

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
JANUARY 17, 2023

The Council Work Session of January 17, 2023 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.

The following Council members were in attendance:

Rebecca Smith
Tiffany Hendley
Dustin Queenan
Heather Lewis
Thomas Lepera

Also in attendance were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator; Lieutenant Bishop, Norristown Police Department; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning & Development; Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance; Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works; Thomas O'Donnell, Norristown Fire Chief; Amrinder Singh, Codes Manager; Erica Genardi, Director of Parks & Recreation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Hendley, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to approve the Minutes of the January 3, 2023 Council Meeting. **The motion passed 5-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Watters, Hamilton Street – regarding the Riverfront Park, Mr. Watters referred to a 2015 YouTube video showing “Santa Claus comes to Dragon Boat.” He said this shows how important the Riverfront is to the community. Mr. Watters also noted that he called about the utility pole at Buttonwood & Elm Streets. He added that he took pictures of Hamilton Street. He said there will be a flood hearing by January 31st to figure out how to deal with the money received for the hurricane. He also referred to a book regarding the 1972 flood and said that Green Lane must turn into a flood control area. With regard to the Whitehall Road bridge, he said he told them to keep the track.

APPOINTMENTS

Resolution 23-10: Reappointment to various Advisory Boards, Committees and Commissions

Crandall Jones provided the names for the re-appointments to the various Advisory Boards, Committees and Commissions.

There was a **motion by Councilman Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to approve Resolution 23-10. **The motion passed 5-0.**

POLICE

Resolution 23-05: Request for Council to approve the promotions of Sergeant Nicholas Dumas to Police Lieutenant, Corporal Tyler North to Police Sergeant and Officer Jason Hoover to Police Corporal.

Lieutenant Angelucci provided some of the credentials of the Officers being promoted.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Hendley, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve Resolution 23-05. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Administration of Oath of Office for Police Lieutenant, Police Sergeant and Police Corporal promotions

Judge Hunsicker provided the swearing-in of Lieutenant Dumas, Sergeant North and Corporal Hoover.

Resolution 23-07: Request for Council to approve the purchase of six new vehicles for the Detective Division

Crandall Jones explained that the original purchase order for 7 vehicles was cancelled.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve the purchase of 6 new vehicles for the Detective Division. Included are: 2 Ford Edge AWD SUVs, 2 Chevy Blazer AWD SUVs and 2 Ford Escape AWD SUVs and upfitting for a total of \$271,375.00. **The motion passed 5-0.**

FIRE

Resolution 23-06: requesting Council to adopt and re-promulgate Emergency Plan

Chief O'Donnell explained that the 5-year statutory is up. He noted that all plans are digital. He added that the plan should be relevant and he said that training is offered.

There was a **motion by Councilman Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to approve Resolution 23-06. **The motion passed 5-0.**

PLANNING & MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT

Ordinance 22-09: request adoption of and possible Public Hearing for Ordinance 22-09 for the vacation of Green Street as part of the Kennedy-Kenrick Land Development project

There was no Public Hearing since there was no opposition to the Green Street vacation.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Hendley, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to adopt Ordinance 22-09. **The motion passed 5-0.**

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

Resolution 23-08: Council ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO District Council 88 – Crossing Guide Unit and the Municipality of Norristown

Crandall Jones explained that it was a successful agreement for a 3-year contract through December 2025 with a 2% increase over each of the 3 years and the pension amount for 10 years of service was increased.

There was a **motion by Council Vice President Lewis, seconded by Councilwoman Hendley**, to approve Resolution 23-08. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Resolution 23-09: request Council approval of Intent to Award Contract Letter for Poley Skate Park to Grindline Skateparks, Inc. in the amount of \$1,000,000

Crandall Jones noted that a report which includes the geo-technical study and the ramps was submitted. He added that the bid response from Grindline Skateparks satisfied all bid requirements and the references created positive feedback. Municipal Engineer, Ted Dymtryk, stated they are a specialized company with a good background. Mr. Jones said there will be a public participation process to get design recommendations.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve the Intent to Award Contract Letter to Grindline Skateparks, Inc., located in Seattle, WA to design and build Poley Skate Park in the amount of \$1,000,000 to serve Norristown residents, the surrounding region and skateboard enthusiasts of all ages. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Discussion of Keep Norristown Beautiful Adopt-a-Spot Program

Crandall Jones provided a Power Point presentation about the program and the rules which include registration, commitment to 4 clean-ups, safety protocols, a waiver and report to KNB. Participants will receive a safety vest, gloves, garbage bags and a lawn sign. Mr. Jones said the information will be on Norristown.org in the future.

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