

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Regular Meeting
April 13, 2015

Call to Order

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Linda Lavender-Norris, Council Vice President Marie Lawson, Mssr, Joseph Hamrick, Edward Simpson, Bill Shaw, Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt, and Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones. Staff members present included Acting City Manager Michael O'Rourke, City Solicitor John Carnes, Finance Director John Marcarelli, Public Works Director Donald Wilkinson, and Police Chief John Laufer and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Lavender-Norris announced an Executive Session was held earlier this evening April 13, 2015, to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the March 23, 2015 meeting minutes; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Accounts Payable

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

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

Vice President Lawson made a motion to add Presentation 3) WCCOG – Josh Young; Mr. Hamrick seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to add Presentation 4) Family Dollar Store; Vice president Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Presentation

1. Historical Commission – Jeffrey Deacon

Mr. Deacon, Historical Commission, asked the City to designate the Lipkin Building as a local landmark. The building was built in 1947. It is located next to the Lincoln Center at Route 82 and Route 30. Council informed Mr. Deacon that the building is not owned by the City, it is privately owned by Legend Properties. The area surrounding and including the property are in the development area. Mr. Deacon and the Historical Commission would need to meet with Mr. Deprtris to discuss if they are interested in preserving the building.

2. Polish Club of Coatesville

No one was in attendance for the presentation.

3. Western Chester County Council of Governments (WCCCOG) – Josh Young

Mr. Young was not in attendance for the presentation.

4. Family Dollar Store

An application was provided to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for Traffic signal approval. The traffic control device is an existing traffic signal at Lincoln Highway and Fourth

Avenue. The proposed improvement is to install two (2) pedestrian push button and two (2) pedestrian countdown timers.

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

Joe Leofsky

Mr. Leofsky questioned the full time to part time status of the Codes Director. He voiced his concerns on the amount of inspections that are done by the inspectors per week in the Codes Department.

Paul Dodson

Mr. Dodson thanked Mr. Marcarelli for his department finally accepting his past due Solid Waste payments. He questioned the process of the Codes Department inspections.

Dave DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone Voiced his concerns about the lighting and the front door position of the Family Dollar Store.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to close citizens' hearings on regular action items only; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Discussion Item

1. Discuss Street Closures

Vice President Lawson explained in the past the problems with closing the streets has been staff limitations, fire access and closing off streets where the resident could not park in front of their properties. The City has a fair share of parks to have events in. The streets do not need to be closed and cause hardship to the neighborhood. Council requested the street closure be taken off the special event application. The only events for street closures approved by the City will be City sponsored events. There will be no more street closures.

2. Discuss Proclamations

President Lavender-Norris explained she received a request for a Proclamation and wanted to bring it before council for approval. She questioned the process for Proclamations. Mrs. Hunt asked how we gauge the importance of who receive a Proclamation. Council agreed guidelines need to be set as to who and why a person is receiving the Proclamation.

3. Discuss Solicitation by Energy Companies

Vice President Lawson expressed her concern for the elderly and the electric company solicitors. She asked how we monitor who is soliciting door to door. Mr. Carnes explained the person soliciting are required to have a photo id. All vendors and solicitors must be licensed with the City.

4. Discuss Permanent Part-Time Fire Chief

President Lavender-Norris stated Nick Saites has been doing an awesome job but we are in need of a permanent Fire Chief. Mr. Simpson explained Mr. Hudson interviewed two candidates. Mr. O'Rourke stated he would look over the two candidates resumes and inform Council of his thoughts.

5. Discuss Residential Parking Permits

Vice President Lawson voiced her concerns with the residential areas and parking. There are abandoned vehicles on the streets. The only place with residential parking is the 200 block of

Chestnut Street around the post office. We are not actively using the current code regarding the permits. Chief Laufer explained the process for residential parking.

6. Discuss Beautification Committee meeting report

Vice President Lawson announced letters were sent to all businesses. There were only two businesses. There was quite a lot of dialogue with business owners that did attend and the main concern was to fix the blight. Council asked Mr. O'Rourke to provide them with the status of the vacant old Steel City Market and Maranatha.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider Kevin Towles for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for the term 2014-2017

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to table the appointment of Kevin Towles; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Receive and consider First Reading an Ordinance amending Section 218 of the City of Coatesville's code entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" by amending the Sections governing penalties and violations in Sections 218-8, 218-10, 218-15, 218-18, 218-21, 218-26 and 218-60 (to provide for new fines applicable to periods of up to ten days after issuance of a ticket and after twenty days and thereafter providing for the issuance of citations) and by also amending Section 218-50 and Section 218-53 to provide for on-street parking meter rates at \$.25 for 10 minutes for different periods of times depending upon the parking zone.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the first reading an Ordinance amending Section 218 of the City of Coatesville's code entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" by amending the Sections governing penalties and violations in Sections 218-8, 218-10, 218-15, 218-18, 218-21, 218-26 and 218-60 (to provide for new fines applicable to periods of up to ten days after issuance of a ticket and after twenty days and thereafter providing for the issuance of citations) and by also amending Section 218-50 and Section 218-53 to provide for on-street parking meter rates at \$.25 for 10 minutes for different periods of times depending upon the parking zone; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Receive and consider Resolution of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania to change the position of Director of Urban Planning and Code Enforcement and the Director of Department of Public Works from a full-time position to a part-time position

Mr. Shaw made a motion to approve a Resolution of the City of Coatesville, Chester County, Pennsylvania to change the position of Director of Urban Planning and Code Enforcement and the Director of Department of Public Works from a full-time position to a part-time position; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. Jones were the dissenting votes.

4. Receive and consider Resolution to submit the Application for Traffic signal approval to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to install two (2) pedestrian push buttons and two (2) pedestrian countdown times at Lincoln Highway and Forth Avenue.

Vice President Lawson made a motion to approve a Resolution to submit the Application for Traffic signal approval to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to install two (2) pedestrian push buttons and two (2) pedestrian countdown times at Lincoln Highway and Forth Avenue; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Receive and consider a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Coatesville accepting bids for the farming of the Conti Tract pursuant to a one year lease, authorizing the award of a lease to the highest responsible bidder and authorizing the City Manager to execute the appropriate lease and any related necessary documents.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Coatesville accepting bids for the farming of the Conti Tract pursuant to a one year lease, authorizing the award of a lease to the highest responsible bidder and authorizing the City Manager to execute the appropriate lease and any related necessary documents; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

6. Receive and consider Proclamation for Mary Ann Rossi

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Proclamation for Mary Ann Rossi; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Receive and consider Proclamation for the 100th Anniversary Celebration

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Proclamation for the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the City of Coatesville; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes announced he supplied an updated Financial Responsibility Agreement to accompany a Subdivision Bond as security for public improvements. The Best Management practices agreement has been supplied to the developer and it is anticipated that the developer will be receiving a Highway Occupancy Permit for PennDOT in the near future.

The City has obtained the approvals and filed the Amended Easement Agreement (approved by the RDA) with the Office of the Recorder of Deeds.

Mr. Carnes has worked on various matters involving litigation and assisted the City in its interpretation of codes, rules and regulations.

City Manager's Report

Mr. O'Rourke announced he is working on the Early Intervention Grant. A letter to Mr. Williams regarding the issues he has brought before Council has been completed. Mr. Williams is not in attendance this evening.

Mr. O'Rourke announced there is grant funding from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for new street LED street lights. The LED (Light Emitting Diodes) street lamps are designed to serve as City financial savings, ambient style upgrade and pedestrian safety. The LED lights are highly efficient and need to be replaced far less frequently than the old incandescent bulbs. In the long run, it will save the City a lot of money.

Citizens' Hearings – Non-Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes)

Santos DeLaRosa

Mr. DeLaRosa voiced his concerns on regarding the penalty fees to citation without notice for licenses in the Codes Department.

Paul Dodson

Mr. Dodson voiced his concerns regarding a sewer line and the Codes Department.

David DeSimone

Mr. DeSimone apologized for not attending business owners meeting. Ambiguity is causing issues within the Codes Department.

Joe Leofsky

Mr. Leofsky voiced his concerns regarding the late fees and penalties for the rental licenses. He questioned the address database and when they will be corrected,

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to closed citizens' hearings on non-agenda items only; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Special Events

1. A Special Event application was submitted for a Fund raiser/Block Party on August 2, 2105 from 11:30 am to 4:30 pm. It has been requested to close 6th Avenue.

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve a Special Event application was submitted for a Fund raiser/Block Party on August 2, 2105 from 11:30 am to 4:30 pm. Requesting to close 6th Avenue; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion failed 0-7.

Council Comments

Mr. Hamrick thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She provide a quote regarding confronting problems "It isn't that our leaders can't see the solution. It is that they can't see the problem." By Gilbert Keith Chesterson.

Mr. Shaw announced it is exciting to see the streets paved along the south side of the City.

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Vice President Lawson announced on April 18, 2015 there will be earth day planting & clean up on the Main Street. On April 25th, there will be a cleanup at the Train Station for the centennial kick off on April 27th. Both will begin at Gateway Park at 8:00 am. She thanked the Police Department for delivering the Easter Bunny. She thanked Howie, Matthew, Jacki, Julius, Linda and Clarence for their help in cleaning and setting up for the Easter egg hunt. She thanked Officer Duchnowski for his assistance with a stray dog.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She thanked Mr. Scott and Mr. Johnson for volunteering to clean up the park for the Easter egg hunt. She asked Mr. Wilkinson to have a truck available for the trash for the cleanups on the 18th and the 25th. President Lavender-Norris thanked fellow Council, staff and community for their commitment.

Adjournment

Mrs. Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm; Mr. Simpson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.