

HARRISBURG CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
Wednesday, June 14, 2017
A G E N D A

CALL TO ORDER

- President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

ROLL CALL

- The Assistant City Clerk called the roll and all 7 members were present during roll call, namely: Ben Allatt, Shamaine Daniels, Jeff Baltimore, Destini Hodges, Cornelius Johnson, Westburn Majors and Wanda R. D. Williams.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

- The Moment of Silence was led by Mr. Johnson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATIONS

- President Williams prior to introducing communications greeted the senior citizen residents that came to speak on behalf of the Heinz Center funding. She told them that she would not be making a vote on the funding at tonight's session but if they would like to speak they are welcome to and would be limited to two minutes per speaker.
- President Williams introduced Mr. Ramsey, CEO of 13 Love, a non-profit organization started in the summer of 2015 in Hunts Point, NY (South Bronx) to speak on behalf of his organization and their upcoming events. Mr. Ramsey stated the program started off as basketball tournaments and were successful. He decided in January of 2016 to move back to Harrisburg and partnered with community leaders and the HBG School District to have afterschool mentoring programs and yoga classes. On June 26th they will offer Tai-chi, total of five classes located at Hillside, Hall Manor and Emerald St. Mr. Ramsey believes Tai-chi is very helpful for urban kids because it requires mental, physical, and spiritual strength. Mr. Ramsey contacted Shaolin Temple in China for a competition so in the summer of 2018 a competition will be held with HBG city kids and Shaolin kids. They will also have sports such as soccer, tennis, dance, gymnastics, swimming teams and horseback riding for the program. Children will be mandated to help in community clean-up.
- President Williams thanked Mr. Ramsey for his efforts and asked what are the time frames for the Tai-Chi lessons and wanted to clarify this for the viewers so they are aware of the classes. Ms. Williams asked about the fee and the low-income waiver.
- Mr. Ramsey stated that it would be free for low-income but they are having issues compensating their instructors and so this waiver structure will have to be discussed with the board as to how to raise funds to compensate the instructors.
- Lakichia Carrier, city resident, came to the microphone and said participants in the program who cannot afford to pay will have the opportunity to help with the program in some way.
- Ms., Hodges commented that she appreciated the work Mr. Ramsey is doing as she is a former karate belt student herself and agrees that karate does help with the mental, physical, and spiritual aspects of life and she looks forward to speaking to Mr. Ramsey as to how she can offer help or guidance with the Program.
- Mr. Allatt thanked Mr. Ramsey for his presentation.
- Mr. Johnson asked Mr. Ramsey to clarify the dates of the Tai-chi program.
- Mr. Majors asked what if anyone wanted to provide donations or outreach to 13 Love.

- Mr. Ramsey stated that they do have a Go Fund Me and a Facebook page account and a Gmail account that is called 13 Love Universal program.
- Mr. Majors agreed that this is great program and once people hear about it they will want to help provide some financial assistance to the program.
- Mr. Baltimore stated that he also appreciated Mr. Ramsey's efforts for youth development in the city.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

- Stan Lawson said he knows that council is concerned about the budget because the desk that the council members sit at are the same desk he sat at 47 years ago. H said he was there to speak on behalf of the senior citizens program at the Heinz Center. He stated this is a very important program because it is where the senior citizens come because there are not a lot of other options for them to eat breakfast, lunch, dinner, exercise, receive blood test and checkups and they are very appreciative of this and he hopes Council will consider funding to keep the doors open.
- Les Ford, Director of the Heinz Center asked everyone from the Heinz Center to raise their hand and said that he finds that he has to constantly come to these meetings to remind people of the efforts of the Heinz Center. Mr. Ford stated he is a retired teacher and one thing he knows from teaching is that repetition is the mother of teaching so therefore he constantly feels the need to show up to represent the Heinz Center. He wanted to use some numbers he used "9,000" and said that they delivered "9,000" meals to the community and had those involved with meals on wheels to please stand up in the room. The other number was "96 degrees" and said that was the record high for this summer and that he saw the kids our playing in this weather, but the seniors can not be out in the heat and the Heinz Center is the only place they can come for refuge from the heat of the summer. He asked the city to please look at the RFP as they still need the support of the city because if the County sees that the city still supports the Centers efforts they will continue to support as well. He said he doesn't mind coming down every year to speak as he knows his efforts are important to the seniors that attend and they are not going anywhere. They are still living and needing support of the city.
- President Williams stated to Les Ford that this is the first time the resolution is being presented and it was not being voted on today and Council would review the RFP before making a decision.
- Chris Siennick, said this past weekend he saw something that really concerned him about activism at the state capitol steps by both the city and state capital police. He feels it is a constitutional issue that several of the participants were not granted equal protection under the law. Mr. Siennick said one activist was defamed in the media after being attacked by a police horse and has been a messy situation and they had to put \$10K for bail bond for this person. Also, at the LGBT QIA Equality march there was a bigot that came out in plain view of a Capital City Police Officer and was intimidating and harassing the crowd and ended up harming someone and the only thing the capital police officer did was go to the LGBT center and said he was going to charge the person who was harmed with felony robbery for trying to point at the sign that the bigot had. Chris would like the city to help with letting the citizens know who the police are really protecting and balancing power. Especially for groups like Act for America hate group which were at the capital this Saturday, and activist that have weapons which is explicitly against state laws. He said he knows all police departments aren't in Council's jurisdiction but they operate in our city and he doesn't want to see anyone get hurt.
- Lewis Butts, said that we have quite a bit of social issues that are dynamic in Harrisburg, Pa. He is here again to ask for an executive title for the Camp Curtin district as a Hallowed Ground district. He believes it would bring more tourism dollars and open more grants. He said people would see we have a lot of innovators and people would see why we are liberators and why we stand up for certain things he mentioned he visits the Heinz Center as well. He would like to educate our citizens on how to treat each other

and have a declaration for the Camp Curtin grounds and use it as a template of how we should treat one another.

- Kay Ann Wetzel, 1118 Hudson Street came in regards of Res 49-2017. She hopes Council read their concerns of why this three-story building shouldn't be built. She urges them to review the reasons of why this project should not go through. President Williams told Ms. Wetzel that she does hear her concerns and has visited the location and has voiced the concerns as well.
- Lakichia Carrier, Harrisburg resident since birth. Born and raised here said she went to Harrisburg Academy and Harrisburg University where she received her BS and Masters. She said her concern is with people like her who live, work, and attend school here in HBG and try to give back and help and yet there is no way in. She said she has interned with CRAM, worked as a TSS and tried to give back and there are plenty of people like her that want to give back and asked if there is a way that city council can create a website or calendar so people like her can find information or post their credentials.
- Mr. Johnson, said there currently is a website that is new that list this information but he does admit that finding centralized information for things happening in the city is difficult, but to please spread the word about the website and calendar to promote awareness and that our site is difficult to navigate through.
- Lakichia said she tried going on the site and didn't see anything listed.
- Mr. Johnson explained to her how to navigate through the website to get the information she was requesting.
- Rafiyqa Muhammad, native and resident came to shed some light on a few things and make council aware. She is with God's End a non-profit organization that is doing a program called "Trail of Tears" and would like to share it with the community as the city has been experiencing quite a bit of grief and they wanted to provide an outlet for people to share their grief together and get to know one another within the community. They have asked participants to wear white. On July 1st at 11:30am they will have a drum procession around City Island. They would like to have some type of release in the water and upon doing research Rafiyqa discovered what is legal to be released in the water as it could contaminate the waters and the organisms living in the water. She learned the only thing allowed to be released in the water is anytime of plant except for tropical flowers. She wanted us to understand that when you release things in the environment it can become an invasive species. She said balloons are illegal to release and wanted to encourage the city to please do research prior to releasing things into the environment as we should all care about nature and the community it affects. She also wanted to mention the use of roundup to kill unwanted weeds in gardens, She has a friend that believes that her cancer is coming from what neighbors are spraying in their yards to rid of unwanted plants She asked the community to be vigilant and aware of what is going into our bodies and what we release into our gardens and grounds here in Harrisburg.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Upon motion by President Williams, with no objections, the Legislative Session Minutes of May 23, 2017 were deemed approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- Chair Majors reported on the Work Session of June 6, 2017.
- Chair Baltimore reported on the Work Session of June 6, 2017.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

- **The Assistant City Clerk read Bill 7-2017 in to record** - An Ordinance appropriating HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Fiscal Year 2017 and authorizing expenditure of such funds.

- President Williams placed this in the Community and Economic Development Committee.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Bill 8-2017 in to record** - An Ordinance appropriating Community Development Block Grant funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Fiscal Year 2017 and authorizing expenditure of such funds.
- President Williams placed this in the Community and Economic Development Committee.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Bill 9-2017 in to record** An Ordinance appropriating Emergency Solutions Grant Program funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for Fiscal Year 2017 and authorizing expenditure of such funds.
- President Williams placed this in the Community and Economic Development Committee.

ORDINANCES FOR AMENDMENT

- There was none.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

- There were none.

RESOLUTIONS

- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 46-2017 into record** – A Resolution approving a professional services contract with Urban Engineers, Inc. to provide construction management and inspection services for the Third Street Multimodal Project.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 49-2017 into record** – A Resolution approving the Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan submitted by Jodie Smiley to construct a three-story multifamily dwelling at 1100 S. 20th Street, Harrisburg, PA to provide affordable rental housing to seniors.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 51 -2017 into record** - A Resolution approving an agreement with Yarnell Security Systems for installation of servicing of a video security system at Reservoir.
- President Williams placed this in the Public Safety Committee.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 52-2017 into record** - A Resolution ratifying the submission of grant application to DCED for funding the purchase and installation of playground equipment as part of the Reservoir Park Rehabilitation Project.
- President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 53-2017 into record** - A Resolution approving a professional services agreement with ARRO Consulting, Inc. to perform engineering services for improvements to the intersection at Berryhill and Cameron Streets and other street improvements in the City.
- President Williams placed this in the Public Works Committee.
- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 54 -2017 into record** - A Resolution approving a Local Share Municipal Grant Agreement with Dauphin County for receipt of funds under the Pennsylvania Gaming Act for renovations to Fire Station #1 and #2.

- President Williams made a motion to suspend the rules and allow Fire Chief Enterline to give an overview of Resolution 54- 2017.
 - Fire Chief Enterline gave an overview of Resolution 54 of 2017.
 - President Williams made a motion to go back into session.
 - President Williams called for the vote and this passed 7-0.
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- **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 55-2017 into record** - A Resolution approving a professional services agreement with Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. to update traffic signal and school zone permit plans at various locations in the City.
 - President Williams placed this in the Public Safety Committee.
 - **The Assistant City Clerk read Resolution 56-2017 into record** - A Resolution approving a Comcast business services agreement for internet and phone services at the Reservoir Park Mansion.
 - President Williams placed this in the Administration Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Majors asked for an update about the timeline for the Comprehensive Plan from the Administration and the upcoming dates.
- Neil Grover answered Mr. Majors question in regard to the Comp Plan and said the Planning Commission had a meeting last week and they have a Special Session tomorrow night which was to be brief. They have a sub-committee who met to discuss a timeframe of when they would like to have a Comp Plan. Mr. Grover shared that the Planning Commission has not shared their proposal with the City yet, but he thinks they are going to ask for recommendations from their various sub-committees to make decisions on the plan. He said they may ask for the technical services budget be added to the remainder of the plan but we should know more after their meeting tomorrow. However, they have not shared a calendar either of what they are considering.
- Mr. Majors asked if this delay will now exceed the timeline of the initial contract
- Mr. Grover responded it is his understanding this will extend it for an additional two months to the timeline.
- Mr. Allatt asked about the status of Resolution 46-2017 and the start date for renovations to city parks.
- Mayor Papenfuse responded to Mr. Allatt stating that it is his understanding that work is scheduled to begin this fall and carry into 2018. He stated this is a more in-depth project than they had first thought because it is a lot of green infrastructure and planning and organizing.
- Mr. Allatt asked that as a more definitive timeline takes place to please post on our website so the public is aware.
- Mayor Papenfuse agreed to provide this information.
- Ms. Daniels wanted to state how important it is for city residents to be aware and engaged of the laws within the city and she gave the example of Resolution -49-2017. Stating that there was no law stating that the adjacent properties be notified of the changes taking place, but once council realized there was a need to communicate effectively with the residents in that area for civil discourse and peace; Council helped facilitate that communication and she commended council for their efforts and the city residents for voicing their concerns because had they not Council wouldn't have known that no such ordinance or requirement didn't exist.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Johnson wanted to comment on the age requirements for entry into the city pools. Currently 12 or older are allowed entry into the pool without adult supervision and he feels this should be changed to 13 or 14 years of age.
- Mr. Johnson also is concerned that age 16 is too young to supervise underage kids to the pool and he feels the supervise age should be 18 years of age.
- Mr. Johnson also feels there should be a sign in sheet for people bringing in underage children so the city and pool managers are able to keep better track of who comes in with the children and who is to be held accountable for the children's whereabouts and conduct while at the pool.
- Mr. Johnson also would like to see security cameras placed at the pools as he feels this will help with securing the pool and the patrons.
- Mr. Baltimore wants to schedule a CED meeting to discuss the CDBG applicants for Work Session on June 20th.
- Mr. Majors announced an event: Wednesday June 21st the Junior Entrepreneurs are having a market day at Harrisburg High from 11AM- 1pm, which is an event that encourages youth, entrepreneurs and business owners.
- Mr. Majors wanted to promote an event highlighting young people in our city although it is taking place outside the city: Big 33 is happening in Landis Field (Central Dauphin HS) this Saturday Joel Davis and Damion Barber will participate from HBG HS as well as HBG HS cheerleader, Kendra Tate.
- Mr. Majors encouraged the public if they have any community events, programs, or resources they would like to promote on City Councils calendar to please do so, at harrisburgpa.gov/community-calendar.
- Mr. Johnson wanted to also mention there have been several fights at the pools that are stemming from social media arguments and are leading to individuals being ganged up on and or beaten up by multiple offenders. He urges parents to be vigilant and aware of the activities their children are involved this summer especially at or near the public pools. He also said if anyone needs help getting their children involved in activities to please reach out to him and he will help. He has posted within the past weeks numerous activities for kids so he does believe there is plenty in the city for kids to get involved with.
- Ms. Williams promoted the Friday night movies for kids at Fort Hunter at 8:30PM. She Encouraged the public to attend as it is a fun and free event.
- Ms. Williams wanted to clarify about the barricade fees and request for block parties and stated that for the remainder of 2017 there will be no fees assessed to request barricades, but for 2018 there will be a fee assessed due to damaged and unreturned barricades.
- Mr. Majors announced that he drove past Reservoir Park and the backboards to the basketball courts have been replaced, he asked the community to please take care of them and maintain the courts so they are enjoyable for all.
- Ms. Williams asked Nick Treadwell, a boy scout to come to the microphone. He stated he came to work on receiving his communications merit badge and he came to this meeting things like this work. Ms. Williams thanked him for coming and said it was nice to have him there.

ADJOURNMENT

- The Meeting adjourned at 7:18PM.