

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA
April 25, 2016

Call to Order

President Lavender-Norris called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members present were President Linda Lavender-Norris, Vice President Marie Lawson, Mssrs, Edward Simpson, Joseph Hamrick, Mrs. Carmen Green, Mrs. C. Arvilla Hunt and Mrs. Ingrid W. Jones. Staff members present included City Manager Michael Trio, City Solicitor John Carnes, Fire Chief Garry Alderman, Staff accountant Romulus Jones, Police Chief John Laufer and recording secretary Ruthann Mowday.

President Lavender-Norris announced an Executive Session was held on April 25, 2016 to discuss personnel and legal matters.

Approval of Minutes:

Mrs. Green made a motion to approve the April 11, 2016 meeting minutes with corrections; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Accounts Payable

Mr. Hamrick made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mrs. Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Additions, Deletions or Modifications to the Agenda

There were no additions, deletions or modifications at this time.

Presentations

1. Certificate of Recognition – Lucas Rogers
2. Certificate of Recognition – Sgt. Sander Haywood Matthews Sr.
Presentations 1 & 2 were tabled until the May 9, 2016 meeting.
3. Project Update - April Barkasi
Ms. Barkasi announced:
 - A Resolution is before Council for the 2016 Early Intervention Program Grant Funds, for upgrading the existing infrastructure through the implementation of an Asset Management program.
 - 2016 Chester County Revitalization Program Grant funds – County DCED
 - Improvements in the City of Coatesville consisting of a multi-level parking garage in the downtown area of East Lincoln Highway and South First Avenue.
 - Improvements in the City of Coatesville consisting of the correction and alignment on through lanes at the intersection of Route 30, 82 and First Avenue for vehicle efficiency and pedestrian safety.
 - Cedarville is currently looking at Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for Infrastructure within the City. (Drainage and sidewalks). Due to the infrastructure of the City, it is ranked high for funds.
 - Mr. Marcarelli has been working on the reimbursements for the DVRPC Grant.

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

There were no citizens' hearings on regular action items only.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider a Resolution supporting the filing of a grant application with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, for the 2016 Early Intervention Program grant funds, for upgrading the existing infrastructure through the implementation of an asset management program.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve a Resolution supporting the filing of a grant application with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for the 2016 Early Intervention grant funds, for upgrading the existing infrastructure through the implementation of an asset management program; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Discussion Item

There were no discussion items at this time.

Solicitors Report

Mr. Carnes stated:

- The Amnesty Ordinance has been advertised and will be on the May 9, 2016 meeting for adoption.
- Worked with DEPG and Jim DePetris to advance revitalization plans and assist the City in other aspects of the development
- DEPG's proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment (Mixed Use Overlay District) was before Planning Commission on April 13, 2016 for review and has now received recommendations from the County and the City Planning Commission which are favorable.
- The County lease with the City for the District Court within the expanded City Hall has start date of May 1, 2017 has been sent to the County for review.

City Manager's Report

Mr. Trio announced:

- District Court plans are being finalized. Judge Hines has expressed a couple of changes.
- Johnson Control has been sent the Notice to Proceed. Staff will be relocated during construction.
- Grand Prix moving forward – the net proceeds will go to Parks and Recreation.
- Met with several development companies interested in coming to the City.
- Working with a lot of engineering initiatives
- Thanked Mr. Jones for attending the meeting for Mr. Marcarelli.

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

Don Lamborn

Mr. Lamborn inquired about the letters to residents who have provided proof of payment or have paid to date. Mr. Jones explained the City is working on the letters and they will be sent out to the property owners in the near future.

Tom Curyto

Mr. Curyto questioned the rental license late fees. Are the fees per unit or per application? The way it is written is confusing in the Code. He provided Council with a copy of the Ordinance 1454-2015.

Tanya Woods

Ms. Woods voiced her concerns regarding the delinquent trash bills. The bank cannot even go back as far as the City is requesting to provide proof of payments.

Council explained there is a moratorium on regarding the delinquent fees.

Brad Trapnell

Mr. Trapnell explained he received a citation for nonpayment of a rental license, but never revised the 2016 rental license application. He has not received a trash bill or business privilege tax bill either. He purchased the property in October 2015. Council asked staff to make the corrections and provide Mr. Trapnell with the documentation.

Paul Evans

Mr. Evans stated the City seriously needs to take a look at the property transfers and how they are being recorded in Finance and Codes.

Fran Scamuffa

Ms. Scamuffa read Chapter 2, Article 9 of the Home Rule Charter. She voiced her concerns regarding the delinquent trash billing. The bills should not have gone back before Mr. Marcarelli was here.

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

Special Event

1. A Special event application has been submitted from Coatesville Rotary for a Circus to be held at Gateway Park, June 18, 2016 from 9 am to 6pm.

Mr. Simpson made a motion to approve the special event application submitted by Coatesville Rotary for a circus on June 18, 2016 from 9am to 6pm and to include Fire Police for traffic control; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Council Comments

Mrs. Hunt thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Council is not exempt from receiving letters from the City. Originally delinquent notices were to only go back to 2010. The City will get the delinquent trash situation straightened out.

Mrs. Hunt excused herself from the meeting at 8:45pm.

Mr. Simpson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He reminded everyone to go out and vote.

Mrs. Jones thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She quoted "Prayer is not an old woman's idle amusement. Properly understood and applied, it is the most potent instrument of action." By Mahatma Gandhi.

Mrs. Green thanked everyone for attending the meeting. We really will get our stuff together, we assure you we will get through it. Mr. Terry did a wonderful job with the FISH Rodeo. The kids had so much fun. It made Coatesville Glad. Hope there are more events to come.

Mr. Hamrick thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The administration is working hard. The volunteerism he has seen with Coatesville is wonderful. The volunteers are teaching the children sports. It is a great atmosphere.

Vice President Lawson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Mr. Terry and his crew began the prep work for the FISH Rodeo in January. They had a total of 36 sponsors as far as Pottstown and Delaware. It was amazing to see all the cars and people at the event. Coatesville's first open Community Garden will begin on April 30, 2016 from 8 am to 12 pm. Join the volunteers as we work together to create the garden in Ash Park.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The Rodeo was awesome. It was the 1st time she spent the weekend at the creek. Her grandson won 1st place with a 21" 4lb 15 oz. palomino and the 2nd place went to a girl with a 21" 4lb 13 oz. trout. It was wonderful to see parents, guardians, children, volunteers come together. There were no arguments all day. She thanked the Police Department and Fire Department for being a part of the day. She thanked Mr. Terry for his blessing in seeing the event come to fruition. The children had the tenacity to continue in the rain. The Children showed us that despite how it looks, we are going to fight thru this thing together. God Bless and Have a good night.

Adjournment

Mr. Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm; Vice President Lawson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.