

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

**April 18, 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 Police Chief  
Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning/Development  
Chenora Burkett, Director of Finance  
Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works  
Michael Simonson, Code Manager

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Meeting Minutes from 04-04-2017

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to approve Minutes from the April 4, 2017 Council Meeting.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Council President Sanders announced there was no Executive Session prior to tonight's meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Norristown Area 2017-18 Budget

Ms. Anne Rohricht, Chief Financial Officer for Norristown Area School District, presented

the preliminary budget for the 2017-18 school year. She asked Council to advocate for them to the legislators.

#### Farmers Market at Main & Green Request

Mr. Patrick Druhan, Food Resource Center Director at CADCOM presented a request for permission to use the Municipal Lot at Main and Green Streets for a Saturday Morning Farmer's Market.

Mr. Crandall Jones commented that this request is in line with more downtown activity and recommends approval.

#### **Motion Carries 4-0, with 3 council members abstaining**

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Derrick Perry to allow a farmers market at the municipal lot located at Main & Green Streets. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

Ayes: Gardiner, Perry, Sanders, Scott-Cooper

Abstain: Brady, Jones, Lewis

#### County Bicycle Plan Discussion - Councilwoman Brady

Councilwoman Brady presented details about the plan and requested feedback to be shared on the website.

#### **ANNOUCEMENTS:**

**FIVE SAINTS DISTILLERY** - Saturday, April 22 from 7 pm to 11 pm. Music by "Alex Levin Trio."

**TOWN HALL MEETING** - Thursday, April 20 at the Norristown Public Library from 6 pm to 7:30 pm with Councilwoman Scott-Cooper. Info on the 1529 DeKalb Street project and the Montgomery Park site project.

**UNIVERSAL COPY & PRINT** - 1st year Anniversary celebration on May 12 from 2 pm to 4 pm.

**HELP A SINGLE PARENT** - May 20 at 6 pm. Proceeds go to Single Parents and Men of Excellence.

**FRIDAY NIGHT GAME NIGHT** - May 21 from 5:40 to 8:00. First Presbyterian Church. "Make Your Own Snow Cones."

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY** - Sunday, April 23 from 11 am to 2 pm at the Blue Bell Country Club. Presented by CADCOM.

**GREAT NORRISTOWN CLEAN-UP** - May 7 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Riverfront

Park.

**ROCK THE BLOCK** - Saturday, April 22 beginning at 8 am with Pottstown Council and Norristown Council.

**NACHO ART DAY** - Saturday, May 6 at the Centre Theatre.

**DRIVER'S LICENSE RECOVERY** - May 11 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Carver Center sponsored by Senator Leach and Legal Aid of Southeastern PA.

**FAIR HOUSING WORKSHOPS** - Friday, April 28 from 9 am to 2 pm sponsored by the Community College of Philadelphia.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no Public Comment.

**COMMUNICATION:**

There were no Communication items.

**ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

**PLANNING AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT:**

Motion to Open a Public Hearing

**Motion Carries**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to open a Public Hearing for Ordinance 17-01: Zoning Amendment. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Continuation of Public Hearing to Consider Ordinance 17-01 of 2017

Council continued the public hearing on a proposed amendment (Ordinance 17-01 of 2017) to Zoning Chapter 320 from the Code of the Municipality of Norristown to consider, among other issues, medical marijuana processors and dispensaries, design standards in commercial zoning districts, and the inclusion of certain definitions.

There was no Public Comment.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by to Close the public hearing on Ordinance 17-01 of 2017. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Ordinance 17-01: Zoning Amendment

Director Musonye provided details of the amendments being requested and recommended approval.

**Motion Carries**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Heather Lewis to motion to approve Ordinance 17-01 of 2017. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution 17-125: SR Realty Group, LP - Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision - Land Development Approval

Request for preliminary/final plan approval for a minor subdivision and land development for the property located at 27 W. Fornance Street.

Municipal Engineer, Ted Dmytryk, provided details of the Variances and Waivers.

**Motion Carries.**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-125 Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision - Land Development Approval for SR Realty Group, LP. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution 17-126: Barr-Ceretti - Request for preliminary/final minor subdivision/land development approval

Request for preliminary/final minor subdivision approval for a 5 foot lot line adjustment between 1403 and 1405 Plymouth Boulevard.

**Motion Carries**

There was a motion by Hakim Jones with a second by Derrick Perry to Motion to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-126 - Request for preliminary/final minor subdivision approval for a 5-foot lot line adjustment between 1403 and 1405 Plymouth Boulevard.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Lewis

## One Montgomery Plaza - Facade Replacement

Request by the County of Montgomery to approve facade replacement at One Montgomery Plaza (425 Swede Street)

Mr. Tom Bonner, Capital Projects Program Director for Montgomery County, provided Council an update on the County's Campus Plan for Downtown Norristown.

### **Motion Carries 4-0 with 1 council member abstaining**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to approve/disapprove a request by the County of Montgomery to approve a façade replacement at One Montgomery Plaza (425 Swede Street). A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Lewis

### **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Resolution No. 17-124: Designating Disabled Parking

To establish handicapped parking at the following Norristown address:

1246 Tyler Street

Chief Talbot explained that the resident has physical limitation.

### **Motion Carries.**

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-124 - Designated Disabled Parking to establish handicapped parking at 1246 Tyler Street. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Lewis

### **PUBLIC WORKS:**

Funding for Sidewalk/Curb/Gutter Repair

Director Odenigbo provided details of specific sidewalk and curb issues.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Suanne Gardiner to Motion to approve/disapprove funding for sidewalk/curb/gutter repairs. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Lewis

**MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR:**

Approval of Three-Year Labor Agreement Between the Municipality of Norristown and AFSCME Local 317 Clerical/Technical Unit

Municipal Council is requested to approve a 3-year (2017-2019) labor agreement with AFSCME Local 317 bargaining unit representing clerical/technical employees.

Mr. Crandall Jones provided details of the issues and language changes.

The contract would be from January 2017 until December 2019.

There was a motion by Hakim Jones with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve a 3 year labor agreement between the Municipality of Norristown and AFSCME Local 317 representing clerical/technical employees. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Lewis

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:**

Finance Report

Details of the Finance Report were provided by Director Burkett. These include such items as the Capital Implementation Project loan, Bond Rating, Re-Financing, Road Improvement Plan, Audit process for Liquid Fuels, Cash Balances, Real Estate Tax, Revenues and Expenses.

Public Works Report

Director Odenigbo provided details of the report such as potholes, alleys, tree limb cutting, status of street sweepers, Summit Park, inlet cleaning, HVAC system, and a possible grant for homeowners that live near the creek to clean it up.

Planning & Development Report

Director Musonye provided details such as a Retail Recruiter advertisement and interviewing process, Riverfront Master Plan, new Intern, "Good Works," interest in the Post Office building, new businesses, Zoo parking lot project linking with downtown, interest in Catholic Shop building, Five Saints, Renovation Contest.

Office of the Administrator Reports

Mr. Crandall Jones reported on the Special Events Committee, invitations to businesses for the July 4th Parade, New Horizons Collaborative, need for summer camp assistants, website update, community events, Luxor Apartments.

Non-presenting Department Reports

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motions Carries**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by to Motion to adjourn the Council Workshop of April 18, 2017. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Lewis

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo