



**BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES
December 30, 2019**

Meeting began at 7:07 p.m.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

Rohan Hepkins, Mayor	Present
LaToya Monroe, President	Present
Ronald Francis, Vice President	Present
Clara Johnson	Present
Rafi Cave	Present (Arrived at 7:12 p.m.)
Dolores McCabe	Present
Taliah Jones-Waters	Present
Mironda Presswood, Manager	Present
Charles Gibbs, Solicitor	Present
Julianne James, Tax Collector	Present
Russell Cipolla, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present

3. CITIZENS FORUM (comments limited to 3 minutes)

- None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion to approve November 21, 2019 Legislative Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Seconded By: Councilor Clara Johnson
Unanimous
- Motion to approve December 12, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
Moved By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Seconded By: Councilor Clara Johnson
Unanimous

- Motion to approve December 19, 2019 Caucus Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Second By: Councilor Clara Johnson
Motion Passed: 4-1 Opposed by Councilor Taliah Jones-Waters

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

- Requested that the Mayor's Report be accepted as submitted at Caucus.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- The Mayor and Council President Monroe presented a service award to Sharon Council-Harris for her years of service as a Councilor.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT

- The installation process for the sound system on the second floor Hall began today and should be completed in a few days.
- Management recommends the Borough holiday schedule for the floater holidays, which are Good Friday and Columbus Day, be eliminated and instead be a scheduled paid holiday. Management further recommended that Flag Day and Christmas Eve be approved as paid holidays.

8. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Solicitor and Finance Director gave brief remarks regarding the tax bill. The Tax Collector, Julianne James, provided more detail. She stated that realtors and organizations are charged a \$5 when requesting duplicate tax bills. However, residents are not charged for these services. She recommended the fee to receive a duplicate tax bill be raised to \$10. She further stated that when realtors and organizations request a certificate/proof of payment of taxes, there is a \$15 fee and once paid they receive both the municipal and school tax. The Tax Collector recommended that the fee be changed to \$10 each for the municipal and school certificate.

- Motion to charge a \$10 fee for a duplicate tax bill and charge \$10 each for the local municipal tax certification and the school tax certification for realtors and organizations.
Moved by: Councilor Dolores McCabe
Second by: Councilor Taliah Jones-Waters
Unanimous
- The Solicitor stated that last month Council discussed in an Executive Session issues related to an employee with the initials R.I. who sustained physical injuries

to his body while performing Borough duties. He said the discussion involved the potential of having a settlement with the employee and allowing him to collect fifty percent of his salary through the pension fund due to his current service-connected disability. He further stated that his medical records were reviewed by a doctor and the Borough Solicitor, there was concurrence that he is permanently disabled, as such the Solicitor asked that Resolution #2019-007 be adopted.

Motion to adopt the Resolution #2019-007 relating to the employee with the initials R.I.

Moved by: Councilor Dolores McCabe

Second by: Vice President Ronald Francis

Motion Passed: 5-1 Opposed by Taliah Jones-Waters

- Motion to authorize the advertisement of the 2020 Public Meeting Schedule for the Yeadon Borough Council.
Moved by: Councilor Clara Johnson
Seconded by: Councilor Dolores McCabe
Unanimous
- There was a brief discussion with Council and the Borough Manager regarding the holiday schedule. It was decided that the recognized schedule would include all previously recognized holidays; in addition to, the floating holidays of Good Friday and Columbus Day becoming paid holidays as well as Christmas Eve.

Motion to adopt the 2020 Yeadon Borough recognized holiday schedule (not including Flag Day).

Moved By: Councilor Clara Johnson

Seconded By: Vice President Ronald Francis

Unanimous

- The Solicitor stated there has been a series of real estate tax appeals that have taken place within the Borough and there are a number that the school district has taken up. Given that the reassessment is happening people are trying to get their property values as low as possible. He received notification that one property went from \$160,000 to \$46,000 on appeal. He mentioned that the school district has challenged it, so he asked for authorization to file the appeals. He will bring the appeals to Council and Council will decide whether to proceed with them because he does not want to lose the appeal time frame.

Council Cave asked if it was more prudent to just give the authorization to appeal it when the Solicitor receives it. The Solicitor said yes, but he would still come to Council because it is litigation.

The Solicitor added that he and the school district are working closely together and discussed possible reasons for the changes.

Motion to authorize the Solicitor to join the appropriate assessment appeals that the school district is a part of currently and to challenge the assessment appeals that we deem to be too low.

Moved By: Councilor Rafi Cave

Seconded By: Vice President Ronald Francis

Unanimous

9. TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

- Borough Revenue received: \$3,125.54 from sewer; \$1,732.50 from refuse; for a grand total of \$10,134.03.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- NDI recommended rejecting the bid received from Alpha Omega Construction Group for the Borough Hall roof repairs and authorization to rebid the project because there was only one bidder and the bid for \$89,000 is much higher than the \$20,000 estimate that we have received from Martin Burke Roofing Consultant.

The Solicitor requested this motion be tabled for the next meeting on Monday, January 6, 2020. At the Reorganization meeting Council can consider any and all business that comes forth. Given that the Council expires on the 1st Monday this Council cannot authorize a bid for the next Council.

- NDI recommends authorizing the Engineer to prepare and re-advertise for bids for the replacement of the Library HVAC system.

The Solicitor requested the motion to prepare the bids and on January 6th Council can authorize the bids for advertisement.

- Motion to adopt Resolution #2019-006, designating the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) priority and alternative projects to be applied for in the 2020 CDBG.

Moved By: Councilor Clara Johnson

Seconded By: Vice President Ronald Francis

Unanimous

*Note: NDI suggested the Priority project to be replacement of the sanitary sewer main and street laterals and full resurfacing on Cypress Street from Longacre Boulevard to Baily Road.

- The Priority list status was requested by President Monroe. NDI is waiting for Public Works to review the list and give suggestions. NDI will finalize the costs once they received a response from the Public Works Department.

- Stormwater Tip: More Salt does not equal more melting snow. Follow the product instructions when spreading de-icing material and give it time to work. Clean up any material remaining after the snow/ice melts.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance, Councilman Cave - Chair

- Motion to approve Accounts Payable List
Moved By: Councilor Clara Johnson
Second By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Motion Passed: 5 -1 Opposed by Councilor Taliah Jones-Waters

Councilor Cave abstained from the Comcast items.

- Motion to approve the Cash Balance Report.
Moved By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Second By: Councilor Dolores McCabe
Unanimous
- Motion to approve the final budget for the Borough of Yeadon fiscal year 2020.
Moved By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Seconded By: Councilor Clara Johnson
Motion Passed: 5-1 Opposed by Taliah Jones-Waters
- Motion to adopt the 2020 Tax Levy, Ordinance #2019-1395
Moved By: Vice President Ronald Francis
Seconded By: Councilor Clara Johnson
Motion Passed: 4-1-1 Abstained by Councilor Dolores McCabe and Councilor Taliah Jones-Waters did not vote
The Solicitor noted that on December 19, 2019 meeting there was a public hearing held in reference to Ordinance #2019-1395, related to the Tax Levy. Also, there was a public hearing held for the 2020 CDBG applications.

B. Ordinances & Zoning, Councilwoman Johnson – Chair

- Requested that the Code Report, which was read and submitted at Caucus be accepted.

C. Public Works, Councilwoman Johnson – Chair

- Requested that the Public Works Report, which was read and submitted at Caucus be accepted.

There was a brief discussion with Council President, Councilor Johnson, resident Donna Samuel, the Finance Director, and the Borough Manager

regarding the recycling schedule during the winter holiday season for December. The confirmed holiday pick up scheduled for recycling is December 28, 2019 and January 4, 2020. This information is also listed on the 2019 Winter Borough Newsletter.

D. Public Safety, Mayor Hepkins – Chair

- The Public Safety Committee meeting was held on December 7th.
- Requested that the Public Safety Report, which was read and submitted at Caucus be accepted, unless Councilor McCabe had more, she did not.
- The Mayor and First Lady presented Councilor Dolores McCabe with a beautiful flower arrangement and a proclamation in celebration of her 75-year milestone birthday.
 - Police Department – Police Chief, Anthony Paparo
 - Requested that the Police report, which was read and submitted at Caucus be accepted.
 - Fire Department – Mayor Rohan Hepkins
 - The Mayor stated that the report was submitted at Caucus.
 - Emergency Management – Mayor Rohan Hepkins
 - The Mayor stated that the report was submitted at Caucus.

E. Recreation, Vice President Francis – Chair

- Requested that the Recreation report, which was read and submitted at Caucus be accepted.

11. OLD BUSINESS

- None

12. NEW BUSINESS

- Councilor Cave stated that he was resigning from his seat effective immediately. Motion to accept the resignation of Councilor Rafi Cave effective immediately.
Moved By: Councilor Dolores McCabe

Seconded By: Councilor Clara Johnson

Motion Passed: 4-1 Opposed by Councilor Taliah Jones-Waters

- Council President Monroe announced that nominations for the vacant Council member position would be accepted.

Vice President Francis nominated Rafi Cave.

Councilor McCabe nominated Learin Johnson.

The Council President asked that the nominations submitted be entertained as well.

Councilor Johnson nominated Charles Wilkins.

The Council President clarified that the current Borough Council member position was open for nominations via email and was advertised on the website since the last meeting through December 30th.

Brief Discussion: Council and the Solicitor discussed whether a Council member can apply for a vacant Council position while still being a member of Council. The Solicitor stated that nominations can only happen on the floor of Council. He also stated that there is no resign-to run provision in the PA Borough Code or Yeadon Borough Code. He further stated that at the time the nomination was received for Councilor Cave, he was no longer a member of Council and there was no waiting period, no law, or any case law that governs this particular issue. He referenced §901, 902 and 903 of the Borough Code and mentioned that the Borough must fill the vacancy within 30 days.

- Motion to close the nominations.
Moved By: Vice President Francis
Seconded By: Councilor Johnson
The nominations were closed.
- Motion to appoint Rafi Cave to fill the vacant Council member position.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By:
Motion Passed: 3-1-1 Abstained by Councilor Dolores McCabe and Opposed by Taliah Jones-Waters
- Motion to nominate Learin Johnson.
Motion Failed: 2-3 Opposed by Council President LaToya Monroe, Vice President Ronald Francis, and Councilor Clara Johnson

- Motion to nominate Charles Wilkins.
Motion Failed-no votes
- Councilor Rafi Cave was sworn in by Mayor Hepkins.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to Adjourn.
Moved By: Councilor Rafi Cave
Seconded By: Vice President Ronald Francis

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Management