

BOROUGH OF YEADON DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 30, 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 via telecommunication.

Nicole Beaty Present

Carlette Brooks Present via telecommunication.

Tomeka (Taliah) Jones-Waters Present LaToya Monroe Present Liana Roadcloud Present Isaac Dotson, Manager Present Chris Boggs, Solicitor Present Nafis Nichols, Finance Director Present

III. CITIZEN'S FORUM

- 1. Jessie Peets spoke on the climate in Yeadon and the need for healing and unity. He also believes the leadership here is lacking accountability.
- 2. Lesley Dix is requesting repairs to the infrastructure in front of her house and asking that the Borough make the necessary repairs to her street.
- 3. Mr. Myluma El expressed concerns regarding safety and quality of life.
- 4. Stephanie Austin is having issues with the foundation of her home and believes it will eventually collapse. She's asking what the Borough can do regarding this.
- 5. Angela Lee had a question regarding expenses to the Valori Group. She also asked how people who do not attend the meetings are able to get reports.

- 6. Liz A. expressed concerns regarding the accounts payable list as it relates to legal expenses and payment to the Valori Group. She also asked why there wasn't a motion to hire full-time police officers on the agenda.
- 7. Clara Johnson had questions regarding a payment to Louise McDougal on the accounts payable list. She also requested that the meeting minutes be posted in advance.
- 8. Ms. Anna expressed concerns regarding expenses and stated that Council needs to start being fiscally responsible. She also spoke on public safety and the need for police officers.

IV. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor's Forum: The Mayor held a Mayor's Forum on March 2, 2023, in the Borough Hall Auditorium. New Police Chief Henry Giammarco was again introduced to Residents and provided an opportunity to expound upon his vision for the YPD. He also expressed that many good things were done before his arrival that he would like to build upon. This includes but is not limited to Community Policing. He also expressed his goal of introducing a citizen's crime app that he is developing for use with our Residents. We also gave away many gift certificates and ended with refreshments for all those in attendance. The next Mayor's Forum will be held on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium. All are welcome to attend. We will again have prizes and raffle giveaways, sandwiches & beverages courtesy of the Mayor and his wife.

Flag at Half-Staff: The Borough flag will be flown at half-staff for the remainder of this month in honor of Chief Giammarco's son-in-law's tragic passing. Shane McHugh was a police officer in the Philadelphia Police Department, a Battalion Chief for the Fire Department, and a first responder. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Chief Giammarco and his family during this difficult time.

Police Staffing: With several retirements and transfers to other police departments, the YPD currently has 14 full-time officers, with two out on long-term disability. We are currently down to 12 officers, which is almost half what we are allotted at 21. The Civil Service Commission members all attended the Mayor's Forum and were introduced to the residents. The Commission is in the process of ramping up the hiring of full-time officers so that we can address our vacancies as soon as possible. This is a positive development. The current members of the Commission are Owen Wooten, Carl Graham, and Michael Trent

Memorandum of Understanding. between Upper Darby PD and YPD: This is still in effect and will be for the foreseeable future.

1. Motion to properly advertise for full-time police officers and authorize the Civil Service Commission to open testing and establish a list of police candidates.

Moved By: Councilor Monroe Seconded By: Councilor Roadcloud

Motion Passed: Unanimous

V. FINANCE REPORTS

1. Motion to approve the Accounts Payable List for March.

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

Motion Passed: 4 – 2, Councilors Roadcloud and Beaty opposed. No vote from Councilor

Monroe.

Motion to amend the Accounts Payable to remove payment to Louise McDougal.

Moved By: Councilor Monroe Seconded By: Councilor Beaty

Motion Passed: 4 – 2, President Council-Harris and Councilor Jones-Waters opposed.

Councilor Brooks abstained.

Motion to amend the Accounts Payable List to include a \$250 partial payment to Louise

McDougal.

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

Motion Failed: 2 – 5, President Council-Harris and Councilors Monroe, Roadcloud, Beaty,

and Jones-Waters opposed.

Motion to amend the Accounts Payable List to remove payments to Carl Ewald.

Moved By: Councilor Monroe

Seconded By: Councilor Roadcloud

Motion Failed: 3 – 4, President Council-Harris, Vice President Johnson, and Councilors

Brooks and Jones-Waters opposed.

2. Motion to approve the Cash Balance Report for February.

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

Motion Passed: 4 – 2, Councilors Roadcloud and Beaty opposed. No vote from Councilor

Monroe.

3. Motion to approve the sale of the 2022 Delinquent Taxes.

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

Motion Passed: Unanimous

VI. **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

1. Motion to award the 2023 Road Program project to A.F. Damon contingent upon their execution of the contract and supply of the required bonds and insurance.

Moved By: President Council-Harris Seconded By: Vice President Johnson

Motion Passed: Unanimous

VII. TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

1. Motion to approve the Tax Collector's report as submitted to Councilors.

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

Motion Passed: Unanimous

VIII. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Motion to approve the Community Improvement Program Application.

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

No vote was taken.

Motion to table the Community Improvement Application.

Moved By: Councilor Roadcloud Seconded By: Councilor Beaty

Motion Passed: 3 - 3, Mayor Hepkins voted to approve. President Council-Harris and Councilors Brooks and Jones-Waters opposed. No vote from Councilor Monroe.

2. Motion to hire Shaheed Summers as a full-time Code Enforcement Officer.

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

Motion Passed: Unanimous

3. Motion to hire George Ortiz and George Briner as part-time Parking Enforcement Officers.

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

Motion Passed: Unanimous

4. Motion to hire Craig Lewis as a backup as needed Parking Enforcement Officer.

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

Motion Passed: Unanimous

5. Motion to adopt the Delaware County Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution #2023-002.

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: Unanimous

6. Motion to adopt Resolution #2023-003 for the amendment of the Yeadon Borough Zoning.

Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: Unanimous

IX. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn moved and seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Management.