

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2017

The Council Workshop Meeting of the Municipality of Norristown was called to order by Council President, Sonya Sanders, at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers.

There was a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Council members were present:

Olivia Brady
Valerie Scott-Cooper
Hakim Jones
Heather Lewis
Suanne Gardiner
Derrick Perry
Sonya Sanders

Also present were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator
Natasha Taylor-Smith, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Chief Mark Talbot, Norristown Chief of Police
Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning and Development
Chenora Burkett, Director of Finance
Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works
Michael Simonson, Code Director
Chief Thomas O'Donnell, Norristown Fire Chief

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Reorganization Minutes from 01-03-2017

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to approve the Re-Organization Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2017. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

Meeting Minutes from 01-03-2017

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Heather Lewis to Motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from January 3, 2017.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Council President Sanders announced that Council met in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting to discuss litigation issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilwoman Lewis announced that the Norristown Parks and Recreation Department will hold "Winter Game Night" on Friday from 6-8 pm at the First Presbyterian Church on DeKalb and Airy Streets. There will be Nachos.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no Public Comment.

COMMUNICATION:

There were no Communication items.

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR:

National League of Cities Membership

Council consideration of having the Municipality of Norristown join the National League of Cities, a national advocacy organization for municipalities that is dedicated to helping municipal leaders build better communities.

Mr. Crandall Jones provided an explanation.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Hakim Jones to Council consideration of having the Municipality of Norristown join the National League of Cities, a national advocacy organization for municipalities that is dedicated to helping municipal leaders build better communities.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

FINANCE:

Resolution No. 17-106 Capital Project Financing and 2004 Bond Refinancing

Ms. Chenora Burkett introduced Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Edelman, Financial Advisors, who provided details about borrowing and financing.

Motion carries unanimously.

There was a motion by Heather Lewis with a second by Hakim Jones to Motion. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

Resolution No. 17-107 Governmental Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement-Public Safety (Polaris)

Ms. Burkett provided details about the Lease Purchase.

Motion carries unanimously.

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Handicapped Parking

Motion to approve or disapprove Resolution No. 17-103 regarding requests for disabled parking spaces and to remove disabled parking spaces.

Chief Talbot explained that the request for the parking space is for 102 Hamilton Street and the removal of the disabled parking space is for 431 Sandy Street.

Motion carries unanimously.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Heather Lewis to Motion to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-103 regarding requests for disabled parking spaces and to remove disabled parking spaces.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

Appointment of Entry Level Police Officers

Recommendation to approve conditional offers of employment for three entry level police officers based on the January 16th, 2017 Civil Service Commission Entry Level Candidates List.

Chief Talbot provided details and suggested to Council that they have 2 options:

1. Extend candidate Samantha O'Neil's (a veteran) conditional offer of employment and permission for conditional offers of employment to two (2) additional officers yet to

be named (to save time.)

2. Extend candidate Samantha O'Neil's conditional offer of employment and come back with two (2) names of the additional officers.

There was a motion on the floor by Councilwoman Brady with a second by Councilman Jones to approve Option #1 with the conditional offers of employment for three (3) entry-level police officers based on the January 16, 2017 Civil Service Commission Entry-Level Candidates List.

Motion carries unanimously.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Hakim Jones to Recommend approval of conditional offers of employment for three (3) entry-level police officers based on the January 16, 2017 Civil Service Commission Entry-Level Candidates List.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

PLANNING AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT:

Retail Strategy and Recruiting Study - Presentation of Findings by Downtown Works

There was a Power Point Presentation regarding the findings and the suggestion of hiring a Retail Advocate to recruit retailers.

Main Street Citgo LLC - Final Land Development Approval - Resolution 17-104 of 2017

Council approve or deny Resolution 17-104 of 2017 granting final land development approval to Main Street Citgo LLC for the construction of a convenience store.

The Engineer for the Applicant was present to provide details of the site including the convenience store and the Municipal Engineer, Ted Dmytryk of Pennoni presented the request for three (3) waivers.

Motion carries unanimously.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Derrick Perry to Motion to approve or deny Resolution 17-104 of 2017 granting final land development approval to Main Street Citgo LLC for the construction of a convenience store.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

Approve Stony Creek /Saw Mill Run Greenway Plan - Resolution 17-105 of 2017

Approve Resolution 17-105 of 2017 approving the Stony Creek/ Saw Mill Run Greenways Plan

subsequent to the Montgomery County Planning Commission presentation of the Plan.

There was a presentation of the Plan by a representative of the County.

Motion carries unanimously.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve/deny Resolution 17-105 of 2017 approving the Stony Creek/Saw Mill Run Greenways Plan subsequent to the Montgomery County Planning Commission presentation of the Plan.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

LERTA Application from Five Saints Distilling and International Spirits LLC

Five Saints Distilling and International Spirits, LLC (Five Saints) will provide overview of Phase I construction and business development activities, and unveil Phase II construction and business expansion plans as they relate to its LERTA application.

Mr. John George provided an overview of Phase I construction and business development activities and information regarding Phase II construction and business expansion plans as they relate to its LERTA Application.

There was a motion on the floor by Councilwoman Brady with a second by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper to authorize the forwarding of the business development plans to the Norristown Area School District (NASD) and the County for preliminary review.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to LERTA Application from Five Saints Distillery and International Spirits LLC. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Police Report

Police Chief Talbot presented his report which included crime statistics and programs.

Fire Report

Fire Chief O'Donnell presented his Report which included training programs, Christmas events, Performance Review, statistics, inspections, drills, Public Education and financial information.

Code Enforcement Report

Mr. Simonson presented his report that detailed the number of inspections and citations, Work Camp information, and FAQs on the website. He noted that an Ordinance will be proposed for funding contractors.

Non-presenting Department Reports

ADJOURNMENT:

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Suanne Gardiner to ADJOURNMENT:. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Brady, Gardiner, Jones, Lewis, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo