

# BOROUGH OF YEADON DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEEETING MINUTES February 17, 2022

### Meeting began

#### I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Council-Harris reminded everyone that the Council is operating via *Robert's Rules of Order* as outlined in the Rules of Council resolution that was adopted. Councilors must be recognized to have the floor and be in order. If you are speaking out of turn you will be considered out of order. There will be a warning and if you continue to speak out of turn you will be escorted out by an officer, so that we will be able to maintain order in this meeting. It is necessary that we maintain order in this meeting out of respect for ourselves, for the office, and for the constituents

## II. ROLL CALL

Rohan K. Hepkins, Mayor	Present
Sharon Council-Harris, President	Present
Learin Johnson, Vice President	Present
Nicole Beaty	Present
Carlette Brooks	Present
Tomeka (Taliah) Jones-Waters	Present
LaToya Monroe	Present
Liana Roadcloud	Present
Isaac Dotson, Manager	Present
Mark Much, Solicitor	Present
Yolonda Hughes, Tax Collector	Present
Joseph Viscuso, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present

### III. CITIZENS FORUM (comments limited to 3 minutes)

- 1. Jean Burrell stated that she is angered by the actions of Council request that Council holds themselves to the same standards of respect that they are requesting
- 2. Clara Johnson of Whitby Avenue addressed the quality of life in Yeadon
- 3. Ron Francis spoke in support of the Chief and asked why Council would re-open a budget that was already approved.
- 4. Michael Trent of Allen Drive spoke in support of the Chief and questioned the monetary implications that releasing the Chief may have.
- 5. Lauren Footman of Rundale Avenue stated her displeasure with some members of Council and that she stands with Chief Paparo.

- 6. Dr. William King introduced himself and stated that this was his first Council meeting, but he wanted to come in support of the Chief and how he's gone above and beyond the call of duty.
- 7. Elizabeth Deaver spoke in support of the Chief and told a story about her son who looks up to the police department in Yeadon.

Residents on Zoom were given a chance to speak but the audio was inaudible.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to approve the January 3, 2022, Reorganization Meeting Minutes.

Moved By: Vice President Johnson Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters

Motion Passed: 5 - 2, Councilors Monroe and Roadcloud opposed.

\*Councilor Roadcloud stated that she did not second the Motion to adopt the rules of Council

2. Motion to approve the January 10, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes.

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Vice President Johnson

Motion Passed: 5-2, Councilors Roadcloud and Monroe opposed.

3. Motion to approve the January 20, 2022, Caucus Workshop Meeting Minutes

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Vice President Johnson

Motion Passed: 4-3, Councilors Beaty, Monroe and Roadcloud opposed.

4. Motion to approve the January 20, 2022, Legislative Meeting Minutes.

Moved By: Vice President Johnson Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters Motion tabled until further investigation.

Motion to table the approval of the January 20, 2022, Legislative Meeting Minutes

Moved By: Councilor Monroe Seconded By: Councilor Beaty

Motion Passed: 4 – 3, President Council-Harris, Vice President Johnson and Councilor Jones-Waters

opposed.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

Solicitor stated that back on January 10, 2022, Council decided that they would provide Chief Paparo with due process. The requirement of due process is notice and an opportunity to respond. The Solicitor issued a letter to Chief Paparo's representative to provide notice that this Council intends to discuss and consider the performance deficiency as identified below. During this Legislative Meeting Borough Council members will vote whether the deficiency warrants the removal of Chief Paparo from the position of Chief of the Yeadon Borough Police department. It was indicated to the Council for Chief Paparo that this deficiency arose out of his violation of the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement during 2019 and again in 2020. Chief Paparo's duties as the Chief of Police in Yeadon included the scheduling of full-time and part-time police officers. Chief Paparo violated the P.C.B.A by scheduling part-time officers to work more hours than permitted by the collective bargaining agreement between the Borough of Yeadon and the Fraternal Order of Police. This violation of the collective bargaining agreement resulted in the entry of a consent award that requires the Borough of Yeadon to pay \$387,000 to the full-time officers whose rights under the P.C.B.A

had been violated. Chief Paparo and his representative have been invited to appear at this meeting to respond to the above allegations and to explain.

Harold Goodman representative for Chief Paparo made a statement and asked for a recusal of the Council President, Vice President and Councilors Jones-Waters and Brooks in order to have a nonbiased impartial decision.

Chief Paparo gave a brief synopsis of his duties as Chief of Police for the Yeadon Borough, and gave a detailed description of his recollection of the events that led to the violation of the P.C.B.A.

1. Motion to remove Anthony Paparo from his position as Chief of Police and appointing another officer as temporary Interim Chief of Police

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Brooks

Motion Passed: 4-3, Councilors Beaty, Monroe and Roadcloud opposed.

#### VI. MAYOR'S REPORT

1. Mayor Hepkins read an article from the Philadelphia Enquirer about a scandal regarding officers injured on duty.

#### VII. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn.

Moved By: President Council-Harris Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Management.