

**MINUTES OF YEADON  
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
MINUTES OF BOROUGH COUNCIL  
LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2014 @ 7:30 p.m.**

The Yeadon Borough Council met at Yeadon Borough Hall on the above date. President Sharon Council-Harris called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**2. ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: President Sharon Council-Harris, Vice President Nelva Wright, Councilors Clara Johnson, Learn Johnson, Rosalind Jones-Johnson, and Dolores McCabe. Councilor Gracie Snead was absent. 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. CITIZEN'S FORUM – Agenda items only**

Dr. Carol Simmons – Chester Ave. – Heard TriStar Market wants a beer license and stated her opposition. It had been disapproved before. Where was discussion that an application had been turned down last year. At the previous hearing there was not a diagram showing changes to the market if the beer license is approved. A diagram was presented showing the layout of the store if the license is approved.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Spoke of research citing a direct correlation between the number of liquor licenses on a municipality and increases in crime.

Dr. Carol Simmons - Spoke of traffic problems on Cobbs Creek Parkway.

Donald Fields and Milton Brady – also stated objections to TriStar's application.

Margo Stokes – Church Lane – Voiced opposition to changes in committee meetings and liked the 2013 format and felt it was more accessible to participate.

President Council-Harris – disagreed stating meetings during the day at different times made participation more difficult for residents and that a caucus format with department heads present offers greater public participation.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Council-Harris asked for a Motion to Approve Minutes of July 23, 2014.

Motion made by Vice President Wright, seconded by: Councilor McCabe.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Questioned hiring process for seasonal workers.

Solicitor Santarelli – Advised that the motion was to approve the minutes and not the substance of actions at the meeting,

Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, Dolores McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstaining without explanation Councilors C. Johnson and Jones-Johnson. Motion carries 4-0.

President Council-Harris – Asked for a Motion to Approve August 21, 2014 minutes. Motion made by Councilor Learin Johnson, seconded by: Vice President Wright. Voting yes: Councilors Learin Johnson, Dolores McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting No: Councilors Clara Johnson and Rosalind Jones-Johnson. Motion carries 4-2.

#### **5. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**5.1.** Mayor Hepkins spoke of his forum where the shooting at Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital and the School Tax hike were discussed.

**5.2.** County Council will honor first responders at their Council Meeting.

**5.3.** Police Department is still down two officers and he will discuss vehicles next month.

**5.4.** Met with May Hudson of Parkview Court and asked her to talk about Parkview's wish to give back to the community by taking over maintenance of the tennis courts owned by the Borough. President Council-Harris applauded the desire but said there are legal releases necessary. Solicitor Santarelli said Parkview would need to present proof of insurance for liability and workers compensation.

Councilor Jones-Johnson: Questioned why courts were not part of the Yeadon Swim Club demolition.

Engineer Mulvena: Said the courts were not in the application as they were in use. She was not the Borough Engineer at the time but wrote the application for funding based on information provided by the Borough.

**5.5.** Mayor Hepkins attended a court hearing regarding the granting of receivership for Mount Moriah Cemetery to the Mount Moriah Cemetery Preservation Corporation, which the Court approved.

## **6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Council-Harris: Said she also attended that court hearing and that Mount Moriah is moving forward. Thanked all who attended the Library Addition Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, especially Senator Anthony Williams and Representatives Margo Davidson and Ron Waters. Spoke of dumping on the Philadelphia side of Whitby Avenue, the gateway to Yeadon. There was a lot of contractor trash and mattresses which were cleaned up after the Borough contacted Philadelphia.

## **7. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Providence Road repair is 50% complete. PECO found three bad laterals on Penn Street and asked for authorization to repair. There was discussion on the cost of lateral repair and proposing to institute an additional \$6.00 - \$10.00 per year fee on the sewer bills in 2015 to help cover the cost of street lateral repairs. Residents can purchase insurance to cover lateral repairs on their property but it doesn't cover their lateral in the street.

Councilor Jones-Johnson: Motioned to repair three laterals on Penn Street, second: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

Engineer Mulvena: presented a quote to repair the clock in the tower. To replace it would cost \$13,700 which includes a three year warranty. Also a maintenance proposal would cost \$580.00 for one year or \$2625 for five years. Repair parts are obsolete. After lengthy discussion the clock repair was tabled to a later date.

Engineer Mulvena: JMC Contractors submitted an invoice which billed for full road restoration when only half is complete. She advised that \$2800.00 be deducted from the payment and that the new payment be \$80, 538.89.

Motion made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded by: Councilor C. Johnson. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Councilor Jones-Johnson abstained without explanation. Motion approved 5-0.

Engineer Mulvena: Read the Stormwater tip of the month to minimize use of fertilizer on lawns as it runs off into streams and the Department of Environmental Protection will be enforcing rules for pollutants with stiff fines.

## **8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Manager Healy: Asked for authorization to register Council and Mayor for the fall PSAB Conference in Gettysburg and to reserve rooms.

Councilor C. Johnson: Said she will pay for her attendance.

Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by: Vice President Wright. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson and Jones-Johnson. Motion approved 4-2.

Manager Healy: Asked for a Motion to Advertise for members of the Redevelopment Authority. Motion made by Vice President Wright, seconded by: Councilor L. Johnson.

Councilor Jones-Johnson objected to the vote as it is not on the Agenda and the public needs opportunity to comment.

Solicitor Santarelli: Advised that the motion is to advertise as set forth in the approved Ordinance. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson. Motion carries 5-1.

Manager Healy: Stated he has two estimates for painting the Clock Tower, Mara is over \$8,000. While "On A Roll Painting" who last painted the Clock Tower years ago, is \$4200.00, asked for Motion to Hire On A Roll Painting. Motion made by Councilor D. McCabe, second: Councilor L. Johnson. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson. Motion approved 5-1.

## **9. FINANCE REPORT**

Vice President Wright: We are in Budget Season and there is a tentative schedule for Council and the Public to attend meetings and Motioned to Advertise Dates for Public Meetings. There was discussion about the process and asking for input from Department Heads. Council decides goals and priorities.

Motion to Advertise Dates of Public Meetings for 2015 Budget made by Vice President Wright, seconded by: Councilor L. Johnson. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones Johnson. Abstaining: Councilor C. Johnson. Motion approved 4-1.

Motion to Approve Accounts Payable List made by Vice President Wright, seconded by: Councilor L. Johnson.

Councilor Jones-Johnson – Questioned payments to Consultants.

Finance Director Possenti: Payment goes to his firm and he pays his people. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson and Jones-Johnson. Motion approved 4-2.

**10. TAX COLLECTOR’S REPORT – READ BY JOSEPH POSSENTI**

**11. SOLICITOR’S REPORT – NOTHING TO REPORT**

**12. NEW BUSINESS**

President Council-Harris: Discussed the prior month’s Executive Session where Ricardo Bostic’s employment had been discussed and that she would like him to be re-instated. Councilor Jones-Johnson asked to table discussion in Public and to have further review in Executive Session where his file can be reviewed.

Motion to Reinstate Hall Rental Coordinator Position made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded by: Councilor D. McCabe. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson. Abstaining: Councilor C. Johnson. Motion approved 4-1.

Councilor Jones-Johnson: Objected to a lack of specified hours, job description.

President Council-Harris: Said Manager will do those things.

Motion to Reinstate Ric Bostic to His Former Position at his Former Rate of Pay made by Vice President Wright, seconded by: Councilor L. Johnson.

At 10:22 p.m. Councilors Clara Johnson and Jones-Johnson left Chambers. Voting yes: Councilors L Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Motion Approved 4-0.

President Council-Harris: Asked the Manager and Solicitor to review reasonable accommodations for a hearing impaired Council Member that is less expensive than the CART Service.

Councilor D. McCabe left chambers at 10:24 p.m. and returned 10:26 p.m.

Motion to Authorize Solicitor and Manager to review CART Service and less costly accommodations made by Councilor D, McCabe, seconded by: Vice President Wright. Voting

yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris.  
Motion approved 4-0.

Councilor L. Johnson: Spoke about the October 4<sup>th</sup> Library Fundraiser, Chester's City Team Thanksgiving preparation, and Christmas Tree Lighting.

### **13. OLD BUSINESS – NONE**

### **14. CITIZEN'S FORUM**

Rafi Cave: Thanked those who attended the Legislative Forums to discuss School Tax Reform. Talked about improvements on school properties and will meet with Larry Healy.

Councilor L. Johnson: Talked about speeding on MacDade Blvd and asked if a traffic device at Rundale would improve safety.

President Council-Harris: Spoke of Playground Project's request for a donation from the Borough.

Solicitor Santarelli: Advised that the problem was one Taxing Authority asking another Taxing Authority while there was no meeting to approve a donation.

Councilor D. McCabe: Motioned to Put a Time Limit on Discussion, second: Councilor L. Johnson.

Solicitor Santarelli: Advised that Council should adopt rules and procedures.

Councilor McCabe: Said it is not fair to hold Members and the Public at late meetings.

Solicitor Santarelli: Said he will have some advice at the next meeting.

Motion to have Solicitor Research Rules made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by: Councilor L. Johnson. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Motion approved 4-0.

The owner of Crab Plus asked that the tree in front of his store be moved as it blocks people seeing his sign.

Motion to Move Tree made by Councilor D. McCabe, seconded by: Vice President Wright. Voting yes: Councilor L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council Harris. Motion approved 4-0.

## **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion to Adjourn made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by: Councilor L. Johnson

Meeting adjourned at 10:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence W. Healy  
Borough Secretary

