

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 2, 2026

The Council Meeting of Tuesday, June 2, 2026 was called to order by Council President, Rashaad Bates, at 6:30 PM in Municipal Hall Chambers, 235 East Airy Street, Norristown, PA.

There was a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Council members were in attendance:

William McCoy
Mydera Robinson
Natalie Colson
Jasmine Griffen
David McMahan
Rashaad Bates

Also in attendance were:

Jayne Musonye, Interim Municipal Administrator; Vince Poppa, Acting Director of Planning; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Sean Chin, Officer of Special Projects and Interagency Affairs; Richard Lockhart, Norristown Police Department; Keith Gordon, Code Enforcement Manager; Bri'Ana Hawkins, Director of Recreation; Ted Dymtryk, Pennoni Engineering

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Councilman McCoy:

Centre Theater “Jazz Night” honoring Jimmy Smith. June 3rd from 4 to 7 pm.
Cost: \$25.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gretchen Stine, PO Box 526. She returned to complain about how she was treated by some of the Norristown Police Officers after an incident involving an assailant and she was put into a mental facility and today she is homeless. She said the Officer lied. She mentioned there is a CHOP Shelter in Horsham.

Judy Lukis, 104 Chain Street – She said that she left 4 messages with her name and number about a broken street light and no one returned her calls.

Jim Watters, Hamilton Street – He said it is the 4th Anniversary of his completion of the Citizens Leadership Academy. He said he produced 6 books since then dealing with the community. He said he feels a lot was accomplished such as flooding remedies, improved issues with blighted properties, a Veterans Memorial in the park, security for the homeless, “Hometown Heroes” flags and several other issues.

Rev. Elisha Morris, 1204 Pine Street – He said that there was trouble getting their meeting recorded – he said that it was advertised but they couldn’t get into the building. He also added that there are contractors on Pine Street that are displacing residents who can’t park. He said they are also blocking Handicapped Parking. He said he can take a video to show the Police. He said he called the Non-Emergency number but didn’t hear back.

Taria Mayo, 648 West Lafayette Street – She said it’s “Advocacy Day.” She said she learned about data centers at the meetings with Representative Scott and about healthcare. She added there are no programs in Norristown for youth over 12. She said that Oak Street Park needs more control. She said that Council and the community need to collaborate to get the kids off of the streets.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was a **motion by Councilman McCoy, seconded by Councilwoman Colson**, to approve the Minutes from the May 19th Council Work Session. **The motion passed 6-0.**

PRESENTATIONS

Civic Leadership Academy – Certificates Presentation

Kevin Tustin, Public Information Officer, presented the Certificates to the graduates of the Academy, who participated in one-night-a-week sessions from April 14 through May 21. He provided some background information and said “Civics depends on informed citizens” and “it includes infusion of local government.” He announced the name of each graduate and provided them with a Certificate and a pamphlet copy of the US Constitution.

Feasibility Study Presentation on Fire Station, Recreation Community Center and Public Works Facility by Boyle Construction

There was a presentation to provide a progress update to Council for decisions, not for recommendation.

The slide presentation included:

The Team Members’ names: Tony Ganguzza, Sandra Szabo, Chris Haller, Michael O’Rourke, Kevin Godshall, Eric Nogami, Ana Martins, Mark Bahnick.

“Intent of Presentation”

“Clarifications: Conceptual, not final recommendations.”

“Progress to Date” – Developed building programs, wants and needs, visit sites, etc.”

“Study Process”

“Roosevelt Field considered for Community Center and Outdoor Track” (Pros, Cons, Considerations)

“Emergency Services – 400 Markley Street – not enough acreage, access to Markley Street is an issue.”

“Public Works Building – considered Preserve at Stony Creek but 2 acres is not sufficient.”

“Consider combining the Community Center and the Emergency Services at Roosevelt Field.”

“Also considered McCann Park for the Public Works Building.”

“Master Plan Goals” presented by Mike O’Rourke.

“Programs – He said that “test fits” were put together. He presented a Community Center conceptual program that included floor plans.”

“Indoor Track – Fieldhouse – presented a conceptual facility which included floor plans.”

“Public Works Building conceptual facility including floor plans.”

“McCann Park – considered pros, cons and considerations.”

He said they will develop conceptual cost estimates and develop schedules which could include a final presentation.

He asked for feedback from Council.

Councilman McMahon asked about the size of the track and if there are maps of the lots considered for the Public Works Building.

Mr. O’Rourke noted some of the cons such as flooding issues and stream slopes.

Mr. Chin addressed some of Council’s concerns and said they will look into space and security issues with McCann Park.

Councilwoman Robinson suggested a site visit with Council.

Ms. Musonye noted there is also a Park Study currently being done.

Peter Simone, Architect, Simone-Collins Architecture, came forward. He suggested that Council “look more broadly and outside of Norristown.” He said that Boyle Construction was limited to properties you own. He said not to assume a facility that’s not a park can’t be used. He suggested looking at the Intermediate Unit building on Lafayette Street and the Auto Auction at the end of Lafayette Street, which can possibly be acquired or maybe work with a Real Estate professional and look outside of the Municipality.

There was a **motion by Councilman McCoy, seconded by Councilwoman Colson**, to open the Agenda to include an appointment to the Planning Commission. **The motion passed 6-0.**

There was no Public Comment.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Griffen, seconded by Councilman McCoy**, to approve the appointment of Pamela Martin to the Planning Commission with a term from June 2, 2026 to December 31, 2030. **The motion passed 6-0.**

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

Resolution 26-46: request for Municipal Council approval to temporarily increase Interim Municipal Administrator and Acting Director of Planning and Municipal Development compensation

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Griffen, seconded by Councilman McMahan**, to approve Resolution 26-46 to authorize a temporary increase in compensation for Jayne Musonye for Interim Municipal Administrator and Vince Poppa for Acting Director of Planning and Municipal Development which align with the responsibilities and scope of duties currently being performed and to maintain continuity and stability in Municipal operations during a period of Administrative transition. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Motion to approve settlement stipulation for a NASD Property Tax Appeal – 1132 West Main Street

Solicitor Kilkenny explained that the NASD has the majority of the 4400 square foot building.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Colson, seconded by Councilman McMahan**, to approve the settlement stipulation resolving a pending reverse tax assessment appeal filed by the School District, to finalize the agreement, to bring the matter to a close and to reflect an updated property assessment effective 2026, resulting in an increased tax revenue from \$180,000 to \$261,000 to the Municipality. **The motion passed 6-0.**

POLICE

Motion for Municipal Council to approve the establishment of a Civilian Criminal Investigation Division (CID) to support staff positions within the Norristown Police Department

Lieutenant Angelucci explained that there is no Civilian staff in CID.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Colson, seconded by Councilwoman Griffen, to approve the establishment of a new non-exempt Civilian support staff position within the Norristown Police Department, to strengthen Administrative and Investigative support for the Criminal Investigation Division (CID), to improve efficiency in case management, documentation, and investigative workflow and to support Detectives by ensuring timely and accurate collection, organization and review of case-related information. **The motion passed 6-0.**

PUBLIC WORKS

Resolution 26-39: request for Municipal Council to approve the resident-initiated Traffic Calming Program Policy

Mr. Chin said this was brought back from the May 5th Council meeting where it was tabled.

Councilwoman Griffen asked the Solicitor about the pros and cons of using “Residents” or “Property Owners” in the Resolution. Solicitor Kilkenny noted that Owners are easier to find because there is a record of them, whereas, Residents are harder to track.

Ms. Musonye added that there are “transient” neighborhoods.

Councilman McMahon added that some Owners “aren’t experiencing day to day life there.”

Councilwoman Robinson said “There is an added responsibility in being a property owner that exists in the system when it is working well.”

Councilman McCoy said that Residents can come to Council if unable to contact the Owners in order to push it forward. He suggested sending out communication to the Residents. He said he is not against this.

Solicitor Kilkenny explained that currently, the policy states "Resident." He said if it needs to be changed, a motion needs to be made to amend and then a vote on that.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Colson, seconded by Council President Bates**, to amend it back to "Property Owners".

Councilwoman Robinson asked, "Who determines residency?" "How is it actualized?"

Sean said it would have to come back for clarification.

The motion passed 4-2 (Councilwoman Griffen and Councilman McMahon voted no.)

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Colson, seconded by Council President Bates**, to approve the amended Resolution to read "Property Owners." **The motion passed 4-2** (Councilwoman Griffen and Councilman McMahon voted no.)

Resolution 26-45: request for Municipal Council authorization to apply for \$500,000 DCED Flood Mitigation Grant for Sawmill Creek Culvert Phase III (Downstream from Vico's)

Ted Dymtryk, Pennoni Engineering, said this is the Final Phase for the Sawmill Creek Culvert.

Jayne Musonye explained that the application is due May 31st. so they applied. She said she spoke to the acting Planning Director and was told that the \$500,000 will cover most of it and the balance will come from ARPA funds and the interest rate from the ARPA funds.

Ted Dymtryk also noted that the required 15% Match was exceeded and, if approved by Council, the Resolution will be retroactively sent to the County for application and commitment letter.

There was **a motion by Councilwoman Colson, seconded by Councilwoman Griffen**, to approve Resolution 26-45 to authorize the Municipality of Norristown to apply for a DCED Flood Mitigation Program Grant, to secure funding to support critical infrastructure improvements to the Sawmill Creek Storm Culvert and to ensure compliance with State requirements for Grant submission and administration. **The motion passed 6-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

There was **a motion by Councilwoman Colson, seconded by Councilwoman Griffen**, to adjourn the Council Meeting. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo
Clerk of Council