



City of Coatesville
Regular Meeting – 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA
Council Chambers
Monday, February 12, 2024

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

Council Absent:

Staff Present James Logan, City Manager; Roberta Cosentino, Assistant City Manager; Chief Jack Laufer, Police Department; Richard Troutman, Finance Director; 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.

Approved Minutes

Vice President Green made a motion to approve the January 22, 2024 meeting minutes with edits; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Ms. Scamuffa explained on page 7, the citizens hearing on non-agenda items. It has Miss Mary Harris listed as Maura Hess, living on Harlan Street. It should be Mary Hess living on Harmony Street. Ms. Al Amin stated I have two corrections on page 10 where it says, "inaudible," it should say, "a quote," and on page 11 where it says, "tax?" it should say, "real estate tax." And that has gone, just needs to be crossed out, not just corrected.

Approval of Accounts Payables

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. Ms. Hunt was not present for the vote.

Ms. Scamuffa asked on page 4 of 46. Following the page of two invoices 428665 and 428667. Can we start using some of maybe our local help? Are we going to be able to utilize our local contractors that may not be as costly as folks that have this kind of high overhead? Mr. Logan asked Fran, what are you talking about? For Chester County Transmission? Ms. Scamuffa said yes, for Summers and Zim's. That's really high for a little water heater. Mr. Logan explained well, it's water heater, parts and things-- [crosstalk]. --on labor, including 50 gallon [crosstalk] aren't exactly-- we have a contract [crosstalk]-- Ms. Scamuffa said oh, it's under contract. Okay. Mr. Logan explained just so you know, and I know that they're-- I mean, all of this-- so one of the things that we do is, before we enter in any contracts, we request three bids. And some of the bids are coming from either-- some are in Coatesville, some are outside. Unfortunately, we don't have companies like Summers and Zim's in the City of Coatesville. Ms. Scamuffa said thank you for your patience and explanation. Ms. Scamuffa asked from page 7 of 46, and there's another one in the packet as well. Winterization, again, of portable restrooms. How often are they winterized? I thought it was once winterized, that's it? Mr. Logan stated I don't know which porta potty this one is. We have [crosstalk]-- Ms. Scamuffa explained this one is Palmer Park, and I think they have another one for Ash Park. Mr. Troutman explained it's monthly, but it's an \$80 upcharge. The intention to save dollars. What you see is the

[approximate?] charge of the porta potty, or-- Ms. Scamuffa said it was not strictly for the winterization. --[crosstalk] Vice President Green stated so that's \$30. Ms. Scamuffa replied gotcha. Thank you. And page 20 of 46, winter maintenance fuel purchases. What is this, that we bought fuel? Mr. Logan said if you want an answer, that's for our fuel. Mr. Troutman said that's the monthly charge for fuel. Ms. Scamuffa asked if this is gas fuel or propane. Mr. Troutman said it is not propane. This is fuel for Public Works. Ms. Scamuffa stated on to the invoices, for example, page 43 of 46, insurance item, it states on the invoice. Is it something that gets [bought?]? What does insurance item mean? Is it something that gets turned in or does it have to do something with the contract? Mr. Troutman explained we are reimbursed by insurance. I will write those notes on it to help clarify that this is not considered out-of-pocket cost, but we're getting reimbursed for it. Ms. Scamuffa stated and I have one more that I'm going to ask if I may. Vice President Green asked you're not going to ask it out loud? Ms. Scamuffa asked on page 45 of 46. What is this in reference to? Mr. Logan asked because there's an employee name involved here, we will not say the employee's name. Mr. Troutman explained this is the spouse of a former employee. The spouse died, got their insurance payment, and the spouse continued to pay. And upon sorting through files, we determined that the individual overpaid. So this is the reimbursement. Ms. Scamuffa said that's all I have for this evening. Thank you.

Ms. Al Amin asked on page 6 of 46, we had a Fling's lockout fee for the bucket truck. Do we not keep spare keys? Invoice number 2217497. Rich, it's page 6 of 46. It says Fling's Towing, Incorporated, Public Works Department lockout service, 118 Maple Avenue, bucket truck. Do we not keep-- do we have a second set of keys or something that would alleviate this? Mr. Troutman replied well, typically, we do. In this case, I don't think I know the exact circumstances for why they got-- but as a general rule of thumb, we have a second set. Ms. Al Amin stated that's it for me.

Presentations

1. Dave Terry – F.I.S.H

Mr. Terry was not present.

2. CJ Witherspoon/Lisa Sibilial/Zooming in Partners: Utopian “Dream City”

Well, thank you so much for the honor to be here tonight. My name is Lisa Sibilial, and I'm the president and CEO of Utopia, which is the company of my dreams. Standing alongside me today is CJ Witherspoon, who is a local resident of Coatesville, my group champion partner. And we have two incredible other human beings joining us from afar, one is Jason Noh. He's joining us from South Korea, our global partners. And Paul Marca, he's former associate vice provost of Stanford University and has changed my life more times than I can count. What we want to share with you tonight is a slice of a dream that we feel would add tremendous value to Coatesville. Me, I'm not local to Coatesville. I drove up from New Jersey. But what we imagined is an opportunity to really lift up Coatesville, integrate technology, make it accessible. And what we've been doing for the past several months have interviewed different stakeholders across [inaudible] so that we don't assume to know what is needed but to go the extra mile and really learn and listen.

I still have a lot more learning to go, but what we want to share is a little bit about maybe a slice of my background. So I'm a former Disney cast member. My roots go back to original Disney Imagineering. My great-uncle was one of the original Disney imagineers, who was on

the team that designed the monorail and Spaceship Earth. My great-grandpa, actually, he worked with Thomas Edison fixing batteries. So growing up, I saw the impossible. And so part of what I lean into is making impossible happen through tangible results, meaningful innovation. What you're going to see right now is a slice of some of our research that's going to share a slice of the digital [inaudible]. [inaudible] opportunity with 93 new businesses, the entrepreneurial experience [inaudible]? Over \$81 million invested [inaudible] new jobs, making it a place for [inaudible]. Penn State University enhances [inaudible] digital revitalization, paving the way for a brighter future. The heart of the industry needs strong [inaudible] a hub for innovation and job creation fostering economic development in our community. [inaudible] numerous trials. We're investing \$95 million to renovate [inaudible]-- welcome to the vibrant city of Coatesville, yet another beautiful city in Pennsylvania, experiencing a wave of groundbreaking growth. Let's explore some of the innovations taking place in the heart of the city. A \$65 million investment has revitalized Coatesville's historic railway station at 4th Avenue and Fleetwood Street, improving the community's access to public transport for commuters and travelers, access to local and regional sites throughout the Amtrak network, and preserving the rich heritage of the city. In Coatesville, health takes the center stage. In collaboration with Penn Medicine, Coatesville proudly hosts a cutting-edge VA Hospital at 201 Reeceville Road. This will have an immeasurable impact on veterans and residents in the community. Last but not least, the \$80 million National Sports and Event Center is set to become [inaudible] Coatesville's sport and entertainment. With plans to open in 2025, the 245,000 square foot sport center featuring an athletic sport for boys and girls, family entertainment, meetings, and the East Coast's first permanent indoor cycle racing track. This is more than just a city. It's a community embracing change and resilience.

What my dream Coatesville will look like, a recreation and community center, vibrant downtown with shops and restaurants, public transportation hub, a gym where kids can learn sports, a place where people can learn trades, a movie theater, and an entertainment complex. From modern residential complexes to state-of-the-art educational facilities, over \$250 million fueling our city's growth and prosperity, Coatesville, Pennsylvania, where the past meets the future and investments pave the way for a brighter tomorrow. Join us on this incredible journey. Thank you so much, CJ. And just for context into that, our work in New Kensington, which is outside of the state, inspired us to take a look at Coatesville because we're five years ahead of where they are. And what I want to share are some opportunities because this might feel like a big wide-eyed [inaudible]. That's how we start. But if you [inaudible] Jason-- Jason, can you hear us okay? Perfect. So Jason's going to share a little bit about the vision, where it's not just creating a digital revitalization.

Mr. Noh thanked Ms., Sibilai for the introduction. I'm very honored to be able to share my experience. I've been the advisor, and I've been sitting on the advisory board for the Ministry of ICT and Communication and Science here in Korea. And one of the interesting projects that I've been spearheading in Korea is taking some of the old part of the town into what we call smart cities. And what we mean by smart is removing the guesswork and removing-- or bring the science and remove the guesswork into the city development and city expansion and city management. And one of the things that we've learned from the get-go is that we need to have a good infrastructure in place to do anything smart when it comes to the smart city development. So we start looking into how we are going to bring in the network

infrastructure that connects every corner of the city. And we've run in to-- we ended up developing, as you can see on the screen, smart lighting systems that will serve as a network breach point, sensor point, and data collection point so that we will be able to collect how many people are in the street and what time. And we could collect the ambient temperature, ambient rainfalls, vibrations, noise levels, number of cars driving around the particular zone of the city. Based upon that information, we start developing services for the citizens in Korea. One of the things that we developed-- one of the services that we developed is we would be able to reduce the energy bill for this community by collecting ambient lights. Because in the smart lighting infrastructure, we have light collection systems so that you would be able to dim up and down depending upon the amount of ambient light that is present. And not only that, we also provided the vibration sensors and noise sensors so that we would be able to use these street light as a panic buttons and emergency buttons. You don't need to-- you don't need to find any panic buttons when something emergency happens. All you need to do is make a big noise or punch or kick any of the street lights that's nearby. Then all the camera would trigger to start recording. And based upon the intelligence built into the CCTV's, we would be able to identify those CCTV screen footage with the first responders. And something really emergency happens, then the lights on the surrounding area will start blinking to help responders to locate where to come and locate the source of the emergencies. And this type of interesting services has been very well received by the citizens, especially for those who has teenager-- high school students who come to home around 11:00, 12:00 PM because they need to study late at night. Those were very well received by the parents.

And we also added some additional services based upon that. We start collecting the vibrations and noise levels so that you might not-- I need to provide a little bit of background. Here in Korea, we have a great number of skyscrapers and we don't have townhouses. Instead, we have studios and apartment complexes. Noise in the evening becomes such a big nuisance, and there are some part of the town where noise level becomes such a big nuisance there's a neighborly fights and neighborly arguments. We start collecting the noise levels and vibration levels of this part of the cities, and we share this information through the city councils and to the populations. Of course, that way, we would be able to share those information. And based upon those information, we started sending out some early warnings and the citywide legends advising citizens and people living in the apartment cities that if you're driving in that particular area, this is the noise-sensitive or vibration-sensitive area so that people would recognize that and take precautionary actions, as in quiet.

Ms. Sibilina said and kind of jumping off what you said, I know South Korea has some of the world's most strictest safety regulations. So to imagine this opportunity on the streetlights when, if you're feeling unsafe, instead of pressing the panic button, you could hit the lamp post and the lamp would be triggered to shine brighter. And apparently, people don't like to do not-so-good things when it's bright. Mr. Noh explained those are the pretty well-broadcasted and pretty well-promoted services that most of the metropolitan area in Korea is adopting. We started the service in the city of Busan, especially in the [deserted city?] part of the town. That's where the parents come around 11: 00 or 12:00 in the evening to pick up their children from their schools. But there are some parents who are late or who can't make it so that based upon using those streetlights, when people walk in or start walking into the

alley, the streetlight would respond and dim up, giving more light. And as we all know, human beings have been evolved over the past 10,000 years that during the day, your brain triggers that you're not supposed to do anything bad. So when something happens, we dim up. And if she or he feels threatened by anything, all he or she needs to do is kick any of the streetlights, then nearby streetlights would fully light up and play recordings saying that if you feel threatened, kick again. And then the videos that is embedded into the streetlight will start recording. Ms. Sibia thanked Mr. Noh. We're out of time for the moment, but I hope it gave you a small sense of what's possible impacting both the digital and the [inaudible]. Thank you so much for all that, Jason. Mr. Logan explained he has been to the meetings, so I know that they've both been working on this project. It is something that-- there's so many other features to this smart city. We all just kind of got a glimpse of some of the other features. What we'll do is we'll briefly come back and maybe we can do a shorter presentation that just hits on the highlights and bring it back to our council members. I appreciate you guys [crosstalk]. Mr. Witherspoon said we'll set up a meeting some time to get you some more [crosstalk]--

3. Washies – City of Coatesville
There was no presentation from the Washington Hose Company.

Discussion Items

1. Local Delivery Signs

Ms. Scamuffa explained this was me, I requested this to be on the agenda. I was wondering, Chief, of the recent occurrence in the West End with the tractor-trailer. Is there any chance that maybe we can look at the cost of getting local deliveries only truck route so that we could keep the tractor-trailers off of the residential street there? I don't know if their GPS takes it, but we've had numerous stop signs knocked down. You're aware. And the most recent event was it took out a few cars and a neighboring fence in the process. Is that something that we can look into? Chief Laufer explained it would take an ordinance change, though, with a solicitor, but probably no reason why you can't have truck traffic restricted to local deliveries only. I don't think that would have made a difference in the most recent case that we're talking about. I don't think he was reading any signs. Ms. Scamuffa said I don't think so either. Chief Laufer said it's not a cure-all, but it might help with other instances involving truck traffic on some of our side streets. So it's something that we can look into and [inaudible] Rob Jefferson our city solicitor and maybe see what other municipalities are doing. Chief Laufer said it's not a cure-all, but it might help with other instances involving truck traffic on some of our side streets. So it's something that we can look into and [inaudible] Rob Jefferson our city solicitor and maybe see what other municipalities are doing. President Green asked when you say tractor-trailer, for instance, Strode Avenue at the hospital up there or nursing home up there, you have some of I don't know how much receiving it does, but. Did it affect them? They wouldn't-- Chief Laufer replied no, we can't control what travels on Lincoln Highway and state routes. Since Strode Avenue is a state route-- --so there's nothing we would be able to restrict in regard to that. It would simply be on our city side streets. Ms. Scamuffa explained what the trucks are doing is they're turning off the main route. I don't know if it's their GPS that's doing it or what the situation is, but with the exclusion of this one particular person, they're coming through the residential street. They're avoiding the state routes altogether. And they're constantly damaging city property

and residential property. We can look into that. I don't know if anybody else has any problems with that in their residential neighborhoods.

Citizens Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (3 Minutes)

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

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

President Lavender Norris announced that 6.6 can move forward because the other applicant decided to not apply.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider a motion for second reading and adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 190, Solid Waste, §190-4, Separation Requirements, Subsection C, Commercial, Institutional, Industrial and Municipal Establishments, by deleting Subsection C in its entirety and replacing it with language that directs Commercial, Institutional, Industrial and Municipal Establishments, and Community Activities to separate recyclable materials.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve second reading and adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 190, Solid Waste, §190-4, Separation Requirements, Subsection C, Commercial, Institutional, Industrial and Municipal Establishments, by deleting Subsection C in its entirety and replacing it with language that directs Commercial, Institutional, Industrial and Municipal Establishments, and Community Activities to separate recyclable materials; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Receive and consider a motion for first reading and authorization for Act 47 submission of an Ordinance entirely repealing and replacing, Article II, Terminology; Article XIV, Signs; Article XV, Administration and Enforcement; Article XVIII, Traditional Neighborhood Development Overlay District; Article XX, Steel Museum District; Article XXI, Specially Planned District; Article XXIII, Mixed Use Development (MU) Overlay District; and §224-97, Nonconforming Signs; and deleting attachment Exhibit “B: (General Design Principles for the TND Overlay District) and replacing it in its entirety with attachment Exhibit “B” (Manual of Written and Graphic Design Guidelines).

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve first reading and authorization for Act 47 submission of an Ordinance entirely repealing and replacing, Article II, Terminology; Article XIV, Signs; Article XV, Administration and Enforcement; Article XVIII, Traditional Neighborhood Development Overlay District; Article XX, Steel Museum District; Article XXI, Specially Planned District; Article XXIII, Mixed Use Development (MU) Overlay District; and §224-97, Nonconforming Signs; and deleting attachment Exhibit “B: (General Design Principles for the TND Overlay District) and replacing it in its entirety with attachment Exhibit “B” (Manual of Written and Graphic Design Guidelines); Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Receive and consider a motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Council President and City Manager to sign, and thereby adopt, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Policy and Procedure for Consultant Selection.

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve a Resolution authorizing the City Council President and City Manager to sign, and thereby adopt, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Policy and Procedure for Consultant Selection; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Receive and consider a motion to approve the Civil Service Commission Part-time Police Department Eligibility List

Ms. AL Amin made a motion to approve the Civil Service Commission Part-time Police Department Eligibility List; Ms. Turner-Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

5. Receive and consider a motion to approve conditional offers from the Part-time Police Officers Civil Service Eligibility List

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve conditional offers from the Part-time Police Officers Civil Service Eligibility List; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Chief Laufer explained on January 31st, we did administer a civil service exam for part-time police officer employment. We had two candidates. Unfortunately, not enough. We're still struggling to attract and retain part-time officers here at the city, but we're no different than most other departments probably across the nation, really, when it comes to interest in applicants for police position. So, we had two. One already took a position with another department. So, currently, we have one on our eligibility list, which we will ask for a conditional offer of employment permission tonight so that we can begin the background on the candidate that finished first, which was Sean Marasco. The second candidate, Joseph Capuano. So we'll have one candidate tonight that we're asking for the conditional offer.

6. Receive and consider a motion to appoint Donald Folks to the Civil Service Commission for the term 2023-2026

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to appoint Donald Folks to the Civil Service Commission for the term 2023-2026; Ms. Scamuffa seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. Vice president Green was not present for the vote.

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

Reports

1. Solicitor

Mr. Jefferson announced he provided a more detailed attorney-client privilege report to council since council's last meeting. I have communicated and continue to communicate with the outside counsel regarding litigation matters; provided opinions on matters that will be heard by the zoning hearing board; communicated and continue to communicate with outside counsel regarding land development matters; attended a hearing for a criminal matter earlier this-- actually, in January; I and my office are working on a certain right to know matter; attended a telephone conference regarding a land matter; I and my office compiled the most recent version of the BPP ordinance that was addressed earlier; drafted a resolution that was also addressed earlier tonight; and drafted the notice for action item 6.1.

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan announced earlier this evening, he did provide comments and updates on personnel matters and real estate matters in city council chambers. First, I'd like to make a comment. Like many of our residents here, we've heard the news of the Record Kitchen and Bar closing last week. It is unfortunate that the restaurant wasn't able to keep the doors open during their rebranding and some of their menu offerings. I just want to say that the city continues to move forward to attract the attention of new investors in the downtown district. And Roberta is working with Second Century-- and though I was going to say that. Roberta's working with Second Century Alliance to ensure that we help any business and business owners interested in coming to a new home. So, we're going to miss the Record, but we know that there are a line of other restaurant owners and interested investors and entrepreneurs right here in Coatesville that are eager to open.

I mentioned the city continues to make progress with road repairs and other infrastructure projects. This is grant season for us. So we are hard at work aggressively going after new grants, and new funding for various projects in the city. So you will see and will continue to see repairs on roads in our parks, stormwater, quality of life conditions.

The next item I have is the RDA is exploring new parking garage sites here in the city. As you all know, we have challenges when it comes to parking. But our focus and mission is to continue identifying ways or assets to alleviate some of the parking structure issues that we have in the city. We're looking to build a parking garage that will be for commuters, residents, and retail parking. It's going to be relatively close to downtown Coatesville.

Other few notable items. This is Black History Month. And we invite the parents and children in grades 3 to 12 to come out on February 24, a couple of Saturdays, two weeks from now, to participate in our annual pancake and book reading. Last year, we had great turnout. Participants can come with their favorite books. One of those books that we Black Inventors, 15 inventions that changed the world and Things Kids Should Know About Black History. We are going to be reading from various African American authors and leaders and poets on Saturday, February 24th. It starts at 11:00 AM. It's a pancake breakfast. I want to take this opportunity to thank Little Chef for their ongoing support of this event. And we hope, folks, if you're not doing anything Saturday morning, come on out and enjoy some pancakes and some knowledge. The city also has partnered with MCDC to continue its Youth Financial Literacy Program. They've been conducting this program now for five weeks. It's in partnership with TD Bank. They're providing financial literacy to young kids and, hopefully, our future business owners, stressing the importance of savings and investing with their bank accounts. The session is currently in progress. We have two remaining sessions, one is this coming Saturday. And the next one, since we have the breakfast on the 24th, we'll skip that weekend and come back March 2nd. If you have any questions or are interested, if you have any young students that might be interested, contact bonds@mcdc.org, not bonds@mcdc, but you can go to mcdc.org for more information. Most people have his phone number, so just call.

The next item I have is for five weeks now, members of the community here have been meeting for a new initiative called Bringing Back Brotherhood. These are men from the city

of Coatesville who are lending their knowledge, wisdom, and support to young men between the ages of 13 and 17. They meet twice a month. They talk to young men about being a man, about leadership, about business, about just that kind of stuff. I'm pleased to be a part of that group. We're always looking for other men to come out. You can be Black, White, Asian, Latino, it doesn't matter. We're just looking for men who would just like to share their wisdom with young boys here in the city. If you're interested in that, please see me after tonight's meeting.

We had the opportunity last week-- I think it was maybe two weeks ago, we had a visit from Senator Fetterman and Casey's office. That particular meeting was put together by Chrissy Houlihan's office. Senators Fetterman and Casey, they just wanted to kind of get an understanding of what's going on here in the city. We met to discuss the stormwater issues, the train station, some of our needs. And they have always been supportive of the grant status [inaudible] state. It was a nice opportunity for them to kind of come down, give them a tour of the community. Amber Little-Turner, she sat with us to talk about new businesses and the incubator here. We, again, just kind of give them a snapshot of what's happening. It's really nice to see them here. The last note I have, and actually, this is a financial note from our finance director. Rich, I know I'm going to hack this up. Property owners have received their 2024 property tax notices and solid waste notices. Residents are still in the discount period, which will be ending March 1st. So check your mailboxes, your tax notices and solid waste notices should have hit your mailbox by now. Is it March 1st or March 31st? Mr. Troutman announced 31st for the current year taxes. 1st for the [billing code?]. They have until March 31st to capitalize on the discount period. Mr. Logan stated that concludes my report.

3. Assistant City Manager

Ms. Cosentino thanked City Council. To begin, I'd like to, again, welcome any Spanish speakers and other non-English speakers that need assistance with city matters, that we are here to help as best we can. We want everyone to be able to share their questions and concerns. [foreign].

Council, in your packets, you'll find the monthly codes report. The Codes Department has been seeing a lot of activity at the start of this year. And I just want to kind of give a general overview of what's happening. I think the biggest change that we're seeing is that as people are coming in, our rental property owners and our business owners, what we're trying to do is get everybody in compliance straight away. If you're coming in for a rental license, we're going to check the inspections. We're going to check everything else. And it's more time-consuming, but what we're seeing is it's more effective in getting everybody up to date with what they need. And we're having a good-- we're having a good output from that. So we're seeing people walk in our doors with a lot of questions, having received letters. And we're happy to see that communication between the city and our property owners, even our tenants as well. Our new code enforcement officer started mid-January and has done a great job learning, training, he's even been abating some violations and working directly with tenants and property owners. We are happy to see that. I also just want to note that Mr. Logan mentioned the work that we're doing to support businesses in the city.

And tonight, everybody in the room witnessed one of the biggest movements we've made as of recently, and that's passing the BPP zoning ordinances. [laughter] It has been a long project, and I just want to personally thank Kevin Myers, who is in the room tonight from the Chester County Planning Commission, who has very much taken this on his shoulders and helped us bring this almost to the finish line, along with Rob Jefferson, our solicitor, our city Planning Commission, and of course, our City Council. This was a much-needed update to our zoning ordinances, and it's not complete. It never will be. This is a working-towardness, as I've learned from Kevin. But Kevin has also graciously updated our zoning map as well. So, we have an updated zoning map. This is really exciting work. Thank you to everybody for that. I will also mention, since we have some folks in the room this week, we also have a Historical Commission meeting, a City Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, and a Zoning Hearing Board meeting on Thursday, all of which are open to the public, and everybody's welcome to attend. I'll also note that Mr. Logan and I were able to attend last month's breakfast with the commissioners, and we were both very happy to hear our commissioners talking about Coatesville. There's a lot of energy and excitement around what's happening in the city, and the county commissioners had lots of great things to say about the projects that are ongoing in the city.

We also recently met with our Ash Park engineers. As most of you know and remember, we last year awarded the Ash Park Phase 1 and 2 project to JMT, and we had an excellent follow-up meeting with them last week and received some updates on that schedule. The engineering design phase will be ongoing throughout the year, and we will see construction in 2025. Also, last but certainly not least-- actually, two more things. Everyone probably has seen the press release that Penn Medicine put out last week that they are no longer pursuing the purchase of Brandywine Hospital from Tower Health. And just a general comment is the Western Chester County region is a healthcare desert, and we just want to reiterate that we are fully supportive of Penn Medicine finding another home in the area.

And finally, I just want to note I do know someone is here to talk about trash. I have noticed myself that we are getting a lot more phone calls about trash pickups being missed. Here at the city, we actually take those phone calls directly because it is our only way to kind of understand what's happening. We've been receiving about 1 or 2 phone calls a day, which when we were at our peak of having problems last year, we were receiving 10 to 15. So unless people call us, we don't really know what's happening. Our Code Enforcement Officer did alert me today to some residents who had complained about trash not being picked up consistently. So I've already communicated that to Eagle, but I do welcome anyone who is not getting their trash picked up to please call the city same day if you can. The next day would be best. And we will address it.

Mr. Logan mentioned the report that you all have in your packet. The pages I want to bring to your attention on is 6 of 7. And that's the large projects in the city. Council members, if you can just kind of take a look at that at your leisure. And then the other is on page 2 of 7. And that's just a brief summary, the five bullets there. As we talked about, we're seeing an uptick. About a year and a half ago to two years, we explained to council that we were struggling in some areas. But with the help and management of Roberta at Codes Department hiring employees, we're starting to chip away at the pie chart that you all are

looking at, but we'll continue to try and improve. Thank you all for your support and your patience. I know it's a while to start making some headways with this. Thanks, Roberta, to you and your team for putting together the reports.

4. Police Department

Chief Laufer announced the complete physical report is in your packet tonight. A couple of key highlights as we normally do. For the month of January, we had 2,195 calls for service generated through the 911 center. And that was up only by 1 from the month of December, which was 2,194. We did see a little larger increase for calls that are received at the front desk. When you combine them with the 911 calls, we were up to 3,113 from December, which was 2,836. Some other numbers. I don't think we should draw too much from this statistic here, but this is the first time in my report where I have had an opportunity to say that we had 0 Narcan saves for the month. I don't know that we can really draw too much from that just given the statistical trend that we have seen over the last number of years. But it is somewhat encouraging, at least for the month of January, to start the new year with Police Department not having to administer Narcan to anybody. We were busy with our certified car seat technicians. We had 16 different car seat checks and installations of free car seats provided to different entities in the city to give out to our residents. Our car seat technicians were busy for the month of January.

We had Coffee with the Chief, which was hosted by CYI on January 3rd, which kicked off our Coffee with the Chief program for 2024. We just most recently had our second one in February, which was graciously hosted by the mosque on Merchant Street. Imam, who's also one of our chaplains, has been after us for a long time to allow him to host our Coffee with the Chief program. And I believe he was very well received. Unfortunately, I was not able to be an attendance. So, the Lieutenant, maybe somewhat tongue-in-cheek, said it was Latte with the Lieutenant instead of coffee. But it was well attended and well received. We thank our chaplain for assisting us with that program. And then looking forward to March. Coffee with the Chief is actually going to be in the evening, which we've had a lot of requests for an evening Coffee with the Chief. So that will be first Wednesday in March. Basically, it'd probably be like from 5:00 to 6:30 or 7:00. And it will be hosted by Second Century Alliance. And [crosstalk] is going to host that for us with Coffee and light refreshments. That will be Coffee with the Chief in March, something to look forward to. Perhaps we'll have an opportunity to have people attend that can't make it necessarily in the morning with work commitments or family commitments. We are anxious to see where that takes us also. And that is my report, unless there are any other questions.

Mr. Logan asked I just wanted to get your comment on-- and this is something that the Police Department, along with our Fire Department, they've been working hard on. That's our outreach community. I noticed here, Chief, you have business checks. This is page two of six. Business checks are 177. It seems like those numbers are increasing. Is that because you guys are doing more outreach work or more businesses are coming in the community? What's the-- ? Chief Laufer explained I think it's a combination of several different things. Sometimes you pick an area that you want to focus on-- for the patrol officers to focus on for the month, and sometimes it's our business checks. And then with also more businesses opening up, of course, that increases the opportunity for the officers to get out and meet with the merchants

and the owners and the restaurateurs. It's probably a combination of things, but we believe it's a good outreach for the officers and for our business partners. They're actually really looking to solicit feedback from the owners themselves. Concerns they have, what they're seeing in the neighborhood, and any issues that they've identified or ways to lead where the city can be of assistance for ensuring their success.

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

Ms. Jacks stated the reason why I'm here is because they are not picking up our trash. Being left there for weeks at a time. I've called several times [inaudible]. Then I get my trash bill. It has increased. They have not been picking up our trash regular basis since May last year. Mr. Logan stated we will talk to you afterwards. We're going to be here.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to close citizens hearings on non-agenda items; Ms. Turner-Green - seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Special Events

President Lavender Norris announced this month's special event will be our pancake breakfast.

Council Comments

Ms. Turner Green thanked everyone for coming out this evening. [inaudible] Have a good night and get home safely.

Mrs. Hunt wished everyone a good evening. Good day to be here, and happy to be here. Grateful everyone has taken time out to come tonight. Of course, we're sorry about the Record building. Appreciate the staff and the great job that you do. My colleagues I appreciate you and thank you. Have a good night.

Ms. Allen stated I just want to thank everyone for taking the time to come out and let us know how you feel about the job that we're doing and what you guys think we should be improving on and working on. And hopefully, the trash situation gets fixed. But that's something that we all are experiencing in the city. We keep calling and working on it. Want to get better. Everyone get home safely and be safe tomorrow, those who have to go out in the snow. If you don't have to go out, have a snow day. Have a good night and get home safe.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everybody for coming out. See some new faces out there. Thank you to the new folks. Thank you for your presentation. I look forward to learning more about it. Thank you to some folks that I haven't seen here in a while, but I see again. So, thank you for returning and being a part of the meeting. And I hope everybody can come out to the pancake breakfast. And the storm tomorrow's up in the air, so just be safe tomorrow. They keep going up and down and rain and snow and three inches, six inches. So be safe tomorrow and everybody be safe going home tonight. Have a good evening.

Ms. Scamuffa thanked everyone, for coming out tonight. I just want to say I really appreciate all the hard work that the staff puts in, the Police Department. It is a work in progress and we shall overcome, for sure. We're going to make it. We're going to pull through everything. I appreciate all

of my fellow councilpersons and your patience and consideration while I'm learning the ropes. Sometimes I can be a little bit much, but it's because I just want to make sure I do a great job for everybody. I want to encourage all of the residents in all of the wards, of course, across the entire city. There're still empty seats here in the council room here. Please, if you can't come to every meeting, maybe somebody can alternate, bring a neighbor. We really can't do this alone. We really need the residents' cooperation. I'd love to see this room where we have to get more seats because it's so full. If you have any concerns, questions, you may not get an answer right at the podium, but please reach out to any of your council persons from your wards. I'm happy to help. I did have one resident in the audience, actually, Mr. Jefferson, if you would, inquire from the last meeting about yielding of time. They were wondering if you could just elaborate on that for future reference. Is that something that you can do, how that works? Mr. Jefferson replied we can address that at the next meeting. Ms. Scamuffa thanked Mr. Jefferson. Really, that's all I have. And I also hope-- hopefully, you'll be able to reach me or any of the council members because our website does not have, I realize, our names yet, and email address listed. I assure you, we're all councilpersons. So if you have any questions, reach out to the main office, and they'll give you the email, okay, until we get that updated. I appreciate you all. Thank you so much, and have a good night. And be safe tomorrow.

Vice President Green thanked everyone for coming out. I appreciate you. Good to see Mr. and Mrs. Coleman. I missed you. Just excited for everything that's going on. And Carmen, I'm quite sure that Roberta will talk to you or Mr. Goldman will talk to you after. It's real important, though. Eagle has been lacking, especially with recyclables. So, I'm not sure if it's your regular trash or the recyclable. I'm sure that they will take care of it. I'm just excited that we had so many people out tonight. Dream City, I enjoyed your presentation so much. Smart City is something that I swear we had a presentation already on. Something like that. But that is a dream, and that's something that I would love to see here in the city. Coffee with the Chief at the mosque was wonderful. We got to see Lieutenant Ollis juggle. And he was juggling the apples for a little girl, and it was just great. She enjoyed it. But it was such a success. There were so many people there, and they-- happy anniversary. I know that that's why you weren't there. But thank you all again for coming out and have a good night, and be safe.

President Lavender Norris echoed her colleagues. It is good to see us having seats filled. Hope they're comfortable to the extent that you look forward to sitting in them next month. Well, folks, just blessed here in the City of Coatesville. We have the most amazing staff, Police Department, Fire Department, Public Works, Finance Department. I mean, everybody's working together like a well-oiled machine here. And it's been a long time coming. But progress is inevitable here in the City of Coatesville at this point. I just want to commend my colleagues for your job well done as well as everyone else. I think Mr. Folks left. I want to congratulate him for being re-elected to the Civil Service-- appointed. I'm sorry. The Civil Service Commission. And Dream City is exciting. I am anticipating hearing more about it, getting a clearer understanding. I am just blessed to be here, to sit in the seat by the meeting. And with regard to the Record Kitchen closing, it's unfortunate that they closed, but we weren't left without a restaurant because the Iron Eagle is still open and doing very well. Now's a good time to consider the term is collective economics. So maybe you know someone-- I don't have many. I have a couple of dollars. I don't have a whole lot. However, I'm willing to put mine in the pot. And if you know some people that have some finances available, if we combine them, maybe we can replace what used to be the Record Kitchen. We don't have to see the glass half empty. Let's do what we can. We say what we want. Let's prove it. Let's step up and be a part of the

progress that we say we wanted to see. Thank you all for coming out. God bless you all. Please, by all means, be safe on your way home and throughout the rest of the week. God Bless.

Adjournment

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to adjourn the meeting; s. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.