

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 5, 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
Sonya Sanders

The following Council members were absent:

Derrick Perry
Suanne Gardiner

Also present were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator
Natasha Taylor-Smith, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Chief Mark Talbot, Norristown Chief of Police
Chenora Burkett, Director of Finance
Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works
Michael Simonson, Code Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Workshop Minutes from 06-20-2017

Motion carries 5-0.

There was a motion by Heather Lewis with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve the Workshop Minutes from June 20, 2017. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Gardiner, Perry

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Norristown Chamber of Commerce

Kym Ramsey, President of the newly incorporated Norristown Chamber of Commerce, will be introducing herself and her group to Council and providing a brief summary of the Chamber's mission and vision for the Norristown Business Community.

Ms. Ramsey was joined by Mr. Bryan Smith of the Small Business Assistance Center. She conducted a Power Point Presentation which included the background information of the Chamber of Commerce, which began in 1912 as the Montgomery County Chamber.

Mr. Smith commented that this project is "very exciting and a reason to speak positively about Norristown."

Other topic points included Networking, Discounts, Credibility, Voice, Growth and Visibility.

Ms. Ramsey also noted that one of the goals is to make businesses a close-knit community and that this is the perfect time because Norristown is at the heart of growth.

Ms. Ramsey explained that the current goal of the Chamber is to establish a Board and Committees and to implement events and programs.

Norristown Local Publication

Ms. Teresa Parris of the Conshy Courier will be introducing herself to Council and will discuss her plans to start a FREE monthly publication highlighting news and events in Norristown.

Ms. Parris provided background information about how she got started in Conshy in 2016. She explained that she realized that Norristown could provide an opportunity for a local publication in order to bring stories to the people about the people in Norristown and that it wouldn't be the bad news that is presented in the newspapers.

She further explained that the Municipal Administrator would send a request to businesses to advertise in the publication and it would not cost the Municipality to have it sent out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DRAGON BOAT RIVERFRONT WEEKEND

Saturday, July 8, 2017 from 8 am to 1 pm.

SUCCESSFUL HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Mr. Crandall Jones announced that the Code Department, lead by Mr. Michael Simonson, completed 54 "Work Camp" projects this past weekend. He also noted that the Code Department donated \$5,000 worth of food to the needy. Mr. Jones stated that the Code Enforcement Department was invited to join the project again in 2019.

SPECIAL & CULTURAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

Council President Sanders shared that the Special Events Committee did a great job on the 4th of July events.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no sign-ups for Public Comment.

COMMUNICATION:

There were no Communication items.

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

FINANCE:

Resolution No. 17-141 PIB Loan Agreement

Resolution No. 17-141 Authorization to enter into loan agreement with PIB

Ms. Chenora Burkett, Finance Director, explained that an award was received for the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank Loan for a 10-year term which would be paid through the Liquid Fuels Account.

The PIB Loan will be used to finance Norristown Comprehensive Road Maintenance Plan.

Motion carries 5-0

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion to approve/disapprove Resolution No. 17-141 PIB Loan Agreement. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Gardiner, Perry

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Resolution No. 17-142 Disabled Parking

Motion to approve or deny Resolution No. 17-142 regarding requests for disabled parking spaces.

Police Chief Mark Talbot explained that Disabled Parking Signs are needed at 43 East Jacoby Street and 114 West Freedley Street due to the residents having physical conditions that impact their mobility.

Motion passed. A Roll Call Vote was taken.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to Motion to approve/disapprove Resolution 17-142 Disabled Parking. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Gardiner, Perry

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

HARB Certificate of Appropriateness - June 2017

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

Mr. Michael Simonson explained that HARB Certificates of Appropriateness are needed for the following properties that require installations or replacements:

- 1020 DeKalb Street
- 534 Kohn Street
- 626 Swede Street
- 751 Chain Street
- 108 West Elm Street
- 511 Astor Street
- 1233 Oakwood Drive
- 416 West Lafayette Street
- 918 West Lafayette Street
- 619 West Lafayette Street
- 1010 West Main Street

Motion carries 5-0.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Heather Lewis to Motion to approve HARB Certificates of Appropriateness for June 2017.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Gardiner, Perry

Motion to open Agenda

Under consideration is a request to permit food trucks for July 8th event at Riverfront Park hosted by the Norristown Dragonboat Club.

Mr. Crandall Jones noted that an email was received from Mr. Parker requesting the use of food trucks at the July 8th Riverfront event and, since there was not enough time, this was the next Council meeting to discuss it. Mr. Jones noted that they usually receive a couple of weeks' notice in order to establish Police and Fire security measures and to indemnify the Municipality and review the vendors.

Councilman Hakim Jones stated he would approve because of the applicant's continuous commitment.

There was no Public Comment.

Motion carries 5-0

There was a motion by Heather Lewis with a second by to Motion to open Agenda to waive the fees for the food trucks for the July 8th event at the Riverfront Park.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Gardiner, Perry

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion carries 5-0

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

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

Absent: Gardiner, Perry

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo