

**CITY OF NEWARK  
DELAWARE  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
April 4, 2016**

Those present at 6:30 p.m.:

Presiding: Mayor Polly Sierer  
District 1, Mark Morehead  
District 2, Todd Ruckle  
District 3, Rob Gifford  
District 4, Margrit Hadden  
District 5, Luke Chapman  
District 6, A. Stuart Markham

City Manager Carol Houck  
City Solicitor Bruce Herron  
Deputy City Manager Andrew Haines  
Deputy City Secretary Alice Van Veen  
Planning & Development Director Maureen Feeney Roser  
Max Walton, Esquire  
Lauren DeLuca, Esquire

- 
1. The Council meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.
  2. **2-A. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 29 DEL. C. §10004 (B)(6) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION OF THE CONTENT OF DOCUMENTS, EXCLUDED FROM THE DEFINITION OF "PUBLIC RECORD" IN § 10002 OF THIS TITLE WHERE SUCH DISCUSSION MAY DISCLOSE THE CONTENTS OF SUCH DOCUMENTS**

MOTION BY MR. MOREHEAD, SECONDED BY MS. HADDEN: THAT COUNCIL ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

The motion was approved by the consensus of Council.

Council returned to the table at 7:08 p.m.

MOTION BY MR. MARKHAM, SECONDED BY MR. MOREHEAD: THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF AND THE CITY LOBBYIST TO PURSUE A STATE CODE AMENDMENT IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE ISSUANCE OF ADMINISTRATIVE WARRANTS FOR INSPECTION OF PROPERTIES TO DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE CODES.

MOTION PASSED: VOTE: 6 to 1.

Aye – Chapman, Hadden, Markham, Morehead, Ruckle, Sierer.  
Nay – Gifford.

3. **2-B. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 29 DEL. C. §10004 (B)(9) FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING PERSONNEL MATTERS IN WHICH THE NAMES, COMPETENCY AND ABILITIES OF INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEES ARE DISCUSSED.**

MOTION BY MR. MARKHAM, SECONDED BY MS. HADDEN: THAT COUNCIL RETURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS.

The motion was approved by the consensus of Council.

Council returned to the table at 9:18 p.m.

MOTION BY MR. MOREHEAD, SECONDED BY MS. HADDEN: TO AUTHORIZE AN INCREASE IN THE CITY MANAGER'S SALARY OF FOUR PERCENT FOR THIS NEXT YEAR.

Mr. Gifford stated Council saw improvement over the past year with staff and was pleased enough with their performance to approve a 3% raise. He thought it was the feeling of Council as a whole that the City Manager was continuing to move the City forward, and that warranted a slightly higher increase than they had justified in the budget for the general staff's increase which was merit based in the end. He would support this increase.

Mr. Ruckle thought the City Manager was doing a very good job, and he supported the raise this year.

Mr. Markham thought the City Manager was doing a good job. He was concerned about other raises throughout the community but compared to what he saw in the private sector, he thought 4% was pretty hefty. He knew the cost of living was significantly less than that and felt this should be seen as a positive. He would support a 4% increase as well.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: VOTE: 7 to 0.

Aye – Chapman, Gifford, Hadden, Markham, Morehead, Ruckle, Sierer.

Nay – 0.

**4. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.**

Alice Van Veen  
Deputy City Secretary