



Minutes  
City of Coatesville  
Regular Meeting – 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA  
Council Chambers  
Monday July 14, 2025

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Council Present: President Lavender-Norris; Vice President Carmen Green, Councilwoman Charrisse Allen, Councilwoman Villa Hunt, Councilwoman Khadijah Al Amin, Councilwoman Tiniera Turner-Green and Councilwoman Fran Scamuffa

Council Absent:  
Staff Present James Logan, City Manager; Roberta Cosentino, Assistant City Manager; Chief Jack Laufer, Police Department; Chief Peter Huf, Fire Department; Jessica Arthur, Finance Department; Robert Jefferson, Solicitor; and Ruthann Mowday, Recording Secretary

President Lavender Norris announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening to discuss personnel, real estate and legal matters. The meeting was called to order at 7:55 pm.

### Approved Minutes

Vice President Green motioned to approve the June 23, 2025 meeting minutes; Ms. Turner Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

### Approval of Accounts Payables

Ms. Scamuffa motioned to approve the accounts payables; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

### Presentations

1. Lisa Doan-Harley – Historical Commission

Good evening, President, ladies of the City Council, and ladies and gentlemen, president. I am Lisa Doan Harley, the chair of the Historical Commission, and I bring you greetings and good news. Our July 26th Town Tours and Village Walks Tour was well attended. The county credited us with 105 participants, all before the storm set in. We had a great showing people coming from Malvern, Paoli, Lancaster, Phoenixville, the surrounding townships of the city, and even one couple who came from north of Delaware.

The commission would like to thank the City Council, City Manager, Assistant Manager, for all of their support and Vincent Miles Jr. for his hard work and fantastic digital skills, which I will give you one of the programs that he created for that tour as a memento. We also wish to thank the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum for the use of the parking lots. The Old Town Historical Society came to bolster up our numbers to help us with the tour, the Iron Eagle, the city workers who set up and cleaned up, as well as the Chester County Planning Commission. The comments from the tour participants were wonderful. They were left asking for more. Perhaps we might do something on First Friday, and that suggestion came up for people who couldn't make the tour, so I'm trying to get tour guides. We received suggestions and possibly two new members to the Historical Commission.

It was fantastic to see the pride in our city. Coatesville has a deep history in its culture and traditions. We know it, and it's time the rest of the county knows it. Our traditions are important because they provide a sense of identity, belonging, and stability, connecting individuals to the past and shaping their present. They offer a framework for creating lasting memories, reinforcing values, and fostering a sense of community. We've heard so many of our tour participants recalling how, as young people, the only place to shop was downtown Coatesville. And even some of the buildings that I had forgotten what was there, they were reminding me, "Oh yeah, that was the gizmo." Traditions support a sense of identity and

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belonging which connects people to their heritage and a sense of belonging to the larger group. Traditions support stability and continuously providing a familiar rhythm to life. They transmit values and beliefs from one generation to the next. I think we're going to have to rebuild Santa's house this year. Almost everyone pointed out where Santa's house once stood and how they remember talking to him, just as if it were yesterday. And we had some people offer to take care of that, which we'll have to look into and talk about, meaning zero cost for the city.

Tradition provides a structured way to create lasting memories and to strengthen community bonds and a sense of connection. Traditions are, and I quote, "The threads that connect us to our past, anchor us in our present, and guide us into our future." This year marks the 60th year since the Historical Commission was created. We live in the only city in Chester County, which is beautiful and so important to the diversity and success of our inhabitants. Next year will mark the 100th year since the city designed the city flag. And this is by the official code. The official flag of the city of Coatesville shall measure four feet on the staff and six feet on the fly. And the design thereof shall consist of three stripes running with the fly. The middle stripe is to be gold, and the top and bottom stripes are to be blue. The middle stripe being twice the width of the top and bottom. And in the center of said middle stripe, shall be placed the seal of the city of Coatesville in royal blue, and there she is. This is according to the city code originally written in 1926, but then it was recertified. And I found this interesting, on October 10th, 1989. That's the day my husband and I got engaged. I will always remember that. It is interesting that Downingtown has borrowed our colors for their high school. Sometime between when their school district was formed, which was 1950, so we had to build in the gold, and then the building of their high school in 1959. I always used to tell my students, imitation is the best form of flattery. Do you want to be my guest. We are proud Red Raiders, and we wear our red and black. And once a Coatesville student, always a Coatesville student. I was driving past CASH this morning and me and my husband stop and take a photo of a beautiful design on the fence by the soccer and the lacrosse fields. And it is interwoven strips of plastic that are red, white, and black, and they form our [inaudible].

Now I've been retired for five years so I hope it's still there. Inside when you go into CASH's office, the main entrance, that is painted on the wall. It is a great way to welcome visitors to the building. And the city is intertwined with the school, yet we're two separate entities. So I have something for you to think about. Might that be nice on the front of this building and have it say, home of the Red Raiders underneath the city of Coatesville? Just a thought, a way of pulling more things in. And that is my presentation. If you have any questions, we have so much stuff happening this month. Ash Park, the mural on the end of the building, we found out, as they had started demolition, that that is actually by a renowned artist in Philadelphia, Zagar, and if you Google the 10 things to see in Philadelphia, his work is number one. And we have it here in Coatesville. Gilly's demolition occurred. The building was falling down, but we were able to save some really awesome architectural things from it, and they're being restored by the Metro Coatesville History Group. So it's raining with all kinds of historical stuff right now, and it's all good historical stuff. So I'm going to just, as I'm done, leave you, I think this for sure what Vincent did for the tour was amazing. We had so many comments on it. I stuck one in the book to keep it as my memento because people were truly celebrated. They did not realize what Coatesville has to offer, and I told them they just scratched the surface. And so we talked about art deco, I probably have 25 other topics, so hopefully we can make this cyclical.

The Historical Commission meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7 o'clock here in the building. And last Tuesday, Mr. Logan had to go get us more chairs because we had people coming, being so inspired by the tour.

2. Amanda Winkey Acknowledgement

President Lavender Norris asked Ms. Winkey to come forward. Okay. So we want to take this opportunity to recognize Miss Amanda Winkey here. So I'm going to read you the citation I have for it. The City of

Coatesville Citation, the Coatesville City Council recognizes Amanda Winkey. On behalf of all whose lives you've touched, it is with great admiration and heartfelt gratitude that we recognize and celebrate your extraordinary life dedicated to service, education, and unwavering support of victims of domestic violence. Excuse me. Your commitment to collaboration, compassion, and justice has not only strengthened the bonds between the city and the community, but has also brought hope, healing, and safety to countless individuals during their most vulnerable moments. Your advocacy has made a profound and lasting impact, and your efforts have not gone unnoticed. Ms. Winkey thanked everyone. God Bless You

Chief Laufer announced we had an opportunity to celebrate with Amanda several weeks ago, where she actually came in to honor the police department, which she did on a regular basis every year. And she bought us a fantastic Bakers of Buffington cake, for those of you who might be familiar with that bakery in Downingtown. And it's fabulous as always, but it was a little bittersweet. And I say that because it was also to commemorate Amanda's retirement. So we just can't say enough about the relationship that the Police Department has had over the years, the support that she has given us, the support that she has provided to the victims of domestic violence, and the service she's given to the community, running the Coatesville Office of the Domestic Violence Center in Chester County and everything she's done throughout her whole career and her life. I told her she has to write a book. She has quite the life experience and quite the story to be told, something that Coatesville should be very proud of.

Couldn't wear the earrings because I don't have the ear pierced no more. So she took those back. So she said, "Here's some flowers, Miss Winkey." And she'd speak half Nigerian. And she said, "I appreciate what you've done for me and the Coatesville Police Department." So she had a big box. "You don't have to pay me for anything. That's who I am." So I left the box there, and she said, "No, no, no." She said, "You must open this. You have to open this now." "So okay, I'll open it." So when I opened it, this was in it and the jewelry and the head wrap. And she said, "This came from my motherland." She said, "I told them about you." She said, "This is what we do for queen mothers in our tribe." She said, "I have to dress you." She picked it up, took it out the box, and dressed me, put the jewelry on me and this, and took a picture. She said, "I have to take this picture to send it back. And it's because of what you did for me." And at that time, I didn't know that she and her family was high-ranking in Africa. So that's how life is. You don't look for gold. You look to help people. And in turn, things like that happen to you. And I had to share that with you because you were part of it. And you were part of it. And we will always be part of this city and helping these people as long as I have breath in me. So me retiring, and I can't say enough for this because as I told the chief, I've come full circle, and I'm not going deep into it because everyone here knows me. But I'm okay now because I'm giving back to a city that gave to me and my family when I had nothing. And I appreciate it. And thank all of you. [applause]

## Discussion Items

### 1. Block Party

Mr. Logan explained the block party item is on the agenda this evening. As you all know, summer months, we have a number of block parties throughout the city. And our special event applications come in with requests. We recently had one come with OIC, and again, we have several of them listed on the special admin application. So the challenges we do have, as we had before, is the block of parks, the time of block parties, size of block parties, and we really wanted to-- we really wanted to just put this back before the council to have this discussion. And maybe not make a decision on it, but I just want to bring it to your attention that, again, another year of block parties, block party requests. And some have been successful, but then there are others that are just too big for the space that they're asking to post the block party. So I just wanted to share.

Ms. Allen asked I do have a question. When they submit the request for a block party, are we telling them that, "Hey, why don't you do one of the parks close to where you live?" Mr. Logan replied yes.

Ms. Allen said because that would be a way of getting more people to utilize our parks, especially the one up on the hill. I don't think too many people know that, as a city resident, they can use that area up Oak Street. I forget what it's called now, but up there. Sing Park. Because people don't use that one. I don't know about the one in West End. We have the Brandywine Park. We have several parks. Instead of closing off a whole street, we can say, "Hey, this park is close to where you live. Why don't you have it there?" Mr. Logan explained we make recommendations to people. I think before my time, most of them who lived here, a block party was a big thing back in the day, old school. So I think we have another example that they remember that, or some of the young people have something close to where they live. But we often recommend using the parks. Parks give them much more room. But council a couple of years ago did decide to change the format of the block parties. And now we have limited time. We also have a request that they get signatures from residents that will be on the block. And there's other stipulations to the block party requirements. Vice President Green said drinking there was drinking in the streets. Alcohol sometimes. I remember the chief or whoever, if they were drinking alcohol, in the courtyard, they were fined, but they were coming all out into the street and mixing with all the kids and everything. And that was probably one of the real reasons why we stopped having the block parties, the noise, and everything, and some of the neighbors weren't happy. I agree, Mr. Bruce, that we should refer to a park. I think that each block party should be looked at individually. But I think that if we do start bringing some for some people, not some for others, yeah, that'll be an issue.

Ms. Scamuffa said one thing, too, is how do you get them to apply? Because, I mean, OIC was very recent. And the understanding was that they would be blocked off from point A to point B, and then when you drive past, it's blocked off of Main Street, and that was never agreed upon. Vice President Green said exactly. That was the second part of my comment is the endorsement of stuff, because there was a block party on 4th of July. Did you know that James? Mr. Logan replied no. Vice President Green said they blocked the whole street up in Chestnut and 8th Avenue. They did a whole fireworks. And the fireworks, I was very nervous because doing fireworks in the neighborhood, and all, Chestnut Street, 8th Avenue, they're all double, I mean, twins, you know what I mean? Every roadhouses and stuff. And I was so nervous that whole entire time. But they actually literally blocked the streets off themselves, and nobody did anything. I mean, the police came by a couple of times, but they didn't enforce anything. And that just makes me nervous. We were great, but I was looking on the news and I seen in Jersey where they had a couple of fires. They had a little girl lose her thumb because fireworks are dangerous. And I remember when we created the ordinance that we weren't even going to allow-- the chief, I'm not saying you, might have been the other chief, but they didn't even want us selling fireworks in the city, and we stopped. And then all of a sudden, now, regardless of what the ordinances say, we do it anyway. And that's concerning to me, that we are not enforcing ordinances that we have on the parks. I'm just really concerned about that. Because if something happens, we're going to be liable.

Mrs. Hunt said on Chestnut, that's considered the fireworks for Coatesville now. Ms. Allen said it is. I thought it was a thing, it was loud. Mrs. Hunt said It's so smoky down there, it looks like it's just going to go up in flames. That's how thick the smoke is because the area is so small. We have so many houses there. Yeah. So in respect to the OIC block party, the reason they had to end up blocking off 8th Avenue was to keep any accident from happening. It was totally different than what they presented to us. And she had come down to my office a couple of times, first of all, asking about having a block party from 3:00 to 7:00, and what I shared with her was 3:00 to 7:00. The library is still operating and my business is still operating during those times. If you're going to have a block party there, then I think it should be after 5:00, when normal business hours are done. But of course, with my business, I could have a community service. So I didn't have a service that day, but I had

families coming in and out, nowhere to park. This big old yellow school bus parked right in front of the door, refused to move. I had to call the police and they came back to me. I called James and Roberta. They came down. They had this huge bus, a full-length bus that came from-- Penn Medicine. One truck was blocking off the top of Chestnut. They had shrimp bus out there. It was just too much for that space. I guess it went okay. I was so frustrated by the time we got it all straightened out that I didn't even go up there because it was totally different than what they presented to us. And I think we need to-- if we're going to grant a block party, they need to give us specifics of everything. It was just too much equipment for that area. And then they were trying to turn the bus down. They were trying to turn left down number. And they had a guide there on the pole of the stop sign, pulling it, yanking it so that they could try to lead the bus down. And that's when I put James on FaceTime. I said, "James, you guys got to come do something with this." And so then finally, they backed the bus up again. And I think they went down Number-- diamond. But just all the chaos that came along with it, it was just too much for me.

Vice President Green said Gateway Park would've been perfect if it [inaudible]-- Mrs. Hunt said it would have been perfect for what they wanted to do. Absolutely. Ms. Scamuffa said and that just goes up. Like what people are saying, we have things on the books and the way things-- this is what you've been granted permission to do. And if they're not doing it, then you need to shut them down, OIC or not. I mean, these are the rules. It's unfortunate that [crosstalk]-- Mrs. Hunt said on that day, I would have been in favor of shutting down. And because it was just-- a lot of people posted pictures, people had a good time, but what we had to go through to get to there. James had to leave his office here to come down there, trying to get everybody's [inaudible] there. And the guy that was driving the bus, he said, "I'm with them," but it really looked like he was living in that bus. [laughter] And he was three sheets to the wind. And I said, "You're going to move this bus. If I had to get in here and move this bus, this bus [crosstalk]." It was really, really, really chaotic. And I was so disappointed because I had several conversations with them, and I said, "I'm willing to help you as much as I can." But when it came time and then I went up to try to talk to the director and, "Oh, Miss Hunt--" I said, "No, Miss Hunt, nothing. This is not what you guys presented to council." So it was really disheartening to see that organization in the community will really take advantage of being able to have a permit to have a block party at their facility, and I would never agree to it again. I would never agree to it, allowing that to happen that way. So we had cars just making normal turns coming up at that end. And if they didn't block it off at the end of the highway, somebody definitely would have gotten hurt that day. Definitely. So it's not what they really wanted to do, but it had to be done for safety. It had to be. Ms. Scamuffa asked are there fines that get implemented for people that do not abide by what they've been granted for situations like that? Mr. Logan replied no. President Lavender Norris said they just shut it down. Ms. Scamuffa said yeah. I mean, we just have to start. The city has to do better on shutting things down. Shut it down. Vice President Green suggested the block party application have a little bit more information. Mrs. Hunt agreed. It does. It does. But yeah. But James, I do thank you, and chief for getting help over there as fast as you did and for leaving the office and coming down and try to maneuver things around. Mr. Logan said yeah. And as I said, it is something that I'm sure next year we'll get more requests [inaudible]. If I can make a suggestion, that would just be if you want to have block parties, or do you want to just limit them to a certain day and time, or do you just want to have everyone stay in our parks? Something to discuss, I think, over the next few months. [crosstalk on Coates Street event] Vice President Green said and they've had it every year. And I knew that they had applied the one year. And they preferred [crosstalk]-- but any other, and-- every year after that, they've never applied and they've had it?

Vice President Green asked Chief Laufer, are there any incidents on July 4th of the blocking off of 8th Avenue and Chestnut Street? Chief Laufer stated we just tried to have a police presence. I

couldn't work this 4th of July because my wife had a medical procedure. But all the previous 4th of Julys I've worked. And if the city wanted to take a hard line on that, we would have to have a county-wide assist and bring officers from all over the county into the city to control that crowd. That's the only way you're going to control it. Ms. Turner Green stated because this is the events on happen for three months of the year. Could it not be something that we like, some sort of ordinance that we create that will say the states maybe were only allotted a certain amount per month of block parties. And it's kind of first-come-first-served to who applies and gets granted the opportunity to occupy that space because, if that makes sense. Vice President Green explained I don't think they have a problem with the amount. They're not over amount. The problem is that they're having them without getting approval for them - they did the fireworks in the neighborhood - because that's dangerous. That's really dangerous. The one year when the garage caught on fire, all those houses were all row home, so. They're wood. Mrs. Hunt said and, yes, they're wooden, and-- [crosstalk] Vice President Green stated I was nervous the entire time. So not only are they doing the fireworks in that area, but then they have the whole entire street from 8th and Lincoln all the way up to Chestnut Street. On top of the firework, you got the grills. Vice President Green stated they got everything. They had grills on the sidewalk. It was a lot going on, and I was like, "Oh my god, they have the party." I didn't know it was closed. We came driving down and could not get through. Could not as there was-- [crosstalk]. Mrs. Hunt said that is early. That's a major fire waiting to happen there. I think she knows that. [crosstalk].

Mrs. Hunt explained I think a way to control that 4th of July is to get started on it early. Early during the day, you might have to have police down there, say, "This would not happen today. There will be no fireworks here." The rules may have to even prevent them from setting up or having people. Vice President Green said post it. Mrs. Hunt said yeah. We can post it. We can even put signage up on the poles there-- Vice President Green said Social media. Mrs. Hunt said --post it all over Facebook, and implement the law. If this happens, you will be arrested because that is a major fire waiting to happen. Ms. Allen said and then when something happens [crosstalk] Mrs. Hunt said the smoke down there is so thick. It's crazy. Vice President Green said they did come and clean it up. It was dirty. It was a lot of stuff out there, but they did clean it up. Mrs. Hunt said they would have cleaned up, but it's just fortunate and a blessing that nothing has happened. But if you keep allowing it and keep allowing it, something is bound to happen. And that's where we run into-- --the lawsuits and everything else. So I think it's better to be proactive than reactive because that's a bad situation. People don't realize. President Lavender Norris explained those row houses-- all those houses actually, except the one in the exact corner-- but the rest of them, they're old, and I doubt very seriously that any of them had firewalls. So if a fire starts there, it's going to [crosstalk]. Mr. Logan stated I just want to understand correctly [inaudible] about bonds. Actually, there is a \$1,000 bond if someone does not fulfill their obligation to comply. So anything outside of what you said, we do have the option to fine them. Ms. Scamuffa well, I mean, that's an option too. I mean, it's kind of past tense now with the [inaudible]. But my personal feeling is, "Take everything to the parks." Growing up, we had block parties. I grew up on 6th and Olive with the hooks, they used to get together. And it would be from this part of 6th Avenue, and they would block off between Pearl Alley and 6th Avenue. And it was just those residents. And everybody brought their own little dish from the house. And it was a nice block party with the neighbors. Today, they're not talking that. We're talking parties. You're coming from wherever. It's not your block. Vice President Green said they're just coming from-- listen, they were coming from everywhere. Mrs. Hunt said that is the fireworks for the city. 6th Avenue and Chestnut [crosstalk]. I'd like to [inaudible]. Ms. Turner-Green said I think it's loud and unnecessary. But it looks like if we don't do it, organizing the city, they're going to do it on their own. Mrs. Hunt said that's what I'm saying. Ms. Allen said well, we already know who's joining them, so. We need to put a stop to it. Vice President Green said I don't know if that was him. I don't

know that. I don't think that that was him. [crosstalk] Ms. Allen asked well who was it? [crosstalk] Vice President Green said right, because I had talked to him to see if he wanted to do fireworks for the city because he likes to do them [inaudible]. Okay. [inaudible] block parties, and if you're caught doing them, they're getting shut down and picked up. President lavender Norris said all righty then, let's-- we'll just hold the block party situation to what we have on the books that enforce. Chief Laufer did say to us how dangerous it is. Ms. Al Amin asked we stopped the block parties [crosstalk], right? These fireworks in block parties need to stop. It's dangerous. We stop the block parties.

2. Memorial Site

President Lavender Norris said lets talk now about the memorial sites. Ms. Al Amin said Jesus. Is that for the-- President Lavender Norris said none in particular. Ms. Al Amin said well that's then these things, you mean? President Lavender Norris explained accidents occur and then they make make-shift memorials. And they're there for years, and they look like somebody dumped there. Personally, I think, okay, somebody passed. I understand you want to memorialize it. So, take your 30 days and memorialize it. After the 30th day, take your memorial to your home, put it in your yard, their yard, or something else. But we cannot go on like this because the weather takes a hold of it. It's bad. Bottom line, it looks horrible. And if we're saying we're cleaning up, then why are we allowing this to occur? Ms. Al Amin asked can we do an ordinance that states it's only permissible for 30 days? President Lavender Norris said probably, because I don't think we have anything like that on the books. Vice President Green said no. [inaudible]. Do you know anything about that? Lieutenant Audette. I'm sorry, Lieutenant Audette was working with crime victims on one of memorial site at Abdala Park in the very front of the park, the front facing Lincoln Highway at the fence that's closest to the laboratory. Yeah. That was one of the things that he was working on before he left. I mean that said, he was going to continue to work on that [inaudible]. But I know that crime victims were willing to work with him to do something. Lieutenant Ollis stated I'll take a look and see if that file's still here available. I know that crime victims have worked with them on one of their parks. But I do not have that file available to me.

Mrs. Hunt said that would be for people that have passed away due to accidents or [crosstalk]-- Mr. Logan replied yeah. I would like to share with you all. Roberta and I had an opportunity to meet the mother of a gentleman that passed away right on the 4th. And it's my understanding that she has been basically taking care of her location. Her son passed away for nine years now. And she has changed it out, and the memorial's right around [crosstalk]-- Chief said 4th and Maple. Ms. Allen asked that's the Parker Boy, right? Vice President Green replied yeah. Mr. Logan said and again, she takes pride in it. She doesn't live in Coatesville anymore. She comes out, I think, what does she say? Once a month or-- Vice President Green said she was here recently. Yeah. Mr. Logan said right. Just to make sure that it looks good. So I know that, again, this is a poor discussion. I think when you-- if and when you decide where it goes, there's a number of things to consider. Oftentimes, people want to learn more where the actual incident happened, whether it's a murder or not, at that particular site. It's tough for everyone. And we had an incident year ago right across the street from Chestnut where they put animals right in front of one of the barbershops there. They had one near Walgreens. And that was the woman who was going to work [inaudible]. So there's been a number of sites throughout the city. There's still one on 82 as you come into the city. There's a more recent one, the motorcycle accident heading out of the city, which was only for a short period of time. So again, I think it's a tough one to call. I don't know if you should give some consideration to individual families that are preserving the space to make it look good. But I just think it's a tough decision to make.

President Lavender Norris said I think there should be a central location, like we were just saying, the memorial site, the break zone, whatever it is. But again, in 30 days, you could put your memorial out

there. After that 30th day, it has to go. Ms. Al Amin said yeah. Because in Parker, that was back in, what, 2018? It's been years. Vice President Green explained they're not always maintaining it. Now, his is freshly done, probably the last maybe a month and a half or two months ago. But prior to that, it wasn't always kept. It was not always kept. Same thing with 6<sup>th</sup> and Olive. They take care of that, but there's periods of time where the stuffed animals are out there. They're wet, they're messy. You know what I mean? It's offensive to have. President Lavender Norris said even up on Coates Street, the young man didn't even lose his life on Coates Street, but they have the banner on the fence. And it's balloons, and it's the candles. And all that stuff is sitting there. He didn't-- This is happening [crosstalk]. His demise wasn't on Coates Street. But people coming by, people that live behind the park, they have to look at this stuff every day. It's not fair. It's not fair. Ms. Turner-Green said and I don't think it would be fair if you can choose whether it's well kept or not. I think it's just-- President Lavender Norris said 30 days. Ms. Turner-Green said definitely, a timeline. And after that, if we have a specific area where we [inaudible] the brakes or whatnot, and then that can be the transition. [crosstalk] Swing Park on the top.

Ms. Scamuffa suggested Swing Park as it is very underutilized park at the top of 6th, between Pearl and Alley, all the way up at the top. What they did is very well kept back [crosstalk]. And that's the city's call. Vice President Green said it's unkempt and you can't see it and it's out of [inaudible] sight. Ms. Scamuffa said if you want to go to a memorial, that's where you would go. And that would be a nice open space. And it would make it capped then because people will take care of their memorial spot. Vice President Green said that's the [crosstalk]. Ms. Scamuffa said the mother who goes to Ash Park and takes care of her [inaudible]. I don't know. It's underutilized. You can build it. I mean, at the rate we're going, I mean, you can build a whole platform there, unfortunately. It's between Pearl and Alley. 6th Avenue at the top. Between Pennsylvania and 6th Avenue. [crosstalk]

Mr. Logan suggested that the council members discuss this, but also maybe consider being a town hall meeting with constituents and putting that on. President Lavender Norris asked can you say it again? I didn't hear it. Mr. Logan suggested maybe having a town hall meeting [inaudible] sit here and have meeting, and maybe have a few other items on the agenda that may need them. Vice President Green said to talk about memorial site? Mrs. Hunt said then we should eventually ask something [crosstalk]. Hoping one or two. And then who will be responsible for clearing the stones and the debris? Vice President Green said remember the bricks before, they used to take them [crosstalk]. Which is what they're doing anyway when they're buying all the stuff that they're hanging up. [crosstalk]. This would be like a one-time deal.

Ms. Scamuffa said right. Okay. So if I may because we're on the discussion section, can I add something for the next meeting to put on the discussion under discussion items for the next meeting, please? [inaudible][crosstalk] Vice President Green stated [crosstalk] Ms. Scamuffa said well, I'm interested. It has to have something put on the agenda to discuss? I don't remember having any prior discussion on how to put items on the agenda as discussion items. [crosstalk]. Well, I don't remember having a lot of things on the discussion items that are discussed. Is it preferential? Vice President Green stated most of the time, they're things that Mr. Logan is putting on there that need to be discussed. But-- Mrs. Hunt said I just never noticed it being in a-- --they just don't need [crosstalk] --council meeting. [crosstalk]. He's been there [crosstalk] put on the discussion item [crosstalk]. Ms. Scamuffa said I didn't want to discuss it now. I just want it for the next meeting. Mr. Jefferson said no, I'm just saying it probably [crosstalk]. President Lavender Norris said and if you could provide it to Mr. Logan and put it on the agenda. Ms. Scamuffa said okay, thank you.

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

There were no citizens hearing at this time.

Ms. Al Amin motioned 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 a motion to approve the Shot Spotter Proposal

Ms. Al Amin motioned to approve the Shot Spotter Proposal; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Chief Laufer thanked Madam President. The ShotSpotter Proposal is being presented to Council. It's a project that we've been working on, myself and Mr. Logan, for a number of years. It's a technology that is used to detect the location of gunshots that are fired, in our case, within the city limits. And it's a technology that has proven to be very effective in helping combat gun violence. It has been tried in a number of cities, been quite successful. Our district attorney is behind the project. When he was a US attorney working out of the Wilmington office of US attorney, he was quite familiar with the technology as it was used by the City of Wilmington to help combat gun violence. So it's a technology that we believe will be beneficial to the police department and help us respond to reports of shots fired. We think it will benefit the residents of the city and enable us to be more reactive to the sound of gunfire because they found statistically that over 50% of shots that are detected once ShotSpotter is initiated are calls that would never have been called in. There are no 911 calls for about 50% of the shot calls that are detected. So it just is a tool to be utilized to help combat gun violence. We have obtained the support of the district attorney's office for funding. Our state representative has committed to helping us fund it. And, of course, Mr. Logan has been supportive. So we're excited to bring this technology to the city. We're going to do it as a three-year pilot program, and we think that we'll be able to demonstrate the efficacy of the technology and what it can bring to the city. So we are excited to finally-- after a number of years working to bring this to fruition, we're excited about it. And hopefully, the council is in agreement. And we're excited to make it happen.

2. Receive and consider a motion to approve the Pitney Bowes Lease for Postage Machine

Vice President Green motioned to approve the Pitney Bowes Lease for the Postage Machine; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Receive and consider a motion to approve the Rothwell Lease for Copiers in the Administration, Finance, Codes and Police Departments

Vice President Green motioned to approve the Rothwell lease for the Copiers in the Administration, Code, Finance and Police Department; Ms. Scamuffa seconded them motion. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Receive and consider ratification of IDG Agreement for the use of the Splash Pad

Vice President Green motioned to ratify the IDG Agreement for the use of the Splash Pad at the Riverwalk; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Allen asked what is it you'd like to support? Vice President Green said its in your packet there. Ms. Allen said yeah, I'm reading it, but since ya'll wanted to get a rule on it, I just want it to be done. [crosstalk]. I just saw the IDG Development, I'm like-- Vice President Green stated we don't own the splash. Development, that was included in it. Use of the splash pads are not contemplated when that was sold. If the project were-- the use of it was not considered now in order to use it during the summertime and to get the proper insurance. Everybody wanted the agreement in place. So that is

essentially just making sure that the proper insurance is in place. Ms. Allen asked okay and where is the other splash pad in the city? Ms. Cosentino stated we have one splash pad at Palmer, this one at the flats, and next year we'll have the one at Ash Park. Vice President Green stated this is what Mr. Logan was talking about back in the last meeting when the splash pad took a couple of days to open because we had to wait for the agreement and the insurance. Ms. Scamuffa asked since we did a little bit prior to, is there anything that could go against us since we're doing it later? Mr. Jefferson explained the insurance is in place. Ms. Scamuffa said okay. Right. Yeah. I knew that. So I just wanted to make sure that we didn't do anything against the charter by not reviewing and approving the-- sorry, to approving what's in here, I just want to make sure that we didn't do anything wrong by doing it first and then voting on it. Mr. Jefferson stated that's the ratification part. Ms. Scamuffa said okay. All right. Mr. Logan said [inaudible] have a lawyer, make sure you don't. Ms. Scamuffa said just making sure. If I don't ask, I won't know. Mr. Jefferson explained the splash pad is on the flats. When the city or the RDA sold the flats to IDG.

5. Receive and consider a motion authorizing Foresite Concepts' payment request in the amount of \$132,700.50.

Vice President Green motioned to approve the Foresite Concepts payment request in the amount of \$132,700.50; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Al Amin motioned to close action items; Vice President Green seconded the motion, Motion passed 7-0.

## Reports

1. Solicitor

Mr. Jefferson thanked Madam President. I provided a more detailed attorney-client privilege report to council. Since council's last meeting, I communicated and continue to communicate with outside council regarding known litigation matters; reviewed, analyzed, and provided comments about the splash pad license agreement; worked on known eminent domain matter; reviewed opioid litigation documents and provided comments; received the fully executed 15-day letter regarding the Brandywine View project, and provided a copy to the city; communicated with the PA American Water's Engineering Manager regarding the recording of easement; and communicated with Michael Rowan, Esquire, regarding Millview Basin. Finally, I hope everyone enjoyed the 4th of July holiday weekend, and I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer.

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan thanked Madam President. Just a quick couple of items here. Train station, you all have seen many months of the train station construction site being improved. Elevator towers have gone in, walls on both north and south side. They're getting a lot of work done, but unfortunately, they're also running into some snags. And this is more Amtrak side. The prediction was to have this completed in 2026, early 2026. So it looks like we're going to be back to the court reporter, which some of us kind of predicted here, of 2026. And these are just a combination of some funding. Then we have state funding that's kind of in here. And then we have just workers on the job too. A lot of folks have been disseminated to different areas. So a lot of construction sites right now, these are some of the challenges that we have. So instead of early 2026, we're looking at fourth quarter 2026 for completion. We will reach out to Pat and Angela for update, maybe in August or September to kind of come in with some additional information. That's where it stands at this time. We do have several projects going on in the city, ranging from infrastructure development projects. Roberta's working on not only the Ash Park, but we have inlets, road repairs, some buildings that we're going to be working on.

The Brandywine View Project, as Rob mentioned, is taking shape. They are moving forward with phase one, 240, 260 apartments. They are up to date on escrow, and we're very excited that they are making progress in the city. PECO and PA American Water are continuing their upgrades to electric and water-related projects here. They have been out in a number of areas throughout the city, working on some projects. There was nobody who actually sent that text message this evening, but our police department went out. They had to have that area covered. That might be a utility company. We don't know which one at this time. But Roberta's going to reach out to them personally tomorrow morning to resolve that.

This month, residents will also see from PA American Water canvassing [inaudible]. So, the canvassing for the city of Coastal requesting residents - I want to make sure I get this clear - to help identify possible lead and aging pipes. Now, at this particular time, PA American Water has not detected any lead from anyone's pipes here. This is a kind of a precaution. There are some new rules and regulations that are required by PA American Water. They began this a couple of years ago. They didn't have very good success. Our residents either were not home or they just didn't want them to come in. Did the inspection. So, this is the second attempt. They're going to have a little bit more of an aggressive canvassing requires. We're going to help them with social media. A series of mailers and flyers have already gone out. We're working with residents and landlords on this particular initiative. I'm going to pass around an email that was sent to Roberta and I this afternoon, and so that you guys can kind of hear what the discussion was about. We want to be very transparent with our residents about this. It's very important that when these representatives from PA American Water come out, they will have an ID so you know who they are. They will not be asking for money from residents. This is something that's funded through PA American Water. And they've provided us with some pretty detailed information on how this process is going to take place throughout the City of Coatesville. So I think that's about it on that particular front. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call. But again, I just want to let you all know that this canvassing will start, I think, in another week or so. July 28th. They're going to be out here for a couple of months, I think.

Ms. Allen stated a lot of the homes in Coatesville are old, and they do have the galvanized steel pipes in their homes. So, if the water company comes in and notices that the home or store, or whatever has that galvanized steel, are they going to say, "You need to get rid of those and get the, plastic, the PVC pipes?" What is the purpose of them coming out to test to see what type of pipes you have in your home? Mr. Logan explained well, the purpose is to identify any lead that's in those pipes [inaudible]. Ms. Allen stated So a lot of them still have the galvanized steel. So would that cause lead? Because it is steel. Mr. Logan said I don't know. But if they do detect any lead, PA American Water and the homeowner will work together to replace those pipes. So it is a partnership. I think it's important to share, though, that PA American shared with us that there won't be a cost to the homeowner. Ms. Allen stated it just says that-- she just showed me that homeowner will have to replace it.

Mr. Logan explained PA American is going to be working with some funding to work with homeowners to replace any pipes. And if there are any questions for residents, there are numbers that are listed that they can contact PA American Water. Ms. Allen said I'm sorry. I just have a hard time trusting and believing that PA American Water will step in and help the homeowners pay. Because a lot of times people say, "Oh, we're working on in Coatesville. We're going to help them do this." Just like over last year or this year with the Good Work, supposedly helping older people fix up their homes. And it went to other people and not the residents in the city. The residents in the city, when they found about it, the program was already almost over. And if it wasn't over, they said, "Oh, we don't have the funding now," because it went to other people. So when this comes around, I'm just

saying, as a resident who has a home, this PA American Water is not going to-- all of the cost is going to go through the homeowner from past practices and just living in the city, knowing how they treat the residents in the city. Low, middle, poor, whatever they classify it as, this is going to fall on the homeowner. Mr. Logan said well, Councilwoman, I can't comment on that because I don't have any facts or history of that. But as I said on the call today, this is a program that they have brought in to implement two years ago, and the response was very poor. This is their second attempt. Ms. Allen stated that's not [inaudible].

Mr. Logan explained again, this is their second attempt. And the reason why they're doing this is because if there is a certain issue, then PA American Water will have to be held accountable for it. So I think it's in their best interest to work with our residents to identify if there's any lead issues and then repair any of the types that might have [inaudible]. Ms. Allen stated but when they came and replaced - and I'm just talking about my home on First Avenue - they came and took up the train tracks that was underneath and replaced their main water line, which caused every home on First Avenue to have water issues. And now our road is caving, and you walk right up the street and you feel like your tire's about to fall off. And I said this, I had talked to Roberta and she said she's going to try to get it fixed or whatever. But this has been an ongoing issue, problem for the city period-- not just me on First Avenue, but for the city period. Things are like this [inaudible], How long is it going to take? Because of where it is, how long is it going to take to get fixed? Ms. Allen said It's just a lot of things that's going on and being said but the city work, as the residents, we're not seeing a change. What my property is a field that PECO owns. In order to get that grass cut, I have to call down [inaudible]. And then they put a call in [inaudible] of PECO. The grass is probably six feet high by the time that they come out to cut it. So I'm just saying, when these types of things happen and this comes up, you are [inaudible] kind of need to be more firm or something to be like, "Listen, if you all want to do this, fine. You just raised up water rights-- bills, I mean. The bills went up 20, 40 dollars each month, the rate. So come on." Now, you don't want to come out and tell these people who live in their homes since 1942, "Oh, you got galvanized steel. Now, you got to change them over. And we're going to give you 20 dollars to get a pipe." You know how much those cost? Because I redid mine, I know how much it costs and all the work and stuff that has to get put into it. And the cost, that's going to fall onto our elderly homeowners. So I just want to kind of get ahead of that because I foresee that happening because it has happened to them in the past. It's happened to our residents in the past. Mr. Logan said I'll be more than happy to put you in touch with some of the individuals that were on the phone today and introduce you as one of our council members with concerns about this entire process. That concludes my report. Proceed.

3. Assistant City Manager

Ms. Cosentino thanked Madam President. The city is proud of the diversity of its residents, property owners, and business owners, and we welcome any non-English speakers to contact the city as needed, either in person, on the phone, or via our website. [foreign]. I'll also note that in our meeting today, PA American Water did say that they would be providing all of those materials in Spanish as well, and possibly have Spanish speakers do some of the canvassing also. I want to share some good news. Congratulations to the city for a major project that was done and completed, which was the demolition of Gillies that Lisa mentioned earlier. 21 North Second Street is the address. As you know, City Council had this building on their radar for many years. And in fact, we did have our fire chief and our building official infrastructural engineer take assessment of the building a few months ago. And over the course of the past few weeks, there's been a demolition crew out there, and the building is officially down. So that is a major achievement for the city. Working with the property owner and being able to get that done, and removing essentially what as it was a major health and safety hazard in the city.

Similarly, at the same time, we have the Ash Park project start. And as you can-- as I'm sure everybody's noticed, Ash Park, the pool house, and the swimming pool has been demolished, and a lot of the material has been removed by now. A lot of work has happened. And you can see in the JMT letter approving the first payment, there's been a lot of work that's been done so far in the first couple of weeks, so we're really happy about that. And again, as Lisa mentioned, we were able to save some pieces of that mural. And it happened very quickly because we learned kind of right at the last minute that the mural had the significance that it has, and we're hoping one day we'll figure out what the right thing to do with those materials are. But for now, we do have them. I also want to share some other great news. Speaking of road repairs, Ms. Allen, unfortunately, it's not your road. But I do want to really sincerely thank Fidelity Contracting and also our engineer at Cedarville, Mike Gregoric, who helped coordinate this. But Fidelity Contracting actually does some-- they're the company that's out working for PA American Water, doing their road repairs after they have to open up the road. They're the ones who close it back up again. And they actually did an additional repair for us recently over on the West End. It was a fairly serious issue that a homeowner was having. And if it hadn't been addressed, it would have created a much larger issue pretty much every time it rained. And Cedarville kind of coordinated with Fidelity. They were kind enough to make that repair at no cost to the city. So I think it's great to have partners like that in the city who have good working relationships. It can't happen all the time, obviously. But really, a big thank you to Fidelity for repairing that.

So the value of that repair was about \$13,000. And last but not least, this month, you have the codes report in your packets. Everything is remaining steady in the code's office in the summertime. Our rental licenses and business privileges are winding down. But you see that many have gone to the state citation level, which serves a couple of purposes. The main one being that it tends to get the attention of the property owners. And that is happening. We're having more conversations. We're getting people coming into the office, which is always good, gives us an opportunity to talk to them and explain everything that's going on. So we're having a good response with that. And we continue having the same number of inspections and code enforcement cases, opening and closing. Obviously, we're going to lean more towards things like graphs and needs and general property maintenance. One thing that is not being captured in the report that I think is worth mentioning is we are spending quite a bit of our time on sewer complaints. We're not sure if there's anything to pinpoint. But as [inaudible] mentioned, a lot of our houses in the city are quite old. And this just is a recurring issue that we have. And we do spend quite a bit of our time. Either we receive complaints, or one of our staff is just driving by and noticing an issue. And then the codes department goes out and investigates. And we have to contact the property owner and make sure repairs are made immediately. Usually, we're involved with PA American Water, also. So it keeps coming up. So I just wanted you to know that that is part of what's happening in the background as well.

Ms. Allen asked about the sewer. Like you said, it's PA American Water. Where are the complaints coming from? Do you know the majority of them? Ms. Cosentino said they're really all over the place. And it's random. It's not happening in any one consistent location. It really kind of pops up everywhere. Ms. Allen said kind of where they changed out their pipes, I was just trying to figure out. Because on Coates Street, with the train station, they had to replace the pipe, right? And they took that culvert on Coates Street. Ms. Cosentino said that was the storm water that was done on Coates Street. Ms. Allen said oh, right. Thank you.

Ms. Scamuffa asked of the 168 completed rental inspections, were they all passed, or were they pass and fail? Ms. Cosentino said I believe, in there, there's a mention of a percentage that fail. I'm not sure if it's on that page or a different page. But no, they are not all passing. Ms. Scamuffa said okay. And of the ones that passed, and I know you're not going to have the answer off the top of your head. Mr. Logan said that's on page 4-8. Ms. Scamuffa yeah. That's fine. The ones that are passing-- are we following this? The pre-rental inspection checklist that belongs to the City of Coatesville Pre-Rental Inspection Checklist,

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Department of Urban Planning and Codes Enforcement. I can't go into a house, so I can't obviously deal with the interior stuff, but based off of exterior? Ms. Cosentino said I don't have that list memorized. I can't tell you, like I've mentioned to you, Councilwoman, if you'd like to see a copy of the checklist that we use for inspections, I'm happy to share that with you. Ms. Scamuffa I would. If you could email it to me, that's fine too. Ms. Cosentino said sure. Ms. Scamuffa said because there's a lot of rental properties that codes, I'm sure, passes with debris such as trees growing out of the rain spouts, the gutters, things like that. Yeah, Business 30, they're on Valley Road. I can't speak. I don't know what anybody else's concerns are in their boards. I'm sure they have them as well, but I said when I ran for the seat that codes issues was going to be a major portion of it, making sure things get enforced and not operate, as far as codes, with a light hand because there's a lot. So I'm curious. And I know I've asked before about seeing what properties get inspected. It doesn't have to be super detailed, pass/fail. And I can drive by myself and say, "Oh, okay. Well, this wasn't enforced," or, "This wasn't enforced." Because I'm curious to see how many landlords are operating by the skin of their teeth and having rental licenses. But I know I'll ask for it, and I'll never get a report on it. I don't know if it's because it's me that's asking or what the situation is. I brought it up since the time I've been here. [crosstalk] might be.

Mr. Jefferson said we can look into that offline, I think, is a better option. We're not going to solve it right now. Ms. Scamuffa said we're not going to solve it now. I mean, we have an intuitive computer system that I'm sure can pull off pass/fail, whatever, with addresses. It has to be pretty simple, I'm guessing. But I'm going to ask again. This is like the third or fourth time if I could see it. It doesn't have to be printed. It doesn't have to be in this. A simple email works because I just want to see if we're operating accordingly or if we're not, and who's doing the inspecting of the properties giving the rental licenses because if they're not following the guidelines that the city puts forward, then they don't deserve a position with the city. That's just how I feel.

Vice President Green said I have a question for you. So does that mean that when they give you this paper, you're going to go into a reinspection? Is that what you want to do? Ms. Scamuffa said I can't get into somebody's house. Some of this stuff is common sense. This is our inspection list because she has a different one for the Codes Department. Vice President Green said you said you want to see if the inspection is really done or they really passed. So how would you do that besides going to those people's private home? Ms. Scamuffa said well, I'm not going to knock on their door. I can ride by and see if their fascia is falling down and falling apart. I can see some of the basic things, fencing, if any, if it's in good repair. I mean, these are basic functions, and I think some of this-- President Lavender Norris said this isn't included in an inspection. Vice President Green said It's not in the-- yeah. Ms. Scamuffa said this is what the city puts out. If we're not doing it, it's on our website. If we're not doing it, then there's a problem. Vice President Green asked with a rental license? Mr. Jefferson said I think Ms. Ms. Cosentino said she'd be willing to sit down with me and go over-- Ms. Scamuffa said I'm answering her questions. Okay. I'm answering her questions. Vice President Green said I just wanted to know if she was going to go and do a reinspect-- to have these addresses and ride into people's houses and-- Ms. Scamuffa said I could drive anywhere in the city, and I can see it clearly. Vice President Green said you can, but you're not getting out of the car and pulling up to their-- standing on the sidewalk where it looked like-- you know what I mean? Ms. Scamuffa said yeah. I have eyes. I can see from the street. Vice President Green said that's just ridiculous, but you're not trusting the Codes Office to do their job. Ms. Scamuffa said I don't trust them because the city looks the way it does. And I'm sorry, Roberta, it doesn't get done. We operate with a light hand with many other things. Vice President Green said I don't think LTL is operating with a light hand because they're doing their job. Ms. Scamuffa said well, it's either LTL or our Codes Department itself that goes out and does the inspections. Vice President Green said the Codes Department. LTL does the rental license, right? We don't have a codes officer [inaudible]. Mr. Jefferson said I think some of this may be-- like I said, Ms. Cosentino said she would be willing to speak if you can compare what you have versus what she has, and I think it may answer some of the questions. But I don't

know that we're going to solve it tonight. Ms. Scamuffa said I don't want it solved tonight. I'm just asking for—

Vice President Green said no. I have a question. LTL does the rental license inspection for the City of Coatesville, right? For a Valley Township, correct? And [inaudible]. Ms. Cosentino said I'm not sure that they're in Valley. Maybe? Vice President Green said yeah. They're in Valley and South Coatesville. So they're doing the rental license inspection for most of the-- and I think they could do it for Township. [crosstalk]. I just think that, sometimes, we're going to be doing their jobs where we're going behind, and checking to see if they're doing their work. The company that we have is a very reputable company, and they're doing rental license inspections for poor neighboring municipalities. They're not going out and just passing people to pass. The five charts that we see show that they issued 36%-- I mean, inspections needed. We have 60% of inspections needed, 36% have been issued. 4% have gone to citations. Then it says reinspections. We have a chart that says 53% passed, 25% reinspections passed, 22% reinspections needed. Then we have another chart that breaks it down by month. January, February, March, April. Ms. Scamuffa asked are you [crosstalk] that you're reviewing this with [crosstalk]-- Vice President Green said but I'm saying because you're asking them to give you specific addresses, you want to go double-check this. Ms. Scamuffa said we need to. We need to. Vice President Green said you want to double-check them. I don't understand that.

Mrs. Hunt said excuse me. Ms. Cosentino, were you finished with your report? Ms. Cosentino replied yes. Mrs. Hunt said okay. I'm glad you were, because if you weren't, this is really out of line. But even when Mr. Logan was reading his report, we got off track. Ms. Allen apologized. I'm sorry. Mrs. Hunt said thank you. We should not do that. If they're reading their reports, at least give them the respect of listening to what they're sharing with us. Ms. Scamuffa said that's why I waited till the end to ask my questions. Mrs. Hunt said but we're in the midst of reports, and I didn't know that we had the right to question reports while they were giving you. If anything, when it comes to your council comments, then you can bring it up. If I'm wrong, somebody please correct me but I felt it's spoiling the flow. I'm not suggesting that-- Ms. Scamuffa said so you're suggesting that I ask that our [crosstalk] to answer my questions. Mrs. Hunt replied yes. And then bring it up, yes. Ms. Scamuffa said okay. I'll remember that when other council members are sitting up here wanting to discuss things. Mrs. Hunt said I'm saying it as overall. I'm saying that's the way I thought it was. I didn't know that we had the liberty to cut across reports when they were being given. So that's what I'm saying. I thought if I'm wrong, then I stand to be corrected. But right now, we're having like four conversations going on while we're trying to do what we're trying to do with [crosstalk]. Vice president Green apologized. [crosstalk] I was just trying to understand, but I'm not a [inaudible]. Mrs. Hunt said thank you. Well, we all need a fair understanding of whatever it is that's cloudy to us, but there's a proper way to do it. And I just think we need to follow those rules so that we can get the proper answers and understandings of what we need to do. That's all. Thank you. President Lavender Norris asked Ms. Cosentino, were you through? Ms. Cosentino replied yes. Thank you.

4. Police Report

Chief Laufer thanked Madam President. The complete report is in your packet tonight. Just a couple key highlights. For the month of June, we had 2,595 calls generated through the Chester County 911 Center. That was up slightly from 2,290 for the month of May. And calls received through our front desk for the month of June was 1,629 up slightly from the month of May where we saw 1,493. And that's consistent with the warmer summer months where we typically see our numbers increase. We did have one Narcan administration. And Lieutenant Alice and I were having an interesting conversation earlier tonight where we were looking at the statistics. And we were wondering if the impact of having more Narcan available through the civilian population here in the city is affecting our Narcan numbers because people are probably being able to administer their own Narcan. It's an interesting question. But to follow up on that, Lieutenant Alice has some-- I don't want to call them giveaways here tonight, but they've been provided

to the city through Chester County Drug and Alcohol. We have them here tonight for anybody that would like to take them home with us. And we also have enough that we have it at our front desk in the Police Department for anybody else in the community that would like to stop by. We have Narcan kits, and we also have two different styles of lockable prescription medication containers, where you can lock up any opioids or anything like that.

So anybody's welcome to take them with them here tonight. And please pass it around that we have a supply that we're able to offer to the community, and they can stop by the police station for Narcan and/or a prescription medication lockable container. We had two Coffee with the Chiefs for the month of June. One was our regular, which was hosted by the library. Pete's not here tonight, but they were a very gracious host. And then we had an evening Coffee with the Chief hosted by CYI, both of which were very well attended. And some great conversation was had at both events. And then, of course, we take July and August off in the summer months, and we resume in September. So on September the 3rd, we have coffee with the Chief at the Brandywine Center. So that's where this 3rd September Coffee with the Chief will be to kick us back off for the start of the fall season.

And one of the great things about police work is that we truly never know how we're going to be able to impact and affect the lives of others. I want to read an email that was received. Obviously, we'll leave the names off. But this is an email that we received from a resident of the city. And it reads as, "Hi Lieutenant Ollis, I want to send a special thank you to the officers that responded to my 911 call yesterday. I went to do a wellness check on my brother around 11:00 AM and found him dead. I'm just not strong enough for all of this, but they were patient, understanding, and I truly appreciate each one. One officer assisted with carrying his body out. Thank you, Coatesville Police Department, for your care and compassion on one of the hardest days of my life." So it is one of the great things about police work, is the ability for us to impact the lives of others in ways that you just never realized. And so I thought it was appropriate to share this email with everybody here tonight. Madam President, that's my report.

5. Fire Report

Chief Huf thanked Madam President. Again, fire report should be in your packets. A few highlights. We responded outside the city to township to assist their fire department on three occasions. We were in Downingtown for a major house fire assisting them on the 4th of July. We were in Sadsbury Township and West Brandywine Township as well. So as I had mentioned before, as time moves on and less and less manpower is available, you're seeing more of a regional approach. And these are municipalities to come and assist us here in the city as well. Also, as was mentioned last month, I was heading to Harrisburg, which I did. And we met with the Fire Caucus, which is made up of senators and state representatives from around the state. There were about 45 chiefs there. There was a reception that was held and we had a chance to really one-on-one discuss some of the issues that we see in fire and EMS. And we got them to pledge their support, both in increasing the grant funding that we get from the state fire commissioner's office and also with some of the different House bills and Senate bills that are lingering out there. For instance, one is the opposition of fire and EMS to the sale of fireworks, which was mentioned earlier. We're very much opposed to that. So I think our pressure is back on the elected officials in Harrisburg. They hear our voice and they know that there's things that need to be changed. So we thought it was very successful. Also, lastly, as you may know, I was appointed the Emergency Management Commissioner back in January or February. So I've been taking courses both over at the training center and online. I have a few courses left to complete. This county emergency management team is coming here next week to assist with filling out some of the final yearly reports that the city is required to do.

This allows us to be eligible for any funding in the event of an emergency, both from FEMA and from PEMA. FEMA is the Federal Emergency Management Agency. PEMA is the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency. So there's funding at all different levels. So working hard to make sure that we're

compliant with that and also getting all the necessary training in place. Our goal was in the fall to do some sort of a mock, a tabletop emergency. There would be a coordinated effort from the different departments in the city and see how we would work well together with whatever type of emergency that we would set up. So in the event that there was an actual emergency, we would already have had our skill sets there that we could work together on this. Not that each agency doesn't know what to do, but it's more how to coordinate that team approach on things. So we're working on that as well. And lastly, I would mention there was a discussion with codes. My personnel, as you know, are in and out of buildings all the time. And we have a process in place where if my battalion chiefs find any violations or any safety issues, that that's relayed immediately to Roberta and her team. And the response there has been very fast action. We're in an email chain, so the battalion chief will email Roberta direct with me CC'd on that. And then I see the answers the next day with what's taking place. The owners maybe will be involved in that thread as well, stating that they've had the fire alarm serviced right away or a water leak that was detected at 2:00 in the morning. Service has been rendered and things like that. So just so everybody is aware that my department has a second set of eyes for that. And we've approached it very well together, I believe, and are handling a lot of these day-to-day issues that pop up. And that's my report, Madam President.

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

There were no citizens hearing at this time.

Ms. Al Amin motioned to close citizens hearings on non-agenda items; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

### **Special Events**

President Lavender Norris announced Sounds of Summer begins July 25th. And the Unity Day is August 16th. And the remaining Sounds of Summer dates are August 15th and September 19th at the Gateway Park.

### **Council Comments**

Ms. Scamuffa said If it seems like I'm being harsh on codes, I don't want to apologize. I don't want to come across that way. But like I said, the last meeting, I'm just tired. I have people, residents in the West End, when I'm taking an evening walk, that complain about the codes and how things look terrible, "What can you do? Who's getting paid? Somebody must be getting paid down at City Hall because these landlords get away with this." It's hurtful. It pains me to my core because that's not who the city is. They don't understand it. So if it seems like I'm being hardcore about the codes issues and how we're operating light-handed, it's because I'm hearing from residents. They don't understand it. So they maintain a clean house, but yet the outside's falling apart. And as long as the county keeps giving money, unfortunately, to these landlords who are living high and mighty off of the county dollars, they don't care what it looks like as long as they live well and act like our residents don't deserve a decent place to look. You look inside, not everybody, but most people keep a decent inside of their home. So it's frustrating to them. And they express those frustrations to me. And like Councilwoman Al Amin has said before, and other council women up here, they don't come to council to complain about the landlords because they say, "Where am I going to go? Then they're going to retaliate against me." It's frustrating. I have to be the voice for these people, just like many others have been before. So I am going to keep doing that because if we're passing things and not following the guidelines, then there's a problem. And we have to figure out where that problem is. I mean, I talk to people, we lived here our whole lives, generations, and people who don't even want to pass through the city anymore. I mean, I don't find it funny. I live here. I love Coatesville, born and raised, just like everybody else here. And we want better. We want better for our residents. So somebody might say something under their breath about me and my thoughts and my being vocal about it, but I'm going to continue to do it. I have to. And I'm not an idiot, just to be clear, and I'm going to use that term loosely. I can certainly read a report, but it's not answering the questions that I have. And for some reason, nobody wants to give them. And when it comes to me, all of a sudden now, I want to ask a question during mid-report, but I didn't hear one person speak up when Councilwoman Al Amin spoke after Mr. Logan was giving his report. Mrs. Hunt stated I'll cut you there and tell you I did. Ms. Scamuffa said so it wasn't announced through all of us. I asked questions. I'm told that I

didn't read the charter, that I have to have a forum of four people to get something put on as a discussion item. If somebody can point that, maybe I missed it, if somebody can point that out to me in the charter, I will gladly look at it and say, "Oh, that's my bad." Never knew that I've talked to former council persons, and that's never been the situation, to have something be put on as a discussion item. So it's like, okay. Well, is it because you're not sure if you want to hear what I want to discuss, and it has to be approved? Because what if I'm the only one who just wants to discuss it? What if it means something to my constituents in Ward 1? Does that mean it's not valid? Vice President Green asked is that a question being presented to us? Ms. Scamuffa stated if anybody wants to answer it, they can. I don't understand the process. And if I'm wrong, then tell me I'm wrong. If it's valid to the residents in the ward of the city, then why is-- why do I need to get four people to agree with me that it should be a discussion item? That just seems ridiculous. And it just seems like the people who ask for certain things, certain council members, seem to get more action than other council members. There's a problem there too, okay? And it's wrong. Mrs. Hunt asked who are the council members that get more [inaudible]? Ms. Scamuffa stated Information is not disseminated uniformly through all of council. Certain council members will get emails from management, and we don't find out about it until it shows up in our packet. It's just ridiculous to me how it operates. Vice President Green asked who gets emails before everybody? Ms. Scamuffa stated let them finish and then [crosstalk]-- I'm not here to argue with any of you. I'm voicing my concerns. Vice President Green said I'm not arguing. I just hate it [inaudible] accusations. I'm sorry. Ms. Scamuffa stated It's not accusations. Vice president Green said well, it is. You're saying that some of us are getting emails before everybody else. I want to know who they are. That's all. Ms. Scamuffa stated not all of council gets the same communications. And I bet if I submitted a Right to Know, it will become obvious. Vice president Green said submit one. Ms. Scamuffa stated I could do that. Maybe I will. Maybe I will, but that doesn't need to be time wasted. I mean, I know everybody's irritated with me tonight. But I'm just going to continue on doing what I was voted to do by the constituents. Mrs. Hunt said I'm not irritated. I just want to know where it's going? What are the facts that-- Ms. Scamuffa said here's the facts. I'll give you an example. Mrs. Hunt said --that are behind what you're saying and behind your frustration. And personally, if I was to make a suggestion to you, I think the next time a position opens on Codes, you might better serve in that position because then you'll be firsthand in being able to make sure the things that you say are not getting done will get done because you'll make sure they're done. So that may be a [inaudible]. Ms. Scamuffa said that's what your job is. I'm not looking to be assistant city manager. [inaudible]-- [crosstalk]— Mrs. Hunt said I didn't say that. I said codes. Ms. Scamuffa said and she's [inaudible]-- she's in charge of codes. Mrs. Hunt said --because all the issues-- your issue [crosstalk]-- Okay. This is what [inaudible] to do. Ms. Scamuffa stated I'm not here to argue. This is my closing comment. I'm just giving my reasoning behind why I'm saying what I'm saying and why I'm doing what I'm doing. It's not for me and for my entertainment. And I'll give you a perfect example if you'd like one. You asked for a police officer to be stationed at-- by your friend's house. You said it in closing comments one evening to Chief. And I asked for a year. And I'm telling you, years I've asked for somebody to be stationed at our street because way prior to council - I've been there 18 years - asked for police officers to sit there and do something because of the people running the stop sign and we have children playing in the street. And you know when I got one? Recently. Because you asked for that. And I said, "If she gets a police officer by her friend's house, then I better see one happening on front of my house too, on my corner." So that's the kind of different treatment that certain council members get. Mrs. Hunt said one thing y'all know is I don't sit here and go tit for tat. But tonight, you may be going tit for tat because I didn't ask for it to be at my friend's house. My statement was I was at my friend's house who lived on Grant Avenue, and I saw the cars going down Cedar Street. So I asked for a car to be at Cedar Street because then you can catch the people that are coming down that way. So that was my statement. And I'm not asking-- I don't ask for special privileges to-- for anything, for me or anyone else. It was a fact that I saw, and I presented it. I don't know, today, if a car has been up there or not. I don't know-- --because I didn't check back on that. So-- --I'm just saying when you make those comments like that, then that's when it becomes offensive because it's not accurate in its totality. So it becomes offensive when you bring statements up like that when it's not for me personally at all. It was for the area and the people. So that's what I asked for. But I don't know-- maybe you know, I don't know today if a car has been up there or not. I don't know. Ms. Scamuffa stated my point is I agree with you 100%. That is exactly what you said, pretty much verbatim. My point is that it took one time for you to ask. Did a police officer show up and sit there? Maybe. It's not the first time that it's been requested. I sat there for 17, 18 years, saying there's a problem at this

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corner. And it's just different. Certain council members get action faster than other council members. Just like I'm being antagonized over asking for some information. It's just silly to me. Thank you all for coming out. I'm going to continue to do what I do. I know you're a West Ender. I hope I'm serving you right. I'm trying my best regardless. So thank you, everyone, and have a safe trip home.

Ms. Turner-Green wished everyone a good evening. First, I want to thank the city staff for all that you do. And so I really appreciate for everything that you've been doing for the betterment of the city. Of course, my colleagues here, even Ms. Scamuffa, she gets very passionate. And that's a beautiful thing, right? Sometimes we have to understand processing, but I love that she's passionate about our city because I feel the same. Thank you all for being with us tonight. And the ones that aren't here tonight.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everyone for coming out. Mr. Jefferson, I want to see if you can do something that maybe could help some of this confusion along. So if there's someplace in the charter that it's written, or there's an ordinance that we as council members should not ask questions after the city manager, the Assistant City Manager, the Chief, the Fire Chief, give their report, and we should do it in our closing comments, then I think if that could be relayed to everybody, that could help the issue because-- let me raise my hand many times. Chief, you give a report, and I'll say, "Well, Chief, I have a question." I thought once the reports were done being given, that we were allowed to ask. So if that is not the appropriate manner for us to do that, if you could please let us all know where that is written because not just Ms. Scamuffa, not myself, there's been other council members when somebody's finished their report and they had a question, just like when people come up and speak from the podium, we're not supposed to ask them questions, and we know that, but sometimes we interrupt and ask questions. So if council shouldn't ask questions after report, it would help if we would know that. And I'd just like to say, whether I agree or disagree with any of my colleagues, we all have passions. We all try to help the residents the best that we can. We certainly want to see the best for Coatesville. And so even if we don't agree with one of our colleagues, we still need to respect them. I mean, listen, there was a time I had issues with codes. And everybody up here was probably sick of me because every council meeting, I didn't speak from this seat. I signed non-agenda items and got up to the podium. I think finally Councilwoman Hunt was like, "It has nothing to do with council. Let's get this fixed." A five-year issue. So sometimes when things linger on where you have people calling you-- I had a lady call with me. She rented a property, just passed inspection. She had two children. The upstairs windows didn't have any screens. And screens aren't on the list. So when you don't know, you ask. And asking sometimes may seem offensive, but for the most part, I think it's for clarity. So if we could all have a little bit of more clarity of the do's and don'ts, I want to thank all the staff for your hard work. Thank all my colleagues. I look forward to continue to working with you. And I just hope everybody has a good night and gets home safely.

Ms. Allen thanked everyone for coming out. Get home safe. Have a good night.

Mrs. Hunt wished everyone a good evening. Thank you all for indulging us and staying through the night. As I always do, I want to thank our staff for your tremendous work, your hard efforts, and everything that you put into making this city what it is. Your hard work, your services, your extra time does not go unnoticed by the councilperson of the Third Ward. I just want to thank you for all that you do. I am a little disturbed tonight because here we are ending the meeting again like we did the last time. In my opinion, there's a difference between asking a question and submitting falsehoods and innuendos, assassinating people's character. Right on the verge of slandering, that's where we come in. And that bothers me because if we're working together for the same cause, then we have to respect each other in our position where we are. And to say that I have special privilege because I asked for a police car. And I will state clearly that was not the first time I asked for that. Am I correct? Chief replied that's correct. Mrs. Hunt said I've asked for that several times. So it wasn't because Councilwoman Hunt asked for it. They jumped to it. No, not at all. Again, a falsehood and an innuendo that causes me personally to feel some kind of way about that because it's not the truth. So if you want to know the truth about it, then confront me. Call me. They go, "How did you get that done so fast that I didn't get it done?" And then I would have told you, "Well, that was not fast. I've asked for that several times." When I made the

statement tonight about not talking when someone else is talking, I say that all the time, and I was not sure that Ms. Cosentino was finished with her report before we got into whatever you guys got into. So that was where I was coming from. The same thing with Mr. Logan, and I said it to Ms. Allen, "Is he done with his report?" I never said we can't ask questions at the end of the report. What my statement was, I thought we had to wait till the end of the report or in our comments, say what we have to say. I didn't say you can't ask questions. I didn't say you don't have a right to ask a question because you do. We all do. So I don't want my words or what I'm saying to be taken out of context and then put to fit the way you want it to fit because that's not fair. So I just think I would like to see us be more respectful to each other. We all have a passion for this city. We all do. And sometimes we're not in the right position to serve and to do what we feel most important. And I honestly feel that Mr. Scamuffa, you would serve great as a Code person because that's where your heart and your passion is. So that's why I said what I said. And I don't back down from that. But I was really, really, really am tired of us bashing each other in these public meetings. This is not what it's about. This is not what it's for. Ms. Scamuffa said I didn't bash anybody [inaudible]. Mrs. Hunt said and now I'm going to ask you not to cut across me. Ms. Scamuffa said but you cut across me, so I'm returning it. Mrs. Hunt Said okay. So tonight, I'm going to end my-- I'm going to end my report right now. Y'all have seen Councilwoman Hunt. You haven't had any experience with Arvilla. [crosstalk] So I'm going to be end at that, okay? Have a good day.

Vice President Green stated I did make a statement and I did apologize regarding the codes office. I made a request about a month ago in Executive Session. I made a request to my fellow councilmen requesting a specific report that I would like to see. The reason I made that request is because as an individual councilperson, I can't [inaudible] that to report and to make any report. And that's why the point that I'm trying to get across is that if we're going to serve, we've got to understand how we're supposed to serve. So if there's a report that you want to see them to generate to give the council, because it's council. We don't operate as one person. We operate as a bunch, which needs to be approved by four people. That's just how it is. You're requesting her to give you a report with people's addresses. And what I'm saying is that the offense comes in is because the offense is that the codes office is not doing their job. And I see these reports come out every year-- or you put, "Come once a month." And once a month, we're getting not only where they are a month year today, but we're getting where they are every single month. Now, if there's specific things-- we have specific things, but when you make statements, you make such broad statements, and you make it seem as though the codes office in Coatesville-- because it's the same codes people in Valley Township, same codes people in town, same codes people in South Coatesville. But in Coatesville, the same company doesn't do their job for the City of Coatesville. And so I was asking you. I was trying to get clarity because you wanted addresses. Like, "Are you planning on going out to these people's homes with a notebook, writing down things, and reporting to the codes office their incompetence or whatever?" I just feel that that's something that needs to be discussed with council as a whole because you're requesting a specific report that they give if we request it, the same way I requested a report about the property downtown, and I had to get four people to want that report with me. When I say, "Read the charter." I'm very serious because the charter says it. We serve as one body, not individually. So I just want us to-- staff, I'm very grateful and appreciative of them doing their jobs and the jobs that they're doing. And I know that they're trying to get-- especially in the codes office, they're trying to get things caught up, and they're making great strides. We're not going to be-- everything is not going to be completed and done overnight. It didn't get messed up overnight. But I believe that Roberta and her staff and LTL is doing an amazing job. And they're giving us progress every month. And I just feel that when we start bashing out-- because, see, last council meeting, I was sitting here confused because the problem that was brought to the table, I thought this was an ongoing problem, and I'm feeling bad. Like, "Oh my God, these people are living in these conditions. We're not doing anything." Like, "Roberta, what is going on?" When I get back in executive session-- the public's not in executive, so they don't know. But when I get back in an executive session, I find out that, "No, this problem happened and needs to be cared with and me to intervene." And it wasn't an issue for that particular property. And that's what I'm saying, is that we're like bashing them as opposed to having conversations with them. And I'm quite certain that if you're getting complaints and you're getting things like that, that if you go to Roberta, unless you're seeing she's not willing to talk to you about them, you write it all down and you go to her and say, "Look, I'm seeing this, that, and the other. My residents are coming to me with these problems." Because if I have issues, that's what I do. I'm not going to sit in the public

and bash my Codes Department for not doing their job. It's just like things happening in the city with the police. How many people come and complain about the police all the time? I'm not going to sit here and bash the Chief. I know the integrity and the job that the chief-- the leadership that he does. I'm not going to bash him in the public because a couple of people came to me and said, "Blah, blah, blah, blah, blah." I'm going to talk. Some things our chief knows. I'll call him in a minute and ask him this and ask him that. But I don't try to tell him how to do his job. I don't hear, "I want to see the checklist because I don't think you're doing the checklist right." That's offensive. And we're paying these people. We're not the staff. We're not the staff. We're here to do legislation stuff. We're legislators. And if there's an overabundance of stuff, I personally believe that things are really getting better and soon. Things are cleaning up. Like I said, it didn't happen in the day. And the bottom line is that sometimes everything ain't the way it seems. But we don't have all the information. We know what somebody has come and told us. We talk to the codes office and find that, okay, the reinspection wasn't done because the people weren't available. We've tried it. We've tried to reinspect. And I just think that we come out, and we try to shine in the public's eyes like, "Hey, I'm doing my job as a council person." But you're not. Your job would be to get with the staff, the administration because they're the one-- the people in the audience can't get it done for you. The staff is the one that can get it done. And I just don't agree with the process, the procedure, the way we go about getting stuff done. You said you made an accusation that other people and some people on council get emails and get more information. I go to other meetings besides the council meeting. I call and inquire about stuff. So to say that some of us are getting more information-- if I get information, I'll share if it's something that needs to be shared. But if I'm inquiring on my own because I need to know something, I think that you're making accusations that are just not accurate because somebody told you that, not because you experienced it, not because you know, but something that somebody told you, "Yeah, some people get more information from other people." And I just think that it's not fair that we sit here. We've been doing so great. We agree to disagree. We've been getting along. Things have been moving ahead. Now, here comes the enemy, trying to stir up foolishness. If we could just read our book, follow our book-- that's why we have the charter. If we have it, let's do what we're supposed to do according to the charter and stop with the grandstanding and the bashing. If there's problems, the way to get the result that we need is to work with the people who can fix it, not try to embarrass them, not try to make them look foolish. That's all I'm saying. And I'm sorry for speaking out, but that was kind of rubbing me the wrong way. Like, "Why are we doing this? Why is that an issue?" That we have to sit out here and talk about our codes department. Not only does the Coatesville city, like I said, they do South Coatesville, they do Valley Township, they do Caln Township. But I guess when it comes to Coatesville, they say, "No, we're not going to do it right there. It's not our job anymore." And I just think it's unfair. But I thank everybody. This is our last meeting. Till August. I wish everybody well. I'm going to be going on vacation, so you don't have to worry about me in the first meeting in August. I won't even be back there. I'm going on vacation for a few weeks and just visit with my grandbabies. And I just thank everybody who's left for coming out and being with us. And I apologize at the same time. Thank you all.

President Lavender Norris stated I want to speak to the request for the police for Cedar Street. And I can tell you, I don't know if the police were up there the next day after Mrs. Hunt mentioned it for the third time and myself as well mentioning it and myself being in violation as well. However, I wretched out one day, the latter part of last week because I was coming down the hill and witnessed head-on collision on three different occasions. And somebody coming up the hill and making the left down the one-way street. So I called and reported it. I don't know what the situation was because I felt like I called the ones who are responsible for the situation. I didn't follow up. I didn't make any demands. I relayed the information and went on about my business because I felt like, "We're paying them to do the job. They'll do the job." That's how I felt then and that's how I feel now. To Mrs. Hunt's point with regard to the way the meeting ended last time was a negative about the codes department. Well, I'm sitting here now, but I'll stand flat-footed in support of the codes office because if no one else sees the difference and the change, I do and I appreciate. I've seen the city at its worst, and I see the city constantly improving with regard to the codes department. I'm not saying they're perfect. I'm not saying they do everything right. What I am saying is I see the change. I see the effort and I appreciate it. Also, it's been a wonderful evening. It's been spirited without any question or doubt. I want to just say thank you to you all for coming out. Wish you all a blessed night. And I was reading, I-- also, before I say that, I need to also say that we had a resident come

here twice about that same street you're talking about complaining about the vehicles going one way. But let me say this. I'm reading something someone sent me and it says, "I pray that happiness be at your door. May it knock early and stay late and leave behind gifts of peace, love, joy, and good health from God." Please have a blessed night.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Al Amin motioned to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.