

BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
August 17, 2017

The Borough of Yeadon Legislative Council Meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Sharon Council-Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was taken for the happenings of Charlottesville, Virginia and Mayor Hepkins spoke a prayer for Peace.

Council President announced the passing of the mother of Joseph Possenti, Finance Director. She acknowledged special prayers and condolences to the entire Possenti family in their time of loss.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers: Renita Austin, Sharon Council-Harris (President), Clara Johnson, Learin Johnson, Tomeka Jones-Waters
Mayor: Rohan Hepkins
Engineer: Eileen Mulvena
Solicitor: Lacy Wheeler
Absent: Vice President Dolores McCabe, Latoya Monroe

3. CITIZENS FORUM (Comments limited to 3 minutes)

- Liana Roadcloud, Cypress Street, spoke regarding items on the AP List dated 7/20/17. Specifically, checks that were made to Core Consulting for managing the Borough website and for a full page ad in the Yeadon Pulse. Ms. Roadcloud also mentioned that important categories on the website are not currently updated.
- Penny McDonald, Church Lane, spoke regarding items on the AP List dated 7/20/17. Her concerns included the payments to Televue Network for television updates and the videos Mr. Core takes of the Council meetings.
- Denise Christmas Whimberly, Yeadon Ave, directed questions to the Solicitor regarding a program that offers her payment for her taxes in exchange for

allocating part of her property, as well as other questions regarding the Swim Club.

- Zelda Gibson, Baily Road, addressed Council regarding the lighting along Baily Road. Ms. Gibson feels it is still too dark along Baily Road, which creates more opportunity for criminal activity. Ms. Gibson also mentioned her daughter's vigil will be held on the one year anniversary of Natasha's murder on Friday, September 22nd.
- Janice Francis, Holly Road, spoke on her behalf regarding a request for handicap parking in front of her home.
- Sandra Caple, Longacre Blvd, thanked Council for addressing her concerns from last month regarding police presence in her area, she has witnessed many more patrols along her streets. Ms. Caple also thanked Council for the upgraded, brighter streetlights.
- Garry Core addressed Council in regards to resident's concerns. He explained that the back page of a newspaper is expensive real estate and he allows the Borough to purchase this space at a discount. He also mentioned the website and the discount in charges he offers the Borough as a web developer. He stated he is currently creating a database of content.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Motion to Approve Legislative Minutes dated July 20, 2017, with corrections**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor T. Jones-Waters

Abstained: Councilor C. Johnson

Reason for abstention: Was not present at July 20, 2017 meeting

Motion passed 4-0

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

- The Mayor began his report with a reminder that the next Mayor's Forum will be held at Borough Hall on Thursday, September 7 at 7:00pm on the 3rd floor.
- Mayor Hepkins acknowledged Acting Lieutenant Anthony Johnson for implementing initiatives such as Coffee With A Cop.
- The 6 body cameras from the PA State grant for the police department have been received and retrofitted. Currently awaiting software and server updates.
- The shooting of Thursday, August 3 was recapped. Around 6:00pm that evening, an auto was chasing another auto on the 800 block of Cypress Street. Shots were fired, one car that was hit drove to the police station at Borough Hall. Two victims from that car were taken by ambulance to Penn Presbyterian with non-life-

threatening injuries. The motive is under investigation. Fortunately, no other residents were caught in the middle.

- A rash of car break ins have begun, causing extra patrols at night.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Council President recapped Summer activities in the Borough and commended the Recreation Department, under the direction of Roy Hunter. Over 2 dozen students have benefited from the tennis program he organized. President Harris also acknowledged the Nile Swim Club for their swim program- focused on teaching African American children to swim.
- In addition, President Harris spoke on a ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled for September 13 at the Friendship Circle Senior Center to celebrate new renovations and a 5k run on September 23, 2017.

7. BLACK HISTORY OF YEADON BOROUGH

- Numerous residents spoke on behalf of Ms. Leslie McGirth, the founder of Fresh Start Program. The history of the Program was given and Ms. McGirth's sacrifices were discussed as to how she pushed the Program to its current successful state.
- Council President addressed the program and the 13 years of its service to the Borough of Yeadon. She pointed out the children that get directed to the Fresh Start Program are often the children that society has given up on, who are given a chance to turn their lives around with the help of the Fresh Start Program.
- **Motion to approve Proposal for Fresh Start Program in the amount of \$3,000.**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson **Seconded:** Councilor R. Austin

Voted No: Councilor C. Johnson

Motion passed 4-1

8. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- **Motion to extend Ordinary Street & Sewer maintenance contracts for 3 months**

Moved by: Councilor C. Johnson **Seconded:** Councilor L. Johnson

Motion passed 5-0

- Engineer, Eileen Mulvena, reported on the lighting of Baily Road. When the LED upgrades are complete, she stated the Borough upgraded the watts of each light fixture which will create a huge difference in light value along that street.

- **Motion to reject bid if the 1 contractor is unable to negotiate acceptable contract and to authorize the re-advertisement of the bid for demolition of 508 Orchard Ave.**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor C. Johnson

Motion passed 5-0

- **Motion to approve the Eastern DelCo Stormwater Collaborative Agreement**

Moved by: Councilor C. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor L. Johnson

Motion passed 5-0

- Council President began a discussion with Engineer Mulvena regarding a topic that had been discussed in the past, which would establish a fee per home unit in the Borough which would be collected annually and would fund the repair of 3-5 street laterals each year. Engineer Mulvena had previously suggested \$10 per household, however the amount would be the decision of Council. The specifics of the laterals were described: from the curb to the main sewer is the responsibility of the homeowner. Engineer Mulvena pointed out that in 2014 Council had voted to just pay for the lateral repairs, however without ever specifying a dollar amount or account. Engineer Mulvena suggested setting up a separate account and keeping the money separate.
- Councilor C. Johnson inquired whether it would be feasible to allow the community to weigh in. Community members in the audience were included in the discussion.
- **Motion to establish a fee of \$10 per unit for street lateral repairs, to be placed in a separate reserve fund for repairs**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor R. Austin

Motion passed 5-0

- Councilor L. Johnson asked Engineer Mulvena if port-a-potties could be removed from construction sites during weekends to avoid resident complaints. Ms. Mulvena confirmed that she can try to write that into the next contract negotiation.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

- Borough Manager, Joe Bland, was absent; Admin report was read by Mr. Bland's assistant..
- Twice a week trash pick up ends on Friday, September 1st and the 4 Request for Action reports for the month all stemmed from high grass.
- Roof repair on the Borough Hall is complete.

- The Supervisor of Public Works, Daniel Wright, will celebrate his 45th anniversary with the Borough on Sunday, August 27th.
 - **Motion to Accept Eastern Salt Co, Inc as salt contractor for 2017-18 season, at a unit price of \$52.48 delivered.**

Moved by: Councilor C. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor R. Austin

Motion passed 5-0

10. LIBRARY DIRECTOR, RICHARD ASHBY

- Yeadon Library Director, Richard Ashby, started his report with a reminder for the 80/50 Celebration on Friday, October 6th at the Oaks Ballroom from 7-11pm. Tickets are \$50.
- Morning Stretch begins on Tuesday mornings at Borough Hall and the Summer Institute is currently running at the Library, and applications for the after-school program are available.

11. TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

- Tax Report read by Council President Sharon Council-Harris.
 - Total Tax Collected for June 2017: \$40,240.76

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Finance (Read by Council President Sharon Council-Harris)

- **Motion to Approve Cash Balances Report**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor T. Jones-Waters

Motion passed 5-0

- **Motion to Approve Accounts Payable List**

Moved by: Councilor T. Jones-Waters **Seconded:** Councilor R. Austin

Voted No: Councilor C. Johnson

Motion passed 4-1

b. Public Safety - Councilor Dr. D McCabe, Vice President, Chair

- Mayor Hepkins presented the action items for Public Safety.
- **Motion to approve the hiring of Crossing Guard, Pauline Morris, pending abuse and background checks**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor T. Jones-Waters

Motion passed 5-0

- **Motion to approve the hiring of Crossing Guard, Joseph Goode, pending abuse and background checks**

Moved by: Councilor L. Johnson

Seconded: Councilor T. Jones-Waters

Motion passed 5-0

c. Ordinance / Zoning - Councilor Tomeka Jones-Waters, Chair

- Councilwoman Jones-Waters presented the Code Report which included no zoning, no hot spots, and the monthly income of the Department.

- **Motion to Approve Handicap Parking Permit for 940 Duncan Ave**

Moved by: Councilor T. Jones-Waters **Seconded:** Councilor L. Johnson

Motion passed 5-0

- **Motion to Approve Handicap Parking Permit for 1033 Stetser Ave**

Moved by: Councilor T. Jones-Waters **Seconded:** Councilor R. Austin

Abstained: Councilor L. Monroe

Reason for Abstention: Feels the construction of the deck on the property is not the problem of Council

Motion passed 4-0

- **Motion to Approve Handicap Parking Permit for 833 Bullock Ave**

Moved by: Councilor T. Jones-Waters **Seconded:** Councilor R. Austin

Voted No: Councilor C. Johnson

Motion passed 4-1

- **Motion to Approve Handicap Parking Permit for 517 Holly Road**

Moved by: Councilor T. Jones-Waters **Seconded:** Councilor L. Johnson

Motion passed 5-0

- **Motion to Table Handicap Parking Permit for 948 Serrill Ave**

Moved by: Councilor T. Jones-Waters **Seconded:** Councilor R. Austin

Motion passed 5-0

d. Municipal Services - Councilor Clara Johnson, Chair

- Councilor Johnson presented the Public Works report including the repainting of school crosswalks and public parking lots. Faded traffic/sweeper and handicap signs are being sent out to be refaced and then reinstalled.
- The crew has been cleaning the inlets, as well as installing ash trays to the Borough owned bus shelters.
- Repairs and maintenance continue to be done on Borough owned vehicles.

Councilor Renita Austin left the meeting at 10:00 PM

e. Community Relations - Councilor Learin Johnson, Chair

- Councilor Learin Johnson began with a Recreation report from Roy Hunter. Camp Garrett concluded in early August, YEAA held a basketball camp over the Summer, and tennis camp was held at Nile Swim Club where youth received a free junior tennis racquet.
- Councilor Johnson mentioned that Friendship Circle Senior Center will be hosting a 5k Run/Walk on Saturday, September 23rd. Sponsorship levels are available.
- The YEDC conducted a walk-through of the old Yeadon Swim Club with developers.
- A meeting was held with YEDC and representatives regarding an expansion of Grace Courts on property adjacent, however the number of units has not yet been decided. Mr. Isaac Dotson was called on speaker phone, however the connection was bad. He will be available to answer questions next month. Councilwoman Johnson continued that the majority of the money will be grants from the state.
- The YEDC met with the new owner of the area on Chester and Macdade (around the smoke shop). He is willing to work with the YEDC to clean that area up, as well as allow the Borough to place a sign there. Councilor L. Johnson would like to refer to the advertising ordinance in which stores can only use 15% of their window space for advertising. Council President referred Councilor to Code.
- The Borough Manager and Isaac Dotson (YEDC) attended a meeting with an attorney representing Parkview Apartments in regards to updating and renovating those apartments.
- Gateway Project continues to work through 2018 on signs and banners.

- Two properties have been acknowledged for having been beautified (9 Baily Rd and Fern Street) by their owners. The Beautification of Yeadon Project is accepting volunteers, as well as anyone wanting to help create the Welcome Packets for new residents.

f. Education Liaison

- Councilor Austin was not available to give her report.

13. SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Mr. Lacy Wheeler

- Solicitor Wheeler did not have a report to record.

14. NEW BUSINESS

- Council President Harris announced the need for a Public Works Director and a Business Development Specialist. Both items will be up for discussion at next month's Caucus Meeting, as well as any questions regarding the Yeadon Borough Council's status with the Nile Swim Club.
- Councilor T. Jones-Waters announced 2nd Annual Community Day on September 16th at Community Park.
- Council President announced a weekend of events, beginning Sunday Sept 17th at St. Michael's Episcopal Church when Father Jordan is installed.

15. OLD BUSINESS

- Councilor T Jones-Waters inquired about the codification and updating of the Ordinances. President Harris stated she's been informed that this process is being worked on, and this topic will be addressed at next month's meeting.

16. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 10:27 PM.