

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7PM by Council President Marion McKinney

ROLL CALL: Council President Marion McKinney, Councilmember Hugh Braun, Councilmember Louise Tulio, Councilmember Terri Stagliano, Council Vice President , Mathew McKnight, Councilmember, Shannon Spencer, President Pro Tem, Cathy Kernen, and Mayor Aidsand Wright-Riggins

Also present were Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Police Chief Barton Bucher, Borough Engineer Dave Leh and assistant Suzanne Robertson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2018 meeting by Ms. Stagliano, second by Mr. Braun, *Motion approved 7-0.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Budget & Finance: Terri Stagliano read the Treasure's Report. There is an available balance of \$116K
MOTION to approve Treasurer's report by Ms. Stagliano, second by Ms. Tulio, *Motion approved 7-0.*

Consideration of Disbursements: Ms. Stagliano asked that checks 3002-3051 be approved. **MOTION** by Mr. Braun to approve checks 3002 through 3051, second by Ms. Kernen, Motion approved 7-0.

Business Development: Ms. Kernen gave the report. Committee members did a walking audit of the Borough with members of the Montgomery Planning, Commerce and Business Development offices. The tour started at Ursinus College and went along Main Street and to both shopping centers. The purpose was to brainstorm ideas to feature current businesses and attract new. She also announced a new offering of movies on the lawn of Ursinus College. There will also be tours of the Berman Museum and use of facilities.

Communications: Ms. Spencer stated that she is in the process of collecting emails from residents to add to the bank for the newsletter. She passed a signup sheet for all at the meeting. Mr. Mann inquired about the current newsletter that he characterized as "bogus". Ms. Spencer explained that there is a newsletter that covers many boroughs with information they glean off of all the websites. She stated that we are still in the midst of updating the Borough website. Ms. McKinney suggested reaching out to this group to work with them to ensure the accuracy of the other newsletter. Why not take advantage of them also?

Community Engagement: No report.

CPVRPC: No Report

CTMA/Public Works: Arnold Mann read a detailed report.

Parks Committee: Ms. Stagliano said they are ordering new park benches for Collegeville Park. She also stated that they are getting estimates to replace the dugouts that are crumbling. They are deciding on whether to re-do the veneer with stucco or brick.

Personnel: Ms. Kernen apologized to Ms. Tulio that she has not completed the job description for the office assistant position currently being filled by Suzanne Robertson and hopes to have it finished soon.

Planning Commission: No meeting not enough members present for a quorum.

Public Safety: Mr. McKnight said he met with Mr. Braun and the Mayor about meetings that will begin in July and meet every other month on the 3rd Tuesday.

Streets, Roads & Lighting: Ms. McKinney stated that 9th Ave is set to be repaved. Mr. Mann brought up the potholes, the sink hole and said the double yellow line will be not be redone. Ms. Spencer wanted to know if there will still be shoulder lines. Mr. Mann replied that the double yellow lines will not be redone, but that the outside lines will be replaced.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Engineer: Mr. Leh said that Royal Farms preliminary approval is to be addressed. He spoke about the 2018 repaving project. He also said the ADA ramps at Clahor & Park Aves should be installed in early July.

Solicitor: Mr. Kilkenny said he worked on Clamer Ave parking permit ordinance.

Manager/Zoning: Ms. Stagliano reported for Mr. Thompson that there will be a discussion about the waiver of permit fees for the Fire Co. The summer concert series begins on June 14 with "The River of Dreams" band. There were 5 building permits issued in the Month of May.

Police: Chief Bucher asked for approval for the Fire Co for closing Main St on August 12 from 7AM to 5PM for the car show. **MOTION** by Ms. Stagliano to approve the road closure for August 12 for the Fire Company Car Show, second by Ms. Tulio, *Motion approved 7-0.*

The Police Department had an audit by the state on the handling of juvenile cases. The Chief was happy to report that the Borough passed with no issues. There will be another audit in 3 years. Chief Bucher requested approval for the purchase of a 2018 Ford Explorer to replace the 2003 vehicle. The cost of the new vehicle is \$33K fitted out for Police use. **MOTION** to approve the vehicle purchase by Ms. Stagliano, second by Ms. Tulio: *MOTION approved 7-0.*

Collegeville Fire Department: Gary Sassaman read the incident reports to which the Fire Company responded for the month. Brian Freas addressed the easement they need from Ursinus College in order to begin construction. They have steel being delivered on June 27 and need approval before that date. Ms. McKinney said that she would reach out directly to her contacts at the college directly to find out why they are holding back and to hopefully speed things up!

Craig Penuel requested a waiver for the permit fees, which amount to \$6,673.90, for the construction of the new Fire Hall. Ms. Spencer voiced concerns that the Fire Co is now tax funded and by waiving fees, are we not having residents pay fees almost twice? Ms. Kernen thanked the Fire Co for their service, but also added that while she is for the waiver, she hoped that we would consider offering such waivers as incentive to new businesses that come to the Borough. **MOTION** to approve the fee waivers by Ms. Stagliano, second by Mr. Braun. *MOTION approved 7-0.*

Mayor's Report:

- Participated and spoke at the Ribbon Cutting ceremonies for the opening of S&B Event Concepts and Catering an African American and woman owned business new to Collegeville located at 25 Bridge Street.
- Toured the Office of Emergency Management and was oriented in matters pertaining to the Department of Public Safety along with Council President Marion McKinney. The agency's mission is to provide the community with highly

professional, well-coordinated public safety services through training, education, communications, planning and management of the response to, and recovery from, natural or man-made disasters.

- Attended the initial meeting of the Borough's Public Safety chaired by Councilman Mat McKnight.
- Attended a meeting of community leaders, Chaired by Attorney David Kaplan, who are interested in addressing systemic approaches to mitigating poverty in and around the Colledgeville area. Community members interested in this initiative may attend the next meeting of the group to be held on June 20 at 4:00 PM at Wismer Center at Ursinus College.
- Served as a Grand Marshal in the Colledgeville-Trappe Memorial Day Parade and participated in the tribute to fallen veterans in a liturgy prepared by Pastor Martha Kriebel and conducted by area clergy.
- Spoke and participated in the unveiling and dedication of the Chair of Honor for Prisoners of War and Missing In Action Veterans at the Colledgeville Branch of the Merck Sharp and Dohme Federal Credit Union.
- Provided mentoring, guidance and community service opportunities to Miss Erin Quinn of Perkiomen Valley High School during her Career Study Month as she shadowed the mayor and his office for 60 hours during the month of May. A signature achievement of this connection was the development of a proposal, now before school administrators. for the development of a series of "Living Room Conversations" where PV students will have an opportunity to engage with each other in crucial conversations on controversial issues in a safe environment to promote understanding and civility in the midst of community.
- Engaged in conversations with a Mayor's Think Tank and Ursinus College brainstorming the possibility of a "Boroughs' Best" Talent Competition to enhance community camaraderie and engagement while highlighting Ursinus College on the 150th Anniversary of its founding.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Mr. Bakshi of 164 Stine Drive requested that a left turn arrow be added at the entrance of Colledgeville Crossing. Amy Kaminski, Borough Traffic Engineer answered that there was a study done at that intersection by PennDOT and that they found the volume of people turning there did not warrant a left signal. Mr. Bakshi expressed his annoyance that we should wait for an accident to address a dangerous situation. Mr. Koenig of 252 Freeland agreed with Mr. Bakshi.

Mr. Tweedie of 316 Colonial Ave agreed that traffic in that area of 2nd Ave is a problem.

Diane Kriebel of 248 W 5th Ave brought up a complaint about how an incident at her home was handled. She claims a plow truck smashed her curb. She said she contacted the Borough office and was told by Mr. Thompson that it would not be handled by the Borough. She was upset that she had to pay \$1300 to fix the damage. Mr. Penuel of 208 W 5th Ave agreed that there is a problem with contractor plow trucks that don't know the Borough and are doing damage because of unfamiliarity with the roads. He feels there would be less of this if we had our own plows in the Borough.

ACTION ITEMS

Consideration of the Royal Farms Land Development Plan: In attendance from Royal Farms were Christen Pionzio, Attorney for Royal Farms, Matt Hammond, Traffic Engineer, Robert Blue, Engineer and Josh Peterson, Moreland Developers

Royal Farms requested waivers for some of the SALDO requirements. They are required to plant 16 trees to replace 8 that are being removed from the site. They asked that they be required to replace 12 due to a lack of space. There is supposed to be an 8 - 12 foot sidewalks with a 4 foot border, traffic shoulders, street lights, adhere to a 5% grading slope at the new intersection of Route 29 & Main St. a 4% grading slope 50ft from the intersection, street lights along the new Gravel Pike section, softening landscape buffers, landscaping around dumpsters and traffic site lines. Royal Farms explained that because of the new Gravel Pike, there is now more "frontage" than a usual plan and that there simply is not room to do all that was in the plan. They say they will be spending \$1.5 million dollars on this plan and that while it won't fix ALL the problems, that they are working to do the very best possible for the site. They repeated several times that this project is very supported

by PennDOT as a massive improvement to the community and an improvement that PennDOT has wanted to do for a long time, but did not have funds to complete.

There was a lively debate between residents, Mr. Hammond, Ms. Pionzio and Council. Mr. Hammond explained the configuration of the new Gravel Pike, the driveways, lanes and impact of such on the residents that live along that stretch of Gravel Pike and motorists. Residents and some members of Council seem concerned about the new traffic pattern and flow from the bridge into Main St. Mr. Hammond conceded that there are and will be issues that cannot be fixed, but that the intent and outcome will be better than what is there now. The subject of the trees and replacement of them was of particular interest. Ms. Tulio suggested that if they could not place the extra trees to fulfill requirements at that site, would it be possible for them to provide them to the Borough for another project, perhaps the site of the new Fire House. Ms. Pionzio said that would be possible. Ms. Spencer expressed concern that she had seen photos of another Royal Farms location that had dead bushes and wondered what the plan is to ensure that the plantings they install will be cared for. Ms. Pionzio said that contractually the landscaping is guaranteed for 18 months, but that Royal Farms is a high end establishment that will do all possible to maintain a polished exterior. Ms. McKinney asked for a vote.

MOTION by Ms. Stagliano to approve the Preliminary Land Development Plan for Royal Farms and the requested Waivers, second by Mr. Braun, *Motion approved 5 – 2* (Kernen and Spencer NO)

Consideration of Advertising Ordinance No. 2018-588, Clamer Ave Permit Parking: In a meeting attended by Ms. McKinney, Chief Bucher and residents on Clamer Ave., it was determined that to address the lack of parking spots on this street, that parking permits would be issued. Two resident and one guest pass would be issued to each home (totaling 15) permits. Signs will be placed on the street that alerts people that the street is “Permit Parking Only” and that cars without permits will be towed at the owner’s expense.

MOTION to advertise the Clamer Avenue Parking Ordinance by Ms. Stagliano, second by Ms. Kernen. *Motion approved 7-0.*

OTHER BUSINESS: Mr. Gross, 534 Second Avenue, Skippack, PA complained about his address being confused with the Collegeville 534, Second Avenue. Ms. Stagliano said that she would look into the issue.

Penelope Belzerate stated that she did not feel that Collegeville needed another convenience store.

ADJOURNED: The meeting was adjourned at 10:40PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Geoffrey Thompson, Secretary