

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2022

The Council Meeting of November 1, 2022 was called to order by Council President, Thomas Lepera, at 6:30 PM in the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit 23, 2 West Lafayette Street, 1st Floor, Norristown, PA 19401.

There was a **Call to Order** followed by the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

The following members were present:

Rebecca Smith	Heather Lewis
Hakim Jones	Thomas Lepera
Dustin Queenan	

Also present were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Chief Derrick Wood, Norristown Chief of Police; Thomas O'Donnell, Norristown Fire Chief; Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance; Amanda Ciarlante, Assistant Director of Finance; Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works; Erica Genuardi, Director of Parks and Recreation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Council Vice President Lewis**, to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2022 Council Work Session. **Motion passed 5-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council President Lepera announced that Council met in Executive Session to discuss potential litigation matters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Designer Bag Bingo" to benefit NASD Cheerleading. Saturday, November 12 at 6 pm at the East Norriton Middle School. Tickets are on sale.

Budget Hearing dates remaining are November 9th at 6 pm and November 21st at 12 noon.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laura Lancaster, 804 Green Street – Ms. Lancaster complained about the trash at 806 Green Street which prevented her from using her yard. She said she complained twice to Code. She said it needs attention.

Cynthia Culbreath – Ms. Culbreath read from her written notes about Josh Culbreath and that he should be honored by the Municipality. She highlighted Josh Culbreath's many accomplishments including being an Olympic hero and icon, breaking many sports records and being inducted into the Wall of Fame. She said she looks forward to him being honored.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

Development Proposal for 500, 600 & 700 East Washington Street by DP Partners, LLC

Rebecca Swanson, Montgomery County Redevelopment Authority, and Jason Dempsey, Developer, were present to inform Council of the Development Proposal for 500, 600 & 700 East Washington Street for a multi-purpose athletic facility and to get feedback from Council. Mr. Dempsey explained that development on these properties is difficult due to the flood plain. He passed out plans for the proposed development. He said this is an opportunity to be a regional draw.

POLICE

Resolution 22-72: Motion to approve requests for Disabled Parking Spaces

Police Chief Derrick Wood explained that these requests involve residents who must park close to home. The requests are for:

614 E. Moore Street
1308 Arch Street
214 Nassau Place
1108 W. Airy Street

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Jones**, to approve the requests for the Disabled Parking Spaces. **The motion passed 5-0.**

BUILDING & CODES ENFORCEMENT

Historical Architectural Review Board – September 2022

Code Manager, Amrinder Singh, explained that these applications are in compliance with the Ordinance. They are for the addresses below:

503 Barbados Street
704 W. Marshall Street

There was a **motion by Councilman Queenan, seconded by Council Vice President Lewis**, to approve the applications received, reviewed and recommended for approval by the HARB for September 2022. **The motion passed 5-0.**

FINANCE

Authorization to advertise and first reading of Ordinance 22-05 adopting the FY 2023 Budget and establishing the Real Estate Tax Rate for 2023

Kathy Pfister, Finance Director, requested authorization to advertise Ordinance 22-05. She conducted a Power Point providing details of the 2023 Budget including increasing the millage rate from 16.0 to 17.0.

Kathy noted there are 2 Public Meetings remaining with regard to the Budget – November 9 and November 21. There will also be a potential Final Adoption at the December 6 Council Meeting.

Amrinder Singh, Codes Manager, added that a potential source of revenue could be Business Privilege Tax Licenses that need to be renewed.

There was a **motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to authorize the advertisement of Ordinance 22-05. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Discussion on Preliminary 2023-2027 Capital Improvements Plan

Kathy Prister noted that Council was provided with updates and price increases due to Public Works prioritizing the equipment. She provided details about the major projects such as Municipal Hall renovations, a new Fire Station, The Flint fire truck, new Police vehicles, paving projects, blighted properties, Parks & Recreation projects and the Skate Park. She said that the updated 2023-2027 CIP will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Proposed 2023 Consolidated Fee Schedule

Kathy Prister said she will go through the changes made. Crandall Jones, Administrator, advised Council to look through the changes and provide comments and there will be a more in-depth discussion at the next Council meeting. He added that the goal is to be more judicious without being an issue for the Courts regarding fines.

PUBLIC WORKS

Resolution 22-73: purchase of various truck chassis and body; equipment from multiple suppliers in the total amount of \$1,644,846.75

Thomas Odenigbo, Public Works Director, conducted a Power Point which showed the images of the (3) 2023 IHC HV 570 Chassis, (3) 2023 IHC HV 570 totaling \$308,280.75, (1) Elgin Regen Street Sweeper at \$316,316, (1) Road Crack Sealing Machine at \$90,346.53, (1) Enclosed Trailer at \$14,216.25, (1) Compact Sidewalk Sweeper at \$93,690, (1) F-350 Crew Cab Pickup Truck with snow equipment at \$98,000, (2) F-550 Standard Cab Dump Trucks with snow equipment at \$310,000

There was a **motion by Council Vice President Lewis, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve Resolution 22-73. **The motion passed 5-0.**

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Public Works

Mr. Odenigbo provided a Power Point image of the “Tuesday” Maintenance Route from 8 am to noon. He showed where the Sweeper travels. He asked if the schedule could be changed on routes where there is sweeping on both sides on the same day. He also reported that Public Works is working with Mascaro for the City Wide Sweep on Saturday, November 5th. He noted that mowing for the parks is finished and they are getting ready for the snow routes.

Administration

Mr. Jones shared that there is an upcoming meeting with the NASD regarding the Recreation Center Project and things are going well. He noted that a grant was submitted for the Master Plan. He reported that he and Fire Chief O’Donnell traveled to South Dakota to see a Fire Station which is a pre-fab at 2/3 of the cost and can be set up in a few weeks. Next, they will travel to Boston. He said they will work through the construction designs and bring the information back to Council. He reported that the RFP for the Skate Park will go out in November for Phase I and II environmental. Mr. Jones announced that the 68 acres on the Norristown State Hospital grounds was conveyed to the Municipality on Friday, October 28th. He said that a draft for an RFP will be presented at the next Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There was a **motion by Council Vice President Lewis, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to adjourn the Council meeting. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo
Clerk of Council