

## NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

December 15, 2020

The Council Work Session of December 15, 2020 was called to order by Council President Derrick Perry at 6:30 PM by way of the virtual gotomeeting.com application.

There was a **Moment of Silence** followed by the **Pledge of Allegiance**. The following Council members were connected to the meeting:

Valerie Scott-Cooper  
Thomas Lepera

Hakim Jones  
Rebecca Smith

Heather Lewis  
Derrick Perry

Also tuned in were: Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator; Chief Mark Talbot, Norristown Police Chief; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning & Development; Norman Butts, Director of Finance; Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works, Amrinder Singh, Code Manager.

### **Motion to Approve Minutes**

There was a **motion by Council Vice-President Smith, seconded by Councilman Lepera**, to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from December 1, 2020. **The motion passed 6-0.**

### **Executive Session Announcement**

Council President Perry announced that Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss real estate issues.

### **Announcements:**

A “CODE BLUE” has been issued from Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 9 pm until Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. If anyone needs emergency shelter, call 9-1-1 or 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898-211.

A Snow Emergency is in effect until 6 pm Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Residents must remove vehicles from emergency routes.

Please continue to send pictures of your holiday decorations. Visit social media at #NorristownHolidays or #Norristown.

“Holiday Toy Giveaway” on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 12 noon until toys run out. Location: 430 East Main Street, Norristown.

**Public Comment:** There was no Public Comment.

### **Building & Codes Enforcement**

#### **Request for Council to authorize agreement with the International Code Council**

Code Manager, Amrinder Singh, provided information about the creation of the Norristown Building Safety, Property Maintenance & Housing Code.

There was a **motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper**, to authorize an agreement with the International Code Council (ICC) to purchase a license for the 2021 International Property

Maintenance Code (IPMC) which will allow the Municipality to amend the model IPMC and create the Norristown Building Safety, Property Maintenance & Housing Code. **The motion passed 6-0.**

#### **Resolution 20-108: Third Party UCC Services**

Mr. Singh noted that this agreement was reviewed by the Solicitor and it is recommended by staff to be awarded.

There was a **motion by Councilman Lepera, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis**, to award a contract to Code Inspections, Inc. for Third Party Uniform Construction Code Services in compliance with Section 7-713 of the Home Rule Charter and Section 4-35(A)(6) of the Administrative Code which states, "All contracts in excess of \$21,000 shall be in writing and shall be awarded by Municipal Council, and the contract shall be executed by the Municipal Administrator." **The motion passed 6-0.**

#### **Resolution 20-109: Third Party UCC Services for Montgomery County construction projects**

Mr. Singh noted these services include future Montgomery County construction projects such as One Montgomery Plaza, the Justice Center and Hancock Square renovations.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Lewis, seconded by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper**, to award a contract to Code Inspections, Inc. for Third Party Uniform Construction Code Services for multiple ongoing and future Montgomery County construction projects in compliance with Section 7-713 of the Home Rule Charter and Sections 4-35(A)(6) of the Administrative Code which states, "All contracts in excess of \$21,000 shall be in writing and shall be awarded by Municipal Council, and the contract shall be executed by the Municipal Administrator." **The motion passed 6-0.**

#### **Municipal Administrator**

**Request for Council to approve Ordinance 20-21 for the repeal of Norristown Ordinance 20-14, which set forth the dissolution of the Norristown Municipal Waste Authority and to authorize the Municipal Administrator to take any and all actions necessary to resolve any litigation matters or remediate any other actions taken in accordance with Ordinance 20-14.**

Municipal Administrator, Crandall Jones, explained that a petition will be put on a future referendum.

There was a **motion by Council Vice-President Smith, seconded by Councilman Jones**, to approve Ordinance 20-21 to repeal Ordinance 20-14, which abolished the Sewer Authority. **The motion passed 6-0.**

**Request for Council to approve Ordinance 20-22 for the repeal of Norristown Ordinances and 20-15 related to the conveyance of the sewer system of Aqua Pennsylvania Water, Inc., and to authorize the Municipal Administrator to take any and all actions necessary to resolve any litigation matters or remediate any other actions taken in accordance with Ordinance 20-15.**

There was a **motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Council Vice-President Smith**, to approve Ordinance 20-22 to repeal Ordinance 20-15, which authorized selling of the Authority's assets to Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. **The motion passed 6-0.**

#### **Request for Municipal Council approval of assessment appeal stipulations agreed upon by the Norristown Area School District**

Solicitor Kilkenny provided details of the assessment appeals for 822 Stanbridge Street, 1100 West Main Street (APS Realty) and 410 East Johnson Highway (Tomasco.) He noted that the stipulations were agreed upon and

approval is recommended.

There was a motion by Council Vice-President Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis, to consider three assessment appeal stipulations that have been agreed to by the taxpayer and the NASD for reclamation of delinquent taxes. The motion passed 6-0.

**Resolution 20-111: Request for Council to approve the 2021 Council Meeting Schedule**

Crandall Jones noted that the next meeting is on January 4, 2021 which will be a Re-Organizational Meeting.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis, to approve the 2021 Council Meeting Schedule. The motion passed 6-0.

**Planning & Municipal Development**

**Review of and approval for either Scenario A or Scenario B of the proposed CDBG COVID-19 mortgage/rental and utility assistance for low/moderate income Norristown residents program**

Brian Mechanick, Assistant Planning Director, provided the details of Options A and B through a Power Point presentation. Director Musonye noted that the program recipients are subject to legal review and some recipients may not be eligible.

There was a motion by Council Vice-President Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper, to approve the proposed CDBG-CV-3 program to implement a mortgage/rental and utility assistance program for Norristown homeowners and renters who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic through actions such as layoffs, furloughs or reduced work hours. The motion passed 6-0.

**Resolution 20-106: awarding a contract for \$38,200 to Community Grants, Planning & Housing for the CDBG COVID-19 mortgage/rental and utility assistance for low/moderate income Norristown residents program professional technical support.**

There was a motion by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis, to authorize the Municipality to enter into an agreement with Community Grants, Planning & Housing to render Professional Services for its mortgage, rental and utility assistance for COVID-affected Norristown residents program. The motion passed 6-0.

**Resolution 20-104: awarding a contract to Community Grants, Planning & Housing (CGP&H) in the amount of \$180,000 (three year contract, \$60,000 per year) for Housing Rehabilitation technical assistance related to the owner-occupied Housing CDBG Program.**

There was a motion by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper, seconded by Councilman Jones, to award a contract in compliance with Section 7-713 of the Home Rule Charter and Section 7-713 of the Home Rule Charter and Section 4-35(A)(6) of the Administrative Code which states, "All contracts in excess of \$21,000 shall be in writing and shall be awarded by Municipal Council, and the contract shall be executed by the Municipal Administrator." The motion passed 6-0.

**Resolution 20-105: awarding a contract to Community Grants, Planning & Housing (CGP&H) in the amount of \$40,000 for Housing Rehabilitation technical assistance related to the Owner-Occupied Housing HOME Program.**

There was a motion by Councilwoman Lewis, seconded by Councilwoman Scott-Cooper, to award a

contract in compliance with Section 7-713 of the Home Rule Charter and Section 4-35(A)(6) of the Administrative Code which states, “All contracts in excess of \$21,000 shall be in writing and shall be executed by the Municipal Administrator.” **The motion passed 6-0.**

### **Police**

#### **Resolution 20-107: Motion to approve requests for Disabled Parking spaces**

Police Chief Talbot stated that a Disabled Parking space is no longer necessary at this address:

1810 Pine Street

There was **a motion by Councilman Lepera, seconded by Councilman Jones**, to approve the request. **The motion passed 6-0.**

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo, Clerk of Council