



Minutes  
City of Coatesville  
Regular Meeting – 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA  
Council Chambers  
Monday, May 8, 2023

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Council Present: President Lavender-Norris; Vice President Carmen Green, Councilwoman Khadijah Al Amin, Councilwoman Charrisse Allen, Councilwoman C Arvilla Hunt  
Council Absent: Councilman Donald Folks  
Staff Present: James Logan, City Manager; Roberta Cosentino, Assistant City Manager; Richard Troutman, Finance Department; Chief Jack Laufer, Police Department; Ruthann Mowday, Recording Secretary

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

President Lavender Norris announced Councilman Folks would not be in attendance.

#### **Approved Minutes**

Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the April 24, 2023 meeting minutes; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

#### **Approval of Accounts Payables**

Vice President Green made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Ms. Al Amin stated I have a couple questions. On page 459. What would the diagnostics be on a car? Not questioning the cost of it. I'm questioning what was it for. Mr. Troutman stated it was for a roof in a car—we are having it looked at for repair. Ms. Al Amin asked on page 12 of 59, invoice number, I don't know, 014102280. Reimbursement for a dress suit. We buy suits for our staff? Chief Laufer explained this comes out of the uniform allowance. The Detectives have a uniform allowance for—they can buy a dress suit for court. Ms. Al Amin asked in the future, Rich, somewhere on there, could it say uniform allowance? Because if it had said that, I would not have asked the question. And then, page 18 of 59, 13th Lincoln Highway marked intersection requested. What did they mark? Page 18 of 59. The very first invoice, 354334500. Chief Laufer explained that's a PA One Call. So they came out and marked the utilities before they dig the road. I think that's in reference to-- I think, that work down there. Ms. Al Amin stated okay, and then this one, Rich, is for you. There's a bunch of different bills in here, electric bills for West End Fire Company. Why are we just paying electric bills in 2023 for '19, '20? I mean, why weren't they submitted prior than that? [inaudible] this one, page 53 of 59, it says January 1st, 2021 through December 31st, 2021. Why would they just submit that? Mr. Troutman explained the Contract had a clause in there that the city was supposed to pay a portion of the utility bills. It was missed by both parties since 2018, but then found it, brought it to our attention. They absorbed the first half of it, and we agreed to pay the second half of it. Ms. Al Amin stated Okay. Because I don't ever remember any discussion on that or anybody making us aware of it. Mr. Troutman explained it was part of the 2018 contract and we agreed to contract. Ms. Al Amin stated well, I don't see any that say '18. I see one that says for the year 2021, 2020. I don't see one for '18. Mr. Troutman replied correct. They agreed to absorb the first half, basically. They absorbed the first

half, and we agreed to start paying, essentially, the second half of the bills. Vice President Green asked Mr. Troutman, just a clarification. The accounting code that you used here for the police reimbursement is the uniform? None of this stuff here tells you exactly where it goes. The accounting code is what shows you where it goes. If you look in your budget book, you'll see that that's the accounting code for each uniform. I mean, not to have you do more work. I don't think that it's necessary—[crosstalk] Mr. Troutman stated we should have put the name for the uniform on there. [crosstalk] Vice President Green said yeah, but it clearly says police reimbursement for dress suit, and then the accounting code here is for a police uniform. So that's fine. Mr. Troutman said all we need is put it in specific detective's name. President Lavender Norris said it don't matter who the detective is, the [inaudible]. Vice President Green stated the name is here, William Carter. Ms. Al Amin stated well, his name is clearly here. Mrs. Hunt said the name's here. Vice President Green said still stating that if it would've said that, but it does say that. The accounting code says that. Ms. Al Amin stated so that's fixed.

## **Presentations**

### **1. PennDOT Update**

Ms. Angela Watson introduce herself and wished everyone a good evening. I'm the bureau director for the Bureau of Rail, Freight, Ports, and Waterways at PennDOT, and I think everybody in this room is familiar with the ongoing construction at the Coatesville train station. Both Pat Gardener with Michael Baker and myself presented to city council - oh, gosh. I think it's been at least a year ago - on the project status. And most recently, we met back in February with our working group, which does comprise of, I know, Linda and James and other community members, where we're now meeting pretty much on a quarterly basis to just provide project status and discuss various related items to the PennDOT project. One item that was brought to us earlier this year, I think in January or maybe even back in December, when Andy Batson was acting deputy secretary, we spoke with a couple of folks, including Zeke from the redevelopment authority, and there's the ongoing interest from the community for the parking garage, and what was proposed by Zeke was that perhaps PennDOT could shift the parking lot for the station to allow for either future development by the RDA or the parking garage at that location, which we'll get to later in the presentation. But those are the two items we wanted to bring forth in front of the council this evening, was just to give you a status update on the project and answer any questions that you have, and then to talk a little bit about this proposed shifting of our parking lot to accommodate RDA property. So I think Pat will be sharing his screen, and if he wants to go ahead, I'll hand this over to Pat to kind of walk us through the current construction progress.

Mr. Gardner announced work is progressing quite well here at the train station at this point. This is 4th Avenue here, and that's where we're starting with the work in its latest development. And as the work progresses towards 3rd Avenue, this is the first stages, and then the more mature work is back in here. And I'll go through those details as we see it, but as you can see, the sites fully engaged with all kinds of activity, and this is ongoing. So, as I said, it was more detail here. We have retaining walls in along, holding the track up. We have caissons in, these concrete piers. Months ago, I talked to you about putting 40-foot-deep concrete piles in, and these are it right here. So, they're every 9 feet, and then we have the braces [here?] holding back the retaining wall. You can see that we have concrete blocks here that are supporting these braces so it's not that they're just up against the dirt, and the work is progressing pretty well towards 3rd. Here's the dimensions of those little concrete blocks. They're 5' x 5' x 5', and we have 25-foot-deep foundations underneath them, going both at an

angle and straight up and down to make sure that they don't move. It holds the supports up to make sure the tracks are all in a safe condition. And then we—

President Lavender Norris asked before you go on, what were the nail head looking things that are sticking out? Mr. Gardner explained these are anchors. And basically, there's little screw ends on these, and they screw them into the ground and concrete them in. And they're like 25 feet deep. And the concrete is poured on top of those to make sure nothing moves. Okay. If you have questions, just jump in. I'll be able to respond. Okay. And then just putting the braces on, you don't want any slack in here so they pressure load them up with the hydraulic Jack and put tension on them, and then put shims behind them and weld them in, as they're doing here, to make sure that everything's real tight before they move to the next spot. Then we're digging out from underneath, and that's why we put the bracing up here, is so when we move the earth, that the retaining wall will stay exactly where it is. So, we're digging the dirt out here, and then we're putting reinforcing steel bars in, and we're going to fill that up with concrete. But this is pretty significant. Just seeing the workers here, it's at least waist-high where all the concrete's going to go. And then, here, we started last week with pouring concrete in these areas. So this is the bottom of the retaining wall for the permanent locations, here. And then there's another item that came up that we certainly want to keep you apprised of. The 24-inch water line that serves this area is very close to the track, and it's 100-plus years old and we're very leery of it being able to withstand putting the foundations and retaining walls in with the pile driving. So we're going to be relocating this water line right out into Coates Street and when we do that, we would be looking at doing one-way traffic with flaggers between 3rd Avenue, here, and Harlan Drive. And then when we get past Harlan drive, we would be anticipating we'd have the road closed for just this area right here for approximately four weeks. So, we're looking at this is going to be some upcoming work to get this water line away from the tracks, and we won't shut off service. This is going to be what they call a "wet tap." --a valve here to move the water from one side to the other, and then put the line in, and then switch the water over to the new pipe. Mr. Logan asked Pat, before you go on. When do you estimate this work to start? When do you estimate the work to start on moving the line? Mr. Gardner replied I would think in three to four weeks, is what our hope is.

Ms. Allen asked Pat. I have a question. You're talking about putting in the new water line from 3rd Avenue to roughly the beginning of Coates Street or Harlan, right? Mr. Gardner replied yes. Ms. Allen stated the impact for the rest of the water line from Coates Street is going to be not good because if you put in a new water line there, the rest of Coates Street is going to need one because the water pressure and the amount of water that goes through that old line is going to destroy that whole line. If you're saying that line is just as old as the line that you're going to replace. Mr. Gardner explained the entire line is over 100 years old. So we're looking at doing a tie-in up on top of the hill here by Amtrak, and we would not need any traffic control when we're on the west side of 3rd Street. And when we put the tap in, we need to put, for 88 feet, concrete collars on every joint to restrain the pipe to keep it from being damaged. And likewise, that's why we're going so far north up 4th Street, we would be putting concrete collars, I'm going to say 1 foot thick, 4' x 4', around the pipe to restrain the pipe to make sure everything is in good shape. And then they'd have the water tap around this location. But trust me [crosstalk]-- Much needed thing. We come out on top for that. It's a much needed thing. Ms. Allen asked you're going to keep the same old water line. You're just going to put a reinforcement. Is that what you're saying? Mr. Gardner replied no, we're going

to put a brand new line in. Ms. Allen stated you're going to put a brand new water line in, which is going to cause issues for the other part of the water line that's not being replaced. When they replace the water line-- if you ever had an older home and you went from the cast iron pipes to now they want to do plastic pipes, it's going to cause the rest of Coates Street, the rest of that water line, to need to be replaced. Just from the flow of water from everything, it's going to cause a problem in the future. Mr. Gardner explained we've been working with the water company and this is what their recommendation was to move forward with this. So the water line—Vice President Green stated it is a PA American thing. And if it is a problem--- Ms. Allen said so we can figure out how are they going to do that? Because we know from older houses, I know from the house that I live in was built in 1880s and I had to go in and change pipes that they were cast iron. And when you change one pipe to the plastic, sooner or later, you've got to change the next pipe, and that pipe goes in to, and then you've got to change another one. So you end up replacing all of those piping, and this is 100 years old. The ones that should be replaced, that's on [Harlan?]. Vice President Green said this is the recommendation from Pennsylvania American, who is responsible for the pipe. Ms. Allen stated Pennsylvania American's going to have to be responsible for changing the rest of it then because it's not fair that our residents are going to be affected by this down the line. Something that we have to think about because their homes are going to be affected by their water flow, their pipes are going to bust, but is this something we have to look at? Vice President Green asked Pat, you're saying this is the recommendation that the water company-- is the way that they're saying to do this? Mr. Gardner replied yes. Mr. Logan asked you're replacing the entire pipe? Mr. Gardner replied correct. Vice President Green stated they are replacing the entire pipeline. Ms. Allen said but they're stopping there, not going down Coates Street, which on area there's not really houses, but when you go to Coates Street, there's a lot of housing. It's just the part that they're replacing is before Coates Street. President Lavender Norris stated they have to replace it because they're moving it out into the street. [We can't?] just put the old pipe out there. Ms. Allen said I understand all that. My concern is the resident's pipes once this is done. President Lavender Norris said okay, but listen. They're PennDOT. We can't hold them accountable for what's down the line. From 3rd to 4th they're putting new pipe; they're accountable for that. Ms. Allen said okay. So, I guess-- My question is then, I guess for American Water and for city council, how are we going to protect our residents from this? President Lavender Norris said that's a question for PA American. Ms. Allen said okay. So that's what we need to do.

Mr. Gardner said certainly. Okay. So then we have the upcoming activities. We're going to continue with those concrete blocks in the bracing, holding the track up, excavating behind the sheet piles and pouring the permanent concrete foundations, and then the water line relocation, which I said, and I certainly will be in coordination. As soon as we hear what's going on with the time frame of it, I'll be in coordination with Mr. Logan. Then coming to what Angela was talking about earlier, and the request that the RDA made to us, is this is the current parking layout for the development area there in Coatesville. So, if you can see my cursor moving here, this parcel right here is the RDAs and the parcel right against 4th Avenue is the RDAs in here. And in the middle, where we see the parking lot, that was the PennDOT property. So, we had the PennDOT property, and PennDOT is putting, let's say, water retention rain guarding in here that's required for permitting for doing the development of the site.

Vice President Green asked Ms. Watson and Mr. Gardner to explain why we're not getting the parking garage that was originally supposed to be there? Ms. Watson stated yeah. I mean, I can start, and then Pat can certainly talk about kind of the technical side of it. But we did look into whether or not we could set a foundation there for a future garage, and there's a lot of constraints with that property to allow us to do that at this time. And the reason we did not move forward with the parking garage at the start of construction was that the parking garage was not ready to go at the time the deputy secretary had made a decision that if we didn't have the parking garage financing and everything in place to move forward, we had to move forward with the overall station project. And so we have the parking lot, which based on our calculations for ridership this should be sufficient, as well as the additional church lot for the time being. Vice President Green asked how much do we have-- you said the financing was-- how much did we have towards the purchase price? How much did we need for the parking garage? Ms. Watson replied I don't have those figures on me. Vice President Green asked how much do you think? So I think the number was we needed 13, but we had almost 11. Ms. Watson said or 9-something, yeah. Something around there. Vice President Green said I think it was more like 11. Vice President Green said I'm just trying to understand why we're not getting a parking garage. Ms. Watson said yeah. I mean, that's my understanding in my involvement. Vice President Green said and there's no other reason besides we were \$2 million short. Ms. Watson said no, there's more, and Pat can kind of talk to that as well. Vice President Green said okay. Well, before we move forward? Why we're not getting a parking garage. Can you explain that to us? Mr. Gardner explained in order to advertise a job, PennDOT has to have the funding allocated to do the work. So, there was no funding for the parking garage at the time when the project was ready to go to bid. So, we did not hold the train station project up anticipating there would be the funding to build a garage, and a garage is of such a magnitude of cost that you cannot work order something of that magnitude into a project, so. Vice President Green stated you're saying we had no funding available at all. We had nothing? I thought we had \$11 million for the parking garage. Ms. Watson explained we didn't have enough. We did not have the full amount of funding to include that in the project. Vice President Green asked could that have been talked about a little bit earlier to see what else could we do? It just seemed like it just came upon us that all of a sudden we're not getting a parking garage, like the plan just changed. Mr. Gardner stated it was at least a two-year long discussion. Vice President Green stated I attended a lot of the train station meetings, and I haven't been to that many of them this year, but you're saying a two-year discussion, and I just find that hard to believe because the last discussions I was a part of, we were still getting a parking garage, and I'm just trying to understand why that changed and when it changed. That's all. Ms. Watson stated yeah. In my understanding, and I can only speak to when I-- so I've only been in this position for roughly two years. And prior to that, my understanding is that in order to bid the project, like Pat said, in order to advertise it and move forward, we need to have all funding in place for all aspects of the project. And leading up to that was a couple of years' worth of discussion on a garage, but leading closer to time for advertisement, which was roughly two years ago, that the funding was not fully secured for-- the full funding package was not fully secured in order to include the garage in the project. So, in order to move forward with the project and not delay and potentially lose other money and risk not moving forward with this project, the decision was made at that point in time, I think by the deputy secretary, to move forward with the parking lot. So that's where we are.

Vice President Green said I was just trying to find out from you guys because it seemed like I had gotten a whole another reason why. Ms. Al Amin said yea, that's not what—Vice President Green said that's not the reason why that we were told. President Lavender Norris stated given the fact that we were not informed with regard to having to go into the underground area for the garage first, isn't that what kind of changed everything? Gardner said when we're talking about the details of the

garage, the way the garage was originally designed, there's a level that's mostly underground. Now, I know that we did an evaluation, and that was done this year. We did an evaluation to see if we could put the foundations in for in the future, that the garage could be put on the site, and that's not feasible based on way the design of the area is because the entire site would have to be excavated, and then be backfilled to put the parking lot on top of it. So, you'd have to excavate the entire thing because when the designer designed it, they looked at using spread footings, which means they want to spread the load out over a wide area opposed to putting caissons like we did for the retaining walls right along the track. So that was the foundation type that they used because of the unknown area because of the excavation of all the homes in that location and the backfill, they didn't feel comfortable that the material would be able to support the garage without digging the area up. So, we looked to see whether that would be possible, but in engineering-wise and cost effectiveness it was a long stretch from an appropriate action. I can jump back to show what the request in the RDA is versus what is currently under contract. So, as we look at the parking lot right now, this is the way it is under our contract. And the RDA asked if the RDA parcels, which are on either end, which was what they wanted in the first place, has changed. That they want the areas to be combined on the west side of the block, that these two parcels would be combined, and PennDOT shift the parking lot to the east. And we have a layout for that, and before we wanted to go through all the permit process, we wanted to bring this to council to make sure that this is what the council has in their best interest.

President Lavender Norris asked if a solid lot would make it more marketable as opposed to two half-acre lots? Mr. Logan stated that's the belief. President Lavender Norris asked how does Council feel about that? Mrs. Hunt said Yeah, we had discussed that prior. Ms. Allen said that we discussed it before. That's a [yeah, we done did it?]. Is there a picture of the parking lots? I need to understand that better. Mr. Logan asked are you looking for the image of the proposed site? It's a page that says, proposed-- Ms. Allen said I can't see on there where his cursor is, so I can't really 100% tell where he's talking about. Mr. Gardner asked do you see the parking lot right now on the screen? This would be to the left of the parking lot right now. There's a blue line and a red line, between the blue and the red line, that was the area the RDA asked us to shift. President Lavender Norris stated the one big lot on either side. There's a parking lot on this side. Ms. Allen said so we'll have two parking lots? President Lavender Norris replied no. No, the parking lot will be here. This will be available for [crosstalk]. Ms. Allen said okay. That's [crosstalk]. Okay, okay, all right. Mrs. Hunt said look on the next page, Charrisse, the red one. Ms. Allen said yeah, I do. It's just I don't see [inaudible] run for the hills. I don't [got my places?]. President Lavender Norris stated Pat agreed, it'll be a good-- Vice President Green said well, yeah, if we have to. But I just wanted to get the reason for the parking garage because I hear all this-- I even went back to notes from July of 2022 and we're still talking about doing the parking garage, not two years ago, but July 2022. So every time you ask about it, there's a different reason, and I'm just trying to figure out what the reason is because as of July 22, we were going ahead with the parking. President Lavender Norris said excuse me, I'll take a stab at that and say we were moving forward with the parking garage until we were informed about having to go underground, and we did not have the money to do so. So with the two combined kind of wiped it out. That's from my point of view. Pat, if you have a better explanation, please talk. Mr. Gardner said I'm going to say probably in 2018, 2019, we identified the cost for the garage, and at that point, we were looking at either doing a parking lot or doing a garage, and the funding was up to the RDA to come up with a difference in the funding between a parking lot and a garage. And I believe Colleen Terry was hired to help raise some funds and come up with a shortfall of funding, but at the time that the project went to bid, the funding was not secured to do the garage, so we moved forward with a parking lot.

Ms. Watson said and I'll add, I know we had working group meetings where we would discuss overall community economic development efforts as part of those meetings as we were first starting the project and getting ready to bid the project, and I know the parking garage was on the agenda for discussion because that is something that you're working towards getting grant funds and so forth. So I don't think it negates the community moving forward with a future parking garage at a different location or something, but I think that there might be some confusion just because that was, I know, on the agenda as part of overall discussions on community economic development efforts. Vice President Green said yeah. Like I said, depending on who you ask, the answer is different. I just want to be clear. President Lavender Norris asked if there are any other questions or comments? Mrs. Hunt said no. I'm just like Carmen, just want to be clear what the real reason is because depending on who the delivery person is, it's always a different scenario. President Lavender Norris stated yeah. Again, we ran into the situation when we thought we had the money all together ready to build on the garage. And then in the design, the hard side is this was old the design was done, but we were never informed that we had to go underground first. We thought we had the money to build the garage, and we were ready, but we were not ready to go underground to build the garage. That's when it costs more, we didn't have it, so we just couldn't afford to do it up there. Bottom line. Once we were informed of what was required.

Mrs. Hunt asked did they come back to us to inform us that this is the reason that we can't do it? Is the city in a position to add funds to what we have? Was it just an appropriate decision they made assuming that the city would not have funds to match in order to go-- President Lavender Norris explained once they were aware that we could not afford to do it, then they moved on to keep the project moving. Mrs. Hunt they should have made them aware that our financial department here-- or that we didn't have the funds? Vice President Green said yeah, I thought the lady - trying to find her name -- Jen Grainger, that she just did not communicate to us that-- Jen did not communicate to us that the garage was off the table until after the fact. So that's why, I guess, then because we keep getting a different answer. I just want to make sure that whatever the reason is, is the legitimate reason and not because somebody wants additional property for something else. You know what I mean? Mrs. Hunt said and as Council, we need to be fully informed because we're responsible for the residents And when they come to us and ask us, "Are we having a parking garage or are we having a parking lot?" And we're ecstatic and telling them, "Oh, we're having a parking garage." Now we're not having a parking garage. So, when you're faced with the same people that's been asking these questions over the years, now what do you say? So, my concern is always making sure that whatever is presented to us is presented to us correctly, so when we take it to our residents and explain to them, that we have a clear understanding of what's going on. And that's always having to go back and say, "Well, this is what happened. So now we have to go in a different direction." so.

President Lavender Norris stated okay. Any other questions or comments? Ms. Watson said think we just want to make sure before we move forward with the parking lot being relocated, that the council is okay with us doing that. Because the next steps are for us to go for our permits, and at that point, we can't really turn back. So I just wanted to make sure you're good with what Pat just showed. [inaudible]. President Lavender Norris asked are you all good with that? Mr. Gardner explained basically, this was the RDA's request. So we just wanted to confirm that before we go through all the engineering processes, which would include property [crosstalk]. Mrs. Hunt asked can you repeat that? Mr. Gardner said certainly. The transfer is more than just, "Oh, we're going to move the property." We have to go through and do revised deed recordings, of course, there's going to have to be some action with the borough council again to transfer property between PennDOT and the city and the RDA because the RDA's going to give property to the city-- is going to give property to

PennDOT and PennDOT's going to give property to the city as part of this. Then we're going to have to go to the department of environmental resources and get permit changes to move the ponds and to redesign the parking lot, so there's a lot of effort that goes through. We just wanted to be fully transparent and make sure that the council agrees that this is what you want done. Mrs. Hunt asked who absorbs the cost for this transaction? Ms. Watson replied PennDOT does. And the fact that we're just, I'll say, shifting the parking lot and so forth, it's going to be-- --not much cost difference there. Vice President Green asked if the new space is going to be enough parking spaces? Its 100 and something. Ms. Watson said yeah, it's going to be roughly what is proposed currently. President Lavender Norris asked if there were any more questions. Mr. Kellen asked about safe walking or passage for the people that actually park in the parking lot. Is there variables to lighting? There's plenty of cars. We need to be assured that the area's well lit, and there's no dark spots and potential problems in the future. Ms. Watson replied no. And Pat can jump in, obviously. As we have designed, we'll have sufficient lighting at the parking lot, and make sure that it's safe and so forth. It's just really taking that design and just kind of shifting it closer to 4th Avenue. Mr. Gardner added for the parking lot and the folks who would be using the train, when they would be arriving westbound on the other side of the tracks and then walking under the tracks on 4th Avenue, the parking lot will actually be a little closer to them at that new location on the corner. President Lavender Norris stated okay. So, council is fine with regards to the lot one being combined to make it two lots up there as opposed to three. Ms. Watson replied okay, great. Yeah. We will continue working towards that, and we will be back, like Pat said, as we move forward in regards to the property lines and swapping properties per se.

## **Discussion Items**

### **1. Building Update**

Mr. Logan provided a real quick on the building update, so as city council members know, we moved into this building in 2018 as part of the finished product for the new addition city hall. Of course, with a new building comes some minor maintenance, things of that nature. We have boilers downstairs that were part of the old building, we have the HVAC systems on top of the building that's part of a new building. And occasionally, those two do not speak, and we are experiencing some challenges with both right now. So as we age in this building, and it hasn't been that long, but we are starting to incur maintenance costs. I think we recently just entered into an agreement with Sebastian to handle the boilers downstairs, which it looks like we will be replacing one or two, and then with the HVAC system, we currently have Sebastian out looking at some of the some of the samples or the actual system itself up on the flat roof. And speaking of the roof because it is flat, with all of this rain that we're getting, we're starting to spring leaks, various parts of the building. So, we will be looking at resurfacing quotes throughout the year. Just want to bring you guys up to speed on that. There may also be some additional changes to lobby area in terms of front window. Our Codes Department is having difficulty communicating with some of the residents and clients who come in because of the barrier. So, we'll be looking at maybe creating sort of better communication between anyone that's there. We've had some damage from Ivan that's, basically, affected the Police Department downstairs. We'll be looking to doing something. And we also had some front building issues due to high winds last year, but required us to replace a piece of metal from the building. Once again, these are kind of typical things that happen in buildings, so we just haven't seen them in a while.

### **2. Vision Partnership Program Zoning Ordinance**



Mr. Logan Stated this is just really a request from councilmembers. If you happen to have any additional comments that you might want to add in reference to the VPP zoning ordinance, if you recall, we've had a few presentations from [Peter Vale?] as well as Kevin Myers from the county. Share with everyone who we are with it. We are coming up on the closeout of that particular grant, and my understanding that there is additional questions that council members will have on that, we'll be more than happy to address those the next meeting if you don't have any particular questions at this time.

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

There were no citizens hearings on regular action items only.

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

### **Regular Action Items**

1. Receive and consider a motion for first reading of an Ordinance authorizing the City of Coatesville to purchase UPI No. 16-6-274 located in the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania from the City of Coatesville Redevelopment Authority for purposes of constructing rain gardens thereon, for a sale price of one dollar (\$1.00)

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve first reading an Ordinance authorizing the City of Coatesville to purchase UPI No. 16-6-274 located in the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania from the City of Coatesville Redevelopment Authority for purposes of constructing rain gardens thereon, for a sale price of one dollar (\$1.00); Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Receive and consider accepting resignation of 1st Ward Councilman Edward Simpson, Jr.

Ms. Allen made a motion to accept the resignation 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Councilman Edward Simpson, Jr.; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

Vice President Green made a motion to close action items; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Reports**

1. Solicitor

Mr. Logan read the Solicitor report provided by Mr. Jefferson who was not in attendance. I have provided a more detailed attorney-client privilege report to council since council's last meeting. I've communicated and continue to communicate with outside counsel regarding certain litigation matters. I adapted and revised the post communication regarding building basin, I've drafted and revised [end?] coordinates, I've drafted and revised an audit letter, I have communicated with the solicitor of the zoning hearing board regarding a new application packet for DCNR and federal requirements, I, my office, edited the RFP for Ash park.

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan stated he provided information on real estate in the Executive meeting. As far as updates, as you all know, we're getting ready to start the year with our summer events. Arts are buzzing, lots going on in the community. Last Friday was our First Fridays here in the community. I think you can elaborate a little bit more on that. It was a wonderful turnout. 2nd

Century Alliance and our Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce for partnering with the City and putting it on the map. The First Fridays will go on until the first Friday in August, and then from there, we'll have a variety of events starting with the cities event, which is Unity Day, that will be the first Saturday in July. Following Unity Day, we have Sounds of Summer, and then we have, of course, the Grand Prix. In addition to that, the City continues to work with Kutztown University, and we will be hosting our entrepreneur program this year, which is something that we started a few years back. Which has sparked a number of initiatives in the community, and we're very excited to be working with the university on that again. We also continue to work with investors in the community. Looking at various parcels, one being the train station parcel. The project up on the hill on the north side, which is the Brandywine View. That project is back online. The developer's very excited about working in the community, and he will be visiting council in the coming months to present the building plans to you all. Aside from that you know, things have just, again, moving in the right direction and at least to say to the council that a number of people have reached out to the city, they thank you all for your support and your leadership. Now we just hope that the momentum continues, and also can excite our community residents to be part of this change here.

3. Assistant City Manager

Ms. Cosentino announced her report is short this evening. Just to give you a few updates on our Codes Department, our Codes Department continues to work diligently to update records into our new software system, but there is a learning curve we're still dealing with, and we are still catching up. But with that being said, just as we've tracked, if people are experiencing issues or wanting to file complaints, they should contact the city. If we don't hear about an issue through the proper channels, things may fall through the cracks, and we want to avoid that as much as possible. So a few updates about Codes. In April, we've issued 32 code violations, 58 rental licenses, we completed 52 commercial and residential rental inspections, and we currently have 16 pending permits. As Mr. Logan mentioned, there are many special events happening throughout the city, which we're happy to see, and we hope to see more throughout the summer. We encourage the use of our parks, and if you would like to plan an event in one of the city's parks, please remember to complete a special event permit so that we're aware and we get it potentially on our calendar as well.

Mr. Logan added that Roberta mentioned calendar. For those of you who are not familiar, we do have a calendar on our website and it does have a list of our events, and I did fail to mention Juneteenth is coming up as well. We don't have all of the activities planned for Juneteenth because it's a countywide on collaboration this year, but it is listed on our calendar. From the 16th to the 19th, there's going to be a lot of activities throughout. Thank you.

4. Finance Department

Mr. Troutman explained the Circle Squared document, there's a couple of things I would point out. I'll make a side comment, but it's very important that we still are in a time frame that owners can pay their property taxes at face value. If they're paid after May 31st, then the 10% penalty kicks in. So, it behooves everybody, their best interest to do it in time to get it paid at face value. But in going back to the circle squared document, for the general fund, and for all the funds, we are now a third of the way through, at four months, on our journey to getting a balanced budget by the end of the year. So, at this point, our expenses from the

general fund are about 10% lower than they would be projected to be, and that's helping us have \$142,000 stockpile for the four months. So, it's grown since last month, and it continues to grow, and it needs to continue to grow because we have to stockpile because as we look more towards the end of the year, there are a few large events that more and more are indicating like they're not going to happen. So therefore, we just need to be proactive, preemptive, and that's what management is doing. All of the departments are working together to squeeze now to help us for when we're going to need it toward the end of the year. And then there is one area that we need to pay a little bit more attention to, and that's the solid waste fund. That one, we knew was going to have a lot more stress this year because of the increased contract and for the hauling that we have into. So, we knew there would be more stress on it. And so far, the expenses are a little higher than we would have liked them to be, and the revenues are lagging a little. We're thinking, at this point, it will still balance itself out. But nevertheless, it's still a cautionary tale right now, still solid waste.

**Citizens Hearings Non-Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes) – Residents/Tax Payer/Property Owner****Tim Kellan**

Mr. Kellan stated he is concerned because his neighbors, there seems to be an influx of people that are moving in and out, and I stopped [a few?]. I talked to him, and I said, "Hey, is there any way you can check and make sure their license are up to date?" Also, I talked to Josh, and you're not really allowed to have people staying in the garage, which I informed him that's kind of what's happening right now. There's already someone living there. Another concern I have is it's adjacent to the next neighbors, which park their vehicles because of the parking shortage that it's creating. While there's carbon monoxide issues, there's no toiletry, there's no running water, there's nothing in the garage. It's kind of thrown together at 119 Strode Avenue. And then kind of have issues with-- there are concerns with 115 also with licensing and making sure everything's updated because there's such an influx of people coming in and out. There's no possible way that people can keep up with what's current. It's just creating a parking problem, a trash problem, people are urinating in the alleyway, broken glass, and it's just kind of getting out of hand. So I was wondering if we could get a little help on that. Yes, I spoke to Josh and some other people, and filed a freedom of information for those two properties to find out that their license is up to date and the names are current. Because there's such an influx of people coming in and out continuously, and the numbers have grown. And now we have someone living in the garage, and I know it's not safe for them, or the existing neighbors. I'm praying you'll help and guide me in that, or kind of get that corrected. Thank you. Mr. Logan asked Mr. Kellan to stay after the meeting.

**John Sly**

Mr. Sly wished everyone a good evening. First of all, thanks for having me and allowing me to speak tonight. I'll apologize to Mr. Logan about a little miscommunication on whether or not I was to be here tonight to present to the council and I left work today and I was on my way back, and I happened to look at the agenda and I [inaudible] Mr. Logan and I said, "Are you having a late meeting?" And he says, "We're not going to do something tonight." So I apologize. What we've been trying to do, however, is get back all municipalities paid at least quarterly. We're now covering 15, potentially 16, municipalities here under our purview, and we can't be in 16 places at once. So, we're trying to just come around at least quarterly and provide an update. I had wanted to do so earlier in the year to at least give you a yearend report for last year, which I believe Mr. Logan now has a copy of it. Hopefully, the council received that. Just an update, we did have 818 total incidents in Coatesville City last year. Quite a large number - obviously, that's from a Mutual Aid Westwood standpoint - and 559 of those were between the time period of September and December when we

had a loss of Medic 93 and Tower Health. It's been a tremendous impact on us. I'm not going to rehash the concerns that happened at the beginning of this year here. I was away for the March meeting. I can tune in and watch that. I think we can all agree that obviously that was not the best course of action in how that was handled. Since that time, I've been meeting with Mr. Norcini from the Washington Hose Company, and try to come up with some kind of collaborative effort to reestablish an Advanced Life Support service in the city at the most cost-effective manner possible for the city, its residents, and our services as well. Obviously, since mid-March, we have been providing the ALS service again in the city. As I mentioned before, we hoped to be a temporary stopgap to help you along the way, but it's like we're back by default, not by design. And I think we've come up with something that I think is going to be amenable for the City of Coatesville and Westwood, if everybody agrees to it, but obviously there's a staple amount of startup that's involved in getting this ALS service back up and reestablished. The Washington Hose Company has agreed tentatively here to help us with equipment and a vehicle to reestablish the service. We've come up with a tentative agreement that the Washington Hose Company, basically, is going to help provide about \$80,000 towards us in that equipment, which I think is a tremendous step in helping to make sure that burden is not on the City. But obviously, there still is a cost to be borne on the City to make sure that service is viable.

Ironically, in an unfortunate state of events, when I was watching that meeting that evening, none of you were probably aware, there was a cardiac arrest on South 5th Avenue during that meeting while there was a lot of concern about the state of EMS. The paramedic unit came from the West Brandywine Township building that night. So that's further away than Westwood. So it was a concern. It's a concern for us. The scrambling you saw here earlier, there was a reported shooting in the West End just a few moments ago. Fortunately, that was a false incident, so no one was hurt. But obviously, that still ties up the resources, and there's a lot of resources that get tied up here. And at 800 times a year, that's a lot of calls. I know that there was a lot of angst that evening, and there's still a lot of concern about the citizens, the residents, and our own providers making sure that the service is provided. We kind of kicked the can down the road since the beginning of the year here since March when this topic was high on the discussion list, and I don't want to come back to you in the same method that you learned the last time that your service is being discontinued. So without putting any pressure on council, I just need you to understand the severity of the situation we're in. We understand severity of the situation that you're in as well, but I think with the cooperation of Washington Hose and the support of the city, then we could get that service reestablished, but it needs to be done sooner rather than later. I'm not going to lie and tell you that we are in the same financial struggles that they are. All these calls that we're responding to now, we're not getting paid for those for probably about four months because the billing revenue goes out and the insurance company takes their sweet time to pay it. So, all that time, we're continuing to pay for the service costs and try to keep it viable. Mr. Logan's been excellent to work with. I think we've come up with some good solutions, but if we continue to pass on meeting to meeting, I'm not doing anybody a good service. I'm not here to report that it's a struggle for us, really need you to understand that, and we want to do what we can to be cooperative with the city and all the agencies involved. Your next scheduled meeting, I guess, in two weeks, I just want to let you know I have a meeting scheduled [inaudible] that night. We have a financial [inaudible] with Valley Township. I'll do my best to be here. I know I can't attend the following the meeting either. So that's the only reason I had hoped that we would be discussing it. Last item I wanted to introduce-- I thought we'd be presenting tonight. I wanted to introduce our EMS chief. This is Joe Kennedy. He's basically in charge-- --of our operations. So, when it comes to any kind of scene instance or anything like that, he's the guy that takes care of it. He runs the day-to-day. He's the mouthpiece that comes here and talk to you. He's the

guy that makes sure all our people are running smoothly. But I appreciate your time tonight. Thanks for giving me an extra minute and 35 seconds to talk, but I wanted to be able to make sure that we could answer any questions if you have them after delivering the loss.

Vice President Green asked a question about a couple of weeks ago, we had an incident that required the ALS and the Washington Hose Co. came, and the ALS came. The ALS worked on him for about 30 minutes at the properties and another 30 minutes in the ambulance. The ALS could not transport him to the hospital, Washington Hose did. It ended in tragedy because he did not survive. I was just very concerned about, I mean, the fact that for 30 minutes in the house, and then for another 30 or 20 in truck before they left, and then the paramedics were not the one who transported him to the hospital. Is there a reason for that? Mr. Sly replied I can't to the specific incident. Obviously, I don't know which one it was. Obviously, I can't really talk about private medical stuff. I can tell you 9 times out of 10, what's going to happen is the paramedic's going to come from Westwood and we're going to actually get on board the ambulance with The Washington Hose Company. We would accompany them, so they would actually be the ones that are transporting the patient with us coming-- Vice President Green said but one of you would have been there in the-- Mr. Sly replied yes, most likely, that's correct. Second part of your question involves actual state protocols that I probably don't agree with, and you probably don't agree with. It's very frustrating to me to be standing at a scene when a patient is in front of their family suffering from a potentially life-threatening emergency, and it seems like we're just dilly-dallying around. Vice President Green said I didn't say that. Mr. Sly stated but believe me, it's frustrating for us. There's a protocol now that we must continue CPR on the scene for 10 minutes and, believe it or not, if we don't have any sort of sign of life, we're just supposed to say, "That's it." And I don't believe in that theory. To me, it being the fire service, it's like trying to put out a house fire and if the first 10 minutes, we don't put it out, we just say, "Let it burn to the ground." That's not how to stop it. But with the healthcare situation we're in, we do have to follow certain protocols. There're certain things that we can do on the scene in [inaudible] moving vehicle. There are certain things a doctor's instructing us to do on scene prior to us moving a patient. So again, without knowing the specifics of the incident, I'm going to guess that if it was that critical of a lifesaving, I would be very shocked to find out the paramedic didn't accompany them. We have an agreement with Washington Hose right now to make sure our resources aren't drained and if Westwood does come in a paramedic vehicle, a chase vehicle - what we call the SUV - is going to follow, we're going to get on their ambulance and off we both go to the hospital. If there's a time where our ambulance is coming from Westwood because we're also covering for the paramedic, we're going to take that patient in the Westwood vehicle and leave them available to come to the city so that there's not two units being tied up on the same incident. There are over 2,400 emergencies in the City of Coatesville Emergency Medical Services throughout the year. That's a lot for even one service to handle, or even two. As you can see we're here a lot, or doing backup. They would back us up in our area. I think that there's been a lot of great strides in the last 60 days between our organizations to try to do what's best for the City and the residents, but that does happen on occasion, but most of the time you're going to see us jump on a vehicle and get on to [inaudible].

Mr. Norcini said, I didn't put my name on there because Sly said he would talk. But I do want to add, all you guys know me. Sly's the president of the Westwood Fire Company. I'm president of the Washi-- and I'm actually deputy chief, interim chief, whatever you want to call it, right now. We have made significant changes to The Washington Hose Company with the way the ambulance services and EMS services are moving forward now. This is Dave [Wallace?]. He's one of my EMS supervisors who works here during the day, 12 hours a day, 5 days a week. We have another supervisor that works every weekend, and she's here for 36 continuous hours. The vehicle that I am

going to donate to the Westwood Fire Company once we receive an agreement would be an Explorer, got 30,000 miles on it. We're going to provide the ALS equipment that was purchased. Some of it from the Washies, some of it from a grant we received, which was ALS and BLS. We're going to be providing them with extra equipment. We're also going to provide them with [inaudible]. If they want to stay at our station, we have a separate room for them. They're going to share every amenity that we have at the Washington Hose Company, everything. There used to be a Hatfield and McCoy type industry around here between the Washington Hose Company and Westwood, and [county tech?]. I'm not going to sit here and point out individuals, but we all know. Okay? Those things are mean. This is a thing of the past. I don't care about-- there's extra stuff they talked about. Do we have extra? Sure, because we are going to be downsized. We have to. Our call volume last month, we had roughly 250 calls. Out of those 250, we transported about 149. Okay? Out of that 149, I would say probably a 140 of them were within the city. Our problem is that when we transport, if we're lucky with Medicare and Medicaid, we only receive \$400. \$400 is what the standard rate is. Payroll was at the time \$52,000 every two weeks. Now we have dropped our payroll significantly. I am watching these numbers every single Sunday. My treasurer is calling me and letting me know what we have in operating capital to continue to provide the services we are. I do see us maybe changing the one vehicle, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week starting in August, but we are going to evaluate that as we go to make sure we can continue to pay and have the money. Like Sly was saying, it is an industry now, you're paying these people \$30 an hour, \$25 an hour. It doesn't take long for the well to dry. And it's the billing cycles, we still have probably a \$100,000 from almost a year ago that we haven't received back from the insurance companies. A lot of times we have private billing, people aren't paying the bills. It's part of accepting. We do have a good billing company, but I look forward to working with John, the chief here. There'll be more supervisors. This chase vehicle, 80 or 90% will be for the city. It's not going to be running out to Westwood. Every once in a while, there may be a call where their paramedic is tied up and you might see that vehicle and say, "Oh, that's the chase vehicle for Coatesville. It's going on over here?" They work on the-- depends on where the area is. And of course, if our vehicle is tied up, between me and Sly and the chiefs and supervisor, we came up with the [discussion?]. Back in the day, you would have a paramedic on our vehicle transporting a patient over there, and you would have another ambulance following that. It was ludicrous. But that was some of the policies that were put into place back for the past 10, 15 years. We are trying to make it and save it. So this way, when they come in, our vehicles here, if we have a second call and it's an ALS call while the other vehicle's tied up, they're going to take it. They're going to transport that patient, and it will be here in the city to make sure if there's a second call, we will take care of that second. So, it's a joint cooperation thing. The Hatfield and McCoy is gone forever. As long as I'm here, as long as we are here. We had a great meeting at the station tonight for probably two and a half hours coming to the agreement, and I think everything's going to work very, very, very good. I know that the number that came in from the other areas were extremely high. Some are high, some are lower. I can tell you right now that with Washington Hose Company, what we have come up under our program has saved a ton of money. The money that was put out there would have been significantly more. This is why my contribution as the president is we're going to give them the equipment and the vehicles they need to provide ALS to the residents of Coatesville.

Mr. Sly said sorry I didn't keep it under three minutes but again, this last month, as you'll see in that report, 396% increase from the year prior. That's not sustainable. But it's an understandable concern. We can't strain all the resources in the amount of time that the city needs the ALS service. We want to make sure there's a dedicated unit available for the city because it's faster and, unfortunately, this whole process, even if we decided tonight, which I understand you're not, it's still going to be another 60 or 80 days down the road before we can get the Department of Health approvals before we can get

the vehicle exchanged, lettered. It has to be lettered a certain way before the Department of Health will approve it. There're all these things that have to happen. So, as we continue to stay on the road, I want to stress that importance. I want to go back to that March 13th meeting when there was so much concern, and [still?] those concerns again today because I don't want to talk to you in May and go, "We're the same."

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to close citizens hearings on non- agenda items; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

### **Special Events**

Ms. Al Amin stated Mr. Logan, I see that two of the applicants for special events are requesting police patrol. when an applicant does that, is it being explained to them the fee that we charge for that? Mr. Logan replied we do. Ms. Al Amin replied okay. I just want to make sure because I remember, and this was prior to you being the city manager, there was a group that put in an application for an event and requested police patrol, and the fee was not explained, and that event ended up being canceled. So, I know that the different fee schedules are on the third page of the packet, but I just want to make sure that people are understanding when they're asking for police patrol, that they have to cover the cost of that service. Mr. Logan explained the last special event, of course, is all of you at Mother's Day. This is what the roses are for. Mr. Logan explained the last special event, of course, is all of you at Mother's Day. This is what the roses are for. President Lavender Norris announced the special events for public knowledge, on June 17th, there'll be a Juneteenth event at Abdala Park. May 27th, there's a fundraiser at Palmer Park. - And then May 23rd, CCIU community event fun fest. That's at Ash Park. Arts Holding Hands and Hearts, July 15th, and that's at Gateway Park. A block party community event, August 18, that's at Olive and Virginia. And then May 23rd, CCIU community event fun fest. That's at Ash Park. Arts Holding Hands and Hearts, July 15th, and that's at Gateway Park. A block party community event, August 18, that's at Olive and Virginia. Mrs. Hunt asked did they get back to us with the times and stuff? I know Council wanted to adjust the times or something. Mr. Logan stated well, because they're moving the time, be in front of the building now? Vice President Green said it's not going to be in the streets. It's going to be off to the side. Mrs. Hunt stated it's not going to be in the street. Okay.

President Lavender Norris announced then on June 29th, Chester County OIC Student Community Celebration. That also will be held at Ash Park. Mrs. Hunt stated on the June 17<sup>th</sup> event. I see it says parade. Are we blocking off any of the street for a parade? Do you know what that's going to entail? President Lavender Norris stated we cannot because, again, that's a state road. We don't have the say as to blocking it off. But I think I heard of rolling stops for that. So there will be a procession, but they'll respect the traffic, bikes, and all that good stuff. [crosstalk] Mrs. Hunt said its not going to be people walking in the street and parade and stuff. Mr. Logan stated Ruthann just informed me about the block party request. So they are going to have-- did you say a portion of the street blocked? Ms. Mowday replied the event will have the area in front of their building blocked, they will shorten the time and get permission from the residents. [crosstalk] Mrs. Hunt asked when block in front of their building, you'll still have access to Virginia Avenue and Woodland Avenue, right? Mr. Logan replied yes. Let Barbara know that she needs to reach out to them again. And one you got it, then she can confirm the police patrol for the NAACP event. Ms. Al Amin stated there are two events requesting police.

### **Council Comments**

Mrs. Hunt Good evening, everyone. Thank you, again, for coming and spending your evening with us. Thank you, gentlemen, for the update. The ALS is good news. Thank you for the hard work [inaudible] making sure the proper services are provided back here in the city. Thanks. I just want to acknowledge the great weekend we had here in the city, especially Friday night. It was such an awesome event to see the many people out at our First Friday. And he never likes for you to do this, but I just wanted to give a big, big, big shout-out to our city manager. Everybody [inaudible] none of these things were happening in the city until Mr. Logan came and put your efforts in, put your energy in, put your time in, your resources to make sure these things happen [in kind?]. It may say 2nd Century or whoever, but it starts here with our manager and our great city council. So, I just want to thank all of my colleagues as well for the efforts that we put in jointly. We see major things happening in the city, and I'm just so excited. I want to give thanks to our staff as well. Ruthann, Roberta our Assistant Manager. A little quiet, but she does a great job. And thank you. Everyone, please have a good evening, and we'd love to see you at our next [crosstalk]. Oh, and thank you, Mr. Logan.

Ms. Allen thanked everybody for coming out. just wondering, but just I just want to everybody thank you for coming out. [laughter]. They say I never talk. So not only [is it a good thing?] but it's, "Have a good night." Get on [inaudible] Mr. Logan for acknowledging that I'm a mother.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everybody for coming out too, and I want to concur with my colleague councilwoman Hunt, the First Friday was really, really nice. Very well attended. A lot of vendors. It was nice. I can't wait for the next one, so thank you to everybody that came out. Mr. Logan thank you for providing us all with roses. So thank you very much. And I just want to thank all of our staff and all of my colleagues because even though we don't always agree, I think we work well together to get things done. So have a good night, and save travels home.

Vice President Green said I'm not going to repeat everybody's comments. But I am going to thank the ALS Westwood for coming out, and Washington Hose. I appreciate you [changing?], and I appreciate you making the comment that the Hatfield and McCoy days are over because in that line of work, you don't have any room for any of that. And I'm glad David is the supervisor. David is a good friend of mine, and I know he's going to an awesome job. Yeah, he's a good guy. And so I just appreciate you coming out because this whole situation with the ALS is very, very, very, very important. If I didn't realize the importance before, I realized it now, but I just want-- council will swiftly get back to you so that we can get this better handled. Yes, Miss Hunt, your comments were spot on about First Fridays. I'm looking forward every month. I had the opportunity of not having to drive to King of Prussia to go to dinner on a weekend the last few weeks. We've been able to eat locally here at the Record Kitchen and Iron Eagle. I call him everything but the right name. I call it the Lone Star. The Iron Eagle, and they're having a Mother's Day special, and we got the flyer the other day, it's really great. It's \$42 a person. Limited seating, but for Mother's Day, and it's a 5-course meal. 42 bucks is not expensive at all. And I tell you, the food is excellent. So, when I asked for the flyer, I thought maybe there was going to be a special, cheaper food because the price is cheaper. It's their regular menu. They're offering all their regular entrees and everything, 5-course meal for \$42 per person. I think that that's an excellent price. I know a lot of people like to take your mom out, you don't have to go to King of Prussia, and Lancaster, and this place and that place. You can have it right here in the city, folks. I'm just putting a plug in for them because their food is delicious. But I'm just so grateful for staff too, again, everything that's going on in the city. There're so many things going on. I see improvements, it seems, daily. Whether it's with our Public Works Department, different things, our Police Department doing things that are just extra. I'm just so impressed and so



happy to say that I live in Coatesville. I mean, I've always been proud but today I'm even prouder to say that I live in Coatesville. [inaudible]. I just continue to ask that you come out to the meetings, sit and give your comments, let us know what you're feeling, what you're thinking, I think it's real important-- like you asking about the lighting situation earlier, it's important that the residents get involved. It's important that we ask the question, and not take things for granted. I'm sitting here thinking, "Yeah, they're going to light it up." But I'm glad you asked because I didn't get more details about the lighting. Thank you very much. Have a great night, everyone, and I'll see you in two weeks.

President Lavender Norris concurred with everything my colleagues have said so far, and I want to share with you, I received a call from a resident regarding one of our officers, and they were calling because they were so pleased with the officer. They noticed him parking his vehicle and walking. As he was walking, he was interacting; laughing and playing with the kids, laughing with the adults, just socializing with the community, interacting with them. The gentleman said he had not seen that in years, and he was happy about it, so he called me. He told me he was going to pull over to speak with the officer, but he didn't have any place to pull over. He went from 6th Avenue to 8th Avenue, turned his vehicle around, came back up, found a parking space, and got out to have a conversation with the officer. Just to let the officer know he saw him and he appreciated his interactions that he witnessed. Some of the other gentlemen that were out there came over and began to involve themselves in the conversation also, and the one gentleman specifically told the officer that he had not shaken a cop's hand in over 50 years. But he took pleasure in shaking this officer's hand, and told him that he has his back. That he'll look after him. And I wanted to share this with the public and you, chief, just to let you know our community sees our officers. The officer was Malik Williams. And I've interacted with Officer Williams. He jumped right in from the very beginning. He was here sitting in the floor, reading to the children, during our Black History Program. I've seen him at meetings in different places. I've heard the ex-president of the NAACP say, "He's joining. He's going to get involved." Not assuming that he was joining. It was as a result of a conversation that he had with Officer Williams. I'm saying this to say, we have a lot to be grateful for. Yes, that's one officer. However, that isn't the only officer that interacts, and socializes, and engages the community. Chief, I just want to say thank you to you because they cannot do without your permission, without your leadership. You've done an awesome job. Thank you for that. I don't mean to single anyone out because you've all have been so wonderful. From our manager, our assistant, Ruthann, Rich, you've been awesome and it makes me proud. It makes me extremely proud. So, I just want to say thank you. And to my colleagues, I love you all. Charrisse, even when you don't have time. I love you. You were excellent today. You even spoke. Thank you. Everyone have a blessed night. And please don't forget, we have vacancies on our Boards and Commissions. Look at the city's website, and consider working together with us. Together, we'll get it done. If it be God's will, I'll see you at our next meeting. Goodnight!

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.