



BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Meeting began.

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	Absent
Liana Roadcloud	Present
Isaac Dotson, Manager	Present
Chris Boggs, Solicitor	Present
Yolonda Hughes, Tax Collector	Present
Joseph Viscuso, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present

III. CITIZEN'S FORUM (agenda items only – comments limited to 3 minutes)

1. Mr. Michael Trent had concerns regarding the accounts payable list particularly payments to the Borough's legal teams and requested that Council cuts down on all the Special Meetings. He had questions regarding public safety as it relates to the police staff. He asked when an appointment is going to be made to the Civil Service Commission and what the holdup is.
2. Mr. Ronald Green is asking for a camera to be placed at busy intersections. He stated that he is continually being hit with citations and requested that the police stop messing with him. He asked for immediate progress from the new Chief. He is not happy about the appearance of Yeadon and has written notes for the Code Department regarding uneven pavements.
3. Ms. Anna is concerned about public safety and with the hiring of a new Police Chief, she hopes Council will begin valuing public safety, and provide the police with the tools, equipment, and capital upgrades to do their job. What is being done with re-establishing the Civil Service Commission? She is asking for a commitment that Council will agree to hire full-time police officers. The Valori report clearly indicated that the Borough needs 28 full-time officers. This should be one of the highest priorities for the Borough. She is also requesting full transparency from Council.

4. Ms. Liz A. quoted John Lewis “If you see something that is not right, not fair, not just you have a moral obligation to do something about it.” She stated that she applied to be on the Civil Service Commission and believes she is the most qualified candidate. She announced that the Yeadon Good Neighbor’s group has reserved meeting space at Borough Hall for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. On, March 14, 2023, there will be a meet the candidates’ question and answer session.
5. Clara Johnson addressed the Borough Calendar. She stated that there hasn’t been any committee meetings for 14 months.

IV. ENGINEER’S REPORT

The Borough was awarded the ARLE grant for MacDade Blvd & Church Lane ADA & Signal Upgrades in the amount of \$287,000. This grant will be combined with both the DCED MTF and TA Set-aside as some of the project area overlaps.

Waiting on PennDOT approval for speed hump on the westerly side of MacDade Blvd

5 roads on the road program

West Cobbs Creek Parkway from MacDade Blvd to Chester Ave

Yeadon Avenue from Redwood Ave to Cedar Ave

Pleasant Road from Darnell Ave to Parmley Ave

Rundale Avenue trench crossing at Bell Ave

2 Speed humps to be placed on the West and East side of MacDade Blvd

1. Motion to approve the solicitation of bids for the Road Program roads with an estimated cost of \$90,000.
Moved By: Vice President Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters
Motion Passed: Unanimous

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to amend the agenda to include the termination of Joel Avery as Public Relations Consultant.
Moved By: Councilor Roadcloud
Seconded By: Councilor Beaty
Motion Passed: 3 - 2, President Council-Harris and Councilor Jones-Waters opposed. Councilor Brooks abstained.

Motion to table the amendment of the agenda to terminate the services of Joel Avery.

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters

Seconded By: President Council-Harris

Motion Failed: 2 – 4, Vice President Johnson, Councilors Beaty, Brooks, and Roadcloud opposed.

VI. REPORTS

1. Motion to approve the Accounts Payable List for February.
Moved By: Councilor Brooks
Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters
Motion Passed: 4 – 2, Councilors Roadcloud and Beaty opposed.

Motion to amend the Accounts Payable List to exclude the payment of \$600 to Ms. McDougal.
Moved By: Vice President Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Roadcloud
Motion Passed: 3 - 2, President Council-Harris and Councilor Jones-Waters opposed. Councilor Brooks abstained.

2. Motion to approve the Cash Balance Report for January.
Moved By: Vice President Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Brooks
Motion Passed: 5 – 1, Councilor Roadcloud opposed.

VII. MINUTES

1. Motion to approve the December 5, 2022, Workshop Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: not recorded.
Seconded By: not recorded.
Motion Passed: 5 – 0, No vote recorded for Councilor Roadcloud.
2. Motion to approve the December 15, 2022, Legislative Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: not recorded.
Seconded By: not recorded.
Motion Passed: 5 – 0, No vote recorded for Councilor Roadcloud.
3. Motion to approve the December 20, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: not recorded.
Seconded By: not recorded.
Motion Passed: 5 – 0, No vote recorded for Councilor Roadcloud.
4. Motion to approve the December 28, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: not recorded.
Seconded By: not recorded.
Motion Passed: 5 – 0, No vote recorded for Councilor Roadcloud.
5. Motion to approve the January 3, 2023, Workshop Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: not recorded.
Seconded By: not recorded.
Motion Passed: 5 – 0, No vote recorded for Councilor Roadcloud.
6. Motion to approve the January 9, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: not recorded.
Seconded By: not recorded.
Motion Passed: 5 – 0, No vote recorded for Councilor Roadcloud.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Sharon Council-Harris reported that confirmed for the month of January the new Chief of Police has taken office and is well on his way. He has interesting ambitions for the department, including officers' certifications in various training modules. President Council-Harris is looking forward to a very successful 2023 for the Borough of Yeadon. She is delighted to have come out of 2022 and, has great expectations for the year 2023. President Council-Harris commended the Engineer who has worked diligently to get approval for over 4 million dollars in grants, reflecting work within the Borough. Also, a determination to apply for various grants available for a new Recreation facility for the Borough of Yeadon. Three other communities that have taken advantage of the stimulus funds and are in the process of building their Recreation centers include Brookhaven, Aston, and Upper Darby. As our website needs to be redeveloped along with our social media for the town. We are reviewing competent Webmaster companies that can do it right, for us to have a website to be proud of. President Council-Harris thanked everyone in attendance for a peaceable and respectable exchange in doing the business of the town. She also thanked Mayor Hepkins for his support of the new Chief of Police. President Council-Harris also announced a Community Symposium that she is sponsoring with the Yeadon Democratic Committee scheduled for February 21, 2023.

IX. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

1. Motion to advertise for an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Law to properly address methadone clinics and illicit substances sales.

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters

Seconded By: President Council-Harris

Motion Passed: Unanimous

Meeting was placed in recess for Executive Session.

Meeting was called back to order.

X. PRESIDENT'S REPORT (CONT'D)

1. Motion to appoint Michael Trent to fulfill the vacancy for the Civil Service Commission.

Moved By: Councilor Beaty

Seconded By: Vice President Johnson

Motion Passed: Unanimous

2. Motion to appoint Vice President Johnson and Alicia Simmons as alternates to the Civil Service Commission.

Moved By: President Council-Harris

Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters

Motion Passed: Unanimous

XI. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hepkins announced that the next Mayor's Forum will be held on Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium. All are welcome to attend. We will have prizes and raffle giveaways. We also will have sandwiches & beverages.

Police Staffing: Borough Council voted to hire Henry Giammarco as our new Chief of Police. Mr. Giammarco started in earnest at the start of the Month.

Memorandum of Understanding. between Upper Darby PD and YPD: The Mayor has called for a cessation of holding prisoners in our holding cells until three things are finalized within the department.

XII. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Motion to hire Jevon Julal as a full-time Public Works employee.
Moved By: President Council-Harris
Seconded By: Vice President Johnson
Motion Passed: Unanimous
2. Motion to promote Ricardo Maxi to Foreman of Public Works.
Moved By: Vice President Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Roadcloud
Motion Passed: 4 – 1, President Council-Harris opposed. Councilor Jones-Waters abstained.

Motion to table the promotion of Ricardo Maxi.
Moved By: President Council-Harris
Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters
Motion Failed: 2 – 3, Vice President Johnson, Councilors Beaty, and Roadcloud opposed.
Councilor Brooks abstained.

XIII. TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Hughes reported that the 2023 tax bills have gone out and if residents have not received their bills. They are encouraged to call the Tax Collector's office to make sure she gets it to them because some bills have been returned.

Reminder to taxpayers that there are no cash payments or partial payments. Online payments should be available by the end of the month.

Since bills have gone out the Tax Collector has received,

\$6,941.90 Borough real estate, \$16,800 Borough trash, and \$22,752.10 Borough sewer.

For a total of \$101,494.

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Motion to accept all Committee Reports as presented at Workshop.
Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters
Seconded By: Councilor Brooks
Motion Passed: 5 – 1, Councilor Roadcloud opposed.

XV. OLD BUSINESS

Vice President Johnson announced that the Code, Public Works, and Recreation Committee meetings will be held on the last Wednesday of the month at 6 pm. This is to take place starting March 29, 2023.

XVI. CITIZEN'S FORUM (non-agenda items – comments limited to 3 minutes)

1. Ms. Angela Lee is requesting Zoom access for residents who cannot attend in person. She's also asking that the department head reports be placed on the Borough website. Finally, she wants to know what is happening with the Church Lane and Chester Avenue project.
2. Clara Johnson thanked Vice President Johnson and Councilor Brooks for engaging with the community with their committee meetings but asked when the safety committee meeting is.

Councilor Jones-Waters asked for Mayor Hepkins to collaborate with the safety committee and announced the meetings will be held on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 6 pm.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn.
Moved By: President Council-Harris

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by the Borough Secretary.