

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 8, 2018

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.

Council President Sanders asked all present to stand for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Council members were present:

Sonya Sanders, Council President
Olivia Brady, At-Large
Hakim Jones, 4th District
Heather Lewis, 2nd District
Valerie Scott-Cooper, 3rd District
Rebecca Smith, At-Large

Also present were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator
Jessica Bowman, Kilkenny Law, Acting Municipal Solicitor
Captain Clowser, Norristown Police Department
Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning and Development
Rochelle Rawlins, Assistant Director of Finance
Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works
Amrinder Singh, Code Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Special Meeting Minutes from 07-12-2018

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FROM JULY 12, 2018. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

Workshop Minutes from 07-17-2018

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY THE WORKSHOP MINUTES FROM THE JULY 17, 2018 MEETING.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

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

PRESENTATIONS:

Resolutions 18-136 & 18-137: Appointment of Entry Level Police Officers

Council will consider Resolutions 18-136 & 18-137 to hire two new entry-level police officers with administration of oath by District Justice Francis J. Lawrence Jr.

There was a presentation to appoint two new entry-level Police Officers. District Justice Francis J. Lawrence, Jr. conducted the swearing-in-ceremony.

The Officers' names are: Robert Nolan and Matthew Walsh.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Heather Lewis to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY RESOLUTIONS 18-136 & 18-137: APPOINTMENT OF ENTRY LEVEL POLICE OFFICERS.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

Keep Norristown Beautiful Certificate

Brandon Ford, Special Assistant to the Municipal Administrator and Executive Director of Keep Norristown Beautiful., conducted a Power Point presentation.

The Power Point covered information such as:

Benefits of an affiliation: credibility, peers, training, resources, grants and self-determination. It was noted that Norristown is the 14th affiliate in PA and the 1st in Montgomery County.

Mission: to inspire and empower people to make a difference. Reduce littering, increase recycling in the 5 zones: West End, Downtown, East End, North End, Norris Hills, Community Clean Ups and tool share program.

In 2017, there were 2,175.75 tons of residential waste collected. Beautification efforts: Riparian Buffer Restoration. Over \$1200 of native species were planted at Riverfront Park.

Working on a Riverfront Festival which is a community event celebrating our river, the environment and all they have to offer. This would be in partnership with the Norristown Chamber of Commerce. Contact knb@Norristown.org.

Mr. Ford presented Council with the "Keep Norristown Beautiful" Certificate of Recognition for their affiliation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Citizens Workshop Academy Fall 2018 Cohort is accepting applications for the 8-week program. Contact: gprete@norristown.org.

Elmwood Park Zoo events: "Breakfast with a Bison" August 9, WXTU will provide country music on August 18.

Senator Leach's "10th Annual Kids Fair" at the Elmwood Park Zoo on August 23 from 5:30 to 7:30. There will be activities and educational programs for all ages. Register at 610-768-4200.

Elmwood Park Summer Concert Series presents the "Whiskeyhickon Boys" on August 12th, Thursday, August 16 "Pedro Villasenor and August 19 "Fab Forward."

Norristown RIVERfront Festival on September 15 at RIVERfront Park from 2 to 6 pm. There will be food, games and kayaking.

CADCOM Girl Code Program in September. Contact hlewis@CADCOM.org or call 610-277-6363 ext. 166. Free to girls ages 10-18. Serves residents in Montgomery County. Girls will learn STEM, Coding, Billing, Creating websites and games.

Montgomery County DA's Office is offering a STOPIT app. This can be downloaded from the APP Store or Google Play. Use access code: Montcopa. This gives residents opportunity to provide anonymous crime tips.

"Help a Single Parent Foundation" is sponsoring the annual "Back to School Drive" on Sunday, August 26 from 6-8 pm at the Oak Street Park. Contact Councilwoman Scott-Cooper or Council President Sanders.

The Norristown Lady Eagles will be having a "3 on 3 tournament" along with the Willis Brothers Cookout on Saturday, August 18 from 11-6 at Simmons Park. There will be 3 divisions: ages 10-13, 14-17 and 18 and up. Funds go to the Norristown Lady Eagles basketball team.

Norristown Youth Eagles and Cheer Program started on August 6. Ages K through 6th. Practice is at the State Hospital Football Field between 6 and 8 pm. Register www.norristownyouth eagles.org.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Al Johnson

-He said he was at a Council Meeting on June 5 to talk about weeds on the 300 block of Penn street. He provided pictures of the overgrown weeds. He also said he spoke to the Municipal Administrator at a Public Meeting about public parks.He noted he informed the new Code Manager and he hopes he can do something.He also asked if Phase I of the Capital Improvement Plan has been completed with regard to the west end of Marshall Street. He asked if Lafayette to Wood is part of Phase I? He noted that the street cleaning machines never come up his block but he always moves his car. He said he is considering sending emails and letters to block sustainability certification for Keep Norristown Beautiful.

John Henderson

Montgomery County resident. Representing a company that provides music, equipment and ministry. He found out about the event at the Bandshell where students display their artwork. He said he is the messenger on behalf of the Advisory Board member, who will be at a Council Meeting in the next few weeks. He found out there may possibly be a waiver for the fee to sell food at Elmwood Park. He believes the fee was waived in the past. He noted the money he makes is for administrative supplies. He stated he didn't want to have to tell vendors about the fee that they didn't know about before. Council President Sanders noted she will reach out to Pam.

COMMUNICATION:

There were no Communication items.

ITEMS FOR ACTION:

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Resolution 18-138: Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Council will consider the adoption of the 2017 Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official mitigation plan for the Municipality of Norristown. The updated 2017 plan can be viewed here (copy and paste into browser):

<https://www.montcopa.org/DocumentCenter/View/19172/2017-DRAFT-Hazard-Mitigation-Plan?bidId=>

Fire Chief O'Donnell explained that this is a County plan and each Municipality and Township must formally adopt the plan.

There was a motion on the floor with a second to approve Resolution 18-138. A Roll Call Vote was taken. All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Heather Lewis to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY RESOLUTION 18-138: HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE.. A

Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

Resolution 18-139: Disabled Parking

Council will consider Resolution 18-139, which would established reserved handicap spots at 1409 Astor Street, 204 E. Chestnut Street, & 610 Sandy Street.

Captain Clowser noted this is a necessity for the residents and he recommends putting in the disabled parking for 1409 Astor Street, 204 E. Chestnut Street and 610 Sandy Street.

There was a motion on the floor with a second to approve Resolution 18-139. A Roll Call Vote was taken. All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Rebecca Smith to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY RESOLUTION 18-139: DISABLED PARKING.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

Motion to open the Agenda.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Olivia Brady to MOTION TO OPEN THE AGENDA FOR THE 2018 MILLING AND PAVING PROJECT.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

2018 Milling and Paving Projecct

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator, told Mr. Al Johnson from Public Comment earlier, that Phase I of the Road Program has been completed. He noted that every road in the Municipality was assessed. A Road Master Plan was created and ultimately approved by Council. He added there are high priority roads, with Swede Street being next.

Mr. Khal Hassan, Municipal Engineer, explained the bidding process was done related to this phase of the project. He said that 2 bids were received from Glasgow of Glenside and Makefield Site Contractors of King of Prussia. The low bid was \$1,759,325 from Glasgow.

He noted that this is for milling and overlay and the curbs and sidewalks are partly the responsibility of the property owners, residential and commercial.

He stated that the project covers Lafayette to Wood and 3 other sections: Ann between Barbados and Cherry; Church between Marshall and Chestnut; Poplar from Astor to Markley. He added that he and the Municipal Administrator want to meet with the County to discuss construction between Penn and Airy Streets because they don't want to impede with County business on Penn Street between One Montgomery Plaza and the Courthouse. He suggested doing the work in front of those buildings on Saturdays and Sundays and off days.

He said these issues will be addressed and the the project is in accordance with the Responsible Contractor Ordinance.

There was no Public Comment.

Motion to approve the next phase of the 2018 Milling and Paving Project.

There was a motion on the floor with a second to adopt the 2018 Milling and Paving Project by Glasgow, Inc. of Glenside and to issue a letter of intent.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Rebecca Smith to MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2018 MILLING AND PAVING PROJECT.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

Motion to close the Agenda.

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Rebecca Smith to MOTION TO CLOSE THE AGENDA.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

ADJOURNMENT:

All in favor. Motion carries.

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Rebecca Smith to MOTION TO ADJOURN COUNCIL MEETING.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Absent: Perry

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo