



City of Glenarden
Public Hearing
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 – 7:00PM
Virtual Meeting
Minutes

Attendees:

Council President – Robin Jones
Council Vice President – Angela D. Ferguson
Councilwoman – Deborah A. Eason
Councilman – James A. Herring
Councilwoman – Carolyn Smallwood
Councilman – Donjuan Williams
Councilwoman – Celestine E. Wilson

- Call to Order at 7:00PM
- Invocation led by Council Vice President Angela D. Ferguson
- Roll Call

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We have a Quorum

- Motion to Adopt Agenda

Councilwoman Eason motioned to adopt the agenda – Seconded by Councilman Williams

Council President – Robin Jones - Yes
Council Vice President – Angela D. Ferguson - Yes
Councilwoman – Deborah A. Eason - Yes
Councilman – James A. Herring - Yes
Councilwoman – Carolyn Smallwood - Yes



Councilman – Donjuan Williams – Yes
Councilwoman – Celestine E. Wilson - Yes

7 Yes - APPROVED

Councilman Herring and Councilwoman Jones discussed the process for residents speaking at the public meetings based on Council Rules and Robert's Rules.

- Citizens comments on Proposed Legislation (five minutes)

Ricky Thomas asked Council President to explain the personnel ordinance.

Council President Jones offered that the Personnel Manual is in need of updating for additional policies and procedures.

Richard Arroya-Montgomery offered that he understands censoring the Mayor for not submitting his reports, but is not in agreement for requesting to remove the Mayor from office. In addition, he added the checks in question should have been signed by the Council President at that time; James Herring, not Robin Jones. He feels if the services were rendered to the City, then the City needs to pay the vendor.

Ricky Thomas asked the question was there procedures offered with the transition of an incoming new Council President.

Councilwoman Jones offered that there were no transition procedures done. Stated that there were three unsigned checks and that she felt they needed to be addressed. Councilwoman Jones offered that Mr. Karpinski (City Attorney) explained that he was not a Land Use attorney



and he could not advise on the annexation project. Also, offered there were inherited issues passed onto her as the new Council President. And that the vendor needed to be paid.

Kathleen Guillaume-Delmar offered that she notes that the previous City Manager was on the letter, and asked why he did not enter into the contract. However, does not agree with the Mayor being removed from office.

Mayor Estes responded that the negotiation of the contract was done by himself with the vendor, and because it was under \$2K he signed the contract.

Leo Wilson, Sr. suggested what he understands is that the major issue is the Mayor entered into a contract without the authority or approval of the Council based on the Charter; and it is not the first time that this has been done by the Mayor.

Ricky Thomas request that the legislation be thrown out and come to an understanding and try to get along.

Kathleen Guillaume-Delmar offered that it is less about the checks and more about; over a year ago the contract was signed. Mayor should be held accountable, but does not agree with the removal of the Mayor - it does not benefit the City.

Leo Wilson, Sr. states this is not personal but business. The Mayor is responsible to know what governs his actions and responsibilities.



Councilman James Herring stated he realized the contract was signed by the Mayor illegally. He incurred the charges and he was not legally able to enter into a contract or sign the checks; which is a violation of the Charter section 404 (f). Which is why he refused to sign the checks. Councilwoman Jones signed the checks and then he decided to bring this legislation to the Council. And that he is not requesting a removal of the Mayor in the legislation. Expenses incurred illegally should obligate the person to reimburse the City.

Erika Fareed offered she agrees with the censure.

- Legislation (January)
 - O-XX-2021 An Ordinance to Amend the Personnel Manual
 - R-XX-2021 A Resolution to Censure Mayor Edward Estes for Violation of the City Charter
- Adjourned at 7:51PM

Submitted by:

M. Toni Taylor, CMC
Clerk to the Council