



BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
May 4, 2021

Meeting began at 6:50 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

Rohan K. Hepkins, Mayor	Present
LaToya Monroe, President	Present
Ronald Francis, Vice President	Present
Clara Johnson	Present
Rafi Cave	Present
Dolores McCabe	Absent
Taliah Jones-Waters	Present (Arrived at 7:00 p.m. Due to Technical Difficulties)
Liana Roadcloud	Present
Mironda Presswood, Manager	Present
Charles Gibbs, Solicitor	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present

III. CITIZENS' FORUM

1. None.

IV. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

1. The Solicitor read a disclaimer notifying those attending the meeting that it was being recorded and attendance meant they were consenting to be recorded. He also mentioned that Council held an Executive Session prior to the meeting regarding personnel and legal matters.
2. The Solicitor read the terms of Resolution #2021-008.

Motion to adopt Resolution #2021-008 regarding workplace harassment and discrimination.

Moved By: Vice President Francis

Seconded By: Councilor Cave

Motion Passed: 4-2, Councilors Roadcloud and Jones-Waters opposed.

Councilor Roadcloud asked if the Borough Manager has the authority to terminate employees. The Solicitor answered no, the Borough Manager can remove employees from active service and suspend employees with paid leave pending an investigation.

The Borough Manager is the personnel officer in the personnel manual and the Borough Code. The Solicitor stated the Borough Manager should be able to act to remediate a situation and bring it to Council. Only Council can suspend employees without pay and remove employees. The Solicitor is responsible to present the information to Council.

The Solicitor stated that in 2019 a comprehensive update was made to the handbook stating that the Borough Manager is the personnel officer because neither Council nor the Solicitor are there every day.

Councilor Jones-Waters joined the meeting at 7:00 p.m. due to technical difficulties. Roll call was called for her. The Solicitor read Resolution#2021-008 again. Councilor Jones-Waters asked questions then Council voted on the motion as noted above.

3. Motion to authorize the Solicitor to conduct an internal investigation regarding complaints received in reference to a Borough board entity i.e. the Borough of Yeadon Library.

Moved By: Councilor Cave

Seconded By: Vice President Francis

Unanimous

Councilor Jones-Waters asked the Solicitor to explain the motion. The Solicitor answered that Council would authorize the Solicitor to investigate and report to Council after a formal investigation is completed relative to a complaint the Borough received in writing from an attorney regarding a former employee of the Borough.

Councilor Roadcloud asked if there will be an investigation. The Solicitor answered yes, and he will use a colleague at his firm to conduct the investigation, which according to the Philadelphia Bar Association, is not a conflict of interest.

The Mayor noted that the Library is an adjunct of the Borough and the Solicitor represents the Borough legally and all its interests. The Solicitor agreed and read the section pertaining to his authority under the Borough Code. The Solicitor stated if necessary, he will use his colleague Jeffery Young or some other lawyers from his office at a significantly reduced rate to conduct the investigation.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to remove the public statement regarding Clay Payne from the Borough's website.

Moved By: Councilor Roadcloud

Seconded By: Councilor Cave

Motion Passed: 5-1, President Monroe opposed.

Council discussed if the public statement should be revised instead. Councilor Johnson made a motion to amend the motion to remove the public statement.

2. Motion to amend the previous motion (to remove public statement).

Moved By: Councilor Johnson

Seconded By: Vice President Francis

Motion Failed: Councilors Cave and Roadcloud opposed.

Note: The Solicitor stated that two thirds of the Council must agree to the motion; if the motion fails, Council must vote on the original motion.

3. Motion to revise the public statement that is agreed on by a majority of Council.

Moved By: Councilor Cave

Seconded By: Vice President Francis

Motion Passed: 5-1, Councilor Roadcloud opposed.

Councilor Cave reiterated that his motion was for all of Council to have input and that the majority must pass the revised statement.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn.

Moved By: Councilor Cave

Seconded By: Vice President Francis

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Management.