

**BOROUGH OF YEADON  
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
MINUTES OF BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING  
DECEMBER 18, 2014**

The Yeadon Borough Council met at Yeadon Borough Hall on the above date. President Sharon Council-Harris called the meeting to order at 7:48 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 Lieutenant Michael Dolly.

- 3. Citizen's Forum**

Cliff Brock – Guenther Avenue: Expressed mixed feelings on the 2015 Budget saying residents didn't have enough input, continues to disagree with savings on the backs of Borough residents being laid off as he is a union man who works hard for his benefits, and asked for specific line items in the Budget for Mount Moriah Cemetery and the Yeadon Economic Development Corporation.

Dr. Carolina Harris: Believes there should be changes in the Budget and voting should be 10 days after adopting Preliminary Budget. She said that after her examination, this is a better Budget than last year.

President Council-Harris said there had been seven Budget Meetings and although there had been discussion of letting staff go, there had not been a process to change personnel.

Councilor D. McCabe put forth a Motion to Adopt the 2015 Preliminary Budget as the Final Budget for 2015, with the exception of the expense at line Item 400.239 totaling \$30,000.00 with that amount being moved into the Borough's Budgeted surplus. Motion seconded: Vice President Wright.

Councilor Jones-Johnson objected that the Budget was developed by staff and that some members had wanted changes as the Budget is too high, and wants further study and a vote at another meeting.

Councilor L. Johnson said there were seven public meetings.

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

#### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to Approve Minutes of October 6, 2014 made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Councilor McCabe.

Councilor Jones-Johnson said the minutes are three months old. Motion approved 3-0. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstaining without explanation: Councilors C. Johnson, Jones-Johnson. Abstaining as there were absent at the meeting: Councilor G. Snead and Vice President Wright.

Motion to Approve Minutes of October 16, 2014 made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright.

Councilor Jones-Johnson questioned the \$26,000.00 to be given to the Elm Street Project as she thought it is \$13,000.00. Vice President Wright said it is \$13,000.00 per year for two years totaling \$26,000.00. Borough Manager/Secretary said he would correct the Minutes to show yearly amount. Motion approved 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson and Gracie Snead. Abstaining without explanation Councilor Clara Johnson.

Motion to Approve Minutes of November 20, 2014 made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 4-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson and G. Snead. Abstaining without explanation: Councilor C. Johnson.

Motion to Approve Minutes of December 1, 2014 made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor D. McCabe. Motion approved 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson, Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

#### **5. Finance Report**

**5.1 – Motion to Adopt 2015 Budget** – was approved earlier

**5.2 - Motion to Adopt 2015 Tax Levy Ordinance**

Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 6-1. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson.

**5.3 - Motion to Accept Cash Balance Report**

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

Councilor Jones-Johnson questioned with \$2.2 million in Sewer Fund, why not lower fees.

Finance Director Joseph Possenti: The balance on the Report is as of November 30, and the Engineer has said there is a lot of Sewer work to be done.

#### **5.4 – Motion to Approve Accounts Payable List**

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

Councilor Jones-Johnson said that she had told the Manager to send the remainder on her yearly salary to Cheyney University.

Borough Manager Larry Healy said that it had been on the November AP List and had already been sent.

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

### **6. Administrative**

#### **6.1 – Motion to Advertise 2015 Legislative Meeting**

Motion to advertise that Council Legislative Meetings in 2015 will continue on the third Thursday of the month made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 5-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson and Jones-Johnson.

#### **6.2 – Motion to Advertise Caucus Workshop Meeting**

President Council-Harris said that it would be more effective to hold the Caucus/Workshop Meeting on the second Thursday rather than the first Monday.

Motion to advertise that the Council Caucus Workshop meetings in 2015 will be held on the second Thursday of the month made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Councilor McCabe.

Councilor C. Johnson asked when Caucus Meetings were voted on by Council. President Council-Harris said that Council President sets the Meetings.

Councilor Jones-Johnson said it will not be enough time to get information into Council's Meeting Packets. Motion approved 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson, Jones-Johnson, and G. Snead.

#### **6.3 – Motion to Adopt Resolution Extending ARLE Sign Grant**

Borough Manager/Secretary Larry Healy explained that this is a PennDot Grant paying for street signs and that PennDot had approved extending the Grant to March 2015.

Motion made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 6-1. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstaining without explanation: Councilor Jones-Johnson.

#### **6.4 – Motion to Suspend Parking Fees for the Holiday Season**

Borough Manager/Secretary Larry Healy said it is customary to suspend fees at parking meters for the month of December but was not done in November.

Motion to suspend parking fees from December 18 through January 3 made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 6-1. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson.

### **7. Engineer**

#### **7.1 – Motion to Supplement Curb Cut Program Funded by CDBG Funds by \$6,416.50 to enable the Intersection of Whitby/Cypress to be completed in its Entirety.**

Motion made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion approved 4-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson and G. Snead. Abstaining without explanation: Councilor C. Johnson.

#### **7.2 – Motion to Authorize the Replacement of the Sanitary Sewer on Cedar Avenue between Church Lane and Yeadon Avenue at the estimated cost of \$112,000.00.**

Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 6-1. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor Jones-Johnson.

#### **7.3 – Motion to Adopt Resolution selecting the Priority and Secondary Projects for the 2015 CDBG Program.**

Motion to Adopt a Resolution Selecting the Priority and Secondary Projects for the 2015 CDBG Program with Infrastructure Improvements as number one and Housing Program number two made by Councilor McCabe, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion failed 2-5. Voting yes: Councilor McCabe and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, Jones-Johnson, G. Snead and Vice President Wright.

Vice President Wright made a Motion to Amend the previous Motion to make neighborhood revitalization priority number one, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion fails 3-4. Voting yes: Vice President Wright, Councilor L. Johnson and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors McCabe, C. Johnson, Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

Vice President Wright made a Motion to Select Neighborhood Revitalization as Priority and Infrastructure as Secondary Projects with contingency that if revitalization is not an eligible project it

would for infrastructure, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Motion approved 5-2. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors McCabe, Jones-Johnson.

Engineer Mulvena asked that bills for County Aid work which had just been received be added to the AP List so as not to lose County Aid at year's end.

Motion to add to the AP List Invoice from Innovative Construction in the amount of \$19,830.59 and Invoice from NDI in the amount of \$2640.00 made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 4-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson and G. Snead. Abstaining without explanation: Councilor C. Johnson.

Engineer Mulvena read the monthly Stormwater Tip regarding the hazards of motor oil contaminating waterways.

## **8. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Hepkins said that the Police Department is losing three part time Officers to full time jobs in other towns and asked for Motions to hire two part time Officers.

### **8.1 - Motion to Appoint Kevin Hanna to the Position of Part Time Police Officer**

Motion to Appoint Kevin Hanna to the Position of part time Yeadon Patrolman made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 4-3. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson, Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

### **8.2 – Motion to Appoint Samanthe Wilding to the Position of Part Time Police Officer**

Motion to Appoint Samanthe Wilding to the position of Yeadon part time Patrolman made by Vice President Wright, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson. Approved 5-2. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors Jones-Johnson and G. Snead.

Mayor Hepkins spoke of his recent forum where he awarded Citations to Police Officer and to Myrtle Belcher for her many years of service to the Community. He also spoke of the Tree Lighting Ceremony and the recent homicide on Front Street.

## **9. President's Report**

President Council-Harris said it has been an interesting year and looks forward to 2015. She extended Holiday Greetings to the Borough. She said the 2015 Budget has no tax increase while including funds for a new dump truck, leaf machine and Police cars. She thanked Joe Possenti and Larry Healy for a job well done and hopes to attract residents back to the meetings with positive changes.

## **10. Tax Collector's Report**

The Tax Collector's Report was read by Vice President Wright.

## **11. Solicitor's Report**

The Solicitor had no report.

## **12. New Business**

Councilor D. McCabe thanked President Sharon Council-Harris for her leadership.

Mayor Hepkins said former Mayor Butler had stepped down from the Mount Moriah Board and asked to be appointed to be the Borough's Second Representative.

Motion to Appoint Mayor Hepkins to the Mount Moriah Board made by Councilor McCabe, seconded: Councilor G. Snead. Motion approved 7-0.

Borough Manager/Secretary Larry Healy said that President Obama had declared December 26 to be a Federal holiday and that Delaware County also made it a County Holiday. He asked Council to do the same.

Motion to Make December 26, 2014 a Borough Holiday made by Councilor L. Johnson, seconded: Vice President Wright. Motion approved 6-1. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, Jones-Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilor C. Johnson.

Manager Larry Healy spoke of the Friends of the Library Cookbook and that it raises funds for the Library.

Librarian Richard Ashby also spoke about the Cookbook which has many recipes from residents.

## **13. Old Business – none**

Councilor Jones-Johnson said the meeting should not adjourn before the Executive Session.

President Council-Harris said she called for an Executive Session after concluding the Legislative Meeting.

## **14. Citizen's Forum**

Penny McDonald – Church Lane – Commended Council for a good year. She said the light is out at 65<sup>th</sup> and Chester. Cars are racing on Yeadon and Rundale Avenues. She said she doesn't attend Council Meetings due to the bickering and urged Council to work together.

Dr. Vivian Ford – Spoke about high cost of Animal Control and asked who the young lady was who was typing, pointing to the CART service transcriber.

Councilor Jones-Johnson informed that she has a disability and the Borough provides the service as an accommodation, same as curb cuts for handicapped.

Dr. Vivian Ford – Pointed out that the Engineer is present for most of the meeting and suggested she be moved up in the Agenda to save dollars.

President Council-Harris announced that an Executive Session had been held on December 3 and another Executive Session would follow this meeting for discussion of Personnel issues.

### **15. Adjournment**

Vice President Wright Motioned to Adjourn, seconded: Councilor L. Johnson.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence W. Healy  
Borough Secretary