

Minutes

City of Coatesville

Council Chambers, 1 City Hall Place, Coatesville, PA

Monday December 2, 2024 -Preliminary Budget Public Hearing

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

Council Absent: C. Arvilla Hunt

Staff Present: James Logan, City Manager; Roberta Cosentino, Assistant City Manager; Jessica Arthur, Finance Manager; Jack Laufer, Police Chief and Ruthann Mowday, Recording Secretary.

President Lavender-Norris opened the Public Hearing at 6:38 pm. Mrs. Hunt would not be in attendance.

President Lavender-Norris announced so again, putting it to you all. This is a public hearing on the City of Coatesville's proposed 2025 budget being held in accordance with Section 2-604 of the city's charter. The purpose of this hearing is to permit interested students, citizens, excuse me, to express their views on the budget. And before we begin, I want to note that public notice of the City Council's public budget workshops was published in the Daily Local on October 17th. Those workshops were held on the 23rd, the 30th, and November 6th. Council adopted the city's preliminary budget on November 12th. Notice that the preliminary budget with a summary was available to the public, was published in the Daily Local News on November 15th with a summary of the budget. That publication also included notice of tonight's hearing. There being proper notice for this budget hearing, we shall proceed. Summary of the preliminary budget was published on the 12th. The budget is balanced as required by the city's charter. Does any member of council have a comment on the proposed budget?

Vice President Green stated I do. I would just like to thank the staff, our head of our Finance Office, Jessica, for coming together. I know it's not easy, and I appreciate all the hard work that you all put into our budget. The department heads, Chief, running your department without costing us state dollars. I just appreciate all the hard work. Mrs. Arthur noted couldn't have done it without everyone. Thank you so much.

President Lavender Norris echoed Councilwoman Green's comments. When I say we have another balanced budget, I say it with pride because we haven't been here for a long time. So again, to everything Miss Green just said, thank you, thank you, thank you. The city's trajectory is so much better as a result of all of your work. You make us look good, and I appreciate all of you. Thank you so much. Okay, now I'm going to open the floor to all you interested citizens. Okay. Since nobody has anything to say, are there any other comments, questions, concerns from anybody?

Ms. Allen stated I would just like to say that I am proud of our city and our two city managers. I'm not going to say which one I like the best in public. And Jessica taking over, we're just [inaudible] [crosstalk]. Just thank you, Chief, Fire Chief, everybody. Thank you.

Ms. Al Amin made a motion to close the hearing at 6:45 pm; Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

President Lavender-Norris thanked everyone for attending the hearing. Thank you to all have a blessed evening. Be safe and God willing. I'll see you on Monday. Good night.