)

There were no citizens hearings on regular action items at this time.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to close citizens hearings on regular action items only; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider, for second reading and adoption an Ordinance authorizing an amendment to the agreement of sale for the property located at 99 North 9th Avenue, Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, UPI No. 16-6-307, that will extend the due diligence period to November 7, 2022 with the Coatesville Youth Initiative.

Vice President Green made a motion to approve second reading and adoption an Ordinance authorizing an amendment to the agreement of sale for the property located at 99 North 9th Avenue, Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania, UPI No. 16-6-307, that will extend the due diligence period to November 7, 2022 with the Coatesville Youth Initiative; Mr. Folks seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Receive and consider for first reading and advertisement an Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Chapter 224, zoning by deleting and removing all references to residential conversion and §224-61.A (Conversion of Uses) from Article IV, Residential Districts; Article V, Institutional Districts; Article VI, Commercial Districts; Article XII, Supplemental Use Regulations; Article XIII, Off-Street Parking and Loading; and Article XXIII, Mixed Use Development Overlay District; of the Coatesville Zoning Ordinance of 1995, as amended.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve first reading and advertisement an Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Chapter 224, zoning by deleting and removing all references to residential conversion and §224-61.A (Conversion of Uses) from Article IV, Residential Districts; Article V, Institutional Districts; Article VI, Commercial Districts; Article XII, Supplemental Use Regulations; Article XIII, Off-Street Parking and Loading; and Article XXIII, Mixed Use Development Overlay District; of the Coatesville Zoning Ordinance of 1995, as amended; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Receive and consider motion authorizing the City Council President and the City Manager to sign an amendment to the agreement for collection of delinquent municipal claims on behalf of the City of Coatesville. This amendment specifically amends the fees listed in the agreement, executed by the City on September 28, 2015 and by Portnoff on October 6, 2015.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the City Council President and the City Manager to sign an amendment to the agreement for collection of delinquent municipal claims on behalf of the City of Coatesville. This amendment specifically amends the fees listed in the agreement, executed by the City on September 28, 2015 and by Portnoff on October 6, 2015; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Al Amin was the dissenting vote.

Ms. Al Amin stated so, I know before we had a lot of issues with there being so many fees with Portnoff collecting the delinquent past bills. There were some people that owed a \$295 trash bill, but they ended up with a \$1500 trash bill. So I [inaudible] with some of these fees. I definitely with the one on the bottom of page two it says "And services not covered above at an hourly rate between 75 and \$275 an hour," but it's not listing what service only services not listed above. So something later could be listed and be billed at \$275 an hour. I don't know. I'm not okay with that. That's just me, though. President Lavender Norris asked Is that a motion? Ms. Al Amin stated I guess a comment. We've all had issues with the amount that Portnoff is charging on the bills, so. Mr. Troutman explained the genesis of the reason they do [inaudible]. There are no really substantive changes in the contract. This was predicated because the government changed the law of collections and required an

additional step. And so the Portnoff law firm who does our collections worked with our solicitor forming the language that we needed to be able to incorporate the change in the law. Ms. Al Amin stated I thought we were going away from Portnoff. We discussed that several times that we were going to move away from Portnoff because their fees were too high. It's like I said, one person only owed one year and \$295, but when they got their bill it was a \$1500 bill. I know I had vote and [inaudible] had vote, Mrs. Hunt, and I thought we were going completely away from Portnoff. Vice President Green replied no. We weren't going away, but what we did was we changed the way that we did the sum whereas the \$250 fee that they were at originally for the sending of a letter-- they're not sending out the trash bills to Portnoff in January like we used to do. So, they get a series of letters. Is that right? The first couple letters come from the city. Then by the time-- Portnoff doesn't get them until they've not paid for a long time. So, because we can't afford-- I mean we don't do their collections. They're not sending them directly to Portnoff. The city sends a punitive, right? Mr. Troutman explained the basic essence of it is it's progressive in nature. And the owner has from February through December to pay before he gets considered for delinquency. As Ms. Green mentioned, we do the initial collection of anybody who had not paid in that period of time. We contact them and follow up. So, they have a period, January, February, early March to pay without additional penalties. And at that point in time, frankly, it's very labor-intensive to be following up. And at that point in time we normally report that. There becomes a notice, and then it becomes progressive when they don't respond and they don't work with us. We have [inaudible] City Council. You directed the finance staff to basically say, "If you're able to start a payment plan, then the interest doesn't compound. The fees don't grow. So frankly, if you cooperate and work with the city, then there are no additional fees that get added." The fees that have been referenced here tend to be people who have ignored the issue for four, five, six, seven years, and the last resort is to take them to court. And that adds significant money to the process. Vice President Green stated I think we had a meeting with the court and all of the residents here who went through the process. And they agreed before we're not taking people to sheriff sales or notifying us first. Is that right, Rich? Mr. Troutman replied yes. Vice President Green stated before their property even gets to that process-- but they've given a lot more time. Then once it goes to them in March or April, then they're process starts with that \$40 letter first, you know what I mean, before they start adding the big fees. So a lot of times, when we experience this, we have [inaudible]. Say, for example, you fell down the stairs. Someone gets a person who owes \$100, and you have three months to the \$100. They lump for \$800. It goes to court of law, and then the fees begin to escalate. But in all the time before those [inaudible], as Rich just said, the finance department is reaching out to people. They're trying to get to this point. And we are not a collection agency, so for us to get on the phone with people every single day, basically, and ask them to fulfil their responsibility, well, that's very difficult. We have set up a payment plan. The payment plan does seem to be working, but, again, we are looking at literal [crosstalk].

Vice President Green stated we would have to hire a [inaudible] collector, you know what I mean. We would have to hire a tax collector, right, [inaudible]. I'm saying if we were to do that in [inaudible], we'd have to hire people to do it. Mr. Troutman replied yeah, we will [inaudible] a hard cost, one way or the other. And just to give people an order of magnitude, there's upward of a \$1,500,000 involved in submitting these claims owed to the city for real estate and delinquent trash fees. And it is basically everything that has accumulated. And so the efforts have been to try to work this out. The other comment I would make is an individual, really, could just reach out. There's hardship plans we have individuals on \$25 a month, in some cases, that have qualified as hardship. And it's going to take five, six, seven years to pay it off, but there's no interest. And so we're trying to work with people, but frankly, we have several individuals who have ignored the issue for three, four, five, six, seven years. Back in 2014, it's still unpaid. And we're-- Well, that was 2013 and prior,

and that's when there was-- and I only noticed from being told this. There was basically a cut-off that day. Let's get it right. And then 2014 [inaudible]. And even that wasn't sent to the [inaudible] till 2016. So people had a chance to work with us, and we're trying to make collections so that this problem doesn't perpetuate. Oh, definitely. There are X number or X percent that is the [inaudible] applying for the location. A large majority of the money is with rental landlords. Ms. Al Amin said right. So for the landlords that aren't paying their trash fees every year, they should not be getting more rentals license, correct? That's one of the conditions, right? Mr. Troutman replied it is a condition. Yes. And that is something that we have major efforts. Every week, we print a list of who's delinquent for Codes. And they literally have to check the list. Every time somebody wants to engage the rental property or coordinate inspection, it is a manual process and it is quite long for the list. But there is progress being made. It's just not as fast as any of us would like but there is progress and part of that is those that do respond, we are engaged in any type of reasonable payment plan. Ms. Al Amin stated So you said it is a lengthy process. Describe to me the process. Somebody comes in and says, "I want to get my rentals license," so what happens next? Mr. Troutman explained part of it. And part of it is we'll have multiple names that come with the owner. So there's some [inaudible] people that you have to go property by property. You can't necessarily say that John Doe who owns eight properties [inaudible] don't want to sound like it's impossible. But there are extra steps we're going through to try to get the old money collected that frankly wasn't collected for years that we're now trying to go back and collect for the properties. Ms. Al Amin asked about people that, like you said for years 14, 15, 16, 17, how are they able to get their driver's license every year when there's an ordinance that states. They're supposed to check and make sure that the trash and taxes are paid. They're supposed to check and make sure the property has a biannual inspection. All of these things are supposed to be checked and made sure that they're in place before a license is even issued. Mr. Troutman explained a couple of things have happened. One is that for the payment process. If they did not pay for their license for a previous year. They got dropped from the renewal license list. So, once you got away with two years, you could get away with three years and so on. That was one of the big reasons why we changed the software. Then there's another scenario that happens that you are required by law to have [inaudible] permits and have an inspection every two years. But the way it was worded, [inaudible] the city responsibility to tell you that you were [inaudible]. So working with Mr. Jefferson [inaudible] the landlords. We have multiple landmarks who are compliant. But we also have some that just are the [inaudible] 80% of the effort is [inaudible]. So those are a couple of scenarios that we had to work through. Then there's the issue that they'll pay for the license, they'll pay for the inspection. But they won't [inaudible] with the inspection and they don't get the license. We don't give them no rental license. But they'll pay for it to be, quote-unquote, "compliant" but we don't physically issue the license. And that kind of scenario, [inaudible] the money. Because we have 3300 units out there to some extent, and we have no way to keep driving on Mr. Simpson. And so the decision or the process up until now has been that once that's been done, the code isn't really clear on what the next step is. So there is a phrase in there, Section K, that speaks to what the penalties are, but there's no criteria that's specifically attached as to when that kicks in. So—Vice President Green stated And these are all issues that have been trying to be worked through and get better process with. And we had one person in the Codes Department for three years.

Mr. Troutman explained this part of the reason why we had to invest in code department, and we have to change the way the Ordinance are written, which we've done. This will be the second year. Last year we started this process for Mr. Verwey, and then this year we're trying to do more addressing on the ordinance. So [inaudible] post every year for last-- I don't how many years, that the easiest-- that is the biggest revenue producer for the city, which is rental. That one person handles the rental rules and they do all the checks and balances. One person. Because now if multiple people are

doing it, this person doesn't know what that person's doing or this and that. And so, I mean, every day if you're going through it, you're looking through who's paying and who's not paying, whereas you're not being distracted by something else. I think it makes the most sense in the world that one person handles it instead of two or three people going through and trying to work this out.

President Lavender Norris stated let me say this. Excuse me, let me say this. During the audit presentation, seeing how our increase has occurred, no negative findings, we're bringing in more money. So, doesn't that speak to the fact that they're trying to get it done? They're working [crosstalk] and it's going to take time. I don't understand what you're saying, but I'm saying it's showing that they're working at it, they're trying to make it happen. They're not trying to throw anything out, they're trying to bring everything in they can. We can't expect it to happen in a year, two, or even three since we're talking about how we just cut off collecting from 2014. Ms. Al Amin stated I disagree with you. President Lavender Norris stated and that's okay, you're allowed to. Ms. Al Amin stated I disagree. President Lavender Norris stated That's fine. But at the second time, we cannot expect them to make up for everything that was done prior to. Then we're moving forward. Ms. Al Amin asked Mr. Troutman, can I ask you a question [crosstalk]? President Lavender Norris said I appreciate that. You know what I want to do? I want to call the question. That's what I want to do. I want to move forward. Mr. Logan, please call Council. Ms. Al Amin stated So even if there's still questions on the [crosstalk]. President Lavender Norris stated Yes, I'm calling the question. [crosstalk] call Council, please proposed now-- Ms. Al Amin stated I'm asking the solicitor a question. President Lavender Norris replied Yes, I hear you. And did you hear me ask a question? Ms. Al Amin replied I did. But I'm [crosstalk]-- President Lavender Norris said okay, thank you. [crosstalk]. Mr. Folks stated we got sidetracked. That wasn't the question. Well, you're arguing about something that we can't even do a-- we got no control of. President Lavender Norris stated that's right. We'll get the money. It's taking time. Please. Mr. Logan-- Ms. Al Amin stated but it's talking about [inaudible]. Vice President Green stated we are talking about something that's not on the [crosstalk]-- President Lavender Norris stated we're talking about the [inaudible]. Just leave it to vote[crosstalk]. Vice President Green stated the issue at hand is going on allowing them to move forward on [inaudible]. With the [inaudible] in place. Mr. Troutman explained one little tweak, Ms. Hunt. One little tweak because of the change in the collection wall. There had to be a change for compliance to the wall. Mrs. Hunt stated I can't give a vote until I know and understand clearly what I'm voting on. It's [crosstalk]-- Mr. Jefferson stated and to make it absolutely clear to Council, I do have some additional information. The city entered an agreement with Portnoff in 2015 for the collection of Delinquent trash fees. From that 2015 agreement, fees were made, it lists all of the legal fees that are currently listed on what's been presented in the amendment in front of you today. Just for reference, you mentioned the initial review and said if there was [inaudible] a demand letter. That was 100% [inaudible] of the proposed amendment. It's \$160 right now as we sit here. So it's going up \$15. Another one that you mentioned was services not covered above. In the old agreement, that's currently in effect right now, it was at an hourly rate between \$60 and \$275 per hour. So the service is not covered far and the proposed amendment has gone from \$75 to \$275. So that's a basic increase about \$15. A lot of these fees are currently in place with Portnoff. They have increased several of them along [inaudible]. That's what this proposed amendment is actually doing. It's increasing the fees that are charged for the agreement that's currently in place from 2015. And we're understanding that it only loses [inaudible] after the city has exhausted-- The procedural mechanism I would defer to Mr. Troutman but this amendment proposed is just an amendment piece.

4. Receive and consider first reading and advertisement an Ordinance amending Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 108, Fees, Part I, Subsection (5), Collection of Trash Fees, of the General Laws

of the City of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, by deleting the Subsection in its entirety and replacing it with language that will approve the appointment of solicitor, interest assessment, and attorney fees and collection fees added to the amount collected as part of unpaid Municipal claims for delinquent accounts

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve first reading and advertisement an Ordinance amending Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 108, Fees, Part I, Subsection (5), Collection of Trash Fees, of the General Laws of the City of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, by deleting the Subsection in its entirety and replacing it with language that will approve the appointment of solicitor, interest assessment, and attorney fees and collection fees added to the amount collected as part of unpaid Municipal claims for delinquent accounts; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Al Amin was the dissenting vote.

Mr. Jefferson provided just a little background. This is a corollary to the kind of motion that you just worked on. The agreement was that the professional service agreement that was just amended to the first law in 6.3. This one actually goes into the ordinance and removes what's currently written there regarding the collection of these delinquent fees, specifically since Portnoff is going to be collecting the trash fees and essentially inserting the court rock language which mirrors the motion in their created request schedule. So it's making the ordinance consistent with the contract that is currently being provided by Portnoff.

5. Receive and consider first reading and advertisement an Ordinance amending Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 182, Municipal Liens, § 182-1, applicability, of the General Laws of the City of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, by deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with language that excludes the collection of unpaid, delinquent trash fees

Vice President Green made a motion to approve first reading and advertisement an Ordinance amending Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 182, Municipal Liens, § 182-1, applicability, of the General Laws of the City of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, by deleting it in its entirety and replacing it with language that excludes the collection of unpaid, delinquent trash fees; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1. Ms. Al Amin was the dissenting vote.

Mr. Jefferson explained just by way of background, currently, Chapter 182 is titled Municipal Liens. Section 182-1 is the likability section, and it's broadly written right now. So, it could apply in a sense to the collection of delinquent trash fees. Essentially, we're re-introducing the exact same language that was previously there in section 182-1, but we're just adding one sentence that says, this chapter shall not apply to the collection of delinquent trash fees because Portnoff will be taken care of. And that'll be covered under a separate ordinance, which was previously voted on in 6.4. So, this is just making it very clear in the ordinance that you're not going to look at this session for the collection of delinquent trash fees and more specific coordinates regarding the production of delinquent trash fees.

6. Receive and accept 2021 Municipal Annual Audit and Financial Report

Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the 2021 Municipal Audit and Financial Report; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to close action items; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. Ms. Al Amin was not present for the vote.

Reports

1. Solicitor

Mr. Jefferson announced he provided a more detailed attorney-client privileged report to Council. Since Council's last meeting I have advertised the ordinance for the Community Center Agreement of Sale and communicated with the Community Center's Attorney; drafted an ordinance regarding the collection of delinquent municipal fees; drafted an ordinance regarding the collection of trash fees; attended the Coatesville City Planning Commission meeting on October 12, 2022; provided an opinion on a zoning matter; continue to provide advice regarding land development matters; and worked on a Commonwealth Court appeal matter.

2. City Manager

Good evening, everyone. I don't have much to report on other than a few development projects we are working on including the community center, and other projects. Earlier this evening you heard about recommendations from the parking study. A copy of the study will be placed in the lobby for residents interested in reviewing. The study outlines parking assets throughout the city. One of the things that the study is recommending a number of ways to alleviate some of the parking congestion in the city and identify parking assets throughout the community. We are understanding that parking is a premium, so we're looking for ways to help mitigate parking challenges as the city continues to develop. I want to turn over the rest of our time to our Police Chief to address some of the issues within our community involving our young people. Many of you know that our school district has been front and center in the news again related to issues in the high school. A number of our students attend that high school, and some of the things that may start in our community over the weekends sometimes spill over into the schools. So I'd like to turn over the rest of my time to Chief Laufer so he can share what the Coatesville Police Department has done to work alongside Caln and other law enforcement organizations.

3. Finance Department

Mr. Troutman announced he emailed to each of you and said you should look for it today and print it essentially as a refresher. Last month, I came before you and said there's a small deficit so far for the year. Through September, we were able to flip that. So, there's a small surplus, and you can see on the sheet it all shows you the small surplus. So, we're heading in the right direction. We have a few more months to close out, but we're still targeting the flood budgets. And we'll see one tonight.

4. Police Department

Chief Laufer read the first paragraph of the news release issued by the Chester County District of Attorney's Office back in October 19th. The Chester County District Attorney's Office and Caln Township Police Department announce the arrest of a 17-year-old from Valley Township in connection to a recent threat of violence to Coatesville Area High School (CASH) that occurred on Oct. 17, 2022. The juvenile is a senior at CASH. He was charged with two counts of terroristic threats, two counts of threats to use weapons of mass destruction, and criminal use of a communication facility, all felonies. He was also charged with one count of false reports, a misdemeanor. This was the 14th notification of a threat or a tip of potential violence at CASH during a three-week period, causing lockdowns, evacuations, and the cancellation of school and student activities. The investigation into the other threats is still ongoing. The news release, which was made public, we had it on our Facebook page, and I have distributed to all council members, goes on to talk a little more in detail, but for the purposes of tonight, I think that first paragraph sums it up pretty well. As everybody here in this room is well aware, the campus is located in Caln Township. The general public just makes an assumption that Coatesville Area School District, it's the City of Coatesville and Coatesville Police Department. And we know that's not necessarily the case when it comes to things that happen on the campus itself. Now, that doesn't mean that residents of the city

aren't involved or responsible for some of those activities that are occurring within the district and on the campus itself. For this particular instance, the 17-year-old doesn't reside in the city, he resides of Valley Township.

There have been some incidents here in the city that we have responded to as our police department. Not this past weekend, but the prior weekend, which immediately proceeded the announcement of the arrest on that Monday. And one of those was the shooting that we investigated it involving a 16-year-old which ended up initially being dispatched as he was shot in some type of altercation, but would later, through investigative efforts, be discovered as being it was an accidental, self-inflicted gunshot wound by that individual who does attend the school. And his name had been associated with some of the ongoing issues that the school district was experiencing. But the actual accidental and self-infliction of the gunshot wound had nothing to do with the incidents that were occurring at school. Also, we had a stabbing incident that same weekend that occurred on South 1st Avenue. There was some thought that somehow that was connected to the violence and the issues going on within the school district. And absolutely that was not the case. It was a totally unrelated, older group of individuals that were involved in that. We did have multiple stab wounds, multiple victims who suffered stab wounds. None of them life-threatening, and it was reference to an altercation that had nothing to do with the school district or any students in the school. So there were just a couple of things that occurred, that there were a lot of assumptions made that they might have been connected to the violence and the issues that the school district was experiencing, which was not the case. We are working closely with Township. Chief Elias and myself talk routinely. We work closely with Frank Gavith, who's the Chief of the School District police. The night of the shooting, we immediately networked with Chief Calver and also administration at the school to make them aware that, yes, we did have a shooting. It did involve a student in the school district, but preliminarily ended up being true, had nothing to do with the incidents that were occurring on the school grounds. So, just to answer some of the questions that might be lingering out there, or just make sure counsel understands where we stand. We are cooperating fully, providing any information that we can provide in the system. Count Township, the school district, police, district attorney's office, and we're hoping that maybe that arrest has sort of put to rest some of the issues and we can get on with our school year. So there's no questions. And these threats were made through the Safe to Say Act which was initially put out there by the State Attorney General's office for a platform or a venue for people to provide information anonymously in hopes of preventing school violence. Whether it's a mass shooting or something like that. The idea was to provide a platform or a venue for people to anonymously provide information without fear of being identified. And then themselves being part of whatever they're tipping. But unfortunately, some people have elected to use that cloak of anonymity to make these threats. And that was part of the issue with-- took a little while to identify those who were involved in making the threats.

Citizens Hearings Non-Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes)

John Sly

Mr. Sly provided an update on the ALS. Good evening, member council. Thank you for allowing us to speak tonight. I actually just wanted to come with some appreciation for you and to combine the follow-up on the support that we began operating last month. Effective September first, we were up and running with two additional paramedic units, thanks to the cooperation of all the municipalities in the western part of the county. We had 119 incidents in Coatesville City last month, requiring advanced life support. We've had a few that the Chief mentioned here that we've been involved in. The shootings of families was unfortunate. We had a fatal accident here in the city earlier this month, which wasn't part of those calls. But it's a much-

needed service. And I don't like to be the guy that comes in and asks for something and then you never see me again. So I wanted to come back tonight and say thank you. Thank you for getting the check to us as quickly as you did. It is much appreciated. Obviously, it's going to help save lives. And that's all I want to do is just follow up with you. Council thanked Mr. Sly for coming in front of Council. It is not very often that we get a status report. Mr. Sly stated I will do my best to stop as often as I can. But I'm trying to get around to everybody who helped support this and follow up and then give them a huge understanding of just what the money's been used. So I can tell you last month for a little Westwood down here on Valley Road, it was our busiest month ever in the history of providing legal services. We had 580 total calls last month. So, it's a busy service in this part of the county. And without the municipal support, we never wouldn't be able to do it. And one of the things that I've been asked before by some of the municipalities, "Why do you need money upfront?" Why all these calls that we just had to submit for billing? But we won't receive that money until probably January. February, they'll pay as long as the insurance companies drag their feet. So without that, we're still very, very tight right now. From a cash flow standpoint, without it, we wouldn't be able to do it. So we're proud put two more units up. We've been doing our best staffing challenges as everybody else says.

Clarissa Whitfield

Ms. Whitfield explained she is the quartermaster for the Coatesville VFW right out here across the street. We are in the process of trying to revitalize as well. COVID hit us very, very hard. As your Police Chief can probably tell you, we also have some funds that came up missing during that time period while we were shut down. So, having a financial background, I come in, and I started looking into the books, and I didn't like it. So I turned it over to be further investigated. That being said, I am trying to get a positive image. So, the first thing you'll see on the papers I just handed out is a sign that we would like permission to have placed here coming into the City of Coatesville on Rt 82. And then on the second page, the very top picture is where the Y used to be just before the Bridge down here. That has been downgraded to grass. We would like to put our sign there that says Welcome to Coatesville, Pennsylvania, homeowner VFW Post 287. I'm out around the community, and I constantly get asked, "Oh, there's still a VFW in Coatesville?" But nobody knows we're here. So I approach the council and asked for support to we will purchase the sign, but we have to permission from y'all and I believe your department has to install the sign, am I correct? Mr. Logan stated well, I don't know that we're-- so I just need to read where it's located. Ms. Whitfield replied I mean, I don't know that location off the top of my head. It's a 24 x 30 road sign. Mr. Folks said It used to be a road right there coming out of the [tressel?] where they cut the road off and they put dirt and grass there now. That spot is where she want to put that sign, right there. I saw [crosstalk] soon as you see it. Ms. Whitfield stated Well, our hope is that-- yes, oh yes, you can keep it. Our hope is that the majority of the visibility comes down 82. So that'll be our first point to hit folks and let them know that we're still in the community and we're still here to support them and doing what we can. We do a lot of work with the scouts now, with Memorial Day services. We're working with the parade committee supporting the Eagle scout who is putting the Vietnam vets together to do the parade this year. President Lavender Norris stated the City Manager will look at the requirements and provide her with the information.

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mr. Simpson thanked everybody for coming out considering the anxiety level in the room today I have nothing else. Have a good night.

Mr. Folks thanked everyone for coming out and wished them a good night. See you in a couple weeks.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone. Again, thank you all for coming and keeping up with this. Thank you Chief for your report on the school district, my heart hurts over that situation. And then today, as I was coming here I heard on the on news there was another school shooting in St. Louis, two people killed, and then they killed a third 19 years old. And just to see that we still have that amount of violence. I just want to encourage to be mindful of what your children, grandchildren are bringing home. If they are going out trick or treating look for more alternative things we have to do to try and keep them safe, just keep them out of harm's way. It concerns me about now [inaudible] safe to say, knowing that these young people were caught in their system, is it going to be hard to get information there realizing now that even though it's supposed to be anonymous, it's not. So you put things in place to try to make it safer and then people still have [inaudible] these young people still have a way of manipulating the system put in place. So it just really saddens me to see what is going on, not just in our community but all around. So I just those that whoever you are, you just reach out and just pray to God and the Lord Jesus Christ. I just pray to him all the time for our community. Mr. Sly I just want to thank you for coming back and acknowledging the help that you are providing just as much for our community and hopefully have saved some lives in the process of what we're doing. And speaking of a sign, I've been meaning to bring you to you Mr. Logan, every weekend after I drive over the bridge I mean to call you. The sign coming over the bridge from Caln in front of Double D's says welcome to Thorndale. It's once you cross over the bridge. I've noticed it several times and I always forget to call. Mr. Folks asked about the small convenience store selling gummy bears with THC. It's not a lot of THC. But you can just walk in and purchase the candy with THC. Chief Laufer explained there's a percentage, even in this CBD stuff, there's a percentage allowed for THC and it's a minute percentage but it still is present. So I think that's how they get around, even though it's supposed to—3%, I think. Mr. Folks said all the stores have them. Mrs. Hunt explained her concern is not so much about them selling them in the store. But this thing that's being posed and propped as candy. And now Halloween season is right here on us. That's my concern. And so I just want-- there's different churches that are having things on Halloween. I know my church, First Baptist of Passtown will be hosting an event with a whole afternoon filled with things. They'll have so much candy. The kids can trick or treat where it is safe. My effort is just to keep the kids safe. Have a good night.

Ms. Allen thanked everyone for coming out. Good Night.

Ms. Al Amin wished everyone a good night.

Vice President Green thanked everyone for coming out. Last week was such a wonderful week. We had the opportunity to go and share in honoring-- our City Manager being honored by the Boy Scouts of America. And I thought that it was very, very nice. It was a wonderful, wonderful program. And I feel so proud that we have our City Manager who has stood out in the county that he has been looked at as a Megastar. James has put a lot on the table. He's [inaudible] some difference to the table for the City of Coatesville. And I'm just excited that this may feel good and then on a Sunday be the Hudson Memorial Church honored the Police. Not just the City's police, but the police in general. And I'm just very pleased of Sergeant Ollis's- or I'm sorry, Lieutenant Ollis's reading of the scripture. And we had a gentleman from Delaware County that played the bagpipe? It is a very well-attended program. And it was just an honor for the police, especially in the department. And I know what made you guys feel good. There're so many people to support what it is that you do. But I know that things have been rough, this whole situation with this whole School District. Mrs. Hunt, I know how upset you were. I spoke to Mr. Logan, and I also spoke to the Chief because you were quite upset. And there's so much going on in his climate. And like I said, once they kind of announced that they had arrested someone, I've been building this or seeing in the news that school district is saying things. So we have to continue to pray for it. I don't know. There's no magic bullet. Believers have to learn to pray. We just have to pray for them. I don't know if it's about getting out of school. I mean, you can come up with other ways to get out of school. But it's just the way that things are. But I was so grateful and so

thankful for everyone in the audience because we are a praying bunch of Council people up here. We pray all the time for our city and for everything. I'm so thankful he has blessed us. I'm so excited about the audit. I can't wait to sit down on Wednesday to start our budgeting process because I already know that the Lord is going to provide again like He has provided in the last few years. So thank you all for coming out and have a great night and stay safe.

President Lavender Norris acknowledged Sonia Huntzinger, the director of second-century alignment who was honored by the Chester County Chamber. The Western Chester County Chamber honored her for her commitment and contributions and leadership to the ideas and purpose of the chamber. And Sonny does a lot of work here to assist us in the city. So, I just need to say that I get short. Right now, I have a headache. And when my head starts hurting, I can't-- I don't mean to be rude to most of y'all in that-- You know what I mean. I don't mean to be rude. I don't even want to sound like I'm being rude. But I am who I am. And if you are offended, please forgive me. It's okay. I listen. I did my part. I asked. Y'all do a job [inaudible]. I remember. I do ask that you forgive me if you are offended. I apologize. But when I get a headache, I can't take a lot. I'm not going to make an excuse. It is what it is. I am who I am. I love y'all. God bless y'all and have a blessed evening. Thank you very much.

Adjournment

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.