

**1HARRISBURG CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, December 15, 2015
A G E N D A**

CALL TO ORDER

- President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

ROLL CALL

- The City Clerk called the roll and all 7 members were present during roll call, namely: Ben Allatt, Jeff Baltimore, Shamaine Daniels, Brad Koplinski, Sandra R. Reid, Susan Brown-Wilson and Wanda R. D. Williams.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

- The Moment of Silence was led by Ms. Wilson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Allatt.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

- Mr. Boyd said that looking at the Strong Plan, the Budget and the City of 48,000 people, and sees nothing to deal with the Middle Class and the Homeless. He asked why the city won't take care of their own. He also asked what the city will do about crime in the city.
- Judge Postelle said that he would like to recognize Susan Brown-Wilson. He said that on behalf of the Brown, Pettis and Postelle family, he congratulates her on her great public service and thanked her for all that she has done for the city. He said that he hopes her next step is something good for her and positive. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- Les Ford wished the outgoing Council Members well and farewell. He said that he's enjoyed the time they have been here and enjoyed watching and learning from them. He said that he hopes the new Council Members paid attention to them and the foundation that they built. He said that he won't forget them and he hopes they won't forget us.
- Bill Cluck said farewell to Jim Sinkovitz at WGAL. In addition, he said to Susan Brown-Wilson, it's been a pleasure to work with her. He said that the Senior Citizen program is not authorized by law in Bill 14-2015. He advocated for the Housing Authority's Summer Youth Program and recommended to double the amount. Finally, he said that Act 47 Plan is proposed to be amended and he said that this needs to be an open and transparent process.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Upon Motion by Ms. Williams, with no objections and all in favor, the Legislative Session Minutes of November 24, 2015 were deemed approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Chair Allatt reported on the Budget & Finance Committee Meetings of December 8, 2015 and December 9, 2015.
- Chair Daniels reported on the Building & Housing Committee Meeting of December 10, 2015.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

- Mr. Koplinski made a motion to bring a proposed piece of Legislation from the floor, seconded by Ms. Reid. The Bill read as follows: An ordinance of the City of Harrisburg, Dauphin County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania establishing a new Chapter 1-1000 of the City of Harrisburg Code to provide certain employees are entitled to paid and unpaid leave, all under certain terms and conditions.
- President Williams called for the vote and the motion failed 3-4, with Ms. Daniels, Ms. Reid and Mr. Koplinski voting in the positive.

ORDINANCES FOR AMENDMENT

- **The City Clerk read Bill 14-2015 into record** - An Ordinance amending the Codified Ordinances of the City of Harrisburg, Title V, Licensing and Taxation, Part V, Real Estate Taxes, Chapter 5-501, Property Tax, by establishing for the year Two Thousand Sixteen (2016) a tax levy on land and improvements and providing for the distribution of taxes levied and assessed and providing for a tax rebate for the difference between the tax due and attributable to the year Two Thousand Sixteen (2016) tax levy over the tax due and attributable to the year Two Thousand Six (2006) tax levy for qualifying senior citizens.
- Mr. Allatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wilson to amend the following: Section 3-5-501.3 Tax Distribution – A) For General Revenue, Four and Three Hundred Thirteen Thousandths of one mill (.004313) or Forty Three and Thirteen Hundredths Cents (\$.4313 on each \$100.00 of assessed value. B) For payment of Debt Service, i.e., payment on bonded indebtedness, Five and Four Hundred Fifty Two Thousandths of one mill (.005452) or Fifty-Four and Fifty Two Hundredths Cents (.5452) on each \$100.00 of assessed value. C) For a contribution to the Police and Fire Pension Plans, Six Hundred Fourteen Thousandths of one mill (.000614) or Six and Fourteen Hundredths Cents (.0614) on each \$100.00 of assessed value. D) For a contribution for recreation purposes, Four Hundred and Seventy-Three Thousandths Mills (.000473) or Four and Seventy Three Hundredths Cents (\$.0473) on each \$100.00 of assessed value.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The City Clerk read Bill 15-2015 into record** - An Ordinance establishing the budget for the Municipal Government of the City of Harrisburg for the year Two Thousand Sixteen (2016).
- Mr. Allatt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wilson to amend the following: Office of City Treasurer 01000104 – 423090 Public Off Prem from \$8,580 to \$12,155.00; Bureau of Police 1040142 – 414000 Salaries and Wages from \$10,503,486.47 to \$10,545,608.94; Bureau of Police 1040142 – 419001 Social Security from \$225,672.47 to \$226,283.25; Bureau of Fire 01040151 – 414000 Salaries and Wages from \$5,040,093.47 to \$5,059,516.97; Bureau of Fire 01040151 – 419001 Social Security from \$95,645.54 to \$95,927.18.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- Mr. Koplinski made a motion to introduce his 88 amendments, which were previously submitted to City Council and the Solicitor recommended seeing if the motion is approved before going through each amendment. This motion was seconded by Ms. Reid.

- President Williams recommended one vote for all amendments, instead of voting on each individually.
- Mr. Grover said that if you are voting on all amendments together it will require 5 votes for passage and another meeting before December 31st will be needed.
- President Williams said that we are not allowed to approve some of the amendments based on binding contracts.
- President Williams called for the vote and the motion failed 3-4, Ms. Daniels, Ms. Reid and Mr. Koplinski voting in favor of the amendments.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

- **The City Clerk read Bill 11-2015 into record** – An Ordinance for the purposes of reauthorizing within the City of Harrisburg, an area designated as a Neighborhood Improvement District, designating a non-profit corporation to administer the same, accepting a business plan for the district, authorizing the continued assessments for the operation thereof and meeting all other requirements of the Neighborhood Improvement District Act, and repealing all inconsistent ordinances or parts of ordinances.
- President Williams suspended the rules and asked Mr. Grover what would happen if they amended this Bill to change it to 5 years.
- Mr. Grover said that the Ordinance as introduced and the advertisement that was sent out indicated that it was a two year extension. City Council still has the power to amend. However, if the Mayor would veto the amendment to a 5-year, the veto would have to be overrode within 10 days of today. Therefore, another meeting would need to take place and the District would have no authority to issue tax bills come January 2016.
- Mr. Allatt asked if it could be reopened next year.
- Mr. Grover said that he believes you're locked in and you can't reduce the two-years. The administration recommended the two years, to evaluate and keep the discussion going.
- President Williams made a motion, seconded by all of council to go back into session.
- Brad Koplinski said that this discussion should of happened months ago and not at the last minute.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The City Clerk read Bill 14-2015 into record As Amended** - An Ordinance amending the Codified Ordinances of the City of Harrisburg, Title V, Licensing and Taxation, Part V, Real Estate Taxes, Chapter 5-501, Property Tax, by establishing for the year Two Thousand Sixteen (2016) a tax levy on land and improvements and providing for the distribution of taxes levied and assessed and providing for a tax rebate for the difference between the tax due and attributable to the year Two Thousand Sixteen (2016) tax levy over the tax due and attributable to the year Two Thousand Six (2006) tax levy for qualifying senior citizens.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The City Clerk read Bill 15-2015 into record As Amended** - An Ordinance establishing the budget for the Municipal Government of the City of Harrisburg for the year Two Thousand Sixteen (2016).
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 5-2, with Mr. Koplinski and Ms Reid voting in the negative.

RESOLUTIONS

- **The City Clerk read (As Amended) Resolution 92-2015** – A Resolution authorizing the entry into an Energy Performance Contract with Smartwatt Energy, Inc. (“Smartwatt”) to perform certain energy savings upgrades at the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Building,

City Government Center (“Project”) in accordance with Act 39 known as the Pennsylvania Guaranteed Energy Savings Act.

- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 6-1, with Ms. Reid voting in the negative.
- **The City Clerk read Resolution 96-2015 into record** - A Resolution approving the Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation Plan submitted by Doug Gamber of Raudenbush Engineering, Inc., on behalf of the Harrisburg Housing Authority, to construct two (2) residential structures of four units totaling 5,727 gross square feet over parking at 1257 Thompson Street.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The City Clerk read Resolution 97-2015 into record** - A Resolution approving the Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation Plan submitted by Doug Gamber of Raudenbush Engineering, Inc., on behalf of the Harrisburg Housing Authority, to construct a multi-family residential structure of twenty six (26) units over parking totaling approximately 51,000 gross square feet and an associated first floor retail facility of approximately 2,565 square feet at 1249-1257 Mulberry Street and 1249-1255 Derry Street.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The City Clerk read Resolution 98-2015 into record** - A Resolution approving the Preliminary Land Development and Lot Consolidation Plan submitted by Doug Gamber of Raudenbush Engineering, Inc., on behalf of the Harrisburg Housing Authority, to construct a multi-family residential structure of twenty (20) units over parking totaling approximately 35,620 gross square feet at 1201-1209 Mulberry Street and 209-211 Crescent Street.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The City Clerk read (As Amended) Resolution 100-2015 into record** - A Resolution approving the Sixth Proposed 2015 Budget Reallocations.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 6-1, with Ms. Reid voting in the negative.
- **The City Clerk read Resolution 101 -2015 into record** - A Resolution authorizing the issuance of a 2016 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note(s) in an amount not to exceed the sum of four million five hundred dollars (\$4,500,000.00).
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

- There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

- President Williams recognized Sandra Reid, Susan Brown-Wilson and Brad Koplinski for their service on City Council. She wished them the best in their future endeavors and gave each of them plaques on behalf of the city of Harrisburg.
- Aaron Johnson thanked Sandra Reid, Susan Brown-Wilson and Brad Koplinski for all that they have done for the city. Mr. Johnson presented the three of the outgoing Council Members with plaques and thanked them for their commitment to the City of Harrisburg and wished them well for their future endeavors. He said Mr. Koplinski wrote him a letter congratulating the Harrisburg RBI team for their success and that goes a long way with him. He said that Ms. Brown-Wilson is a childhood friend of his. He said that he’s very proud of her and she will be missed. He said that she has always been there for his department and he appreciates that. He said that Ms. Reid really fought for the Public Works Department and seen exactly what was needed in his Department. He said that

they will miss her because she is been a pioneer for the city. He said that she can be misunderstood, but she really cares about the city of Harrisburg.

- Meredith Greene said that she didn't have the honor of voting for her mother, but she has seen the work that she does. She said that she is proud of her mother Sandra Reid and hopes that you all are proud of her as well.
- Mr. Koplinski said that it's been the greatest honor of his life to serve the citizens of Harrisburg. He said he's had fun and the work has been good. He said it wasn't his plan (to depart), but it was God's plan. He said he looks forward to the new Council Members and he hopes that they enjoy it as much as he did.
- Ms. Wilson said that she has been there for 12 years and she saw the fall and rise of the city. She said that she thanks the citizens for trusting her with their vote. She said that she had opportunities all over the country, but she believed that in staying here she had something to offer. Her first run for office was unsuccessful, but the second time she was the top vote "getter". She said that she dug deep and started learning more about the city. She wanted to make the residents aware of things that were going on and she takes pleasure in working for the city. She said that she will miss it, but the journey ends here and it's time for her to go, because God told her so. She said that her service in the community is not done.
- Ms. Reid said "If you are as happy coming into office as I am leaving the office, you must be a really happy man" (James Buchanan). She said that she served her time in Public Office and her children were there for her. She said there is a lot to be said when you work with the public. She wanted a trash can and recycle bin in every home and that is what she did. She wanted to make sure that children don't have to walk to school and see nothing but trash. She asked the new Council Members to find their voice and beat to their own drum. She said that she enjoyed being the Chair of Public Works because they were the underdogs in the city. She said there have been a lot of good times and bad times, but the goal is to just move forward and do everything you can to change peoples' lives. She said that in her four years, she feels like she has been able to do that. She said this might not be the last time you see her in Public Office.
- Mr. Baltimore said that he is proud to have served with the outgoing Council Members and they will be missed.
- Mr. Allatt said Ditto.
- Ms. Williams said that everyone came on Council with the intentions of making a difference in City Council. Ms. Wilson helped her since the days of the Harrisburg School Board. She said although there have been a lot of differences, she will miss her. She said that she will miss Ms. Reid and Mr. Koplinski and all that they have done. She invited the public to join in a meal immediately following the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

- The Meeting Adjourned at 8:15PM.