

**NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY**  
**COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

**March 21, 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  
Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor  
Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning and Development  
Chenora Burkett, Director of Finance  
Mark Talbot, Chief of Police  
Thomas O'Donnell, Fire Chief  
Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works  
Michael Simonson, Code Manager

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Meeting Minutes from 03-07-2017

All in favor. Motion carries

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve Minutes from 3-7-2017.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Council President Sanders announced that Council did not meet in Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

## Municipality of Norristown 2016 Annual Report

### Presentation of Expressive Path: Arts and Music Festival

Ms. Pamela Martin, Founder and Director of Expressive Path, will be presenting a proposal requesting permission for an Arts and Music Festival at the Elmwood Park Bandshell and seeks Council's approval to have food trucks at the event.

Councilwoman Gardiner asked that she be recused from any action on this item since she is on the Board of Expressive Path.

### Presentation of Good Works: Home Repair Program

Mr. Bob Lisowski will be introducing Council to Good Works Inc., a faith-based nonprofit organization that offers NO COST repairs to homeowners throughout Central and Northern Chester County.

### National League of Cities Discussion - Councilwoman Scott-Cooper & Councilwoman Lewis

Council members Valerie Scott-Cooper & Heather Lewis will be sharing what they learned from attending the National League of Cities (NLC) Spring Conference and will request that Council set aside funds to send a delegation to the NLC Fall Conference.

Council members Valerie Scott-Cooper and Heather Lewis shared what they learned from attending the National League of Cities (NLC) Spring Conference and requested that Council set aside funds to send a delegation to the NLC Fall Conference.

Councilwoman Scott-Cooper shared information she received from attending workshops at the Conference including sister cities, small city Council meetings and bringing back the Youth Council.

Councilwoman Lewis also shared information she obtained from attending workshops at the Conference including holding developers accountable for reporting who they hire from Norristown, PML, immigration reform issues, after-school programs and how they affect economic development. They both recommended being involved in the NLC.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **Saturday, March 25th**

Chief Talbot is being recognized by the Valley Forge Chapter of the Freedom Foundation.

### **Saturday, March 25th at 8am**

Stony Creek Clean up by the Stony Creek Anglers behind Elmwood Park and the PAL Center.

### **Saturday, April 1st**

ICN meeting at the Human Services Building regarding summer programs.

### **April 8th, from 10:30 to 12:30**

"Coffee with a Cop" at the PAL Center, along with the opening of Little League.

**April 20th**

Valerie Scott Cooper will host a Town Hall Meeting at the Norristown Public Library from 6:00-7:30 pm. Guest: Sarah Peck with Montgomery Park information and the 1529 Progressive Homes Development.

**May 20.**

Help a Single Parent Fundraiser, Tickets \$25.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**John Marberger, 1323 Astor Street**

Had to move car but nowhere to park it during snow. Got a ticket. Chief Talbot asked him to see him after the meeting.

**Obed Arango, 208 Dekalb Street**

Invited Council to Noche de ARTe, 2017 on Saturday, April 22nd from 6-9 pm, 208 Dekalb Street.. There will be guest speakers. Also, Mr. Arango told Council about problems with receiving parking tickets. He sometimes parks vans with kids for events. Paying a lot of money for tickets. Asking for a sticker since they are a non-profit serving the community.

**COMMUNICATION:**

There were no Communication items.

**ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

**Municipal Council**

Resolution 17-120: Board and Committee Appointments

Council will be making appointments to the following citizen advisory boards: Special & Cultural Events Committee,

Council was asked to add Jason Ferber to Special and Cultural Events Committee.

**Motion Carries**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to approve/deny Resolution 17-120: Board and Committee Appointments.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

**FINANCE:**

Ordinance 17-02 Issuance of Two (2) GO Notes-CIP Plan

Ordinance 17-02 Issuance of Two (2) General Obligation ("GO") Notes-CIP

The Municipality's Financial Advisor, Mr. Chris Gibbons, provided details of the Plan. He noted that the Municipality's is AA-

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Heather Lewis to Motion to approve/deny Ordinance 17-02 Issuance of Two (2) GO Notes-CIP Plan.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Ordinance 17-03 Issuance of Federally Taxable GO Bond Series AAA of 2017

To consider approval of Ordinance 17-03 to issue Federally Taxable General Obligation ("GO") bonds Series AAA of 2017.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to approve/deny Ordinance 17-03 Issuance of Federally Taxable GO Bond Series AAA of 2017. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Ordinance 17-04: Amending Chapters 120 & 251 of the Municipal Code

Ordinance 17-04 amends the Norristown Municipal Code to re-title Chapter 120 as Building Permits; to provide for enforcement of Chapter 120; amend the penalties for violations of Chapter 120; providing an enforcement provision in Chapter 251 and repealing any inconsistent ordinances.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve/deny Ordinance 17-04: Amending Chapters 120 & 251 of the Municipal Code.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

### **PLANNING AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT:**

Motion to Open the Agenda to Conduct a Conditional Use Hearing

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to open the agenda for a Public Hearing.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution 17-118: Conditional Use Hearing - 750 Markley Street

Approve or deny conditional use application for off premises outdoor advertising at 750 Markley Street.

Director Musonye explained that this application was presented at an informal Planning Commission Meeting with the 3 members in favor of it.

**Motion carries 6-0.**

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Heather Lewis to Motion to approve/deny Conditional Use application for off-premises outdoor advertising at 750 Markley Street.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Gardiner

ELON at Montgomery Park - LERTA Application

Review of LERTA application submitted by ELON at Montgomery Park.

Mr. Vargas provided Council with a handout and provided details of the development, history of the project and financing.

Solicitor Kilkenny asked if there was a discussion with the County and School District. Mr. Vargas noted he only had a conversation with the County Assessor to understand the assessing process.

Mr. Crandall Jones explained that staff is looking to see if Council is in favor of this project. He noted that if Council is in favor, the County and School District would be notified and the application would be sent to them and there will be a discussion with them. The result of the discussion with the County and School District will then be conveyed to Council.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to Review the LERTA application submitted by ELON at Montgomery Park.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution 17-119: Norristown Petroleum- Petition to Vacate ROW

Set May 16, 2017 as the date for a public hearing to consider the Petition submitted by Norristown Petroleum, LLC to vacate a four foot right of way that traverses the property located at 220 W Main Street.

**All in favor. Motion carries**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Heather Lewis to Motion to approve/deny Resolution 17-119: Norristown Petroleum - Petition to vacate a right-of-way that traverses the property located at 220 West Main Street and to set May 17, 2017 as the date for a Public Hearing to consider the Petition.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

#### Police Report

Police Chief Talbot provided details of his report with items such as Executive Leadership Course, policy changes with ICE, network with social services groups, continuing forums, Open Office Hours for resident concerns, managing crime, team development and crime reduction statistics.

#### Fire Report

Fire Chief O'Donnell provided details such as Executive Summary, grant needs, retreat, in-service training for University of Pennsylvania, Meet and Greet with PAWC, performance results, inspections, smoke detector blitz, ISO implementation, Risk Reduction Strategies and PSAs.

#### Code Enforcement Report

Mr. Simonson reported on the number of inspections and citations, Work Camp applications, quarterly training,

#### Non-presenting Department Reports

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

There was a motion to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to adjourn the Council Workshop Meeting of March 21, 2017.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo