

**BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
MINUTES OF BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2015 AT 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 7:47 P.M. and announced that an Executive Session to discuss legal matters was held prior to the meeting.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL

The following Council Members were present: Councilors Clara Johnson, Learin Johnson, Dolores McCabe, Gracie Snead, President Sharon Council-Harris and Mayor Rohan Hepkins. Vice President Nelva Wright arrived at 8:05 PM and Councilor Rosalind Jones-Johnson was absent. Also present were Borough Manager/Secretary Larry Healy, Finance Director Joseph Possenti, Jr., Police Chief Donald Molineux, Engineer Eileen Mulvena, and Assistant Solicitor Lacy Wheeler.

3. CITIZEN'S FORUM

William Bagley – *Whitby Avenue* – Told Council that he had been ill and had missed his renewal for his handicap parking spot and sign had been removed. President Council-Harris referred him to Councilwoman Learin Johnson.

Linda Ricketts and Donna Hammond – *900 block MacDade* – presented a petition from residents complaining of harassment by a resident of Rader Avenue who called police and had cars parked in the alley way ticketed for parking where there are signs posted stating No Parking By Order of the Fire Marshall. They said they have been parking there for many years and asked that the tickets be expunged. Chief Molineux said the part time officer who wrote the tickets had used the wrong tickets and that the tickets would be voided. President Council-Harris said the matter would be referred to the Solicitor and the Chief. Mayor Hepkins said he went there and although parking in the past may have been allowed, once the complaint was made, the police had to enforce the ordinance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of July 16, 2015. Motion to Approve July 16 Minutes made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Vice President Wright. Councilor C. Johnson objected to approving the minutes as she still objected to the May Minutes not including her Motion and the vote on Committee Meetings. Mr. Healy read the part of the May Minutes in question and Councilor C. Johnson agreed that the minutes did include the Motion and vote. She said she objected to Council President's remarks in the June Minutes. Mr. Healy explained the minutes are an accurate account of actions taken and discussion. Motion

approved 4-0. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstained: Councilors C. Johnson and Snead.

5. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Eileen Mulvena asked for a Motion to Approve the Floodplain Ordinance. Larry Healy said the ordinance had been properly advertised and available for inspection.

Motion to Adopt the Floodplain Ordinance made by Councilwoman L. Johnson, seconded by Councilor C. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

Eileen Mulvena said Stormwater sewer work is continuing on West Providence Road. President Council-Harris spoke about infrastructure repairs and there was discussion about lateral repairs. Ms. Mulvena said 16 of 34 laterals were repaired during sewer line work on East Providence Road. Some towns adopted a \$15.00 annual sewer fee dedicated to lateral replacement. Brookhaven Borough built up a reserve to replace laterals as sewer work was done. For residents, a \$15.00 annual fee saves them the possible \$10,000 - \$20,000 expense of a new lateral. Mayor Hepkins asked about the status of Cedar Avenue repairs. Ms. Mulvena said we are waiting on the County to get the CDBG Funds. Councilwoman L. Johnson asked about the report citing problems with the integrity of sewer lines. Ms. Mulvena said in another town there were problems discovered with sewer lines. Work by a common contractor and she is investigating to see if Yeadon has similar issues.

6. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hepkins said the police department is short three officers and two new hires are in the budget. Chief Molineux gave an update of the hiring process as stated in his report. Councilwoman L. Johnson asked about female officers. Chief Molineux said none of the female part time officers on the force at the time of the test took it. Also two females who signed up did not either show up or pass. Mayor Hepkins said we are restricted by Civil Service Rules.

6.1 Motion to offer employment to Robert Wellbrock for the position of Patrol Officer at the probationary salary of \$48,155.06 which includes a probationary period of one year and is contingent upon the following requirements: Passing a polygraph examination, a physical/medical examination, a psychological examination, and also the requirement to relocate residence within one year of employment to the Borough of Yeadon or within five miles from the Borough boundary. Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

6.2 Motion to offer employment to Nicholas Tokonitz for the position of Patrol Officer at the probationary salary of \$48,155.06 which includes a probationary period of one year and is contingent upon the following requirements: Passing a polygraph examination, a physical/medical examination, a psychological examination, and also the requirement to relocate residence within one year of employment to the Borough of Yeadon or within five miles from the Borough boundary. Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

6.3 Motion to appoint Latasha Hill to the position of alternate crossing guard at the rate of \$11.50 per hour. Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

6.4 Motion to appoint Valerie Ramsey to the position of alternate crossing guard at the rate of \$11.50 per hour. Motion made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

Mayor Hepkins read his report, including the swearing in of Joanna McClinton as the new State Representative on Tuesday, August 25. Penny McDonald, Chair of Yeadon Democratic Committee, said a bus to Harrisburg will leave at 8:30 AM from Anderson School. Mayor Hepkins invited Rafi Cave to make some remarks.

Rafi Cave Spoke about the YEDC Health and Wellness Expo. He asked about how abandoned vehicles are removed. Mr. Healy explained if a car has an invalid inspection or registration then the Code Department takes the proper steps to have cars removed. If such a car is on the street, then the police handle it. Rafi also said cars are not stopping at the stop sign on Longacre. Chief said he will look into ways to enhance enforcement and said a recent speed check detail had resulted in 35 tickets. Mr. Cave said there are renovations at Evans School and \$700,000 in replacement windows are being installed. He requested a waiver on time so workers can work later hours. President Council-Harris referred the matter to the Solicitor. Mr. Cave then spoke about the state budget and school funding and thanked Mayor Hepkins for his leadership. He said William Penn School District spends \$7 million on outside schools and a new charter school will take another \$2 million while the District's expenses remain the same. Without fair funding from the state, the District is forced to raise taxes, but pointed out this year's increase is one of the lowest in the county. He then spoke of a drive to renovate Kerr Field at no cost to taxpayers. A committee will meet on August 31 to look at ways to raise funds. Councilor C. Johnson asked about the roof at the Cypress Campus. Mr. Cave said it is currently being repaired. Councilwoman L. Johnson thanked the District for the flowers and bushes at Bell Avenue School and also said Diane Leahan had promised to rescind tax increases if more funding came from the state. Mayor Hepkins thanked Rafi Cave for his leadership.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mr. Healy asked Council to approve the following motions.

7.1 Motion to approve Waytek's proposal to replace the Borough server at a total cost of \$5215.00 made by Councilor C. Johnson, seconded by Councilor Snead. Motion approved 6-0.

7.2 Motion to approve Waytek's proposal to replace the router at a total cost of \$1027.00 made by Councilor C. Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

7.3 Motion to approve hiring of Donald Givens as part time Code Officer at a rate of \$18.00 per made by Councilwoman L. Johnson, seconded by Councilor Snead. Motion approved 6-0.

7.4 Motion to approve hiring of Melina Sidibe as a summer intern at a rate of \$8.50 per hour made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Vice President Wright.

Councilor C. Johnson asked why other locations did not advertise jobs and that she asked Larry Healy to ask for an executive session but doesn't know if he did. President Council-Harris said that he had and she told Larry Healy to ask the specific reason for an executive session and that he did so. Motion approved 4-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson and G. Snead.

7.5 Motion to approve hiring Seyni Ndaw as a summer intern at a rate of \$8.50 per hour made by Councilwoman L. Johnson seconded by Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 5-1. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Voting No: Councilor C. Johnson.

7.6 Motion to approve the hiring of Abdul Williams as summer Public Works employee at \$10.00 per hour made by Councilwoman L. Johnson, seconded by Councilor McCabe. Councilor C. Johnson asked if his employment will end September 8. Larry Healy said if he doesn't go back to school he may stay longer. Councilor C. Johnson said if he is summer youth it should end. Larry Healy said he is seasonal public works. Mr. Wheeler advised that the member who made the motion could amend it to say seasonal. Councilwoman L. Johnson amended her motion to seasonal. Motion approved 5-0. Voting yes: Councilors C. Johnson, L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Councilor Snead abstained wanting to see it in black and white.

8. FINANCE REPORT

8.1 Joseph Possenti read the Cash Balance Report. He spoke about the need for Council to approve the minimum municipal obligation for the three pension plans. Councilor Snead asked why, Joseph Possenti said Council is required to do this every year by September as required by the State.

Motion to approve the minimum municipal obligation for 2016 for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$243,202.00 made by Vice President Wright, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 4-0. Voting yes Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstained: Councilors C. Johnson and G. Snead.

Motion to approve the minimum municipal obligation for 2016 for the non-uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$48,277.00 made by Vice President Wright, seconded by Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 4-0. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstained: Councilors C. Johnson and G. Snead.

Motion to approve the minimum municipal obligation for 2016 for the non-uniformed union pension plan in the amount of \$21,944.00 made by Vice President Wright, seconded by: Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 4-0. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstained: Councilors C. Johnson and G. Snead.

Joseph Possenti said he will propose dates for 2016 Budget Meetings.

8.2 Motion to approve accounts payable list made by Vice President Wright, seconded by Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 4-0. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe, Vice President Wright and President Council-Harris. Abstained: Councilors C. Johnson and G. Snead. Councilor C. Johnson objected to not enough information on the Possenti Associates invoice.

9. TAX COLLECTOR REPORT

Mr. Possenti read the tax collector's report.

10. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – NONE

11. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Council-Harris asked Mr. Healy if there was a date for the YMCA Meeting. Larry Healy said tentatively September 24. President Council-Harris said Council should review the code of conduct in place.

12. NEW BUSINESS

President Council-Harris said Mr. Santarelli informed Council that he has taken a position as Chief Counsel for the Delaware River Port Authority and would resign as our Solicitor effective August 14. She formed a Committee of Mayor Hepkins, Learn Johnson, and herself to interview lawyers who had expressed interest in being solicitor. At the Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting the Committee recommended that Charles Gibbs be appointed Solicitor. Motion to appoint Charles Gibbs to position of Solicitor made by Councilor McCabe, seconded by Councilwoman L. Johnson. Motion approved 6-0.

Mr. Healy asked Council to consider the block party application for the 500 block of Orchard on August 29. Motion to approve the 500 Orchard block party made by Councilwoman L. Johnson, seconded by Councilor McCabe. Motion approved 3-2. Voting yes: Councilors L. Johnson, D. McCabe and President Council-Harris. Voting no: Councilors C. Johnson and G. Snead. Abstained: Vice President Wright.

Vice President Wright spoke about the home buyer workshops on September 22 and October 15 in partnership with Clarify and Republic Bank. The workshop will provide residents with information on first time buyers, selling homes, refinancing and mortgage mitigation. Councilor McCabe suggested that the Borough buy I-pads for Council to eliminate all of the paperwork. President Council-Harris asked Mr. Possenti to research costs. Mayor Hepkins said the Delaware River Port Authority uses I-pads.

Councilwoman L. Johnson asked if there are vacancies on the Planning and Zoning Boards. President Council-Harris said it will be discussed at the Caucus Meeting.

Councilwoman L. Johnson motioned to repair the clock at an approximate cost of \$7500.00, seconded by Councilor McCabe. Motion passed 4-1. Voting yes: Councilor L. Johnson, D. McCabe, G. Snead and President Council Harris. Voting no: Councilor C. Johnson. Vice President Wright left the room.

Councilor McCabe welcomed Lacy Wheeler to his first meeting as Solicitor.

Councilor C. Johnson asked about repairs to the auditorium floor. President Council-Harris asked Larry Healy to report on the floor, first floor repairs and chandeliers. Larry Healy reported that the auditorium floor will be repaired and refinished the last two weeks of November, first floor repairs start September 21, we have one chandelier for a lighting consultant to check for adequate lighting, and the digital sign should be installed in about two weeks. The partition and bar will go in after the floor, although we need to check with the insurance company regarding the bar. Painting on stairwells will take place after outside work is finished.

President Council-Harris said work on the Mayor's office on the first floor is progressing. Councilor McCabe said she did not like moving Emergency Management to the second floor.

President Council-Harris said last month a Councilor called her Adolph Hitler and she won't allow it again and in the future member will be censored. Councilor Snead asked Mr. Wheeler if President can refer to "those people". Mr. Wheeler advised that as Solicitor he gives legal advice. Governing bodies have the right to govern themselves, and can change policy if deemed to be needed.

Councilwoman L. Johnson asked Mr. Healy if the owners of MacDade Shopping Center were supposed to be present. Mr. Healy said he was not aware of it.

14. CITIZEN'S FORUM

Penny McDonald – *Church Lane* – Thanked Council for their hard work and the Borough Manager for his quick response when she brings issues to him. She asked about the first floor repairs as people vote there. Larry Healy said it starts September 21 and will be complete prior to Election Day. Mrs. McDonald also said the street light at Fern and Cobbs Creek goes on and off. Mr. Healy said Public Works will check it. Councilor G. Snead said the back yard at 864 Whitby is a mess.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor G. Snead motioned to adjourn, seconded by C. Johnson. Adjournment at 10:14 PM

Donna Samuel reminded all of the October 3 Library Event.

BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL CAUCUS WORKSHOP MEETING

September 10, 2015

The Yeadon Borough Council held a Caucus workshop meeting on the above date at Borough Hall. President Pro-Tem Dr. Dolores McCabe called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL

The following members were in attendance: President Sharon Council-Harris, Councilors Learin Johnson, and Dolores McCabe. Not attending were Councilors Clara Johnson, Rosalind Jones-Johnson, Gracie Sneed, Vice-President Nelva Wright and Mayor Rohan Hepkins. Also present were Borough Manger/ Secretary Larry Healy, Finance Director Joseph Possenti, Jr., and Code Director Judson Sumbler.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Council- Harris spoke of Mayor Hepkins' Fair Funding for Schools Forum, which was taking place at Penn Wood High School. John Hanger, Public Policy Advisor to Governor Wolf, would be discussing the budget and the Governor's proposal to reduce property taxes. She also said the earlier Committee Meeting was very productive. The YEDC will give a presentation on the Gateway Project.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 Public Safety- Councilor Dr. McCabe said that at the earlier Committee Meeting there was discussion about parking on streets where parking is only permitted on one side and the problems presented on street sweeping days. Review of the truck ordinance was also discussed, along with the need to have crossing guards on duty, on days when William Penn District is closed, but Catholic Schools are open.

4.2 ORDINACE/CODE/ZONING- Learin Johnson, Chair, Judson Sumbler, Code Director, spoke of the home at 508 Orchard which has deteriorated to the point it may have to be demolished. There was in his report the application for a handicapped parking sign at 814 Whitby.

4.3 COMMITTEE RELATIONS- Learin Johnson, Chair, said the Recreation Committee is looking for volunteers. She also requested financial reports for Flag Day, July 4, Volunteers' Dinner, and Veterans' Luncheon. Mr. Healy said he will provide the reports. Also, she asked that the solicitor review the truck ordinance as she received complaints about trucks storing junk which is an eyesore.

4.4 FINACE- Mr. Possenti said the earned income tax generated 260,000 in August. The borough is in good financial condition. He plans on confirming with Vice-President Wright the dates for budget meetings. He would like to have public meetings the last week of September, two in October and November and have a preliminary budget ready for adoption at the November Council Meeting. President Council- Harris said at the Committee Meeting Councilor Jones-Johnson had questioned whether the Highway Department was 200,000 over budget. Mr. Possenti said there were adjustments needed to be made to sewer and refuse. Councilor Dr. McCabe asked for a list of dates for budget meetings and Mr. Possenti said he would have it for next week's meeting. Councilor Learin Johnson also spoke on the Library Rain Garden and the need for volunteers. The Library Social is on October 3rd.

5. CITIZENS FORUM

Donna Samuel asked that the YMCA Town Meeting be rescheduled as it conflicts with the library meeting on September 24th. There was Discussion about having Saturday dates to accommodate residents. Duane Smalls spoke about his plan to open a day care at 433 Lansdowne Avenue and that code had turned him down. He claimed that he went to a meeting that was not a zoning meeting and was supposed to get a decision in 45 days that he never received. He said it is a commercial area and was previously a doctor's office. Mr. Healy explained to Council that Mr. Smalls had gone to a zoning board hearing and his application was denied. John Innelli, Zoning Solicitor, did send out the decision, but we will send it again. The area is residential and has never been commercial. President Council- Harris asked Mr. Healy to contact Mr. Innelli and report back to Council.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Dr. McCabe moved to adjourn. Adjournment at 8:17 P.M.