

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPAL WORK SESSION
JULY 20, 2021

The Council Work Session of July 20, 2021 was called to order by Council President Derrick Perry at 6:30 PM in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit 23, 2 West Lafayette Street, 1st Floor, Norristown, PA.

There was a **Moment of Silence** followed by the **Pledge of Allegiance**. The following Council members were in attendance:

Valerie Moman
Rebecca Smith

Hakim Jones
Thomas Lepera

Sonya Sanders
Derrick Perry

Also present were: Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Chief Todd Dillon, Norristown Police Department; Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning & Development; Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance; Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works; Amrinder Singh, Code Manager; Fire Chief Thomas O'Donnell.

Motion to approve Minutes

There was a **motion by Councilman Lepera, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders**, to approve the Minutes from June 15, 2021. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Executive Session

Council met in Executive Session prior to the Work Session to discuss litigation issues.

Announcements

“Help a Single Parent” 2nd Annual Community Book Bag Giveaway – Sunday, August 22nd at the MLK Oak Street Park. The time TBD – either 11 to 6 or 12 to 6. Need vendors and donations. See Councilwoman Moman or Councilwoman Sanders.

Public Comment

James Watters, Hamilton Street – Mr. Watters commended the Fourth of July celebration. He said he was in contact with Congresswoman Dean regarding storm damage to the Zoo, etc. He added that West Norriton also suffered damage and he believes it is due to PennDOT not maintaining flooded roads. He met with PA State Representative, Joe Webster, regarding a strategy for the Stony Creek Watershed.

Fire

Donate Fire-Rescue Boats to Upper Darby Township Fire Department

Chief Thomas O'Donnell shared with Council details about the donation to the Upper Darby Township Fire Department.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders**, to approve Resolution 21-62 – donation of fire-rescue boats to the Upper Darby Township Fire Department. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Police

Resolution 21-61: Memorandum of Understanding between the Norristown Police Department and the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit

Chief Dillon provided information regarding the Memorandum and how it relates to safety within the school.

There was a motion by Council Vice President Lepera, seconded by Councilwoman Smith, to approve Resolution 21-61. The motion passed 6-0.

Municipal Administrator

Municipal Council ratification of the Purdue and Mallinckrodt Plans in the Opioid Class Action Suit Litigation

Municipal Solicitor, Sean Kilkenny, explained that the majority of Council had been in favor of the settlement and needs to affirm their decision publicly.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Moman, seconded by Councilwoman Smith, to approve the Opioid Class Action Suit. The motion passed 6-0.

Request of Municipal Council to approve Resolution 21-63 for a contract with Triad Associates in the amount of \$75,000 to provide coordination, reporting, consulting and public engagement services related to the implementation and administration of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator, noted that there is a need to have someone on board that is familiar with this funding.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Moman, seconded by Council Vice President Lepera, to approve Resolution 21-63. The motion passed 6-0.

Building & Codes Enforcement

Request authorization to advertise Ordinance 21-11 to amend Chapter 239 (Property Maintenance) of the Municipal Code

Amrinder Singh, Building & Codes Manager, noted that there are 32 Code updates, 24 of them are new Code requirements for the purpose of increasing the health, safety and welfare of Norristown.

There was a motion by Council Vice President Lepera, seconded by Councilwoman Sanders, to approve the advertisement. The motion passed 6-0.

Request authorization to advertise Ordinance 21-12 to amend Chapter 251 (Building Contractors) of the Municipal Code

Mr. Singh explained that these amendments apply to contractor registration and proposed license classifications.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Moman, seconded by Council Vice President Lepera, to approve the advertisement. The motion passed 6-0.

Planning & Municipal Development

Request authorization to prepare an Ordinance for a proposed Zoning text amendment to Multi-Family

Residential District

Sarah Peck, lead developer, stated that there needs to be a language amendment regarding the gross acreage for the Multi-Family Residential District. There was a Power Point presentation.

There was **a motion by Councilwoman Moman, seconded by Council President Perry**, to approve the preparation of an Ordinance for a proposed Zoning text amendment. **The motion passed 6-0.**

Council to refer development proposal for Main and Dekalb Streets Project to the Norristown Planning Commission for Review and Recommendation

Jayne Musonye, Planning Director, read a letter from Alyson Fritzges, Esquire, with regard to this development proposal, noting that there will be a Public Hearing on September 7, 2021 to consider the proposal by MM Partners.

Request approval for CDBG CV-3 program to amend the funding structure for its current mortgage/rental and utility assistance program

Ms. Musonye explained that the funds were not moving due to a County program that went into effect. Council was asked to make an adjustment to the funding according to the County's monthly cap. Council was interested in how much assistance the County has given and whether or not the funds can be used to secure housing. Ms. Musonye said she would report back with that information at the next Council meeting.

408 West Wood Street – 7 Lots Land Development Plan Extension (request to prepare Resolution)

Property owners, Angela Visintin and Andre DiPrinzio, provided a history of the property from the time of the Final Land Development Plan approval on June 2, 2009. There were some issues with builders over that time period and currently, there is an issue with the property's Zoning District. There were also other issues to sort out.

There was **a motion by Council President Perry, seconded by Councilwoman Moman**, to table this item in order to work out the issues. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Adjournment

There was **a motion by Councilwoman Moman, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to adjourn the Council Meeting. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo, Clerk of Council