

Minutes
City of Coatesville
Regular Meeting – 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA
Council Chambers
Monday, October 14, 2024

Council Present: President Lavender-Norris, Vice President Carmen Green, Councilwoman Charrisse Allen, Councilwoman Khadijah Al Amin, 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; 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 acknowledged that Councilwoman Allen is on via the phone.

Approved Minutes

Ms. Al Amin motioned to approve the September 23, 2024 meeting minutes; Ms. Turner-Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mrs. Hunt abstained from the vote.

Approval of Accounts Payables

Vice President Green motioned to approve the accounts payables; Ms. Scamuffa seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0-1. Mrs. Hunt abstained from the vote.

Presentation

1. John Sly

Mr. Sly wished everyone a good evening, everyone. I'm going to provide a regular update for the Advanced Life Support for the City of Coatesville. It has continued to be very busy. We had 147 responses last month for the City of Coatesville. There's one call every four and a half hours. 105 came from our Westwood Division on Valley Road, 42 from Wagontown. Year to date, the city responded to 1,260 emergencies. Last month, we were 112 medical incidents, seven vehicle accidents, six falls, six cardiac arrests, five overdoses, five assaults, three injured persons, two fires, and one poisoning. I brought with me tonight Chief Kennedy, our EMS chief. I wanted to highlight an incident that occurred here in the city last month. And I just thought it would be important for the Council and the residents here what happened and a little bit of a takeaway from that incident. So I'll let Chief Kennedy give a brief synopsis.

Mr. Kennedy wished everyone a good evening. In emergency medicine, I always have a tendency to come up with a report on all the blood and guts. So it's always the bad thing: vehicle accident, someone choking, someone overdosed. But I wanted to share something that was truly awesome and amazing with the board this evening. Last month, while working with our partners at the Washington Hose Company, our ambulance unit was dispatched out for maternity. And we have those a decent amount of time. Believe it or not, babies are not born in the back of ambulances as often as you might think, which is good for us. We try to drive faster if we can. But in this particular instance, it was a baby that was nine weeks

premature. And in addition to that, this baby was born what we call en caul. Basically, what that means is the baby was delivered still inside the amniotic sac. Okay. So there's a lot of bad things happening in very quick succession, and all of these things are going to stack up against the little babies, the odds. But I'm really grateful to report that because quick thinking of all the EMS personnel, fire department [inaudible] [EMS provider?], and our partners over at the Washington Hose Company. Everybody was able to work together quickly, and decisively, and get the baby out. And they had to do some resuscitative efforts to get the baby crying because crying babies are good babies. And then so we were able to get the baby out and delivered. And the baby made it to 100% full recovery-- which is absolutely wonderful for us. So we did subsequently get a message from the pediatric physician that worked on the baby. Thankfully, we got the baby to the hospital. And they set them all for accolades, [and?] kudos, saying that it was wonderful that we had the Advanced Life Support there. And without those interventions, the baby probably would not have made it. So it was a great call all in all. We love to celebrate these kinds. And like I said, I'm always talking about vehicle accidents and all the bad things. But this is just a great call, and I want to let everybody know. So this just kind of reaffirms that we're getting as far as you guys' life support is concerned. And we were just so happy. There's lots of tears, lots of high fives at the end of the call at the end of the incident. So [crosstalk]. Thank you so much.

Mr. Sly stated the truth of the matter is that we're very fortunate we're able to change lives every day. So we talk about these celebratory incidents, but obviously, we're saving lives 127 times a month. But I want to acknowledge that the Council's support, your financial support, and your moral support for us, and your trust in us enable us to change an outcome like that. So I think it's important for you to understand how much we appreciate that, and I'm sure that the citizens do as well.

2. Dennis Kauffman – Chicken Ordinance
Mr. Kauffman was not present at the meeting.

Discussion Items

1. TMACC/Link
Mr. Logan announced in your packets, there is a letter from TMACC. I think you all know John or Tim Phelps. TMACC has been working with the City of Coatesville for a number of years, providing a variety of transportation. There's Link ChescoBus-- excuse me, ChescoBus Link. I always forget the name of it. But they have extended their services to the City of Coatesville. As we get closer to the completion of the Coatesville train station, we know that there's a greater need for transportation, predominantly for seniors and just the folks that are trying to [inaudible] their transportation destination. So this letter is a request for support. We did support TMACC last year with a contribution. And again, this year is just their request for the 2025 contribution in the amount of \$5,000.

Vice President Green asked these links, are they providing? The special links that they're providing, do you know what they are? Well, they don't have to visit the hospital anymore to get this done, right? They're not going to Oxford anymore. Are they still for the transportation? Mr. Logan replied no, I'm not sure. I know that they're still going to URBN Outfitter. So that's become kind of like a permanent stop. It was supposed to be one year. Vice President Green asked so they're still doing that? Mr. Logan replied yes, I can get a schedule for the route. Vice President Green stated that's great that they're still doing that.

Ms. Cosentino announced in addition to that, TMAcc and ChescoBus are initiating what they've calling microtransit. So that's a newer initiative that they've been working on where people can actually call or go to the app. And it operates kind of an Uber, but it's the same fare as the bus fare. And they're specifically working with the Pittsburgh area to do microtransit to kind of key locations. Rather than doing the full bus route, they're doing this microtransit model. And they also added a line from the city to the YMCA recently, so that's an additional one. Ms. Allen stated she did not hear what Ms. Cosentino said. President Lavender Norris explained they have call stops now. Rather than doing a full-and-complete bus route, you can call for your stop when you need a ride. It's called microtransit. And they are requesting, TMAcc is requesting support from us again in the amount of \$5,000.

2. Reminder Budget special meetings, workshops and advertisements

Mr. Logan asked if there were any question son the budget meetings and workshops. The meeting will be advertised.

3. Gibbons Run Culvert

Ms. Cosentino shared with you all, as you know, the Gibbons Run Culvert study is underway. Cedarville Engineering has-- their first part of the study was putting cameras into the culvert to study the condition of the culvert. The next thing that's going to happen is that they'll be installing sensors in the culvert to measure the water during high rain events. And those sensors will be installed towards the end of the month, in a couple of weeks. But our engineers provided some updates, and it's a really long and lengthy report that actually goes into each section of the culvert. But I wanted to share with you today some of the video footage that they took of the culvert, since it's not something that we typically get to see on the day-to-day, but is infrastructure that's built under the city. So Ruthann, if you don't mind pressing play. So this first video is video footage of the culvert starting at Ash Park, heading towards 5th Avenue. So it's going upstream. And you can see the condition of the culvert. What they're finding is, overall, that it's in a really good condition. Can you pause the video? Mr. Logan explained so, what you're looking at here is where the water comes into the culvert. And they have various networks where the water begins to accumulate, then it heads downstream. Yes, thank you. Ms. Cosentino said If you want to skip ahead to-- a lot of it is just looking at bricks, but I thought you'd be interested in just kind of seeing some various spots.

President Lavender Norris said it's really amazing how this is all [crosstalk]. Ms. Cosentino replied it is. It is. And given the age of it and the really good condition that they're finding, it's really impressive. Mr. Logan explained that tunnel is about-- that culvert is about six and a half feet in height and width. Yeah, you can definitely stand and just walk through. Ms. Cosentino explained now, they did find a few areas where repairs or work might be needed, but they're still deciphering exactly what those things need to be. And they're compiling a pretty thorough report for us. So you can see the camera as it's going down the culvert. It is zooming in on certain cracks or areas where water might be getting in and it's not supposed to get in, that kind of thing. But the report that I'm getting from our engineers is that, in general, it's pretty positive. And Ruthann, I think you have another video. It's the section that's going from 3rd downstream in the culvert. President Lavender Norris asked in the one we were just looking at, the water that's flowing, is that the underground spring water that is constantly running there? Ms. Cosentino stated that is correct. Yeah. Yeah. So they basically put a creek into the culvert back when the city was built, and so that's just constantly running.

Mrs. Hunt asked where is the entrance of this culvert? Where does it actually start? Mrs. Cosentino replied that's a good question. Mr. Logan stated I think the culvert starts right before Ash Park West. [crosstalk]. It's going to be east of here. The lowest point, close to when we had Hurricane Ida, we got a lot of flooding from 4th, 5th, and 6th. And then as the water comes up, kind of comes up here, right across 4th and Olive. And then it goes through the park, and then it banks left across 3rd into where the park started.

President Lavender Norris asked if there were any other questions? You had something else you wanted to show. Ms. Cosentino replied yeah. So this is just the second video of going downstream now, so just another section of the culvert. But you can see they're kind of inspecting potentially one of those cracks, that kind of thing. So when we have the water sensors in there in a couple of weeks, they'll be monitoring the sensors at least for a year. Mr. Logan noted want to get a report for the first three to six months, so we can respond to FEMA. Ms. Cosentino explained we'll be able to see how full the culverts get when we have a rain event.

Citizens Hearings – Regular Action Items Only (3 Minutes)

There were no citizens hearings in regular action items only.

Vice President Green motioned to close citizens hearings on regular action items only; Ms. Al Amin seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Regular Action Items

1. Receive and consider a motion to 1st Reading and authorization for advertisement of an Ordinance amending §218.7, Loading Zones, subsection C(3)(C) by deleting “Church Street, North (entire block)” from the list of school zones; and subsection C(3)(B) by adding solely 17 North Church Street to the list of passenger loading zones

Vice President Green motion to approve 1st Reading and authorization for advertisement of an Ordinance amending §218.7, Loading Zones, subsection C(3)(C) by deleting “Church Street, North (entire block)” from the list of school zones; and subsection C(3)(B) by adding solely 17 North Church Street to the list of passenger loading zones; Mrs. Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Jefferson explained this one's actually not new to the City Council upon-- we did this before. A gentleman came in and wanted a loading zone for his organization. It's no longer a school. It's a child's daycare. We originally did the ordinance, and upon further reading, we needed to do some more narrowing down and clarifying. So this just clarifies that it's solely in front of 17 North Church. In the ordinance, specifically, there's listed a period of times when this is in effect. So it just merely irons out more details, but it's essentially the same ordinance with a few more details that the Council already saw last time.

2. Receive and consider a motion to approve a Resolution authorizing submission of a Statewide Local Share Account (SLSA) Grant application to the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority

Ms. Al Amin motion to approve a Resolution authorizing submission of a Statewide Local Share Account (SLSA) Grant application to the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Logan explained this is just part of our normal procedure when it comes to some of the grant applications that we are applying for. This one will be in the amount of \$1 million to the Commonwealth Financial Authority. And it is to be used for the fire apparatus.

3. Receive and consider a motion to authorize City Council president to execute the Declaration of Extinguishment of Right of Way to be further explained at the meeting.

Mrs. Hunt motioned to authorize City Council president to execute the Declaration of Extinguishment of Right of Way; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Jefferson explained this is a little bit of a cool piece of history. This goes back to 1936 when Bethlehem Steel owned the portion of the flats that Bethlehem Steel and a subsidiary of Bethlehem Steel gave a right-of-way to the city so that the city could construct certain water improvements within that right-of-way area. The city then created an authority. As you all are aware, the city transferred all of the water assets to the authority I think in the early 2000, somewhere around there. The authority sold all of the assets of the Water Authority to PA American Water Company. So this is a declaration of extinguishment. So we're terminating that right-of-way. It's in preparation for the flats to be redeveloped by the NSEC project and team. So this is essentially terminating that 1936 right-of-way that was granted by Bethlehem Steel to the city, to the extent that we actually have any rights to it. Like I said, it was transferred to the authority, and then all the assets were sold to the authority. So presumably, the right-of-way was also sold to the authority, which was then transferred to PA American. But ultimately, it's a clarifying paperwork, just making sure that we terminate that right of way.

Vice President Green made a motion to close action items; Ms. Turner-Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Reports

1. Solicitor

Mr. Jefferson explained I'm not sure if this was a joke or not, but Section 119-1 is the official colors designation of the city. And according to that, the official colors of the City of Coatesville shall be royal blue and gold. Below that, in section 119-2, there's the description of the official flag. I only reference that because it also references the blue and gold colors. So, I don't know, again, if you were actually joking about that, but should you choose to-- those are the sections that I would look at. And I just did a quick review, so I just wanted to provide that. And then since Council's-- I provided a more detailed attorney-client privilege report to Council. Since the Council's last meeting, I have communicated and continued to communicate with outside counsel regarding certain litigation matters; communicated and continued to communicate with the developers' attorneys regarding several land development matters; drafted a 15-day letter for the Brandywine View Project; communicated with LTL Consultants regarding a zoning matter; communicated with Jason Leonard regarding the pump station owned by PA American Water Company; and I provided an opinion regarding Ash Park.

2. City Manager

Mr. Logan thanked Madam President. Earlier this evening, during the executive meeting, I provided updates and comments on the City of Coatesville's real estate matters and personnel

to the council members. I just have a few bullets that I just want to share with the council members and our public this evening. The first is related to our business and economic development projects. Many of you know that we have several projects on the way in the City of Coatesville from infrastructure projects to the train station. And we also have a number of investors that are preparing their restaurants and buildings for the future of Coatesville.

In 2025, we anticipate a dramatic shift in the city based on just some of the trends that we are following at this particular time. A lot of the projects that are scheduled for 2025 and 2026 seem to be moving according to their timetables of completion. And of course, we are going to be carefully watching these projects as they move forward. The city continues to grow, and we are at the brink, as I said earlier, of even greater things as we invite and welcome new businesses. With that being said, I would like to say congratulations to C-Town for their Grand Opening on Friday, October 4th. This is the first full-service supermarket in more than 25 years in the City of Coatesville. So congratulations to the owners. We look forward to building a healthy relationship with the owners, and we look forward to working with their leadership.

The next bullet I have is I want to say thank you to Cleveland-Cliffs, especially to Shelley Hoffman, for the invitation to attend a Fire Chat with Chrissy Houlihan, which was also attended by the Chairman, President, and CEO of Cleveland-Cliffs, the United States Trade Ambassador Katherine Tai, the Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su, and of course, Congresswoman Chrissy Houlihan. This meeting was to talk about trades as well as tariffs related to Cleveland-Cliffs. But we also had an opportunity to meet with the ambassador who later paid a visit to Made in Coatesville as well as C-Town Supermarket. So it was a wonderful event. There's a video on YouTube on Cleveland-Cliffs that you can check out if you like. These are the things that the City of Coatesville would need. Businesses come here like Cleveland-Cliffs. They employ a number of our residents here, another very strong union that is supported by the leadership here, and by the leadership of Cleveland-Cliffs. And there's a ripple effect. When people are employed here, they spend money to grow their families here. So these are things that will help someone who's-- So again, these are important drivers for our community. [crosstalk]. [laughter]

On the next bullet, I want to thank the NAACP for inviting the City of Coatesville to attend their annual dinner. We had a wonderful time there. I want to give a special thanks to Ms. Mary Khan and Donna Rowland, who is the president of the NAACP, along with their volunteers that made that evening a special night. I also want to thank kind of a gentleman that's been around the city for many, many, many years, Mr. David DeSimone. For those of you who know Mr. DeSimone, he's been going out beautifying the community all by himself. If you notice some of the bump-outs from about maybe 4th down to 11th, maybe 4th to 9th. He's provided on his dime and his time some mulching and some beautiful plants as you drive into the city. These are donations and the work of David DeSimone, so we just want to say thank you to him. Also want to thank Bill Shaw. For those of you who know Bill, Bill Shaw is a longstanding cheerleader for the City of Coatesville. Recently, he received the Joseph G - I'm going to say this wrong - Filamora? Filoromo. Thank you. Award, which is the Outstanding Community Service Award that was given to him by the Western Chester County Chamber of Commerce. Bill serves on a number of boards and commissions

throughout the city and county, including the city's planning commission. So our hats go off to Bill, and thanks for his contributions.

The next bullet I have is Coatesville Sounds of Summer. We have ended our 2024 season. We thought about extending it a few more times, but as the weather continues to dip-- I remember one year we went out there and everyone was freezing, so we're not going to do that again. But we had a wonderful time, and we have so many generous sponsors that were part of that. And if you indulge me, I'm just going to-- the 2024 sponsors for the Sounds of Summer, Eagle Disposal, Episcopal Church of the Trinity, Presence Bank, ChesCo Economic Development Council. Gawthrop Greenwood is one of our sponsors, Campbell Durant, Peter Barsz, Cleveland-Cliffs, and the Alliance for Health Equity who was our platinum sponsor for this year. So thanks to all of our sponsors, and also thanks to our entertainment crew. That's 50/50 Entertainment. Thank you for the wonderful service that they provided this year.

The last item I have is for you, council members. I'm going to pass out-- this is a review letter from Cedarville. This is something that we want you all to be aware of as we move forward with this project. You may have a copy of it on October 11th. These are just part of some of the land development phases that we are going into. We want you all-- oh, yeah, just continue to pass it. Take more.

These are part of the planning development phases that we have here in Coatesville. You see the ones [inaudible] on review. This kind of goes into details of what some of the review process is for Cedarville. It was our contracted city engineering firm. And we also have the preliminary land development plans. If anyone wishes to see these, these are downstairs or will be downstairs in the lobby and available for you to review.

3. Assistant City Manager

Ms. Cosentino thanked Madam President. To begin, the city would like to welcome any Spanish speakers and other non-English speakers that need assistance with city matters to contact the city as needed, either in person, on the phone, or via our website. We want everyone to be able to share their questions and concerns. [foreign].

I just wanted to share a few infrastructure updates. PECO will begin work on North 4th Avenue tomorrow. We'll have some restoration work happening throughout the city this month. As we get into the colder weather, the final paving and restoration work, you'll see a lot happening throughout the city. So that'll be on South 3rd and South 4th as well starting as early as tomorrow. Today, Charles Street was completed with permanent base paving, and the final paving should be happening within 30 days. We'll also be seeing later this month the paving on East Glencrest in collaboration with Valley Township. We'll see Coates Street will be paved to 3rd Avenue under the bridge. And we'll also, in the next couple of weeks, see the work on Harlan Drive begin and hopefully end within a day or two where there was that sinkhole. They'll be making that repair to the sewer line and doing final paving above that as well.

The survey work for our inlets continues. The survey process takes quite a while, but we do expect within the next few weeks to be able to see that project go out to bid. Earlier this month, we met with PA American Water. We were able to chat a little bit about their

projected work schedule in the city over the next couple of years. We will see a slowdown in their work. In the past few years, they've completed several miles of waterline replacement throughout the city. And they'll be continuing their work on the lead line replacement. But in general, we will be seeing less movement throughout the city in the next two years, specifically from PA American Water.

I also just wanted to give an update on housing in the city. As you know, throughout the city and the county, housing meetings continue on various levels here in the city. We are very focused on the quality of housing. We've been hearing concerns from our residents. I've been meeting with property managers and with the housing authority as well. And we do have a meeting scheduled next week with the housing authority to discuss collaboration efforts, how we can work more effectively and efficiently together to ensure that everyone in the city has a safe place to live.

As you can see in your packets, we have the codes report available for you. The codes department has been working for months on getting full compliance for rental licenses, business privilege licenses. And most recently, citations were issued to property owners who did not have their licenses. This was a new strategy, and it proved to be fairly effective. We were able to get a lot of property owners to respond once they received those citations. And we were able to get many more compliances. So, our delinquency numbers are going down, as you can see from the report. Our next step is continuing to schedule rental inspections and really focusing in, again, on that safety for residents. We're ensuring that those inspections are up to date, and we're looking to continue this trend to see fewer delinquencies and more inspections. So you can see from the report as well, we're averaging just over 100 inspections a month, which is about where we want to be. Code enforcement has been doing great work compelling property owners to comply with property maintenance, as well as removing abandoned vehicles from their properties, and removing trash and litter, this type of thing. What we're aiming for is for people not to receive never-ending citations but to remedy the situation right away. And what we're seeing is that, in general, our code enforcement department has been able to close cases within about 10 days. Which tells us that for the most part, when people get a warning, or they get a \$25 ticket, they're generally complying and they're fixing the issue, which is good.

On November 9th, we'll be having another city cleanup. The Litter Lifters in collaboration with Second Century Alliance and also the city will be coordinating efforts for the cleanup along Route 82 and Lincoln Highway. If anyone would like to volunteer, Second Century Alliance has a volunteer sign-up that they're coordinating. So last, last month, I believe it was, you might have seen trash bags all along 82 for a few days while PennDOT was coming to pick them up after the cleanup. But I think they collected almost 300 bags of trash. And we're hoping to do that again because we know there's still a lot out there. So any participation is welcome from anywhere in the city. Also, as Mr. Logan mentioned, we did receive the plans for the sports arena, and we will have a planning commission meeting this Wednesday at 6:00 PM here in this room.

Also, I just wanted to share - I think it's in your packet - November 7th, it's a Thursday. We'll be screening a trailer of a film here in Council Chambers called Invisible No More. It's a documentary film being worked on by youth in the juvenile justice system. They work with a group called AHHAH, which I think that you're familiar with, and several professionals and

mentors in the filmmaking industry who work directly with these youth. And it's an incredible story for them to be able to own, and also share, and create this film. The trailer is not very long. But afterwards, we'll be having a conversation about the juvenile justice system. Many of the youth are from Coatesville who are in this film, who created this film. I had the opportunity to see it when they were screening it in Westchester. So I asked them to come and screen it in Coatesville. And I'm really excited that we'll be hosting it here in Council Chambers, November 7th at 6:00 PM. [crosstalk]

4. Police Department

Chief Laufer thanked Madam President. The complete statistical report is in your packet tonight, just a couple of key highlights that we normally present. The total calls for service in Chester County 911 Center for the month of September was 2,283. That was up from the month of August where we saw 1,880 calls for service generated through the 911 center. Those calls that were received by the front desk for the month of September was 987, and that was down slightly from August where we saw 1,041. Some other statistics. We had four Narcan administration saves performed by the Police Department. We did nine car seat checks. And installations with car seats being provided by our certified by CPS technicians for the month of September.

Just a reminder that the month of October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. For the month of September, we responded to 53 domestic disturbances. We completed eight lethality assessment protocol or LAP forms were completed for those in high danger. And we placed the purple ribbons on Lincoln Highway after our Shop with a Cop for the month of October, which was hosted by Second Century Alliance and very well attended. So you will notice the purple ribbons up and down Lincoln Highway. I meant to draw awareness to the fact that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We also have our Coffee with the Chief scheduled for the month of November, which will be hosted by the Bridge Academy. Our first one for the year was in the beginning of September, which was hosted by Brandywine Valley Active Aging, and we're excited to get back into our Coffee with the Chief season since we take July and August off.

Also, I would like to just very briefly just mention we did have a serious incident last week involving shots fired at a school bus truck. We did have a press conference hosted by the district attorney's office here in our facility, where the district attorney announced an arrest of one individual. We are still actively seeking three other individuals, and we're asking for the public's assistance in coming forward and assisting us in this investigation. Certainly, it's a type of incident where we want our kids to feel safe and secure in school, coming and going to school, and on school buses. That's sort of sacred if you want to look at it that way. Kids are supposed to feel safe. So a very unfortunate incident last Thursday, but we are making progress on that investigation.

Then to wrap it up, I'd just like to announce some good news. We were awarded the cops grant that we had applied for earlier this spring. John Sly, who spoke earlier tonight, was our grant writer for that. He did another outstanding job for us. There's only seven awards for the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and we got one of those seven. And there's only 235 nationwide. So we're very privileged, if you will, to receive that award that will help us fund an officer for the next three years. And of course, that money helps us to offset our budget and provide an additional officer to service the city. So, John, thank you for that. I greatly

appreciate it, and we're excited about it. We will work towards hiring a new officer probably sometime in January for that position. And Madam President, that's my report.

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

There were no citizens hearings in non-agenda items.

Ms. Al Amin motioned to close citizens hearings on regular action items only; Vice President Green seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0

Special Events

There were no special events at this time.

Council Comments

Ms. Scamuffa stated I have to say how happy I am to see Councilwoman Hunt here tonight. I'm so happy to see you. I'm just going to try to run down my list quickly here. I want to shout out to C-Town. Congratulations for their opening. Thank God for a supermarket finally for our residents here, right downtown. It's been a long time coming. Although they're not here, I do want to recognize the bus driver from the school bus incident the other day. And for her calm demeanor and really heroics, and keeping a cool, calm head, and being able to just move forward. It's a horrifying situation for anybody to be in. So God bless her or him. I want to thank Dave DeSimone as well for his generous-- contribution as always to the City of Coatesville. He's always trying to do something good, whether it be the bridges, or the pots, and the bump-outs. So I'm very appreciative of him. Codes has definitely stepped up their game. I'm seeing traction, and it's a beautiful thing to see. Some may not be so happy with it, but the changes are going to make a huge difference. And so I really want to thank the department for that. I also want to thank the staff. To our residents, I'm wanting to always say that the actions that occurred last week, they are not tolerated here in the City of Coatesville. We're bigger and better than that. If you have a friend, son, a daughter, neighbor, somebody that you know who is in trouble-- our kids in this community, they're in danger. And I don't mean just the ones that are the target. I'm talking about lives being lost by committing these silly crimes. We really have to do better. If somebody knows somebody that is in trouble, that is taking this path of destroying their lives, somebody please reach out and help them, too. I mean, it's not just a victim that needs help. It's the person that's making these things happen. I mean, it's just so not necessary. There's something going on in this individual's life that is taking them down this road. We need to do a better job and step up as a community and help these children taking the wrong path. There are people out there that are willing to help you if you feel that you're in a lifestyle that maybe you got into, and you're not sure what to do with it, please talk to somebody. It's really disturbing for me. This happened outside our back door. And again, it's not just the victims that need help. It's the person that's-- the perpetrator, I guess. Would that be the right term? They really need some serious help. I mean, this is our youth, and they're going to throw their lives away for what? Some stupid argument? Please just help somebody on both sides of the fence. Everybody needs a hand sometime. And if somebody doesn't know how to get out of it, maybe somebody can help guide them. And that's all I have. So I wish everybody a safe travel home. Have a great night. Thank you.

Ms. Turner-Green stated I don't really have much to say. I echo my colleague's sentiments. I feel very much the same. And for those children and-- just kind of lock in. There are programs. There are things going on here that we can get these children involved in, something that [inaudible] that young man towards bringing back brotherhood and other programs. So just getting the word out and just

locking into what's going on around you could be a big difference. All right? So thank you all for coming out and stay safe.

Ms. Al Amin thanked everybody for coming out. And actually, Councilwoman Hunt, I'm very happy to see you back. I will continue to keep you and your family in prayer as you grieve. I too am very, very grateful for the bus driver that they were able to not panic and get the children on the bus to safety. It must've been traumatizing for all of them. I can't even imagine. Chief, thank you to you and your department for catching one person already and continuing to work to get the others. I'm very happy to have a grocery store. I don't have to go to the next town over either way to get groceries. They can come to a couple of blocks away and get groceries. And thank you to all my colleagues for all your hard work. And I'll stop now because this one here said it's football night. I don't watch football, but we have to be out of here by a certain time. So safe travels, everyone. Have a good night.

Mrs. Hunt wished everyone a good evening. I don't know if I missed a meeting where you guys may have discussed it, but I didn't hear anything about our trick-or-treat hours this year. Did we talk about that? Vice President Green stated the time is 6:00 to 8:30 pm on October 31, 2024. Mrs. Hunt stated and as we're getting closer to the Christmas season, I'm sure we're going to have beautiful decorations downtown. [laughter] I'm looking forward to that each year. But I just want to thank everyone for being here in the meeting tonight. And I guess my comments are a little personal. I just want to thank everyone for all of your support. Many of you have been on this journey with me for the entire 10 years of my husband's illness. And for those things, I'm grateful. And to our staff, the police, and the EMTs, the many times that you responded to our address to take care of my husband. I do thank you because you were always kind. I am grateful for my family that I acquired. And to our staff, the police department, and my colleagues, I am so grateful. You showed up. You were there. Phone calls. James even came to his bedside during the time he was home on hospice and prayed with us. And so I'm going to end right there. Just thank you.

Ms. Allen thanked everyone for coming out. Be safe going home, and have a good night.

Vice President Green stated Mrs. Hunt you are in our prayers. [inaudible]. I did want some clarification on Mr. Sly. Could you give us those stats? I was trying to write it down but did not get them all. Mr. Sly announced that out of 147 last month, 1,260 year-to-date. 105 last month came from our Westwood Station on Valley Road, 42 came from our [inaudible] station. I can give you a copy of the report if you want that. Vice President Green state yeah. Thank you so much. I just would like to thank everyone. It's always good to see everyone come out to the meeting. I'm truly excited that we have our C-Town grocery store. I just want to thank Mr. Logan and the staff for picking up that ball and getting it done. It's been almost 30 years since we've had a grocery store in the City of Coatesville. And C-Town is nice. It's clean. The people are so friendly. I've shopped there twice since they've been open. They're even offering to deliver groceries to your home if you don't have a ride rather than to wait for an Uber or whatever. That if your groceries are over a certain amount, they'll deliver at no charge. And I think that's wonderful. Just thanking David DeSimone for all his hard work and his love for our community and beautifying our community. I thank you, for such an excellent job. I share Ms. Scamuffa's sentiments regarding our young people and everything that has happened. And I will continue to pray for the kids, pray for their families. I thank that bus driver for her calm demeanor, and her quick thinking, and how she kept those kids calm on that bus so she was able to drive to the fire station. Especially, someone who shoots at your windshield, glass gets in your face, it's easy to freak out. Jump out the bus and leave the kids. I mean, she could have

done a whole bunch of stuff. And I'm just grateful for the way that she handled it, and I hope that we can acknowledge her here at this building soon. That's about it. The staff, Chief, I thank you guys for keeping our streets safe, and your quick responses, and how you guys were just right on the ball with that. Thank you all.

President Lavender Norris thanked everyone for coming out this evening. I am so grateful for being here and for the progress that's going on in our city. I don't want to be redundant with my comments, but I am excited about the grocery store opening. And I don't know if they have everything everybody wants, but what I do know is they're doing all they can to please everybody they can. So, it would only be right for us to be appreciative for everything they're doing at that store. But not just the grocery store but for all the businesses that are here. If we, as residents, support our community, then we won't have to look around for anybody to come in and help us. We can do it if we want it done. It's only right that we support one another. That's only right. Again, I'm grateful to be here, even to be sitting here as a councilperson, because the city is nowhere near what it was when I originally joined Council. The progress is amazing. And not just the business but the people have changed the mentality that was dormant here for a long time. It was, "Woe is me and we don't have." No longer is it "Woe is me. We don't have." Now it's "Look what we do have and appreciate." I thank all my colleagues and the staff for all the work you have done and are doing. Y'all make us look good. And I want you to know we appreciate y'all for that. It's Monday Night Football, and I am all about it, so y'all stay safe. God bless you all, and have the best night we've had this year. The Eagles won y'all.

Adjournment

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