

NORRISTOWN MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 2, 2023

The Council Meeting of May 2, 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.

There was a **Moment of Silence** followed by the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

The following Council members were in attendance:

Rebecca Smith
Lauren Hughes
Dustin Queenan
Heather Lewis
Thomas Lepera

Also in attendance were:

Crandall Jones, Municipal Administrator; Acting Chief Michael Bishop, Norristown Police Department; Sean Kilkenny, Municipal Solicitor; Jayne Musonye, Director of Planning & Development; Thomas Odenigbo, Director of Public Works; Kathy Pfister, Director of Finance; Thomas O'Donnell, Norristown Fire Chief; Keith Gordon, Codes Department

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was a **motion by Council Vice President Lewis, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve the Minutes of the April 18, 2023 Council Workshop. **The motion passed 5-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

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

PRESENTATIONS

Elmwood Park Zoo Centennial Prowl: presentation by Jennifer Conti, Development Director

Al Zone, Elmwood Park Zoo Director, presented a Power Point featuring the future planning of the Zoo including the Master Plan Concept Map, Focused Projects, which includes the "Jaguar Prowl" to get sponsors. He brought with him to the meeting a life-size ceramic Jaguar that will be used for the marketing campaign. He said that Council can decide the look for the Jaguar that will be painted by the students at Montco Arts and placed in front of selected businesses.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

“City Wide Sweep” on Saturday, May 6 from 6 am to 6 pm. Council Vice President Lewis named the 9 corners where the Mascaro dumpsters will be placed.

Systemic Reformatory Change will be hosting a Talent Show at the Recreation Center on May 20 from 2 pm to 6 pm and a “3 on 3” Basketball Game on June 17th at Simmons Park. Contact: wearesrc.org.

The Carver Center will have a Unity Softball Game at Eisenhower on July 3, 2023.

“Juneteenth” celebration on Monday, June 19th. Contact person for vendors and sponsors is Tracy Henry.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Watters, Hamilton Street – He shared that there is a meeting for the Valley Forge Chapter of Vietnam Vets on the 3rd Thursday at the Jefferson Fire House. He provided a few handouts of pictures of 14 boarded-up buildings he found. He found out that they are not on the County records. He will try a higher level of contact in the County.

PLANNING & MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT

Public Hearing to consider adoption of Ordinance 23-02 for the amendment to Chapter 320 Zoning of the Municipal Code to include “Master Plan” section requiring the submission and approval of a Land Development Master Plan by Council

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to open the Public Hearing. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Solicitor Kilkenny introduced the Exhibits: Advertisement of the Public Hearing, Copy of Master Plan Ordinance, Testimony of Director Jayne Musonye.

Director Jayne Musonye explained that it is a more controlled process with the Master Plan. She also provided information about the process so far. She noted that the affected Zoning Districts are the CR, RE and the GRO for projects over 5 acres. She also explained the required studies for the projects.

Ms. Musonye said this is being brought before Council for approval and she noted that the Plan is good for 5 years and it can be revised.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Hughes, seconded by Councilwoman Smith**, to close the Public Hearing. **The motion passed 5-0.**

There was no Public Comment.

There was a **motion by Council Vice President Lewis, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve the adoption of Ordinance 23-02: Master Plan. **The motion passed 5-0.**

FIRE

Resolution 23-31: Requesting Municipal Council to approve the surplus sale of a 1995 Ladder Truck

Chief O'Donnell asked Council to approve the sale of the Ladder Truck.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to approve the sale of a 1995 Ladder Truck. **The motion passed 5-0.**

BUILDING & CODES ENFORCEMENT

Historical Architectural Review Board – April 2023

Mr. Keith Gordon stated that the applications to consider are for 133 West Airy Street, 1230 West Airy Street, 120 West Marshall Street.

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Hughes, seconded by Council Vice President Lewis**, to approve the HARB applications received, reviewed and recommended for April 2023. **The motion passed 5-0.**

FINANCE

Preliminary December 2022 Financial Results

Director Kathy Pfister presented a Power Point with preliminary figures for the General Fund including the Actual December 2022 Revenue (excluding Trash), the Expenditures, the Fund Balance Estimate including the Net Results 2022 and the Actual YTD December 2022 and the Net Revenue before Transfers.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

Council ratification of approval of a Waiver of the Noise Ordinance (Chapter 229 of the Municipal Code) to allow for limited late hours work by PECO on Marshall Street

There was a **motion by Councilman Queenan, seconded by Councilwoman Hughes**, to approve the Waiver in order for PECO to conduct emergency work after hours on April 27, 2023. **The motion passed 5-0.**

ADJOURNMENT

There was a **motion by Councilwoman Smith, seconded by Councilman Queenan**, to adjourn the Council Meeting. **The motion passed 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann M. Santangelo