

**BOROUGH OF YEADON  
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
MINUTES OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
MARCH 20, 2014**

The Yeadon Borough Council met at Yeadon Borough Hall on the above date. President Sharon Council called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Roll Call**

The following members were present: President Sharon Council, Vice- President Nelva Wright and Councilors Clara Johnson, Learin Johnson, Rosland Jones-Johnson, Dr. Dolores McCabe, and Gracie Snead. Also present were Mayor Rohan Hepkins, Borough Manager Larry Healy, Solicitor Raymond Santarelli, Engineer Eileen Mulvena, Finance Director Joseph Possenti, Jr. and Police Chief Donald Mulineux.

**3. Announcement of Executive Session**

President Council announced an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting.

**4. Citizen's Forum**

President Council read a request to speak by Robert El and informed Mr. El that his request would be at the end of the meeting as it is unrelated to the agenda. No other citizen comments at this time.

**5. Minutes approval: 1/16, 2/6, 2/10, 2/15 & 2/20/14**

Councilor Rosland Jones-Johnson asked that approval of all minutes be tabled until the April minutes as she has corrections. Councilor Gracie Snead agreed that she believes there are mistakes. Approval of five sets of minutes was tabled to next month.

**6. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Hepkins shared that two criminals had been apprehended. One had robbed the Tri-state Market and the other was the Post Office bandit. He then addressed his action items in reverse

order starting with 6.3: Purchase of police cars and asked that Council approve the purchase of two police cars adding that the fleet is beat up and aging.

President Council asked the Mayor to continue on the next item.

Mayor Hepkins said that 6.2 concerned hiring of Crossing Guards. He recommended hiring five new alternate crossing guards and increasing the pay rate. President Council asked that he go on to 6.1 which everyone is waiting for.

### **6.1 – Mayor Hepkins swearing in Paul McGrenara as a full time Police Officer.**

Mayor Hepkins acknowledged the number of friends and family in the audience. The Mayor swore Paul McGrenara in as a full time police officer. Officer McGrenara’s mother was at his side for the ceremony.

President Council deferred entertaining motions on 6.2 and 6.3 until after the administration and finance reports.

## **7. President’s Report**

President Council spoke of the rough winter and asked for a motion to issue citations for outstanding citizenship to Don Cave and Rafi Cave for their volunteer work in shoveling sidewalks of senior and disabled Yeadon residents.

Motion : Vice-President Nelva Wright, second: Councilor Gracie Snead

Motion is unanimously approved 7-0.

## **8. Engineer’s Report**

Eileen Mulvena stated that the Trash Contract is up in May and asked that a new contract be put out for bid.

Motion to bid the trash contract made by: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Councilor Learin Johnson.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Spoke of complaints against Suburban, need discussion at workshop.

Councilor D. McCabe: Is there a system for evaluation?

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Said County has cited trash being put out in bags.

Councilor G. Snead: Said complaints should go to Code Department.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Offered to meet with Councilor Learn Johnson to discuss code experience.

Motion approved unanimously 7-0.

Eileen Mulvena: Spoke of construction kickoff meeting for the Library expansion. Since Linn is the architect, Catania will review the plans so there is no conflict of interest for BCO Mike Constantino asked that Code look for checklist items when dealing with street openings. On April 26th there will be the Darby Creek Cleanup. Volunteers from Yeadon earn the Borough credits for the Storm Water initiative. Two inlets were repaired on the 700 block of Church and 600 block of Bullock driveways. The Chester Avenue inlet repair proved to be more complicated than originally thought. A stream runs under street and a pipe was bored twenty feet deep rather than four feet, escalating costs from \$15,000 to \$170,000. Most of the project is eligible for payment by Liquid Fuels, with \$3000 from General Fund. The trolley will be shut down from Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> through Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, asked for approval of award to JMC for sanitary sewer repair.

Motion: Councilor R. Jones-Johnson, second: Councilor G. Snead. Motion passed 6-1.  
Councilor Gracie Snead: No.

Motion to award U Service for storm sewer repair.

Motion: Vice President Nelva Wright, second: Councilor D. McCabe. Motion passed 7-0.

Eileen Mulvena: Storm water tip is to pick up dog waste. Fines start at \$200 and increase to \$1000.

Eileen Mulvena: Mayor had mentioned a new Pennsylvania plan for dirt and gravel for less traveled road repair. Delaware County is not participating in the program so it is not available to Delco towns. There was discussion about pothole repair and that once low temperatures are consistently above 40 degrees the repairs can go forth. Also discussed was that Aqua is working overnight and making noise. Chief Molineux explained that fire hydrants are flushed at night so infrastructure improvements are able to start in a.m. Mr. Healy will contact Aqua.

## **9. Administrative Report**

Mr. Healy gave updates on redevelopment authority research (attached). He attended a storm water workshop. Also reported was an offer from the PA Horticultural Society to donate and plant 50-100 trees at Community Park. There followed discussion about the type of trees, placement and can trees be donated to Mount Moriah Cemetery. Mr. Santarelli suggested that a motion be made to conditionally accept the trees subject to and arborist's review and placement, and whether the trees can go someplace else.

Motion made by Vice-President Nelva Wright, second: Councilor Learin Johnson. Motion approved 7-0.

There was discussion about block parties on Providence Road and Baily Road.

Motion: Vice-President Nelva Wright, second: Councilor D. McCabe. 7-0 to approve Providence Road block party.

Motion to approve party on Baily Road.

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Councilor Learin Johnson. Motion approved 7-0.

Chief Molineux stated safety concerns on Providence Road and fear that fire trucks cannot get down the road.

Motion to reconsider Providence Road block party.

Motion: Councilor R. Jones-Johnson, second: Vice-President Nelva Wright.

Councilor D. McCabe: Opposed denying the Providence Road. Block party Motion passes 6-1, Yes: President Council, Vice-President N. Wright, Councilor L. Johnson, C. Johnson, R. Jones-Johnson. No: Councilor G. Snead.

Mr. Healy asked for a Motion to sell old fire truck.

Motion: Councilor R. Jones-Johnson, second: Vice-President N. Wright. Motion passes 7-0.

Mr. Healy attended the Yeadon Economic Development Corporation and congratulated Issac Dotson and the Board on obtaining 501c status from the IRS. Also announced was the election of Earl Boyd as YEDC Chairman and Miles Field as Vice Chairman.

## **10. Finance Director's Report**

Mr. Possenti had distributed a cash balance report to the Council prior to the start of the meeting. He asked for approval of the accounts payable list. President Council asked for a motion to approve and commented that on the list was an invoice for the Synterra Group for \$6200 and a search of the minutes from prior meetings did not turn up when the work had been authorized. Since the work had been done, payment should be approved. Councilor R. Jones-Johnson said that the Synterra work was done as part of the comprehensive plan and former Councilor Dotson had recommended the work in June 2013. She asked that Council as for Synterra to attend the workshop and give a presentation.

President Sharon Council: There will be review with connection with the proposed redevelopment authority and further discussion at a workshop.

Motion to Approve A/P List

Motion: Vice-President N. Wright, second: Councilor D. McCabe.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Asked the manager for time tracker for consultants. Wants Mr. Possenti to further break down his fee and needs to know the time spent on consultants.

Motion carries 4-3. Yes: Councilors L. Johnson, Dolores McCabe, Vice-President Wright, President S. Council. No: Councilors C. Johnson, R. Jones-Johnson, G. Snead.

President Sharon Council: Asked Mayor about increase in pay for Crossing Guards.

Mayor Rohan Hepkins: Need good pay to attract good people.

Motion to raise pay to \$11.50 hr.

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Vice-President N. Wright.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: This won't break the bank, but if we don't stick to the budget, we don't want to go into the red.

Joseph Possenti: Earned income tax is exceeding expectations and we can afford it.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Don't change Budget; Insurance will be going up. Motion carries 6-1. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, R. Jones-Johnson, G. Snead, Vice-President Wright, President Council. Voting no: Councilor C. Johnson.

**6.1** - Joseph Possenti: Only buy one car as is in the Budget.

President S. Council: Motion to buy Police SUV at cost of \$28,756 through the Costar Bid.

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion carries 7-0.

**6.2** – President S. Council - Hire Crossing Guards as Mayor recommended.

Councilor Rosland Jones-Johnson: We are hiring alternates.

Motion to Appoint Shawonda Wells to be an alternate Crossing Guard.

Motion: Vice-President N. Wright, second: Councilor D. McCabe. Motion carries 7-0.

Motion to Appoint Bonita Barnwell to be an alternate Crossing Guard.

Motion: Vice President N. Wright, second: Councilor C. Johnson. Motion carries 7-0.

Motion to Appoint Terry McGirth to be an alternate Crossing Guard.

Motion: Vice-President N. Wright second: Councilor Learin Johnson. Motion carries 7-0.

Motion to Appoint Evelyn Williams to be an alternate Crossing Guard.

Motion: Councilor R. Jones-Johnson, second: Councilor Learin Johnson 7-0.

Motion to Appoint Richard Nixon to be an alternate Crossing Guard.

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Councilor Learin Johnson.

## **11. Tax Collector's Report – Attached**

## **12. Committee Reports**

Councilor Learin Johnson: Has met with Code Department. Code is updating information regarding progress at Foxcroft Apartments as the Borough is in litigation with Foxcroft over conditions there. Dan did a great job with controlling costs of winter snow. A Borough Newsletter is coming out and will cost about \$1850 to print 5000.

Motion To Do Newsletter

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Councilor C. Johnson. Motion carries 7-0.

Councilor Rosland Jones-Johnson and Vice President Nelva Wright commented that Councilor Learin Johnson and Ginger did a great job.

Councilor Learin Johnson: Announced Math Bingo for kids and invited Leslie McGirth of Fresh Start to speak about math bingo which will rotate between Yeadon, Darby, Lansdowne and Sharon Hill. The Program promotes learning about math.

Councilor Rosland Jones-Johnson: Expressed concern over insurance coverage for children's events at the Borough.

President Sharon Council: Told Councilor Learin Johnson to contact our insurance broker and thanked Councilor Rosland Jones-Johnson for her comments.

Councilor Learin Johnson: Informed residents that many programs such as golf, tennis, piano, flea market will return.

Councilor D. McCabe: Mayor and Chief delivered Public Safety Report.

Vice President N. Wright: Mr. Possenti gave Finance Report.

## **13. Solicitor's Report**

Mr. Santarelli: Introduced a Telecommunications Resolution that would allow an absent Council Member to participate in meetings, at which a Quorum is present, by use of electronic devices.

Councilor Gracie Snead: Council has done it before.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Council can set parameters.

Councilor C. Johnson: Everyone must be able to hear.

R. Santarelli: Resolution gives Council the ability and is Step #1. Step #2 is getting proper equipment.

After discussion of merits of resolution, Motion to Adopt.

Motion: Vice-President Nelva Wright, second: Councilor Learin Johnson. Motion carries 4-3. Voting yes: President S. Council, Vice President Nelva Wright, Councilors Learin Johnson and D. McCabe. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson, R. Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: In the FOP Contract, Council agreed to Act 44, commonly known as the DROP Program, and asked for a Motion To Advertise the Ordinance that he prepared.

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Vice-President Learin Johnson. Motion carries 6-0. Vice President N. Wight was absent from chambers for the vote.

## **14. New Business**

President S. Council: Asked for nominations to fill vacancy on Planning Commission.

Councilor Learin Johnson: Nominated Vice President Nelva Wright.

Councilor Gracie Snead: Nominated Councilor Rosland Jones-Johnson.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Stated readiness. Cited Delta Report recommendations to examine background to match positions.

President S. Council: Agrees selecting right person is important and believes Vice-President Nelva Wright is right person with experience on Elm Street project.

Councilor R. Johnson: Discussed Vice-President Nelva Wright's experience with Elm Street and why the rush.

President S. Council: Asked for Motion To Appoint Vice-President Nelva Wright to Planning Commission.

Motion: Councilor L. Johnson, second: Councilor D. McCabe.

Councilor G. Snead: Asked to table.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Withdrew her name for consideration. Motion carries 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, President S. Council and Vice-President Nelva Wright. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson, R. Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

## **14.2 – Library Report**

Richard Ashby presented the report (attached).

Mayor Hepkins: Commented he likes Mr. Ashby's enthusiasm.

## **15.1 – Zoning Appointments.**

Last month Tony Fairfax and Liana Roadcloud were appointed to the Zoning Board but the terms were not specified. The vacancies that were filled, both expire December 31, 2017.

## **15.2 – Mayor Hepkins Recommended the appointment of Cliff Brock and Dolores Jones-Butler to seats vacated by Councilor Learin Johnson and himself.**

Motion to Appoint Cliff Brock to Mayor Rohan Hepkins' term.

Motion: Councilor G. Snead, second: Councilor Learin Johnson. Motion carries 5-0. Voting yes: Councilors G. Snead, L. Johnson, C. Johnson, President S. Council, Vice President N. Wright. Councilor R. Jones-Johnson abstained without explanation (Councilor D. McCabe out of room).

Motion to Appoint Delores Jones-Butler to Councilor Learin Johnson's term.

Motion: Vice President N. Wright, second: Councilor C. Johnson. Motion carries 5-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, C. Johnson, D. McCabe, President S. Council and Vice President N. Wright. Voting no: Councilors R. Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

Councilor C. Johnson: Asked for Treasurer's Report.

President S. Council: Joseph Possenti presented Treasurer's Report.

Councilor C. Johnson: Asked why petty cash is still on cash report.

Joseph Possenti: Will take it off at the end of quarter; Next month will present report in Excel Spreadsheet.



Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Auditor said there should be a treasurer other than Finance Director. There should be a Treasurer appointed in light of past instability.

Councilor D. McCabe: Asked to table discussion as it's almost 11 p.m. and there is still Citizen's Forum.

President S. Council: Asked if it is permissible for Finance and Management to provide Treasurer's Report. The matter is tabled.

## **16. Citizen's Forum**

Ms. Nyssa Sabor: Was a victim of a smash and grab on Arbor Road, wants Police to know of vandalism.

Robert El: Provides computer service and is located in the Borough. Asked Councilor Learin Johnson if Newsletter will announce new businesses in Borough.

Councilor R. Jones-Johnson: Asked about telecommunication equipment and said to bring suggestions to the Manager or Committee.

Robert El: Does computer repair in Yeadon.

Councilor Gracie Snead: He fixed her computer.

George Briner: Spoke about contractors dumping trash behind his home on Rundale Avenue and problems with the stream behind his house and upcoming mosquito problems.

## **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion: Councilor D. McCabe, second: Learin Johnson.

Adjourned at 11:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence W. Healy,  
Borough Secretary