

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

**July 3, 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.

The following Council members were present:

Sonya Sanders, Council President, 1st District  
Derrick Perry, Council Vice-President, At-large  
Olivia Brady, Councilmember, At-Large  
Hakim Jones, Councilmember, 4th District  
Heather Lewis, Councilmember, 2nd District  
Valerie Scott-Cooper, Councilmember, 3rd District  
Rebecca Smith, Councilmember, At-Large

Also present were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator  
Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor  
Captain Clowser, Norristown Police Department (In for Chief Talbot)  
Jayne Musonye, Director of Municipal Planning and Development  
Rochelle Rawlins, Assistant Director of Finance  
Amrinder Singh, Code Manager

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Workshop Minutes from 06-19-2018

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Olivia Brady to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 19, 2018 COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**NORRISTOWN 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION:** There is a new parade route with bands, floats, performers, local groups and businesses; a block party on Main Street with live bands, food, crafts, Elmwood Park Zoo Kid Zones. 1:00 PM Concert at Elmwood Park featuring "Old School" and "Wildflower." Fireworks at Dusk. DJ from 103.9 will be playing music.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

### **CHARLES TERMINE - 754 STANBRIDGE STREET -**

Mr. Termine noted that he spoke at the last Council Meeting on June 19th. He asked if Council has decided to amend the sections in the Ordinance he requested. Council President asked if they could speak offline but Mr. Termine asked for the decision. He was told by Council President that his request was denied.

Mr. Termine stated he is a lifelong resident and has been a vendor for 30 years. He claimed that recently he has been harassed and feels discriminated against. He said the "Norristown Non-Discriminatory Law" should apply to all vendors. He noted he was not invited to participate in the 4th of July Parade even though the President of the Chamber of Commerce who presented at the June 5th Council Meeting stated that those who have participated in the past would be invited back.

He noted there are no businesses where he vends and he is not on the sidewalk of the owner's property.

Councilman Jones stated he would like Council to meet and be included on the decision.

Council President explained that the Municipal Administrator has sent out correspondence regarding this matter and where Council stands on it.

The Municipal Solicitor noted that the current rules could be explained to Council in a separate meeting. He added that Mr. Termine is not being treated any different. Council is protecting their ability to protect their right-of-way.

## **COMMUNICATION:**

There were no Communication items.

## **ITEMS FOR ACTION:**

### **Municipal Solicitor**

Ordinance 18-02: Discrimination Prohibited

Council will consider adopting Ordinance 18-02, which would codify the Municipality's stance against discrimination based on a person's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or

gender expression, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, place of birth, age, disability, education, familial status, height, marital status, or weight.

Solicitor Kilkenny briefly described this Ordinance noting it will include protections for various classes of people.

He explained that if one felt discriminated against in any of the classes, they would file a complaint and the Municipality would appoint a Human Relations Commission who would mediate, hopefully without litigation.

He added that once the Commission is appointed, free training would be provided.

He stated that this can't be done by referendum and it was confirmed by research done by Hatboro Township.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Rebecca Smith with a second by Olivia Brady to Motion. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

#### Opioid Class Action Litigation

Council will consider a proposal for the Municipality to pursue litigation regarding the recovery of all costs incurred associated with the opioid crisis currently ravaging the United States.

Solicitor Kilkenny explained that the Municipality could apply for damages received due to an opioid epidemic. They could figure out the health care costs and the effect it had on the Police and Fire Department over a certain period of time.

There would not be any out-of-pocket costs for the Municipality.

This would not be pursued by the Solicitor's Office but the law firm that is hired would receive 1/4 of the damages and 3/4 would go to the Municipality budget.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Rebecca Smith to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY OPIOID CLASS ACTION LITIGATION. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

**MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR:**

## FOP Negotiated Labor Agreement

Council will consider the authorization of the new four year contract (from 2018 through 2021) with the Norristown Fraternal Order of Police.

Mr. Crandall Jones explained that the Municipality has reached an agreement with the Norristown FOP for a 4-year Labor Contract retroactive to April 1, 2018.

The following items were agreed upon: 2.5 wage increase for 2018; 2.5 wage increase for 2019; 2.75 wage increase for 2020 and a 3.0 wage increase for 2021.

Also agreed upon: clothing allowance, life insurance benefits, eyeglasses, orthodontic.

For management: a cap on longevity after 21 years.

It was also agreed that some procedures need to be in place for sick leave policy.

There was agreement on Pension and it was agreed that the Police Chief should be the first point of grievance in the grievance procedures. There were some minor punctuation and language changes.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

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

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

## **PLANNING AND MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT:**

2018 Community Development Block Grant Budget Amendment - Ordinance 18-04 of 2018

Proposed amendment to 2018 CDBG Budget Ordinance

Director Musonye explained that the annual grant award was increased since May to allow for a \$887,000.81 budget. She said that certain programs were recommended and increased and they were authorized by Council at the last Council meeting to be advertised. No comments have been received.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Valerie Scott-Cooper with a second by Heather Lewis to ORDINANCE 18-04 - 2018 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT BUDGET AMENDMENT. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

## **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Ordinance 18-03: Parking Restrictions Amendment

Council will consider adopting proposed Ordinance 18-03, which amends the parking restrictions on the 600 Block of E. Main Street, at the intersection of E. Airy and High Streets, and the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Sandy and Violet Streets.

Captain Clowser explained that this Ordinance amends the parking restrictions on the 600 block of East Main Street, the intersection of East Airy and High Streets, and the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Sandy and Violet Streets.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Derrick Perry with a second by Heather Lewis to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY ORDINANCE 18-03: PARKING RESTRICTIONS AMENDMENT. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution 18-132: Entry Level Police Officer Eligibility List

Council will consider Resolution 18-132, which would approve the Civil Service Entry Level Police Officer List and authorize the Chief of Police to identify and have offers of conditional employment sent to three entry level police officer candidates.

Captain Clowser explained that the Municipality adopted the Eligibility List on June 28, 2018 and that the 3 best suited candidates for the Civil Service Entry Level Police Officers will be offered conditional employment pending background investigation.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY RESOLUTION 18-132: ENTRY-LEVEL POLICE OFFICER ELIGIBILITY LIST. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Resolution 18-133: Disabled Parking

Council will consider Resolution No. 18-133 regarding removal of reserved handicap parking spaces.

Captain Clowser requested the removal of reserved handicap parking spaces on the current list due to the residents passing on or moving from the area.

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Olivia Brady with a second by Valerie Scott-Cooper to MOTION TO APPROVE/DENY RESOLUTION 18-133: DISABLED PARKING.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

There was a motion by Rebecca Smith with a second by Olivia Brady to MOTION TO ADJOURN THE COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 3, 2018.. A Roll Call Vote resulted in:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo