

**MINUTES OF YEADON  
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
MINUTES OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
JUNE 19, 2014**

The Yeadon Borough Council met at Yeadon Borough Hall on the above date. President Sharon Council-Harris called the meeting to order at 7:46 p.m.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

**2. Roll Call**

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

**3. Announcement of Executive Session**

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

**4. Citizen's Forum**

Mike McDonald – Flag Day was wonderful; received calls for longer parade; add veterans.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Has concerns, stated that motions were not on Agenda – Redevelopment Authority, Roy Hunter, Engineer's Report, Action Items. Stated three Council Members were not present.

President Council-Harris – Discussion at previous meetings. Instructions on Community Y were given, gave public opportunity to speak.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Something seriously wrong.

Motion to Approve May 15, 2015 minutes.

Motion made by Councilor McCabe, second: Vice President Wright. Motion carries 4-1. Yes: Councilor L. Johnson, President Council-Harris. Voting no: C. Johnson. Abstaining without explanation: Councilors Jones-Johnson and Gracie Snead.

**6. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Hepkins – Discussed Friday June 13<sup>th</sup> Crossing Guard Lunch. Thanked them for a good job. Spoke about Saturday, Flag Day, thanked the police department; spoke about State Representatives here, naturalization ceremony, nice article in paper, Yeadon is proud,

Representatives Waters and Davidson gave the Borough a proclamation that was read by Mayor Hepkins.

President Council-Harris – Excited by Flag Day.

Block party at Chapel; Gospelfest on Saturday; Unity day Sunday at 11:00 a.m.; spending more time with police department; assessing workload; crime up in summer; drug arrest, bike patrols; shooting behind post office; resident shot in hand, 10 rounds fired; must make borough safe; plan strategies; Police Department is three officers down; spoke about hiring two. Asks to hire two officers; asked Finance director Possenti if Budget favorable.

Joe Possenti – Hire one officer now as the borough has the money. Collection of the earned income tax will double the budgeted amount. An officer's benefits cost 2 to 3 thousand dollars per month depending on number of dependents.

President Council-Harris – If hired it is half a year salary; saw Mayor's report – saw crime at Citizens Bank. Car with loud music at 11:00 p.m. Strong arm robbery apprehension. Supports Mayor.

Ray Santarelli – There is no Furlough List. 2: Notify Civil Service Commission. List of 3 for 1; 4 for 2.

Mayor Hepkins – Said he has list – Recommend Officers Stephens

Chief Molineux – Civil Service forwarded list on November 13<sup>th</sup>, Phillip Stephens is a part time officer; works in Marcus Hook also

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Personal anecdotes are not how to make decisions; There is a 5 year plan to reduce crime and control costs – there is no money in budget for officers – give Joseph Possenti time to study and build reserve; use plan as guide – need data comparing 2013 & 2014; should be discussed in committee – drop program is in place; need data driven decisions – look at realtor website and foreclosures.

Councilor C. Johnson – How many Lieutenants

Mayor Hepkins – One Lieutenant and one Chief; three Sergeants on shifts; Chief is in the A.M., Lieutenant until 9:00 P.M.; Sergeant supervises shift on streets.

Councilor C. Johnson – How many on streets

Chief Molineux – Not 8 hour detail; usually two officers on streets 24/7. One arrest ties up police force.

Councilor Snead – Other towns come in to help.

Chief Molineux – Only in extreme emergency; two officer in the A.M. and one at 1:00 P.M. power shift.

Councilor L. Johnson – What do you recommend

Chief Molineux – Asked for three in Budget; got one in Budget; Starting salary \$48,000 stated he's has been here 39 years; There is a need to increase presence; there were 931 police calls in May.

Councilor McCabe – What would new officer add to community crime prevention – not just bike patrols to community with residents.

Councilor Snead – Stated we have Men on a Mission and Town Watch.

Chief Molineux – Get Town Watch running again; crime in Upper Darby, Darby, Philadelphia bleeds into Yeadon; we need another Officer and also partner with residents.

Councilor L. Johnson – Hire bike patrol officers

Vice President Wright – Expense will increase over years; have we exhausted efforts with community; need to educate community.

Chief Molineux – Council approved more lighting; need personnel to be proactive.

Councilor L. Johnson – Asked about camera cost.

Mayor Hepkins – We need camera and Officer; need surveillance; in 6 months we have part time officers and two left for full time jobs – we're losing good officers and need boots on ground; three officers in drop – read report – Delta – County only comes in on serious crimes – only one detective if a lot of work.

President Council-Harris – Read Mayor's summary and sees criminals emboldened – crime is happening –debate community policing; can't ignore Chief's warning – need to be proactive.

Councilor L. Johnson – Something wrong if you don't see the problems – we must be safe.

Councilor Snead – Shooting was drug transaction – rumors on block is kids doing illegal things and going to parents house – in 30 years never saw shooting.

Mayor Hepkins – Let Mike McDonald speak he sees crime in town. At 700 Church Lane he heard shooting on Whitby – talked to victim – ask Roslind Johnson if she feels safe.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Feeling safe is a personal opinion; team of experts made recommendations – problem with ignoring report – town is at risk of financial crash. Fire Department needs to report costs – Community discussion makes best decision.

## **7. President Report**

Councilor McCabe – No Public Safety Report

President Council-Harris – Flag Day – Missed Councilors that were not there – happy with fireworks – 250 – 300 people there. Great job Learn Johnson for Majorettes – nice performance – a lot of kids in borough – Spoke about Donna Samuel’s Flea Market at Yeadon Library; stated it will be three times better next year – thanked Joe Possenti for t-shirts and arranging for the moon bounce; spoke of Larry Healy walked entire route; really nice; inspired everyone for next year. Thanked the Community and Staff.

## **8. Engineer**

**8.1:** Motion for Lot 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 & 1.7 for demolition at Yeadon Swim Club be awarded to JMC conditioned award is that the County authorized award to be paid by County; bottom of pool needs to be broken, remove concrete around pool; needs drainage.

Motion to Approve made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion carries 6-1. Councilor Jones-Johnson abstains without explanation.

**8.2:** Motion for Yeadon to be involved in the Elm Street Grant with Lansdowne. Stating Yeadon to contribute \$13,000, Lansdowne to contribute \$13,000 and Elm Street Grant is \$13,000 for curb cuts.

Motion to Approve made by Vice President Wright, seconded by Councilor C. Johnson.

Councilor L. Johnson – Wants money to go to Yeadon.

Engineer Mulvena – Only covers two ramps as ramps are expensive.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – not called Elm Street, now called Union Garden now – dollars don’t go far, we need to write grants – need CDGB dollars.

Vice President Wright – Disagrees – Elm Street still exists, a national program targeting low income areas – said there are administration issues and the change now is Deb Brodeur (i.e. name) is the Manager. Stated she’s working to get more Funding. Recommended curb ramps last year – we need to move forward with Elm Street – will need salary for Elm Street Manager

from Municipalities and asked for salary funds also looking for two Board Members from Yeadon.

Motion carries 5-2. Yes: Vice President Wright, Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe and President Council-Harris. Councilor Snead said to wait for more money. No: Councilors Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

**8.3** Library – Motion on change order for track lighting the cost is \$1960.

Richard Ashby – Order didn't get to his desk – wants to do it later, stated he wants contractor to eat cost as window is wrong.

Ray Santarelli – Said he will look into it.

Eileen Mulvena – Kaboom Grant for playground at Evans School – Meeting scheduled for June 23<sup>rd</sup>, install on August 23<sup>rd</sup> - \$100,000 Grant.

Councilor L. Johnson – Asked is YEDC was involved?

Larry Healy – Yes, Miles Fields, YEDC Vice Chair, put the project together.

Mara change order for water repellent – not sealer; consultant recommends coming back \$70,000; Mara can do it now for \$20,250 since equipment is already on site.

Councilor Snead – How long is life expectancy?

Eileen Mulvena – Extends to 10-15 years

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Is it in the Budget?

Joe Possenti – No, it was not a Budgeted item.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Restroom and lobby renovation needs to be budgeted for next year. Spend now and we won't have money for restrooms. Needs to be done when Façade is finished.

Joe Possenti – Unaudited surplus number is \$800,000; Earned Income Tax Budgeted \$890,000; Last year it was \$1.2 million, we have \$720,000 now. We do have money.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Borough over estimated first year Earned Income Tax; Is money available?

Joe Possenti – We have the money

Vice President Wright – Joe Possenti can only speak to what is here.

Councilor Snead – Can Joe Possenti guarantee tax dollars?

Joe Possenti – New collector of Earned Income Tax is doing a better job.

Motion to Approve repellant at \$20,250 made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded by Councilor Jones-Johnson. Motion carries 6-1. Voting No: Councilor Snead.

Eileen Mulvena – Page 1 - Sewer Inlet Repairs Spread Sheet - \$58,255 for repairs– \$250,699 in Liquid Fuels money. Page 2 – Sanitary sewers cost range from \$223,000/\$96,000 – told Dan Wright to televise.

President Council-Harris – How does it fit in infrastructure repair?

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Talking about infrastructure repairs. We have Bond money was supposed to be spent by September 2012. Take care of it, we can spend sewer money anytime; need to spend Bond money.

President Council-Harris – Rosland Johnson asked for repair list. This is it. Just do it.

Councilor L. Johnson – Discussed water ponding on Rundale.

Eileen Mulvena – Last four pages using different paving – list evolves – Don't spend more than \$100,000, non-prevailing wages. Draft list to review needs approval next month.

**8.4** MS4 Program – Meeting with departments to define Rules of Compliance – inform police – Chief stopped resident blowing grass in Street. DEP returned 537 Plan to Delcora with comments. Will walk to view infrastructure with Council on Saturday/any day. Stormwater tip – Running to Beach.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Spoke about Chester Ave – cones on sidewalk.

Eileen Mulvena – PECO – Asked them to fix sidewalk

Councilor Jones-Johnson – “Going to replace sidewalk; put in writing

Larry Healy – I'll send letter

Eileen Mulvena – Yes; E-mail trail

## **9. Administration**

Comcast Ordinance - Comment from public.

Donna Kern – Had Comcast system – did not work

Mayor Hepkins – Will start again

Councilor Jones-Johnson – What did the other towns do?

Larry Healy – Chaddsford and Marcus Hook approved 15 year agreement. Recommends 15 year agreement as it gives the Borough \$23,000 up front. Also cost of negotiation agreement are put off for 15 years.

Councilor C. Johnson – Wants written report from the Manager

Councilor Jones-Johnson – I want it too

Councilor L. Johnson – Does it need to be written?

Ray Santarelli – Said he is not aware of requirement

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Committee Reports need to be written

Ray Santarelli - Said he will investigate

Motion to Adopt Ordinance to Execute Comcast Franchise Agreement for 15 years.

Motion made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor McCabe. Motion carries 5-1. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson. Abstaining without explanation: Councilor Snead.

Councilor L. Johnson – Spoke of other companies – Technology is moving quickly.

Larry Healy – Verizon & RCN already in town. This ordinance is only for Comcast.

Larry Healy – Next item is an Ordinance creating a redevelopment authority.

Ray Santarelli – Tonights ordinance authorizes creation and is a first step. Borough can go for own grants more easily; Borough won't have to rely on County as much.

Council will appoint a five member Board to have staggered terms – it is independently governed

Public comment – none

Councilor Snead – What will they do? Too many rentals in Borough? Section 8 is bad for the Borough.

Ray Santarelli – Different issues in different towns; can do other things – gives the Borough more power than borough has now; only Yeadon people on board; Darby has one that is successful.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – There is a Grant for \$35,000 – MacDade Shopping Center – near Yeadon Swim Club – Yeadon is one of six towns in County – Plus comprehensive plan; Borough did nothing yet – YEDC got \$20,000 has done nothing. Plans in place, is creating a board going to create opportunities. Need to choose right people.

Councilor L. Johnson: In 15 years nothing has been done, we need a Redevelopment Authority.

Vice President Wright – Has a copy of Plan 2008-09;

Motion: Councilor McCabe, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion carries 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors McCabe, Learin Johnson, Vice President Wright and President Council Harris. Voting No: Councilors Clara Johnson, R. Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

Councilor Snead – How many members?

Ray Santeralli – Said to advertise for Candidates

Councilor C. Johnson – How does it impact homeowners?

President Council-Harris – Gives the town local control of land – enhances eminent domain and long term planning - there is new YEDC Leadership – Section 8 is a downside – gives authority to control destiny.

Councilor C. Johnson – Can't Borough buy land without redevelopment authority?

## **10. Finance Report – attached**

Joe Possenti - AP List – Said Ravens check was tabled last month, and recommends it be approved this month.

Playground for Community Park will cost \$70,000.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Questioned \$5,000 + \$70,000.

Vice President Wright – Kaboom is funding the playground at Evans School; Miles Field is leading the effort; we should inquire about Community Park and Kaboom.

Motion to give \$5,000 towards Ravens Football Club.

Motion made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded by Vice President Wright. Motion carries 6-0

Abstaining without explanation: Councilor Jones-Johnson.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Public Works has catalogs.



Vice President Wright – was looking at other options too.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – We're responsible for four total lots in Budget – need equipment – contact vendors.

Vice President Wright – Appreciates any information Rosalind Johnson may have.

Motion to Approve AP list.

Motion made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright.

Councilor C. Johnson – Why Beneficial Bank, branch closed in Yeadon.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Need to move money, in past had asked Sovereign to refinance sub-prime loans also Franklin Mint Credit Union has supported Borough events.

Larry Healy – Borough stayed with Beneficial as that is the bank on the tax bills, will have proposals from other banks to consider.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Questioned the total after the Vehicle Replacement Fund.

Joe Possenti – Will provide excel spread next month, tonight's Cash Report has a grand total of all Funds. Following Vehicle Replacement Fund Sheet.

Motion carries 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson, C. Johnson and G. Snead.

Councilor C. Johnson – Don't pre-pay bills. Why is there a check to Learin Johnson?

Larry Healy – Found a good deal on skirts for majorettes and was reimbursed.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Why is \$128,000 to library from General Fund

Joe Possenti – The money is due to the General Fund from the Bond Fund. It's standard accounting.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Money from Bond Fund should pay for Library addition; consultants being paid – need bi-weekly report – Joe Possenti agreed to supply – need to know if there are ghost employees.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Questioned credit card bill and asked who uses it.

President Council-Harris – Mr. Healy can provide information.

Councilor C. Johnson – Not fair to not know who Possenti employs.

President Council-Harris – There is no information withheld

Councilor Jones-Johnson – We need a Committee Meeting for finance only.

## **11. Tax Collector Report – attached**

Larry Healy – Read the totals from tax collector’s report

## **12. Committee Reports**

No Meetings were held as Public Hearing ran overtime.

Councilor L. Johnson – Code – Complaints regarding lot on MacDade; Lot on Angora; Foxcroft.

Vice President Wright – Motion Council Move to Suspend Workshop July, August, September

Motion made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor McCabe. Motion carries 4-2.

Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson, C. Johnson: Councilor G. Snead had stepped out.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – No September Meeting? Budget discussion must start. Should move meeting to 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday.

President Council-Harris – Asked for a Motion to Hire Police Officer

Ray Santarelli – 1. Ask Civil Service if list is certified

President Council-Harris – Can Borough restrict or define work of new officer

Ray Santarelli – Mayor controls time, place, manner

President Council-Harris – Is Community Police an option?

Councilor Jones-Johnson – It’s in Delta Report

President Council-Harris – Need to work with Rosland Johnson, Nelva Wright and Dolores McCabe.

Motion To Notify Civil Service Commission of a Vacancy and Request the Current List of Eligible Candidates made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion carries 5-1.

Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson. Councilor G. Snead had stepped out.

Mayor Hepkins – Said he already has Civil Service list

Councilor L. Johnson – Stated candidate is already a Part Time Police Officer in Yeadon.

Ray Santarelli – Civil Service will give top three left on the eligible list

### **13. Solicitor**

Preparing Ordinance for Park 5 day approval, 5 day appeal.

Resolution for fee for room use

President Council – Any meeting room?

Ray Santarelli – Yes, it was discussed last month

### **14. New**

Councilor L. Johnson – Website – Look into other hosts, needs improvement

### **15. Old**

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Trash Contractor – Trash to be picked up two times a week starting in June, need to put it on the Web. Spoke of Senator Williams Day of Peace; Nile Swim Club does not have enough bathrooms – Fire Marshall said no – Does Nile allow it? More porta potties – has Nile corrected this. Rethink 100 people at the Park – One porta potty per fifty people.

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

Susan Chast – 660 Church Lane – Need to change Cedar Avenue direction – Church – blocks driveway – eliminate drives being blocked.

President Council-Harris – Asked Chief do we need study?

Chief Molineux – A study would need to be done as Cedar intersects with Church Lane which is a state road.

Susan Chast – Also asked that the Agenda be put on the website in advance of the meeting

Donna Samuel: Said Library staff should be recognition for Flag Day success.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Motion to Adjourn made by Councilor Learin Johnson at 11:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence W. Healy  
Borough Secretary

