

Minutes
City of Coatesville
Regular Meeting – 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA
Council Chambers
Monday, July 8, 2024

Council Present: President Lavender-Norris, Vice President Carmen Green, Councilwoman Charrisse Allen, Councilwoman Khadijah Al Amin, Councilwoman Villa Hunt, and Councilwoman Fran Scamuffa
Council Absent: Councilwoman Tiniera Turner-Green
Staff Present: James Logan, City Manager; Roberta Cosentino, Assistant City Manager; Chief Jack Laufer, Police Department; Chief Steve Dobson, Fire Department; Aaron Flook, Code 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.

President Lavender Norris announced Councilwoman Tiniera Turner-Green would not be in attendance.

Public Hearing – Conditional Use - 713 East Lincoln Highway

A court reporter transcribed the public hearing.

Approved Minutes

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve the June 24, 2024 minutes with edits; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Ms. Al Amin stated Ruthann, there are a few corrections, which I'll be more than happy to give to you afterwards if that's okay. But I just don't want to say, "Yes, I approve," without the corrections being put in. But just to save time, I'll give them to you afterwards if that's okay. Ms. Mowday replied that's fine.

Approval of Accounts Payables

Mrs. Hunt made a motion to approve the accounts payables; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-1. Ms. Al Amin was the dissenting vote.

Ms. Al Amin asked on page-- it's says page three, for the 2103, the LIT consultant, is there any way we can get more of a breakdown of what their bills are for? It says codes, miscellaneous inspections, \$23,244.98. But when you look into the invoices, there is no real breakdown for what we're paying \$23,244.98 for. . I just want to know if we can get more of a breakdown or an explanation, like an invoice, showing what the miscellaneous inspections for over \$23,000 are. I just want to know what we're actually-- what the inspections are, not just miscellaneous inspections. That's quite a bit of money. Ms. Cosentino replied Ms. Al Amin, I can help answer that question. You have a general statement here in the packet that has over \$10,000 in resale U&O inspections. A lot of the full invoice package for LTL is sometimes 20-plus pages. If you'd like me to forward that to you, I can. Ms. Al Amin stated well, not just to me. I think all our councils should be able to—Ms. Cosentino said I can just forward it to Council. Ms. Al Amin explained --see what we're spending the money. I'm not questioning the amount. I don't want you to think that. I'm just questioning what work they're

doing to charge us that kind of money. That's quite a bit of money. And LTL is our outsource part of Codes, correct? Ms. Cosentino replied correct. And I'll also note that the dollars that we spend on LTL doing inspections we also receive by payment from the property owners-- Ms. Al Amin replied I get that. Like a U&O, a rental inspection-- --there's fees for that. But I would still like to see-- because we are behind in things, I'd like to see what they're actually out there doing. I'm not questioning. I know it's a fee-for-service. So I'm not questioning the amount. I'm questioning what it is they're out there doing. I just would like to see. So yes, if you could send it to me and the rest of the council, I would appreciate that. Just so that we can--

Mr. Logan asked Ms. Al Amin can I just-- okay. So there is on page 103 as you go back to the actual statement. So the statement has kind of a breakdown for an actual purchases from a property. So they're doing inspection on that property. But if you can help us, I mean, in terms of a set building inspection, so what else do you want them to be? Because this is something that we have to tell them. Ms. Al Amin said I'd like to see what the assistant city manager said she could send. Mr. Logan said well, we're going to send what we have, but I'm asking you if you want us to tell LTL to put more to it, than-- and we can call ask them for that information. Ms. Al Amin stated I just want them to explain a little bit more of-- I understand it's a fee-for-service, but I'd just like to see a little bit more of what they're-- if it's a U&O, if it's the biannual inspection, what these inspections are that they're actually doing. Ms. Cosentino said right. Well, they're in here. If you look at item-- if you look at number four, it says, resale U&O inspections.

Vice President Green said that was going to be my comment. That's why I said you don't need to send me 20-something pages. That's a lot of paper. To me, we already know the amount of rental inspections that we have to do. We already know the U&Os and all of that. The amount is here, and it is a breakdown, so to speak. I personally don't need specifics. If you want to say that you did this amount of inspections, then that's fine. But to waste-- that's a lot of papers to be sending out. I don't need that. Ms. Al Amin asked what's a miscellaneous building pass? Can you tell me what that is? That's over \$5,000. Ms. Cosentino explained the miscellaneous building pass, as you can see on that one, it's always split between inspections and zoning. And what that means is that that's time that is spent in the office by LTL. They spend some time here in our office doing paperwork, inputting things into our smart dub system, reviewing permits, that type of thing. So that's a payment to them. That's why it's miscellaneous building pass. Ms. Al Amin said it's broken down there. 2883 or [crosstalk]. Ms. Cosentino said correct. So we usually split that right down the middle. And I will say, typically, our LTL invoices are lower than this. It's good news that the bill is higher. It's more activity. It's more inspections happening. It's more permits being processed. It's more zoning applications being brought in. So overall, I will say that this is absolutely a higher bill than usual, but that's also a good thing for the city.

Ms. Al Amin explained well, that's why I said I'm not questioning the bill. I know it's a fee-for-service. But miscellaneous, to me, could be a multitude of things. And I would like to see what the miscellaneous items are. I'm not questioning the bill. I know it's a fee-for-service. Ms. Cosentino said I can tell you that there likely will not be more detail under the miscellaneous building tasks because, like I mentioned, that's office time. Where you will see additional detail is under the resale U&O inspections. Well, we can ask them for additional information if they work for the city? Ms. Al Amin said we want to know what they're doing. I don't know. I'm trying to just understand. We want to know how much time they're spending in the office. I know. I mean, is everything miscellaneous? I mean, almost \$6,000 for miscellaneous that's just office paperwork? --[crosstalk]. It says 2823 is, I

guess, office time. Is that right? Ms. Cosentino said yeah, I can provide you more information. Ms. Al Amin stated I would appreciate that. Thank you.

Ms. Scamuffa asked please. So when it comes to-- we briefly touched on the Sounds of Summer and Unity Day and the cost associated with that. So it seems as though we use-- and I hate to go back to this, but we are supposed to be using people within the city limits to try to give them as much business as possible. But it seems as though year after year, event after event, we're using the same person. Not that I have a problem with him. He does a fabulous job. But are we going to offer this opportunity for future events to other DJs that maybe not have as much overhead as this particular one to kind of streamline the cost a little bit? Mr. Logan asked are you referring to 50/50 Entertainment? Ms. Scamuffa replied yes. Yes. I mean, it just-- and again, It's not that I have a problem with them because they do a fabulous job. It would be nice if we have other DJs within the city limits that we can offer this opportunity for that may always charge a fraction of what this particular one does to give them the opportunity to help them grow as well. Mr. Logan explained there's a lot into what 50/50 Entertainment does [inaudible]. It's a full production company. So when we have artists that come out, and they're performing on stage, he has to mix all of the artists. He has to get all of the instruments to go to a mixing board. He's just not DJ. He has the stage. He's DJing. He's setting up the entire-- even forums that [inaudible]. So there's a little bit more to what he does than just what you may see on an invoice here. And as far as other people in the community, there isn't, to my knowledge, anyone in the community that has a stage and has a mixing board that can work with artists, that basically have this type of business. Ms. Scamuffa asked maybe we can get him to work on the cost little bit better. I just thought it was high for [crosstalk]. Mr. Logan asked what are you comparing it to? Ms. Scamuffa said I'm just looking at the whole thing. I mean, we have the t-shirts. And I guess they went out to people that were working there. Mr. Logan said we get some volunteers for this concert, yes. Ms. Scamuffa explained so all the little things that break down, I guess, when you put it all together, it's like a huge chunk. And I don't know if the residents are aware how much goes into it. So I hope they start coming out and utilizing this event for the next three days that are coming up because a ton of money-- [crosstalk] Vice President Green said the amount of money that you raised for the event. They're seeing the payables but not—the receivables. Mr. Logan explained it varies. I don't think we have all the sponsorship dollars in. So far, I think we have about 18,000 that we have [crosstalk]-- But we have other sponsors, and we have in-kind sponsorships. Sometimes, small businesses will give things. [inaudible] this year, gave potato chips, John Sly donated beverages for the event. So we have multiple streams that come in. But, yeah, it's an event that's designed for the community, and we try to be very-- try to streamline our cost and expenses to the best we can do. And as far as the talent and who we use, we always look to use folks in Coatesville, but the reality is we just don't have a wide pool of professional services that could do the things that he does. Ms. Scamuffa said okay, thank you. Mr. Logan pretty much said what I was going to say to Ms. Scamuffa. When we were first putting Unity Day together, we reached out to all the different DJs that we knew of and those that - excuse me - came into us, not just African American. We were looking at everyone, but nobody had the expertise or the equipment that 50/50 had for outside stages, so. They basically backed out themselves, and I think that's where that has been since that point. But we did initially reach out to everyone that we knew and those that knew somebody to come in and see what they could do for Unity Day. So that's how he has come on board and he has really made that portion of Unity Day seamless for those that are putting it together. Ms. Scamuffa replied gotcha. And at discounted price. Mr. Logan said and at discounted price. Believe me. Well, I mean, if you look at it, there's four or five-- there's five events. And let's just say you take the dollar amount. Not to beat a dead horse, but if you divide 11,000 into five, it's \$2,200 an event.

Because he's not really getting paid for his service. [crosstalk] We're paying him for-- --the equipment and things that he use. He basically volunteers his services.

Presentation

1. Letter of Recognition

President Lavender Norris read the letter of recognition. It says, "Whereas the City of Coatesville has a rich heritage of residents giving service in a multitude of ways to the City of Coatesville and the greater community. And whereas Victor Palacios displayed exceptional heroism and quick thinking on July 1st, 2024 when he saved the child from choking. In a moment of crisis, Victor's swift and decisive actions prevented a potentially tragic outcome and exemplified the highest standards of bravery and compassion. And on July - what was that? - 1st, at 1820 hours, police were dispatched to the Fluff & Fold, 641 East Lincoln Highway, for an infant choking. A bystander on location, Victor Palacios, performed back blows and dislodged the obstruction, saving the child. And whereas Victor's courageous response not only saved a young life but also demonstrated the extraordinary ability to remain calm under pressure and act decisively. His willingness to intervene without hesitation is a testament to his dedication to the well-being of others. And now, therefore, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Coatesville recognizes and salutes Victor Palacios for his selfless, faithful dedication and service to the lives of the citizens of the Coatesville community, and be it resolved and enacted this 8th day of July."

President Lavender Norris explained one of our officers wanted to ensure that you, Mr. Palacios, were recognized for your valiant efforts. We appreciate you, and thank you for all you've done. Chief Laufer added a comment from the police department in general-- I know the officer wanted to make sure that you received some recognition from the council. But it's actions such as yours that sort of represent all that's good about the City of Coatesville and the residents here and that sense of caring that we all try to promote. I know from council on down through staff and on down through the police and fire department and all the other departments here in the city try to promote that sense of care in the community. And I'm glad to see you recognized for it. Thank you.

Discussion Items

There were no discussion items at this time.

Citizens Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (3 Minutes)

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

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to close citizens hearings on regular action items only; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider a motion to approve the Conditional Use request by Rakesh Kumar for the property(s) known as 713 E. Lincoln Avenue, Coatesville, PA 19320, Parcel 16-6-279 located in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District, for the following change of use from a restaurant to a convenience store use by right of Conditional use.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve the Conditional Use request by Rakesh Kumar for the property(s) known as 713 E. Lincoln Avenue, Coatesville, PA 19320, Parcel 16-6-279 located in the C-1 (Neighborhood Commercial) Zoning District, for the following change of

use from a restaurant to a convenience store use by right of Conditional use; Ms. Scamuffa seconded the motion. Motion failed 0-6.

2. Receive and consider a motion to approve the Resolution amending the City of Coatesville Master Fee Schedule

Ms. Scamuffa made a motion to approve the Resolution amending the City of Coatesville Master Fee Schedule; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Receive and consider a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Valley Township and City of Coatesville regarding paving East Glencrest Road

Vice President Green made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Valley Township and City of Coatesville regarding paving East Glencrest Road; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

4. Receive and consider a motion to recommend Long's Asphalt, Inc to complete the City's portion of paving East Glencrest Road

Vice President Green made a motion to recommend Long's Asphalt, Inc to complete the City's portion of paving East Glencrest Road; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

5. Receive and consider a motion to approve a proposal submitted by Carroll Engineering Corporation for Engineering Services for the storm inlet replacement work at various locations identified by the City not to exceed \$63,000.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to approve a proposal submitted by Carroll Engineering Corporation for Engineering Services for the storm inlet replacement work at various locations identified by the City not to exceed \$63,000; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Cosentino stated I just want to point out that this inlet repair project comes after the entire city has been surveyed of every inlet in the city and prioritized by which ones should be done first, second, third. This project constitutes 18 of the highest-priority inlets that can be addressed. And they'll be repaired or replaced. Ms. Allen asked is this going to help with the flooding in certain areas? Ms. Cosentino replied That's the hope. Some of our flooding issues have to do with our aging and aged infrastructure. Some of these inlets, some of them, not all, are collapsed some are just very, very old and not functioning properly. Ms. Allen asked you want to go in and clean all the areas and ensure there's no debris and stuff. Like you said, some are old and collapsed. And from my understanding, that's why some areas, probably right down here, they said it was something about the drains down here. It was some stuff down here or something that they had to move out. And that's why the swamp water gets really bad right there. Ms. Cosentino responded yeah. This work is not-- yes, cleaning, clearing, but also replacing the entire inlet so that it doesn't get clogged as easily.

Vice President Green made a motion to close action items; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. Ms. Al Amin was not present for the vote.

Vice President Green excused herself from the meeting at 8:47 pm.

Reports

1. Solicitor

Mr. Jefferson announced he provided a more detailed attorney-client privileged report to Council. Since Councils last meeting. Since Council last meeting: I communicated and continue to communicate with attorney's regarding land development matters; reviewed an MOU regarding the repaving of East Glencrest Road, edited and revised the MOU, communicated with Valley Township's Solicitor, and prepared a resolution regarding the same; communicated with City Management regarding a personnel matter; and provided a Right-To-Know policy to City Management. Something that just happened earlier today that didn't make this report just due to timing. Mr. Gill reached out to me regarding the flats. I'm going to talk with him on the phone tomorrow or in person. Actually, in person, I apologize. And hopefully, get an update for council regarding the flats project. So that did not make my report. But hopefully, by the next meeting, I'll tell you something.

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan wished everyone a good evening, Council. Just a few items to take you on in terms of the economic development projects. The RDA has been working with a number of potential investors for the property up on Manor Road near Marriott. We'll keep you informed of how that continues. There have been four proposals submitted, and we're looking to see what is going to be the best for use for that property moving forward.

The train station project continues to move on schedule. There is still road work that's being done on Oak Street. There's been some changes in terms of the lane change upon quotes. That project will continue on as the train station project itself continues. But they are still on schedule for 2025 completion. Streetscape project, we've been working with PennDOT as well as our city engineer firm in Cedarville. The streetscape design packet was submitted to the EMS portal. On that EMS portal, we see five bidders. We are in the process of reviewing those bids. The streetscape project will take place midway from 1st to midway on 4th. And that will consist of [inaudible], planners, new decorative lights, and some other ADA compliance and improvements. As I mentioned, we are in the review stage right now. We're going to be scoring those bids. And once we score, that's myself, Roberta, the assistant city manager, and the council president, we will submit those to PennDOT, and move forward with the selection.

Gibbons Run, we received almost a year ago now, close to a year ago, a grant from the county to do a survey of the Gibbons Culvert. That is the culvert that runs underneath Gateway Park. We're all familiar with it because it plays a key role in the distribution of the stormwater throughout the city, opposite the draining one. There is a thought or belief that one of the reasons why we could get flood as we did, especially with Hurricane Ida, is because that particular area, basically the water comes to the level that everything just kind of backs up and starts to flood. So the survey is a series of cameras that's going to be in the culvert, examining what exactly is happening down there. And from that, it will give us a better idea of moving forward, how we should redesign it, add more kind of-- I don't want to say tentacles, but tentacles, if you will, to help distribute and mitigate the water flow throughout the city. As Roberta said a little bit earlier, the infrastructure in the city is very, very old. Pipes aren't collapsing. And we're doing the best that we can. We hope that we don't have a major, major storm incident like we're having in the Midwest and the South right now. But part of this survey, I mean, we need to have some sort of plan of action to see what's

going on. We hope we get those results soon so that we can move forward with the plans of stormwater management and mitigation.

September, we are looking to have our ACE Summit. Last year we hosted our first. And that is the Annual Coastal Economic Summit. It was a huge success last year. Pennsylvania American Water was our key supporter along with Cleveland-Cliffs, the Economic Development Council, the Chester County Chamber of Business and Industry, as well as the Western Chester Chamber. They all were a part of this event. This year, we're going to move it to September because there's a number of things going on in August and we just won't have the time for us to put the planning together, but we hope to roll it out in August-- excuse me, in September, and then hope to get a great turnout like we did last year. Last two items I have is HBO will be returning to the City of Coatesville for filming. I think this is going to take place this week. It's going to be a night kind of production. Not a whole lot is required from the city. This is going to be more kind of-- I don't even know what they call it in terms of just getting some footage to put in the film. It's going to involve a couple of vehicles just driving through a couple of our streets here, and our police department will be on hand to manage that particular shot that evening.

The last thing I want to do is just invite all of those who came out for Unity Day this year. We know that the numbers were very low, partly due to the weather. It was probably close to-- it felt like 100 degrees out there on Saturday. I think the water ice that Chief and police officers had, they melted. But we did have some people in the community that came out. We had a number of kids at Campbell East and the City of Coatesville provided hamburgers and hot dogs for. We had a couple of vendors. So it was a low turnout, but those who came out, we think they had a wonderful time. I want to thank some of our sponsors. That's Cleveland-Cliffs, PA. American Water, Sly Tom's, thank you for your contribution, John, and many others. And thank you to all of our council members as well as our police and fire. The fire department came out. Didn't get them in the dunk tank. But we'll get you guys in there next year.

3. Assistant City Manager

Ms. Cosentino announced My report is brief, but first, as always, I'd like to 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]. I just wanted to share that on June 26th, the Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce held their Future Focus event where I was able to share some updates about our great city and the many projects that we have currently ongoing and also planned. At our last meeting, you might remember that council approved additional testing and [boring?] at Ash Park as part of the design engineering phase of that project. Some of that work has already been completed, but the drilling is scheduled for this Friday, July 12th. And it should only take one day and should not interfere with any park activity. And I'd also just like to note that our website continues to be updated with important information. With the hot weather that we've already had this summer, one of the more recent updates on our website is that we updated the website with some grilling safety, fire safety information for people. And we also shared an important update with this extreme hot weather. I know everybody's looking to get into a pool, and we updated our rules around pool installation. So if anyone's installing a pool with water depth over 24 inches, they should contact the city. A permit's required. So just overall message, continue to check our website for important updates.

I shared last meeting and happy to share again, we have great news coming from TMACC that the Coatesville Link bus is now going to the YMCA from the city. So that's a great resource for people, especially this summer. But they've changed their end route. So again, people can get on the bus and go to the YMCA.

4. Fire Department Report

Chief Dobson wished everyone a good evening. Thank you for the opportunity to report that so far in six months, we've had 553 incidents. Our total of EMS calls was 244. Those are when an outside ambulance comes into the city. The fire department goes, provides basic life support until the arrival of that outside ambulance. The second total was fire alarms, and more than half of those were set off by cooking, which precipitated the grilling safety messages [inaudible]. So the report on the fire departments, it's anticipated that the one new full-time firefighter will complete his training by the end of July. The other three full-timers that were hired have already been part-timers, so they're already trained and they're working their shifts. Of the four part-time firefighters that were hired, one has completed his engine training, and it's anticipated by the end of August, that all four of them will be complete and working shifts. A little overview on the 4th of July weekend, we ran one house fire at South Coatesville, seven trash or brush fires, which were all firework related. And then there was an increase in the last couple of weeks of heat exposure, which we all solved with the increase in temperature.

Our safety message for this month is grilling safety. The phrase they use, "If you're cooking, you're looking," also has to do with cooking inside. We see a lot of kitchen fire that way. The grill should be used outside, away from combustibles. If you use that charcoal grill, dispose of the charcoal away from anything that's combustible, it has to be cooled and, if possible, wet down before it's disposed of. So that one of the causes of fires throughout the country.

Mr. Logan asked in reference to the fires, are these homeowners or rentals? Chief Dobson replied it's a mix of them. It's not only rentals, but owner-occupied. Mr. Logan asked do they have the appropriate fire extinguishers and fire alarms? Chief Dobson replied most of them.

Ms. Scamuffa asked now that you brought that up, Mr. Logan. The ones that you noted that aren't up-to-date with smoke detectors, fire extinguishers. I mean, homeowners, all we can do is so much you can do with the homeowner. But if you go into a home that is tenant-occupied, does that get brought back to somebody that says, "Hey, this is mandatory?" For example, in your report, would you say, "Hey, Aaron, this property doesn't have the required smoke detectors." Chief Dobson replied yeah. We turn it over to the Codes Department. We just had one in the 100 block of East Lake where [inaudible] another issue other than fire extinguishers. But I call Aaron and turn it over to them. Ms. Scamuffa said perfect. Thank you.

5. Police Department

Chief Laufer announced the complete statistical packet is in the report tonight for council. Just a couple key highlights for the month of June. We had a total of 2,265 reports generated through the Chester County 911 system. That was up slightly from the month of May where we saw 2,136. As far as calls received at the front desk, for the month of June was 1,076. That was up slightly from May where we saw 828 calls received through the front desk at the

police station. Just a couple other key highlights that we typically do. We had three NARCAN administrations by the Police Department and eight car seat checks and installations provided by our certified technicians, which includes the car seat that is provided to residents of the city. We continued our catching kids doing something right and ticketing them. We had a very nice opportunity to reward several members of our community. You may have seen it on our Facebook page where they were caught helping to clean up the park, Ash Park, and they were rewarded with bicycles. Got quite a bit of following on our Facebook page and just a great opportunity to recognize good community service from some of our youngsters here in the city.

And we continued our Click It or Ticket details, trying to get compliance for safety belt initiatives through the month of June that was coordinated by our traffic enforcement and truck detail officer Scott Lutte. And also we had our last Coffee with the Chief for the summer, which was at the Coatesville Library on June the 5th. We suspend for July and August just because everybody is busy and a lot of people are either out of town or just because of the heat even. So we will resume in September. We'll make our announcement for that first Monday of September where we will host to start off the year. One other thing I'd just like to mention that was brought to my attention through Ricky Campbell, who couldn't be here tonight. He's helping to run the basketball league, the Summer League here, which is Monday and Wednesdays. For those of you who might get the opportunity to stop out there, it's quite competitive amongst our youngsters. But he wanted to make sure that I mentioned at the council meeting that he was approached by a citizen last week who saw one of our officers I don't want to say exactly buying something, but helping them to be rewarded at one of the local convenience stores here in the city at the Turkey Hill here on Lincoln Highway. And somebody had approached Ricky and said that they wanted to make sure that that officer, who was one of our female officers, Jen Schreiber, was recognized for going above and beyond and trying to interact with the kids in the community and provide a positive role model, and also reward them for some good behavior with some summer refreshment. So, Ricky wanted to make sure that I mentioned that, and a special shout out to Officer Schreiber for going above and beyond.

6. Code Department

Mr. Flook wished everyone a good evening. Good to see you all again. Thank you for the opportunity to be here. A couple of things I wanted to do before we got into the official report was to bring up a couple of things as Roberta brought up about pool permits. That also deals with inflatable pools that hold over 24 inches. And the main reason for that, I want to explain why the perfect reason for this. It isn't so much for drowning safety. It is a little bit to make sure you have the proper fence and gates around. But it's also because those are sold with plugs that are made out of extension cord material, which rots in the sun very easily and creates an electrical shock hazard. Part of the permit is you have to put what's called a bonding and grounding ring around the outside of it, which helps to prevent-- there's a copper barrier around the outside, which conducts the electricity away from the pools and not conduct electricity inside the pool. So that's the main purpose of why we're paying attention to this. This was something that was in the 2015 building code, and it was just something that was over previously didn't want to make a bigger push on for a seat. The next thing is you probably have all received an email from the emergency department. I sent another email out in response this morning to tell you what basically is going on. We have been following up with all the notifications that we have gotten, and we are helping the residents there as much

as possible. We have gone to more strident-- I guess the correct word is resorted to more strident means to get into the property. And on July 22nd and 23rd, we will be inspecting every property up there. It's 126 properties. And that will allow us to get a better idea of what's going on there and create a path in which to get them done as quickly as possible. That will also get them caught up because they are several years back on their inspections. It was an inherent thing that we picked up this year and we'll take care of that in July moving forward.

The last thing, you all received a package from me today. Mr. Logan had asked me to do this. It's on 17 North Church. There's an issue about a loading zone there. Originally, that was a church-- or excuse me, was a school, and it was designated as a school zone, which included a passenger loading zone for the entire street, which meant, at certain times, you couldn't park on the entire street. The use of a preschool daycare center does not jive completely with a school. It's not the same definition. There's two definitions. Each have their own definition. So you do not get what's called a continuing use or an extension of a use for zoning, which means that the school zone stopped when the school stopped. However, they are a fine location and can be made a passenger loading zone, but that has to be done through an ordinance change. We actually have to list that as a passenger loading zone in the ordinance. If you guys approve that in the next couple of months if we'll get that passed. There's a definition of what all that is in some of the actual zoning if that happens.

There's some interesting changes. We did not have three months in a row of us having closed more code violations than we created. It's the first time since I've done that. And the reason being is that we are starting to run out of the previous back pile that we had of the code violations. This is the first time we have ever been under 20%. And let me explain something. We actually closed 20% more. Ones that created in June were closed in June. So we had our best year of actually getting things solved and closed out that were created in that month. So we're starting to catch up on the backlog that we had and starting to actually get a better handle on getting them closed in a much faster way. With the experience within the code enforcement, we're getting much more efficient, and we're getting things done a lot quicker. That will help us to keep up with-- our big things are obviously trash and grass. Those are our two big things. And a surprising third is animal issues, particularly chicken violations.

Chickens have become a bigger issue over the last several months. We did very well with licenses. Actually, as of today, we had received 75% of all licenses that we needed to make, rental licenses, in June, but we were not able to process them all in June. We finished that down, so we have 75% of all of our licenses for rentals already processed. We are getting a better idea. And the advantage of that is that it's actually telling us where we missed inspections, who does not have their inspections. We went into June with 108 scheduled. We ended June with 140 scheduled. But one of the things that we've also been able to do in that time is there were about 30 to 40 of those that we actually did in-house. So to help improve the quality assurance and make sure that we're getting it done, we've actually started training Greg, who is our code enforcement officer currently, to do some of those inspections so that he can help with the other work and actually eventually mark our way [inaudible] nice. LTL will still continue for the next two years. We will honor their contract.

We did actually improve some things on business privilege licenses also. We are far ahead of where we've ever been on those licenses getting those done very much more efficiently. And next month, I know I've been teasing this for the last couple of months, but next month we're going to talk to you about a process that we're going to do that Casey in our department actually worked out a great model that will make us 10 times more efficient and 10 times more able to track them. I will tell you that we had 17 citizen complaints registered through our website, mostly on trash and real chickens. Seems to be something bothering me this month about chickens. Permit use was down slightly. We're still our third-best year ever-- our third best month ever on record. In large projects, we're continuing to move forward on the planning and land development, but as of right now, we don't have any current large projects that are going to be done or any changes to what we've already told you about. We do have meetings in the city for the Redevelopment Authority on 7/15. The Historical Committee is set to meet tomorrow. And new ordinance, we are working on a streamlined and easier way of doing conditional use ordinances, so we should be seeing that in the next couple of months. Last thing is that we have-- what's the last thing here? Excuse me. I'm sorry, [inaudible]. Oh, the last thing was that we have completed a couple of alterations in the office that will make us a lot more [inaudible] efficient. And we are looking to hire a new code enforcement officer [inaudible] so that we'll actually be able to, hopefully, be able to find and close significantly more cases each month.

Mr. Logan asked Mr. Flook, before you leave, can you share with council and the audience the information that you and Chief Laufer found on the truck signs coming into the city in terms of the neighborhoods that maybe better fit the script? Yes, for local delivery only. There's one in an alley near the [crosstalk]-- Mr. Flook said I wasn't prepared for that. I apologize. There already are streets that are specifically for and specifically not allowed for those. We'll go through each case and look through that and make sure which ones are worthy to [crosstalk]-- Ms. Scamuffa said you can't get a [crosstalk]. Mr. Flook said well, the ticketing goes to the police. All right. If they're on the street and they are parked, that also would be for the police. But if it's on the property and not in the street, then that would be something to put in with Codes. Basically, code enforces anything from the curb back. Ms. Scamuffa said--the tractor-trailers, the 18-wheelers coming through the residential street. That's the big concern. Mr. Flook said if they're driving through, that's more of a police concern. I can't really stop them and do anything with it because it's not in my power. Chief Laufer explained if I could add, Fran, just to maybe clear it up a little bit. The code does specifically address the issues that you had identified previously with regard to truck traffic on certain roads within the city prohibited. And that is in the code. We're in the process of working [inaudible], not quite in a [inaudible] here with Public Works, but Public Works and Roberta are in the process of getting those signs and they will be erected. Ms. Scamuffa said wow. God bless America. Thank you. [crosstalk] Well, what streets are we talking about? What street are we talking about? Ms. Scamuffa said Hope Avenue, 5th Avenue. Ms. Scamuffa explained you can go down Valley and go down Strode, or-- yes, Strode to Valley. But these people are coming down Hope and turning on Madison, and then turning on West 5th to go down to Valley. Ms. Scamuffa thanked Mr. Flook Thank you. Tonight, I feel for the first time in months that I've gotten something accomplished sitting behind this table. Thank you. Thank you all. I mean that from the bottom of my heart. As a matter of fact, Aaron, while you're there, I am going to be quick. The resident that had their fence run over by the tractor trailer, I have to make a note to you that my understanding is that they've received payment. I can't make them fix the fence with the money that they receive. But Codes, I'm

guessing, could do something about how it's crushed over onto the sidewalk. On West 5th, you won't be able to miss it. Mr. Flook said he would take a look at it. And yes, we can enforce them having to clean it up. Ms. Scamuffa said yeah. Right. Remove it or something. [crosstalk]. Mr. Flook stated but I can make them remove it. Exactly. What they do with the money, we can't control that. But they got to get it away from the sidewalk. It's a hazard to the public. One of the other issues that we are actually cracking down a lot on right now are bushes over growing sidewalks, because that has become-- that's considered part of grass because it's just basically the whole exterior. One of the things we are always trying to do, reduce the number and there are a number of them. And we've had a couple of them resolved, but not all of them. The last thing, I do remember what I want to say. Last month we wrote, I believe it was 12, state citations and we have 8 of them resolved. Ms. Scamuffa said nice. And these code violations that we're going after people that you're getting caught up on the back wall, is that renters that are-- Mr. Flook replied it's a mix of stuff. It's [inaudible]-- Ms. Scamuffa asked but are they having their-- if they're not up to code, are they going to have their renter's license revoked for not being up to code? Mr. Flook replied if they're not up to code and they don't repair it and come up to code within a certain amount, yes. They will have the renter's license revoked. And will be enforced. But right now, that threat has been successful in getting 90% of them to come back up. Is it perfect? No. But it is meeting the IPMC, which is the International Property Maintenance Code, which is what by Section 180 is stated that we use that to determine what is a minimum level of safety. Mr. Logan stated just for the record, we don't go after people. Right. I just want to make sure. You said, "Go after people." We don't go after the people. Mr. Flook said we don't go after people but we do enforce rules. Ms. Scamuffa said I use that term loosely. Forgive me. That's not what I meant.

Citizens Hearings Non-Agenda Items Only (3 Minutes) – Residents/Tax Payer/Property Owner
Khadijah Al Amin

My name is Khadijah Al Amin. I live at 1110 East Lincoln Highway. And again, I'm here for the same issue that I've been here for last several months, an issue that's been going on for years. In April, my neighbor was given an instant ticket that said the grass needed to be cut immediately. Never cut then. By the time he started cutting it, the grass was waist-high. I have pictures from every week so I can prove everything I'm saying. Grass still isn't completely cut. Out front it is, out back, it is not. In May, he received a state citation for responsibilities of a homeowner. That stuff has not been addressed. Shrubbery is overgrown. I file a citation every week to 10 days. When I came in June 20th, I was told by the Codes director that he was in the back writing a citation, and it would be filed June 21st. We're July 8th. It still hasn't been filed. When I came in July 1st, just to file a citation, he told me that he felt the homeowner was making improvement. I asked him if he goes out back. He said yes. Anybody that wants to see, I have pictures from every week. Fence in the back next to the gate, a portion of it's missing. Fence going westbound on the westbound side, now you have stuff growing in and out of the fence on both sides. The fence is falling down. He hasn't been made to remove the fence. This is the same as last year. And just for a correction, a statement was made at the end of the last meeting, when the council members said they felt like progress was being made because the state citation was issued, and this was the first time. That's not quite accurate. Has state citations been issued every year? No. This year is a repeat of last year. Citation last month, citation this month. When the homeowner goes in and pleads guilty, everything goes to a standstill. Now, I do understand some things in Codes aren't perfect. When the city does good stuff, we want to rave, "Yay, yay, yay, Coatesville's rising." But when the city's failing, we have to take ownership for that too. The issues with this, five years now, and it gets worse every year. And the problem is the stuff

he isn't taking care of, none of that was there when he bought the property. He put it in after, and now he doesn't want to maintain it. So I'm past it, and I'm going to keep coming every time until it's fixed. City needs to do their job and hold this man responsible. Thank you.

Vanessa Corbett

My name is Vanessa Corbett. I live at 62 Virginia Avenue. I'm here to complain about the parking on Virginia Avenue. I'm sorry, but I'm a homeowner, and I don't think I need to be-- I live two doors up from someone that has seven cars. And I don't think that's right. It's 11 people that I counted so far. But 66 Virginia Avenue has 11 residents living in a 2-bedroom house with 1 bathroom. Thank you.

John Sly

Mr. Sly wished everyone a good evening, everyone. Quick report for EMS for June. We had 149 total calls in the City of Coatesville. 119 of those from Westwood Valley Road, 30 from Valley Town division. We are up to 803 calls year-to-date, halfway through the year, which puts us on pace for over 1,600. If you recall last year, we had 1,339. So it's a pretty significant increase. Of those calls that came from our Westwood Division last month, 91 medical incidents, 8 fall victims, 6 injured persons, 5 overdoses, 3 cardiac arrests, 3 assaults, 1 vehicle accident, 1 fire, 1 deceased upon arrival. 83% of our calls were ALS and 17% were BLS. Just as a quick note, since it was topical this evening, the incident at the fluff and fold, to point out that that call, the ALS was not available in that incident, and I know our ambulance was responding. From the time of dispatch until the time that the child was reported by the Police Department to have the airway clear was less than five minutes. So a shout out to the Police Department for their prompt response to that as well. And thanks for recognizing the individuals that were part of that. I'd like to think our people are all rock stars. They do a great job. But without some people that are our colleagues, both in fire, police, and the general public, we wouldn't have successful outcomes all the time. So thank you very much. I'm happy to answer any questions you have tonight.

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

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Mrs. Hunt wished everyone a good evening. Thank you again for coming and staying with us. Please forgive my voice, but I'm not feeling the best tonight. I don't know about anybody else, but I'm getting tired of hearing Ms. Al Amin going up to that podium meeting after meeting after meeting. My question is, are we as a city doing everything in our power to get this resolved? And if we're not, can we please do whatever it's going to take to get this resolved? I don't know the procedures. I don't know the rules, the regulations that goes into things like that. But I'm just asking, if we're not doing everything we can, can we please do everything we can to try to get this resolved? Because I don't know about you, but I'm getting tired of every meeting. And then the fact that she's living this every day is not fair to her, not just as a council person, but as a resident. And I don't think any of us would want to have to live in those conditions. And if there is something that our leadership in our city could do to make it better. So I'm just asking if we haven't done anything, can we please put that as a number one item to try to get that resolved if at all possible? I was driving on today with my daughter. We were coming down by 8th Avenue. And she said, "Mommy, you see how bad the city looks?" The trash cans filled with trash. I guess the residents along that road-- on trash day, the trash

is picked up. I guess they never move their trash cans. Is there something we could put in place that they would have to move those trash cans off of the front of their houses? It's that road between 7th and 8th. And it really did. It looked so bad. So I don't know if we have something in place, an ordinance, or something, or if we can put something in place that once your trash is removed on the trash day, that your cans need to go in the back. And I know some people are just lazy and don't want to take them to the back, and then you have to bring them back around on trash day. But if you drive down there tonight on your way home, if you're going that direction. It really does look bad. So if we can try and do something with that, I would appreciate it. But again, I have to thank you guys. Y'all do a great job. You really do that, staff, and I appreciate all that you do. But when things are brought to our attention, some things slip through the cracks or whatever. We just need to try and take care of it so that our residents as a whole have a better quality of life and things around them. And then my last-- I know I'm on a roll today, guys, but my issue with the CYWA, Ms. Green has already left, but we have to do something about their food distribution. I have pictures now and my son is taking pictures. Their distribution is right in the alley where my garage door is, which is the garage we were supposed to use for business. I don't have to go into it. Everybody know what I do as a business. And with my delivery people have to wait 5 or 10 minutes because they can't get through that alley. My garage door has been knocked in several times and they have offered to pay for the door. I just never submitted an invoice, so I do want to say that. But it's not just my garage door, but that's a through way for people to come through. And people are literally held up waiting for them to get out of the street. And if you say something, then, "Oh, you're inconsiderate. I hope you don't need food one day." And it's for the safety of them, as well as the inconvenience of my business, to have to continuously wait for them. And now it's Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. I used to use that alley garage door to bring my husband in and out. But he gets so frustrated when he sees the people, I don't even try to do that anymore. So I just bring him through the front door, which he really don't like that. But rather than have him frustrated about trying to get in our home garage door, I did it that way. So we're going to have to do something to try and make that process a little bit better for both entities. Okay guys, have a good weekend. You have a good rest of the week. Enjoy. Sorry.

Ms. Allen said I think we know I am of few words. I just want to thank everyone for coming out. Be safe. That's it.

Ms. Scamuffa thanked everybody that came out tonight and stayed. I want to say, Mr. Flook, you poor soul. You're taking some lashings and it pains me to see that happen to you because, for lack of better words, you're paying for the sins of others. And I appreciate you tolerating it. Don't get discouraged. I know you're really trying to work through and get things done. Mr. Flook stated If it continues, I will be looking for another job. I am not going to be continuing to be harassed in this manner and making my job three times harder than it was before. So if it continues, I will be looking for another job and possibly filing a suit against the city. Ms. Scamuffa stated that's something you can discuss with Ms. Consentino. Mr. Flook said I'm sorry. It's not the way I came here today, but I'm not going to continue to be beaten up for things that I have no control over and things that, in my opinion, are lies. It has gone too far. Ms. Scamuffa explained but from our perspective too, I think council as a whole-- I mean, I'm not going to make any friends here probably tonight either. We lost another business in the city. The residents have to get it together. Mrs. Hunt, just like you said, there's trash cans in that neck of the woods. It's the same thing all up and down 30. People just don't care. I think the ones that do care anymore are far and few between. I'd like to say things are growing here in the city. Things will never change. They'll come and then they'll fall away. And it's because when you walk out your own front door, it's what everybody has to look at. You have no vested interest in the city, in the home where you live. People don't care. I can tell you from work, I walk

outside, there's trash cans all outside the front of the store. But I sit there and I watch people just throw the trash out their window. It makes no sense. There's no care for our city. Mr. Flook can't take the hit for that. It's our residents as well. And I do feel the pain for you. I really do because this has been years and years of nonsense and trying to get things organized. And I do see some things that you're doing to make a difference. I mean, I love that we have the reports coming in. I mean, this is something that I've always wanted to see when I was on that side of the table. I always asked for reports. We finally got the police department report, and I love seeing-- now I love seeing Codes here and bringing us up the date. I mean, I-- And they are fire. I mean, yeah. So I mean, everything is a slow process, and I know it's frustrating. It's frustrating to the employees, the staff, the police department. I got an email the other day. Residents on Valley Road, 300 block of Valley, furious because we can't-- no offense Chief, but we can't get enough police coverage. There's no police, they say, in the West End. I don't know what to tell them. What am I supposed to say? There's still a lot of work here to be done. And I don't see us surviving as a city and moving forward until we get all these things straightened out. And people, the residents, the taxpayers, the business owners, they all have to know the city is tired of playing games. We need to get it together. That's all I want to say. And although it may seem like I'm frustrated and I don't appreciate the staff, I do. It's just been years of frustration, and I think we've all felt it. So that's all I have to say, and I really wish you all well tonight. And keep your chin up, Aaron, please. Thank you.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everybody for coming out. And just to [inaudible] back in because that's all I want. And I want to make a mention of something that you did not say. So Mrs. Hunt's husband, who over the years, for anybody that knows Emmett, for all of the town, but when he was in his younger years, the things that he did with the children, like football, the baseball, he did a lot of things with the children. So on August 18th, he's going to have a dedication outside of their business, which is on 5th and Lincoln. And it'll be at 4:00 PM. So this is actually an event that's open to all of the public. And Mrs. Hunt isn't feeling well, but the more the better, and she'd like to see everybody there that can possibly attend as an honor to her husband, and it's a well-deserved honor. And so I hope everybody can come. Thank you Chief for all that you do, for the council as a whole, for the city, for the residents. There're council members that have had unfortunate things in their family that you have had to handle. So thank you for all of that as well. And have a good night, thanks for coming.

President Lavender Norris thanked everyone that came out to the meeting and stayed through. I echo my colleagues sentiments with regard to the appreciation for our staff and our colleagues working together. Aaron, you just made my heart drop. I don't appreciate it, and you're not going anywhere, I promise. However, we don't always play fair in in the sand box. But we're going to start. Hearing Ms. Scamuffa saying we got to do better. We absolutely do. I want you to know that I see your work, I see the change, and it's in writing. Thank you for all the work you've done. You've done more in these past couple of months that has been done in the past couple of years, by knowing should you be discouraged or feel underappreciated. We, as a whole, are a council. And when we were informed that we had a new head of Codes department, we were excited. And from where I sit, the excitement has not gone away because I see the work that's being done. And again, I thank him dearly for it. I know it's not easy. I know it isn't. I like Ms. Hunt, when she said, "I'm tired of hearing it. What can we do? Hearing Ms. Al Amin frustrated with having to live with." I dare to sit here and say, "I believe you're doing all you can." And I don't feel like it's even fair to ask you to do anymore. I know you know your job. I've seen your resume. So I know you know what you're doing and how to get it done. I want you to know that I appreciate and I'm trusting you to do what you can. I'm not asking you to do more than that. Again, I thank you to all of our staff and all my colleagues. I appreciate you

all. Everybody, please have a blessed night. Be safe. And by the grace of God, we'll see you at our next meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 pm; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.