



BOROUGH OF YEADON
DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
BOROUGH COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2024

Meeting began at 7: 04 pm.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

Rohan K. Hepkins, Mayor	Absent
LaToya Monroe, President	Present
Liana Roadcloud, Vice President	Present
Nicole Beaty	Present
Michael Trent	Present
Jessie Peets	Present
Antoinette Truehart	Absent
Learin Johnson	Present
Kilkenny Law, Solicitor	Present
Yolanda Hughes, Tax Collector	Absent
Joseph Viscuso, Engineer	Present
Nafis Nichols, Finance Director	Present
Rafi Cave, Borough Manager	Present

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

1. Ms. Anna D. criticized Council for ridiculing and misrepresenting residents' concerns, calling such behavior inappropriate. She refuted claims that she is anti-police, highlighting her efforts to improve the community, including advocating for police reforms, infrastructure safety, and school district issues. She condemned verbal attacks from Council members after her feedback, urging residents to speak out against such actions to prevent further targeting.
2. Elizabeth A. condemned Council's hypocrisy in removing a resident for quoting offensive language used by a police officer toward neighborhood children. She argued that residents have the right to hear about such misconduct openly, without decorum being used as a shield. Liz questioned how the police department is addressing this issue, criticizing officers who defend such behavior and Council president for supporting a police chief fostering this environment. She urged Council to prioritize moral conviction over personal agendas and to take action against the mistreatment of Black children.

IV. MINUTES

1. Motion to approve the September 12, 2024, Caucus Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: Councilor Peets
Seconded By: Councilor Trent
Motion Passed: Unanimous
2. Motion to approve the September 19, 2024, Legislative Meeting Minutes.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Beaty
Motion Passed: Unanimous

V. MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Motion to approve Officer Joseph Houghton entering the Act 44 Plan (Pension Drop) Participation effective October 1, 2024.
Moved By: Vice President Roadcloud
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
2. Motion to approve Sargeant Anthony Johnson entering the Act 44 Plan (Pension Drop) Participation effective November 1, 2024.
Moved By: Vice President Roadcloud
Seconded By: Councilor Trent
Motion Passed: Unanimous
3. Motion for the hiring of Carla Yengo-Khan for the position of Front Desk / Receptionist / Hall Coordinator at an annual salary of \$40,000 effective October 28, 2024.
Moved By: Councilor Beaty
Seconded By: Vice President Roadcloud
Motion Passed: Unanimous
4. Motion for the hiring of Nicholas Zizza for the position of Public Works employee effective October 28, 2024, at a starting rate commensurate with the 32BJ Collective Bargaining Agreement pending a completed background investigation.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
5. Motion to amend item 8e on the agenda to consideration to authorize the Borough Manager to amend the Employee Handbook effective January 1, 2025.
Moved By: Councilor Peets
Seconded By: Councilor Johnson
Motion Passed: Unanimous
6. Motion to authorize the Borough Manager to modify the Employee Handbook effective January 1, 2025.
Moved By: Councilor Beaty
Seconded By: Councilor Johnson
Motion Passed: Unanimous

7. Motion to seek a resolution to amend the Borough Code Chapter 150 titled Fee Schedule and Article VI titled Permits and Other Fees.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Trent
Motion Passed: Unanimous
8. Motion to enter into an agreement with Passport Labs Inc. for parking enforcement and payment services effective January 1, 2025.
Moved By: Councilor Peets
Seconded By: Councilor Beaty
Motion Passed: Unanimous
9. Motion to for the advertisement of Ordinance number 2024-008 amending 285-29: Sale of Vehicles on Streets or Public Parking Lots.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
10. Motion for the adoption of Ordinance number 2024-007 amending 285-34 Parking of Commercial, Heavy, and Recreational Vehicles Prohibited on Certain Streets.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
11. Motion to approve Resolution 2024-009 authorizing the Borough Manager to be the Borough's designee and sign for all closing paperwork involved for the 0 Church Lane, Myra Parking lot sale.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous

VI. SOLICITOR'S REPORT

1. Motion to authorize the Solicitor to file an equity action in the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas for failure to abide by the Yeadon Borough Code for the property located at 1007 Bullock Avenue.
Moved By: Councilor Peets
Seconded By: Councilor Johnson
Motion Passed: Unanimous

Mr. Kilkenny provided the following updates:

Mr. Kilkenny informed the public that Council met in an executive session at 6:30 PM to discuss litigation and personnel matters. He highlighted an agenda item regarding authorization for his office to file an equity action in the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas against the property at 1007 Bullock Avenue for failing to comply with Borough ordinances and codes.

VII. ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. Motion to award the 1219 Longacre demolition project to BRB Contractors in the amount of \$55,000 contingent upon the County's approval.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
2. Motion to approve the PennDOT MTF application for Church and Myra Intersection Improvements.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous

Mr. Viscuso updated Council on several ongoing projects. He reported that the Community Park reconstruction meeting took place on October 16th, with the project set to begin on October 28th. He also noted progress on the road program along Yeadon Avenue, where all aprons have been completed, and paving is scheduled for October 28th and 29th. Additionally, he highlighted that construction of the parking lot at Borough Hall is currently underway.

VIII. REPORTS AND MOTIONS

A. Finance

1. Motion to approve the Accounts Payable List for October 2024.
Moved By: Councilor Peets
Seconded By: Vice President Roadcloud
Motion Passed: Unanimous
2. Motion to approve the Accounts Payable Addition List for October 2024.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
3. Motion to approve the September Cash Balance Report.
Moved By: Councilor Beaty
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous
4. Motion to add Rafi Cave and Nafis J. Nichols as signers on all Borough bank accounts with WSFS bank effective immediately.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Beaty
Motion Passed: Unanimous
5. Motion to remove Sharon O. Council-Harris, Lawrence W. Healy, Joesph P. Possenti Jr., and Nelva V. Wright from all Yeadon Borough bank accounts with WSFS effective immediately.
Moved By: Councilor Johnson
Seconded By: Councilor Peets
Motion Passed: Unanimous

Finance Director Nichols presented the 2025 preliminary budget to the council and Yeadon Borough residents. The budget process begins with a reading into the record, followed by a council vote on the preliminary budget. Budget sessions will occur before the final budget approval, tentatively scheduled for the November legislative session.

The proposed budget includes a preliminary 1.25 mill increase to balance expenditures, though this may change as final numbers become available. Health insurance costs are projected to rise by 6.5% due to more employees opting for family plans over single plans. Additionally, property, casualty, and general liability insurance rates remain influenced by past lawsuits, with the Borough accounting for claims exceeding a \$100,000 deductible.

The general fund revenue for 2025 is projected at \$9,784,303, with detailed revenue sources as follows:

- Taxes (real estate, delinquent, Act 511): \$7,887,238
- Licenses and permits: \$421,900
- Franchise revenues: \$167,500
- Fines and forfeitures: \$177,050
- Interest, rents, and royalties: \$81,354
- Intergovernmental revenues (grants): \$596,850
- Charges for services: \$51,147
- Contributions, donations, and miscellaneous: \$36,000
- Other revenues: \$365,274

Expenditures also total \$9,784,303, with departmental allocations as follows:

- Legislative body: \$96,140
- Administration: \$716,801
- Financial administration: \$261,463
- Tax collection: \$35,227
- Legal and engineering services: \$206,500
- Insurance, bonding, and facilities: \$1,052,497
- Police: \$4,688,289
- Fire: \$171,950
- Code enforcement: \$528,292
- Emergency management: \$2,500
- Highway maintenance and public works: \$1,086,971
- Recreation, parks, and special events: \$92,168
- Library: \$527,980
- Debt service: \$260,274
- Planning, zoning, and miscellaneous: \$32,250
- Operating transfers: \$25,000

For other funds:

- Refuse fund revenues and expenditures balance at \$1,228,025.
- Sewer fund revenues and expenditures balance at \$2,915,137.
- Motor license fund revenues and expenditures balance at \$308,186.
- Vehicle replacement fund revenues and expenditures balance at \$133,038.
- Capital improvement budget for 2025 is \$130,000.

6. Motion to approve the 2025 Preliminary Budget.

Moved By: Councilor Peets

Seconded By: Councilor Johnson

Motion Passed: Unanimous

7. Motion to approve the advertisement of the 2025 Preliminary Budget and 2025 Budget Hearing.

Moved By: Councilor Johnson

Seconded By: Councilor Peets

Motion Passed: Unanimous

B. Ordinances & Zoning

Mr. Womack provided a follow-up to his October 10th Caucus meeting report, addressing resident questions and confusion regarding the Borough's abandoned vehicle ordinance. He reminded residents that all Borough ordinances are accessible online through the Yeadon Borough website under the "Government" section, where a link to E-Code 360 provides access to the full code.

He specifically highlighted the abandoned vehicle ordinance, located in Chapter 220, Subsection 63 of the Property Maintenance and Housing Standards. He also encouraged residents to review related sections, including Chapter 220, Subsection 66 (Enforcement Actions), and Chapter 220, Subsection 70 (Abatement, Impounding, and Violations).

C. Public Works

Mike P. provided the following updates:

Leaf collection has begun this week and will follow the scheduled street sweeper days. An e-waste event is scheduled for October 25th, followed by the Trunk-or-Treat event on Saturday, October 26th, which he encouraged everyone to attend and enjoy. Additionally, he noted that the road program is underway, and construction on the new parking lot has begun.

D. Public Safety

1. Police Department's Report

- a. Motion to approve the grant application for the Local Share Account Grant on behalf of the Yeadon Borough Police Department.

Moved By: Councilor Peets

Seconded By: Councilor Johnson

Motion Passed: Unanimous

2. Emergency Management

Chief Giammarco stated that his report stands as submitted at Caucus.

E. Recreation

Councilor Beaty provided the following update:

Councilor Beaty reminded everyone about the Veteran's Day Luncheon on November 9th at 11 a.m., We'll be honoring Ms. Alma Bailey, a Yeadon resident and former nurse in the Tuskegee Airmen Nurse Corps. At 99 years old, Ms. Bailey will receive a proclamation from Delaware County during the event. Retired Colonel Arthur Jenkins, Director of Military and Veterans Affairs in Delaware County, will present the honor, and Justin Cohen, chaplain for the Delaware County Veterans, will deliver the invocation.

Councilor Beaty expressed gratitude to Ms. Bailey's caregiver and brother, Brock, who confirmed that she plans to attend. If she cannot be there in person, arrangements will be made to present her recognition privately. He also extended an invitation to police, fire personnel, and all community members to attend and celebrate this remarkable occasion.

Councilor Beaty concluded by noting that updates on upcoming events for 2024 will be shared as they become available.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

1. Motion to adjourn.

Moved By: Councilor Johnson

Seconded By: Councilor Peets

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted by the Borough Secretary.