

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 4, 2017

The Council Meeting of the Municipality of Norristown was called to order by Council President, Sonya Sanders, at 7:30 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
Chief Mark Talbot, Norristown Chief of Police
Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning and Municipal Development
Chenora Burkett, Director of Finance
Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works
Michael Simonson, Code Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Workshop Minutes from 03-21-2017

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Heather Lewis to Approve the minutes from the March 21, 2017 WORKSHOP MEETING.. 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:

TOWN HALL MEETING

Hosted by Councilwoman Valerie Scott Cooper. **Thursday, April 20, 2017** from 6:00 to 7:30 pm at the Norristown Public Library. Discussion about the 1529 DeKalb Street project and the Montgomery Park Project.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Universal Copy & Print, 114 East Main Street, will be celebrating their **FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY** on **May 12, 2017** from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

ANNUAL REPORT

The Municipality of Norristown's Annual Report for fiscal year 2016 can be viewed online at norristown.org. Hard copies are also available in the Office of the Administrator.

VACANCIES

There are 3 vacancies on the Special and Cultural Events Committee. If you are interested, please email your resume and a letter of interest to Catherine Iwanowicz at ciwanowicz@norristown.org

COFFEE WITH A COP

Norristown PD's next Coffee with a Cop event will be held at the Little League Baseball Field on **Saturday, April 8th** from 10:30 to 12:30 pm.

EASTER EGG HUNT and PARADE,

There will be a community Easter Egg Hunt and Parade on **Saturday, April 8th** at Elmwood Park at 12:00 pm. Ages up to 12.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Charles Earnest, 41 East Freedley Street

Mr. Earnest address Council in regards to the proposed development at 1529 DeKalb Street. Mr. Earnest questioned the validity of one of the Zoning Hearing Board members. He stated he can't find record of them. He also questioned if they knew about the rescheduling of the 1/26/16 meeting. He also had questions regarding the information he has. He was told by Council President Sanders to attend the upcoming Town Hall Meeting regarding this project.

Jamie Arthur

requested approval to have a mural of the late Judge Davenport placed on her property one block from the Courthouse. She was told to speak with Director Musonye.

COMMUNICATION:

There were no Communication items.

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

Municipal Council

Resolution 17-123: Board and Committee Appointments

Council will be making appointments to the following citizen advisory boards:

- Special & Cultural Events Committee

Mr. Crandall Jones read the names of the members to be appointed: Savannah Weldon and Betty Lewis.

Councilwoman Lewis recused herself since her mother is one of the members.

Solicitor Kilkenny directed Councilwoman Lewis to provide the Municipal Administrator with a note stating her recusal.

All in favor. Motion carries 6-0 with 1 abstention (Councilwoman Lewis).

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Approve Resolution 17-123: Board and Committee Appointments. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Abstain: Lewis

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR:

Ratification of Snow Declarations

Municipal Council will be asked to ratify the Municipal Snow Declarations that were issued in February and March of 2017 in order to submit them to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to ratify or disapprove the Municipal Snow Declarations that were issued in February and March of 2017 in order to submit them to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Expressive Paths: Food Truck Waiver

Local Nonprofit Expressive Path is requesting a waiver to allow food trucks at their music festival in Elmwood Park on September 10, 2017.

Councilwoman Gardiner recused herself since she is on the Board.

All in favor. Motion carries 6-0 with 1 abstention (Councilwoman Gardiner).

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to approve/disapprove a waiver to Expressive Paths to allow food trucks at their music festival in Elmwood Park on September 10, 2017.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Abstain: Gardiner

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Resolution No. 17-121 Handicapped Parking

To establish handicapped parking at the following Norristown address:

879 Cherry Street

To remove handicapped parking at the following Norristown address:

747 George Street

Police Chief Talbot noted: 879 Cherry Street - a medical condition impacting mobility and 747 George Street - no longer needed.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-121 Designating Reserved Disabled Parking at 879 Cherry Street and removing from 747 George Street. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution No. 17-122 Promotion to Police Corporal

To approve the promotional selection to fill the vacant position of corporal.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Tyler North was sworn-in by Judge Hunsicker.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-122 Promoting Officer Tyler North to Police Corporal in the Norristown Police Department. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

PLANNING AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT:

Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Public Hearing to Consider Ordinance 17-01 of 2017

Council to hold a 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 a motion to open the Public Hearing by Councilwoman Brady with a second by Councilman Perry. **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Solicitor Kilkenny explained the process for the Public Hearing, including the submitted documents: M1 - Copy of Ordinance changes, M2 - copy of the advertised Public Hearing in the Times Herald, M3 - Comment letter from the Planning Commission. (Director Musonye explained the changes from the letter.)

Solicitor Kilkenny suggested to Council to continue this Public Hearing on April 18, 2017 at the Council Workshop at 6:30 pm at 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, Pa.

Director Musonye explained that Council has the opportunity tonight to comment before the continuation of the Public Hearing.

There was no Public Comment.

There was a motion on the floor to close the Public Hearing and continue the Public Hearing to the April 18 Workshop Meeting by Councilman Perry with a second by Councilwoman Lewis.

All in favor. Motion carries.

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.

Michael Simonson provided an explanation.

All in favor. Motion Carries

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Derrick Perry to approve/disapprove Ordinance 17-04: Amending 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.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

HARB Certificates of Appropriateness - February 2017

For Council to Approve or Disapprove the Certificates of Appropriateness for the properties that applied for review by the Historical Architectural Review Board:

- 238 East Jacoby St - B-17-02-01
- 125 Pearl St - B-17-02-03
- 216 Noble St - B-17-02-04
- 122 East Main St - A-17-02-05
- 1038 West Airy St - A-17-02-06
- 637 Haws Avenue - B-17-02-07
- 639 Haws Avenue - B -17-02-10

Michael Simonson provided details of the repairs for each of the addresses listed above:

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Suanne Gardiner with a second by Heather Lewis to approve/disapprove the Certificates of Appropriateness for the properties that applied for review by the HARB:. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

HARB Certificate of Appropriateness - March 2017

For Council to Approve or Disapprove the Certificate of Appropriateness for the properties that applied for review by the Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB):

- 114 West Marshall St - A-17-03-01
- 714 Kohn St - B-17-03-03
- 30 East Elm St - A-17-02-08

Michael Simson provided details of the repairs to be done at the addresses listed above

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Suanne Gardiner to approve/disapprove the Certificate of Appropriateness for the properties that applied for review by the Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB):. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Settlement of the Assessment Appeal for 701 DeKalb Street

There was a motion on the floor to open the agenda. **All in favor. Motion carries.**

Solicitor Kilkenny provided details of the Assessment Appeal. He noted it was ratified by the Norristown Area School District, forwarded to Solicitor Kilkenny, and signed by the President of the Norristown Area School District,

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Hakim Jones with a second by Heather Lewis to approve/disapprove the settlement of the assessment appeal for 701 DeKalb Street. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

All in favor. Motion carries.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo