

**NORRISTOWN MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Tuesday, February 15, 2022**

The Council Work Session of February 15, 2022 was called to order by Council President Lepera 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 present:

Hakim Jones	Rebecca Smith	Rashaad Bates	Dustin Queenan
Tiffani Hendley	Heather Lewis	Thomas Lepera	

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

Motion to Approve Minutes

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley**, to approve the Minutes of the February 1, 2022 Council Meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Session Announcement

Council President Lepera announced that Council met in Executive Session to discuss real estate and litigation issues.

Announcements

None.

Public Comments

None.

Police

Resolution 22-08: Motion to approve requests for Disabled Parking Spaces

Police Chief Wood explained that these requests are warranted because the residents exhibit medical conditions that impact their mobility.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley**, to approve Disabled Parking Spaces for the following addresses:

748 Haws Avenue
507 Buttonwood Street
122 Hartranft Avenue
105 Hartranft Avenue
10 Stanbridge Street

The motion passed unanimously.

Fire

Resolution 22-12: Authorizing the purchase in the amount of \$204,592.00 from Fire Line Equipment and Acela Truck Company for the purchase of one Highwater Vehicle

Fire Chief O'Donnell noted that if this Highwater Vehicle was available, rescue time for the last flood could have happened in half the time.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Lewis, seconded by Councilman Queenan, to approve the purchase of one Highwater Vehicle from Fire Line Equipment and Acela Truck Company in the amount of \$204,592.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Building & Codes Enforcement

Request from University City Housing Co. to waive Demolition Permit Fee

There was a motion by Councilwoman Lewis, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley, to deny the request by the property owner of 104 Schuylkill Avenue (Riverside Apartments) for a demolition permit fee waiver in the amount of \$4,654.40. The motion passed unanimously.

Planning & Municipal Development

Land Development Plan Extension Resolution 22-11, granting an extension with conditions of preliminary/final land development approval to DJV Land Development, LLC for the development of a condominium plat containing 8 single-family dwellings near the corner of West Wood Street and Jervis Alley, Norristown, PA.

Director Musonye noted that the extension is needed in order for the plan to be finalized and recorded.

There was a motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Smith, to approve the request by DJV Land Development, LLC for an extension for a final land development plan that was approved on June 2, 2009 for 408 West Wood Street. The project proposal was for the creation of a condominium plat, containing 8 single-family dwellings by consolidating three contiguous lots, located in the RIA Residential District. The subject tract contains an existing single family attached brick dwelling (half a twin) that is proposed to be retained as "Unit 1." The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 22-09: Award of contract to AMO Environmental Decisions (AMO) in the amount of \$145,320.33 to provide environmental professional services to implement the Municipality of Norristown's United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment Grant Project.

Director Musonye explained that the grant gives the opportunity for the property to be evaluated and it allows the property owner to participate in the programs. She noted that 8 proposals came in and AMO was the best deal and it involved minority.

There was a motion by Councilman Bates, seconded by Councilman Jones, to award a contract to AMO Environmental Decisions (AMO) in the amount of \$145,320.33 to provide environmental professional services to implement the Municipality of Norristown's United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Community-Wide Brownfield Assessment Grant Project. This is 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 unanimously.**

Municipal Administrator

Resolution 22-07: Request Council approval of a Change Order in the amount of \$168,596.48 for Integrity Mechanical for unforeseen conditions at Municipal Hall.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Lewis, seconded by Councilman Queenan, to approve a Change Order for unanticipated infrastructure work due to damaged sewer pipes, poor soil conditions and additional plumbing fixture needs. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution 22-10: awarding a contract in the amount of \$743,027.59 to Corbett, Inc., for the purchase of furniture for renovated Municipal Hall.

There was a motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley, to award a contract to Corbett, Inc. for furniture and furnishings for the renovated Municipal Hall. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution 22-13: request for Council to approve Agreement of Sale for Norristown State Hospital

Solicitor Kilkenny explained that the Agreement of Sale conveys 68 acres known as the grounds of Norristown State Hospital to the Redevelopment Authority. He added that demolition will be bidden on and that some of the existing tenants who are working for the County are on notice. He stated that if Municipal Council President Lepera signs the agreement, it will be forwarded to the Redevelopment Authority.

There was a motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley, to approve the Agreement of Sale for Norristown State Hospital subject to final review by the Municipal Solicitor and the Municipal Administrator. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Resolution 22-14: Request for Council to approve modifying the existing Agreement with the RDA related to the State Hospital

There was a motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Lewis, to approve the request to modify the existing Agreement with the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) by authorizing a second amendment to the Cooperation Agreement between the Municipality and the Redevelopment Authority of Montgomery County subject to final review by the Municipal Solicitor and the Municipal Administrator. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Request from PECO for waiver of Storage Fees

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator, explained that the subcontractors for PECO were storing equipment in right-of-ways but Mr. Jones and the Public Works Director suggested to waive the storage fees since the amount received for permit fees and street closure fees is substantial.

There was a motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Bates, to approve the request to waive the storage fees for PECO. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Request for Tax Exoneration by Deeper Life Baptist Church

Crandall Jones explained that this a waiver of taxes that have been negotiated through the Appeals Process. The County approved the appeal but the Norristown School District did not.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Lewis, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve the waiver of taxes for Deeper Life Baptist Church. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Adjournment

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley**. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo, Clerk of Council