

CASGED COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2015

Dennis Lynch called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm

Councilwoman Darlene Harris spoke. She said she voted No for the 2015 City Budget. The proposed budget was raised by \$30 million, and that has not been done in 40 years. Ms. Harris reported that there were no staff raises, yet an increase in the property tax mileage. She also talked about the merger of 2 city departments: BBI & Public Safety. There are some new city positions as a result: a liaison between the departments, and a Public Safety Director & assistant Public Safety director.

Ms. Harris has implemented new fines for animal issues; keeping your pet outside in below freezing or extremely hot temperatures, etc. If there is an issue call 311 and report it!

Ms. Harris said her proposal has passed on raising the amount of funds that a resident is eligible to receive for repairing a sidewalk that was damaged by tree roots: it went from \$4 to \$8 per square foot.

A new Zone Community Relations Officer has been assigned for Northside: Kimberly Stanley. Ms. Stanley was introduced. She gave her phone number out: 412.323.7201 and said please call or email her with issues, or call 311, or fill out a silent complaint form. She asked for a copy of the sign-in sheet she brought. An issue of panhandlers on East & Madison was brought up, along with a vacant house on High Street. Ms. Stanley subsequently addressed those 2 issues!

Denise Pierce, our local block watch and public safety coordinator spoke. She passed out a report and discussed 10 reasons for supporting National Night Out.

Nancy Noszka, CASGED Development Consultant spoke about the new Buhl grants. Any resident or business owner can apply. Nancy passed out door knob fliers.

Grant Glitten from Mayor Peduto's office spoke. He said that the merging of BBI & Public Safety will help move the city forward into the 21st Century. He also said that snow plowing will soon be available on-line. Also, park shelter reservations are available on-line. Grant also discussed what is happening on the city school front: the teacher contracts are up for renewal; Grant stressed that the City administration is not in charge of any decision-making, but knows city schools are a big issue in attracting/retaining residents.

Some other issues/updates:

- 901 Constance – it is being demolished. Better communication between community groups and the city administration would help avoid conflicts.
- The PWSA water & sewage line issues are being addressed along Spring Garden, but cleaning the sewers may help, possibly being on a rotation
- Playground: weather has not permitted Public Works to finish, but it will be done
- CASGED Board Elections: there are 5 seats up for election. Members must attend 3 meetings in the previous year to be eligible to vote.