



BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2022

Meeting began at 7:33 p.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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	Absent
Joseph Viscuso, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present

III. CITIZENS FORUM (comments limited to 3 minutes)

1. John Holden of Gunther Avenue a 23-year resident of Yeadon supports Council and their decision to move forward in the direction of progress and accountability for the community.
2. Cynthia Nesbit is here for the Chief and states that he is a good officer and request that legally everything be done right.
3. Jean Burrell a 30-year resident of Yeadon reminded Council that these meetings are being recorded and residents expect the truth. She also asked for a response to emails she had sent.
4. Lauren Footmen a 30-year resident of Yeadon states she does not believe in the leadership of Yeadon. She believes that leadership lacks moral ethics.
5. Patricia Shannon a 32-year resident of Yeadon expressed concern for children's welfare and would like something done about the school yard which is littered with trash.
6. Ginger Nicholson stated she is here for the Chief and would like to understand the reasoning behind trying to remove the Chief.

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor asked that his report be accepted as submitted and updated the citizens on the following:

1. The Mayor is the elected official that works with the Police Chief and no one asked is opinion on the idea of the removal of the Chief.
2. Yeadon Police Officers have not had to discharge their firearms in the last 20 years.
3. Crime is at an all-time low in Yeadon.
4. Every police department around the country has been over budget due to covid and social unrest.
5. The Borough had to pay a penalty because of the use of part-time officers due to the fact of being 4 full-time officers down.

V. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Borough Manager acted on 1/28/22 to temporarily appoint Crystal Sapp as Borough Manager Assistant. He will recommend hiring her full-time at next Executive meeting.
2. On 1/22/22 the Borough Manager toured the Borough with the Public Works Director, Jeff Wilkinson during the snowstorm to ensure the removal of snow on Borough Streets.
3. On 01/25/2022 the Borough Manager and Code Director, Rufus Stokes inspected all the commercial districts and apartment complexes and took notes of the condition of the driveways.
4. The Borough of Yeadon is applying for the Local Share Statewide Grant which is between \$25,000 up to \$1,000,000 dollars to fund the building of a recreation center.
5. Borough Manager had a Zoom meeting with the Borough Manager of Lansdowne, Craig Totaro to discuss collaborative efforts moving forward between Yeadon and Lansdowne. One idea that was discussed was the idea of a shared library.
6. Borough Manger met with Borough Engineer, Joe Viscuso of Pennoni Associates. The meeting was very productive and a report from that meeting was emailed to all members of Council.
7. A new desktop computer was ordered for Yolonda Hughes, Borough Tax Collector and will be in her office by Monday 02/07/2022.
8. The Borough Manager is happy to announce that Yeadon was awarded \$955,00 for the Cobbs Creek Parkway Rehabilitation project. This was given to us from TASA which is the Pennsylvania Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program which was established for projects that contribute to alternative transportation, including on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

VI. SOLICITER'S REPORT

CURRENT BUSINESS:

Brief Borough Council on the Proposal to Reestablish the Magisterial Districts within the 32nd Judicial District (Delaware County).

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's Supreme Court has directed the President Judge in each county to prepare a proposal for their review. This proposal is to address the disparity in workload, if any, that exists across the judicial district and bring all district courts within a 15% workload of each other. In 2021, in the 32nd Judicial District there was a workload disparity of 520.4%, between the busiest court and the least busy court. Many changes were going to be needed to reduce the workload disparity by over 500%.

The President Judge has published his proposal and the public comment period is currently open until February 22, 2022.

Yeadon Borough resides in the 32-2-47 judicial district and the judge is Keith Williams, Esq. The proposal for this judicial district includes removing all cases originating in East Lansdowne and the William Penn School District and reassigning them to judicial district 32-2-51 (Upper Darby, Christopher Mattox, Esq.). All other cases originating in Yeadon will remain in judicial district 32-2-47.

Advice to counsel is, that the solicitor will prepare a written public comment for Borough Council's review. It will support the removal of East Lansdowne and the reduction in workload that it presents but object to the removal of cases involving the William Penn School District.

That public comment will be submitted in writing prior to February 22, 2022.

VII. TAX COLLECTOR

Not present but sent report to the Borough Manager.

VIII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

Megan Todaro a representative for Pennoni Engineering,

1. Shared future grant opportunities for funding for a recreation center.
2. Discussed Borough Hall with the Borough Manager and will perform a building evaluation for structural and Mechanical reports.
3. Working on County funded CDBG projects as well as some of the awarded DCED Small Water and Sewer.
4. Upcoming grants include a DCNR grant which include potential projects for trails, studies, and park improvements. DCED grant due in May for projects pertaining to stormwater improvements, flood mitigation, greenways, and trails.
5. Engineer will send more detailed information in the upcoming months.

6. Engineer received a variety of plans for the Storm Sewer System and Sanitary Sewer System and their office will put all plans into electronic format for easier review by Borough Officials.
7. Recently met on Lansdowne and Baily with PennDOT to see pole spot for new traffic signal for a project adjacent to it.

IX. COMMITTEES' REPORTS

A. Finance, Financial Director - Nafis Nichols

1. L & E Certified Public Accountants analyzed the adopted budget and the proposed budget, and that analysis found that the proposed budget is better than the 12/30/21 adopted budget stating that they believe the proposed budget to be conducive to an appropriate and reasonable reflection of Council's direction and goals.
2. 2021 Year End Review Revenues
 - The General Fund ended with a surplus of excess revenue of \$164,000.
 - Strong Earned Income Tax Collections
 - Licenses & Permitting Recovery with additional \$80K collected
 - Property tax collection of 98.2%
 - Received \$601K in American Recovery Fund
 - Strong Collections from PennVest proceeds during fiscal year 2021
 - Healthcare rates remain flat (no increase)
 - Increased grants awards in 2021 (Over \$600K in fiscal year 2021 plus recent award of \$900K)
3. 2021 Year End Review Expenses
 - Increases in fees, services, and goods
 - a) Multiple infrastructure emergencies throughout the year that weren't budgeted
 - b) Overall \$110K in unbudgeted personnel cost Borough wide
 - c) Increase fees in trash disposal
 - d) Overall expenses lower than revenues
 - Debt Service caused problems as it was under budgeted in 2021
 - Grant reimbursements offset some expenses (processing)
 - Projections for 2022 expenses will have higher increases due to contractual obligations and increase in cost.
4. Budget Recommendations from Audit
 - Improve internal financial controls to ensure departments remain within budget.
 - Allocation of surplus funding to street improvements and public safety.
 - Increase Revenues to avoid increased fees on residents.

- Research and apply for additional grants to offset projects/general fund cost.
- Develop a strategic plan on how to spend the American Recovery Funds.
- Have quarterly financial review meetings to educate Elected body and community.

B. Ordinances & Zoning

1. No Zoning use application and No Zoning hearing applications for the month.
2. Hot Spots
 - Washington Woods Apartments
 - Parkview Court Apartments
 - Mcdade Blvd Shopping Center
3. Action Items
 - Citations and Violations are being issued daily for trash accumulation next to dumpsters.
 - Working on new ordinances with the Code Committee Chair Councilor Brooks and Solicitor.
 - Waiting on approve from council for the survey of the cemetery Yeadon/Rundale Ave issue by Damon & Damon, may consider using our new Engineer Pennoni.
4. Fire related Renovations
 - 914 Yeadon Ave. - Renovation on property has started; Permits issued.
 - 959 Duncan Ave. - Renovation of property from fire; Permits issued.
 - 300 N Front St Forest Creek - Apartment fire paperwork is in progress to begin repairs.
 - 1009 Duncan Ave house fire - still investigating with insurance company fire investigation.
5. Zoning hearing was held on January 19th regarding the Marijuana Dispensary – waiting on decision
6. Upcoming Items
 - Proposed new ordinances, they are being worked on, will forward to Council & Solicitor.
 - The Code cars will be lettered to say Code enforcement Yeadon Borough, so they are more visual while patrolling the town.
 - We are gathering the location of the Driveways that need repair. I contacted several paving companies to see what they will be able to do for the residence on the cost of the repairs.
7. In January \$3,489.89 was collected in Property Abatements.
8. January Code revenue totaled \$22,252.89.

C. Public Works

1. There were 2 Emergency Call Outs in the month of January
 - January 15, 2022, on Providence and Elder for a water main break.
 - January 20, 2022, on Longacre and Parkview for a downed tree that took down Street Light wires and pole.
2. There were 2 Snow Events
 - January 7, 2022, a 4-inch snowstorm.
 - January 28th and 29th 2022, a Nor'easter with 7 – 8 inches of snow and high winds.
3. E-waste collection event scheduled for February 25, 2022, from 8am to 3pm and there will be no change in trash pickup for Presidents Day.
4. After an investigation into a water leak at Borough Hall we've found a 1.5-inch hot water supply line that feeds four bathrooms in the Borough Building. The line has been isolated, and quotes are being obtained.
5. All emergency exit signs, and lights have been tested and replaced as needed at the Library and around the Borough.
6. 2021 Leaf totals: 110 cubic yards
7. Street Dirt totals: 209.23 tons
8. Potholes are being patched and repaired as they arise (We ask that if residents see a pothole to please report it to the Public Works Department at 610-623-3636)

D. Public Safety

1. Police Department – Police Chief, Anthony Paparo

Police Chief Paparo: Applauded all the residents on a job well done regarding the Mission Lock It Up program with only 56 thefts from auto in 2021.

2021 Year end stat totals

- Total calls – 7204
- Burglary – 18
- Robbery – 16
- Theft – 124
- Auto Theft – 24

Overall, in 2021 there was a 10% reduction in crime across the board.

2. Fire Department – Fire Chief, Michael DiIenno

In January the fire company went to 83 alarms and the ambulance went to 258 calls. Chief DiIenno wanted to make residents aware that hospitals are overwhelmed, and the ambulance may not always be able to take people to their preferred hospital.

3. Emergency Management – Rufus Stokes

Rufus Stokes Summary: There was a snowstorm the weekend of January 29, 2022, and I was out monitoring the condition of the borough road and condition in coordination with the public work department. There was no issue reported while monitoring the storm.

I sent out an email to all of council with the information on the training of the NIMS, (National Incident Management System) that council members should have per FEMA.

4. Community Affairs – Councilor Tomeka (Taliah) Jones-Waters

Councilor Jones-Waters announce that the Community Affairs Committee Meetings will be held on Wednesday at 6pm.

X. CITIZENS FORUM (comments limited to 3 minutes) cont'd

1. Antoinette Truehart states she is concerned and that residents demand a full Council of people behaving professionally, ethically, and justly. She has not seen that demonstrated by every member of Council and we need to work together to end that.
2. William Lee a 38-year resident of Yeadon and very active in his community believes that Chief Paparo is the best Police Chief Yeadon has had.
3. Angela Lee states she is here to support the Chief and would like him to remain Yeadon's Police Chief. She has emailed everyone on Council and only received a response from a select few and would like a response from the rest of Council.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn moved and seconded.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Management.