

BOROUGH OF YEADON DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

Meeting began.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

Rohan K. Hepkins, Mayor	Present
Learin Johnson, President	Present
Liana Roadcloud, Vice President	Present
Sharon Council-Harris	Present via telecommunication.
Tomeka (Taliah) Jones-Waters	Present arrived late.
Nicole Beaty	Present
LaToya Monroe	Present left during Citizen's Forum.
Carlette Brooks	Absent
Kilkenny Law, Solicitor	Present
Yolonda Hughes, Tax Collector	Absent
Joseph Viscuso, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present

- III. CITIZEN'S FORUM (agenda items only comments limited to 3 minutes)
 - 1. Ms. Anna expressed her concern regarding the A-P list and spending, as well as the need to possibly consider an alternative less expensive engineering firm. She had questions regarding spending for the community event that was held recently. She also expressed concerns about the agenda item for approving a separation agreement.
 - 2. Ms. Liz A. stated that residents would like an apology from Councilor Jones-Waters.

** Meeting placed in a 5-minute recess **

IV. FINANCE REPORTS

 Motion to approve the Accounts Payable List for September 2023. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Council-Harris Motion Passed: 3 – 2, Vice President Roadcloud and Councilor Beaty opposed. Motion to approve the Cash Balance Report for August. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Council-Harris Motion Passed: 3 – 2, Vice President Roadcloud and Councilor Beaty opposed.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Vice President Roadcloud expressed concerns regarding Borough Hall rentals. She would like to sit down and review the rental contract.

VI. MINUTES

- Motion to approve the June 15, 2023, Legislative Meeting Minutes. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: 4 – 1, Councilor Council-Harris opposed.
- Motion to approve the July 20, 2023, Legislative Meeting Minutes. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: Unanimous
- Motion to approve the August 17, 2023, Legislative Meeting Minutes Moved By: Councilor Beaty Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters Motion Passed: Unanimous

VII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- Motion to award the Duff Avenue Sink Hole Project bid to N. Abbonizio Contractors. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: Unanimous
- Motion to rebid the ADA Ramps and Pedestrian Improvement Project. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: President Johnson Motion Passed: Unanimous
- Motion to award the Keystone Grant for the Library windows and door replacement project to Well Built Glass (\$55,688) pending grant agency approval. Moved By: Councilor Council-Harris Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters Motion Passed: Unanimous
- Motion to proceed with the additional calculations and plan details for the drainage issue off N. Providence not to exceed \$5000 pending review from the Borough's Solicitor. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Council-Harris Motion Passed: Unanimous

- Motion to approve and proceed with phase 1 additional design work by TPD in the amount of \$4,500.
 Moved By: Councilor Jones-Water Seconded By: Councilor Council-Harris Motion Passed: Unanimous
- Motion to approve the resolution for the Delco Greenway Grant application for an additional Basketball Court at Community Park. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: Unanimous

VIII. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor's Citizen's Forum

The Mayor held a special Citizen's Forum on Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium to honor our recent police retirees, new police officers as well and our crossing guards. It was very well attended, and prizes and awards were distributed as well as refreshments courtesy of the Mayor and his wife.

Police Staffing

With several retirements and transfers to other police departments, the YPD had 13 Full-Time Officers (including the Chief of Police). We are currently allotted 21. We swore in four (4) full-time officers last month (but one of the four left for a more lucrative opportunity leaving us with three). We currently have a total of 16 full-time officers and one part-time officer (with Officer Pettyjohn taking a full-time position).

The Civil Service Commission was authorized at last month's meeting to start the hiring process for full-time officers.

August 10 Public Safety Symposium Follow-up

Camera System: It was discussed that the City of Chester received a grant to build a comprehensive camera network. Chief Giammarco has arranged to visit with Chester Police Chief Gretzky on Friday, September 22, 2023, to review the system and see what applications and procurement protocols may be applicable for our similar needs in Yeadon.

Revisiting Neighborhood Block Captains: After much discussion at the symposium and then offline, former Councilor Ron Francis has agreed to spearhead the revival of this initiative. We have continued to dialogue in an effort to move forward on this initiative. This would be part of our Public Safety outreach in empowering residents and taking ownership in conjunction with law enforcement.

Pending Issues Concerning Kerr Field: The Mayor had a conversation with Superintendent Beacoats of the WPSD last week regarding the opening of Kerr Field. One of the considerations underway is the renaming of Kerr Field to Curry Field to honor the life contributions and passing of Rap Curry, who greatly contributed to the school as a graduate and as a coach. Another name, I am told under consideration is Olympic hero Leroy Burrell, who is also a Penn Wood High graduate.

IX. MANAGER'S REPORT

- Motion to enter into a Separation Agreement with employee number 10235. Moved By: Vice President Roadcloud Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: 4 – 1, Councilor Council-Harris opposed.
- Motion to enter into an agreement with Hera Property Registry, LLC for foreclosure and vacant property registration. Moved By: President Johnson Seconded By: Vice President Roadcloud Motion Passed: Unanimous
- Consideration of awarding the Borough's annual HVAC maintenance contract to Creative Comfort Solutions. Moved By: Councilor Council-Harris Seconded By: Councilor Jones-Waters Motion Passed: Unanimous

X. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kilkenny thanked everyone for their gracious welcome and stated he looks forward to working with Yeadon.

XI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Johnson discussed the need to paint the fence at the cemetery and asked Mr. Nichols to follow up with Mr. Stokes regarding the timeline for this matter. Additionally, she mentioned the issue with making a left turn off Baily Road onto Church Lane. President Johnson emphasized the importance of community involvement and encouraged residents to sign up for various committees to provide their input on matters. President Johnson also mentioned she'd like to create a Citizen's Advisory Board where she'd like a representative from each precinct to sit down and give their input on the community.

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Public Safety
 - Motion to approve the 2023 Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Council-Harris Motion Passed: Unanimous
 - Motion to approve the block party application of Antoinette Truehart. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters Seconded By: Councilor Beaty Motion Passed: Unanimous

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn. Moved By: Councilor Jones-Waters

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by the Borough Secretary.