

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 4, 2019

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

ROLL CALL: Council President Marion McKinney, Council Vice-President Teresa Stagliano, President Pro-Tem Cathy Kernen, Shannon Spencer, Council Member Gary Hoffmann, Council Member Hugh Braun, Council Member Louise Tulio, Mayor Aidsand Wright- Riggins, Solicitor Sean Kilkenny, Engineer David Leh, Police Chief Bart Bucher, Manager Geoff Thompson and Administrative Assistant Suzanne Robertson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **MOTION** to approve the minutes from the August 7, 2019 Council Meeting by Ms. Stagliano with a second by Ms. Spencer. **MOTION** carries 7-0

PERKIOMEN WATERSHED PRESENTATION: Ryan Beltz, the Executive Director of the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy, gave a presentation to Council regarding renovating an existing boat ramp that he located along the Perkiomen Creek. The boat ramp is located on Borough owned property at the end of W First Ave, where the LPVRS is starting their Middle Interceptor Project. Mr. Beltz shared ideas on renovating the boat ramp and hopefully making it accessible to the public. **MOTION** to approve moving forward with the ramp renovation by Ms. Stagliano with a second by Ms. Spencer. **MOTION** carries 7-0

STREETLIGHT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM PRESENTATION: Mike Fuller gave a presentation on the Regional Streetlight Replacement Program. Mr. Fuller reviewed the costs for upgrading the Borough's streetlights with LED lights. The cost to upgrade the 279 cobrahead streetlights with LEDs would be \$85,835 and the 89 decorative streetlights \$52,138. The projected savings for replacing all the streetlights will be approximately \$13,000 per year. Mr. Fuller explained that the materials and the installation labor for the project have been bid according to state guidelines by DVRPC. Additionally the DVRPC has arranged financing for the project through DVRFA if the borough chooses to finance the project.

Mr. Fuller explained that he could have a sample decorative light retrofit kit installed in a light for Council to view. He also recommended that Council look at the streetlights in Phoenixville Borough to get an idea of the LED light color. Manual of network controls can be added to the LED light but at an additional cost.

Mr. Fuller explained that the project is expected to be completed by the end of 2020. The communities that do not finance the project will be approved first. Mr. Thompson stated to Council that he is considering funding the cobrahead replacements with the Borough's Liquid Fuels money which is permitted expenditure for the funds. He has not identified the funding for the decorative light replacements and they may have to be financed. Mr. Fuller stated the DVRPC interest rate is currently around 1.8% and expected to go down.

Mr. Fuller explained that DVRPC will provide the approval resolution and associated contracts for the October meeting for Councils consideration. The financing procedure would be completed by November. Mike encouraged everyone to drive around Phoenixville.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance: Mr. Thompson asked for a motion to approve check #'s 3799-3844 and the Treasure's Report. **MOTION** to approve by Ms. Stagliano with a second by Mr. Braun. **MOTION** carries 7-0

Business Development: Ms. Kernen reported that Troubles End Brewing's opening is delayed until later this fall. PHO MAI is also delayed. There is an issue with their gas line to the stove. Hopefully it will open

mid-October. She requested that Chief Bucher and Mr. Thompson research prices for painting the curbs along Main St at 4th and 5th Avenues to delineate parking spaces. Ms. Kernen raised concerns about a façade project at 339 Main St. She is troubled that they removed the front historic wood and glass architecture of the building and wondered if there is an ordinance about that. She suggested that going forward we consider adopting one that would prohibit that. Ms. Kernen suggests having Eric Jarrell from the Montgomery County Planning Commission augment the comprehensive plan from the Borough as the one we have is over 45 years old! She is requesting that we include a line item of \$12-15K in the 2020 budget for this.

The Barth Consulting Group contract is in the binders for consideration. Ms. McKinney asked if the success fees had been removed. Mr. Kilkenny said that they have been removed and that the date needs to be adjusted to October 1. **MOTION** to approve the Barth Consulting contract by Ms. Kernen with a second by Ms. Spencer. **MOTION** carries 6-1 (Ms. Stagliano opposed)

Communications: Ms. Spencer said the website is not quite ready, but should be up in about 2 weeks. She said if anyone has any photographs or events they would like to add, please send to her!

Rotary Club Logo Presentation: Mark Million from the Colledgeville Rotary Club came back for a second time to discuss the logo contest. He said he had met with the Mayor and Ms. Spencer. Ms. Spencer is proposing in addition to having a logo contest to also have a slogan contest. The first part is the artwork for the logo, then the written slogan to reflect where the borough is heading in the future. The plan is to reach out to the community for input and votes and then have a committee to review the entries. Once narrowed down, the top several will come to Council for a vote. Ms. Spencer said the web developer she used for the new website also does logos. If we don't get a viable option from the contest, we can use them to either tweak an entry or have them provide useable copy. Mr. Million said this needs to be completed in the spring due to the time restrictions on the grant. **MOTION** to move ahead with the logo and slogan contest by Ms. Kernen with a second by Mr. Braun. **MOTION** carries 7-0

Community Engagement & Service: Ms. Kernen said the Colossal Yard Sale is this Saturday. Perfect weather is predicted! Ursinus College Fringe Festival will begin on September 11th. St. Eleanor's Fall Festival will be Saturday, Sept 14 10AM - 2PM and Trappe Community Day is also Sept 14. The rescheduled concert at the Colledgeville Park will be on Sunday, Sept 15 from 2PM-4PM. The band is Brass Pocket.

Planning Commission: Mr. Thompson reported that Joe Sullivan resigned. Council needs to find someone to fill his vacancy. He said he has four resumes on hand from Council's previous request for interested residents. He said he will provide their information to Council and they can interview and appoint at the October meeting. He will also advertise to see if there are any more interested parties. The Mayor asked how often that committee meets. Mr. Thompson said the 3rd Thursday of the month as needed.

CTMA and Public Works: Mr. Thompson noted normal business was handled at the meeting, nothing of note to report.

LPVRS: No report

Parks: Ms. Stagliano said she wanted to take this opportunity to, once again, thank Steve Gehringer and Ursinus College for their help with the dugouts at the Colledgeville Park. She said that in all her years of discussing issues that need to be addressed at the Park, she has never had someone come to her (without begging!) and offer help. And not only offer help, but follow through in such a quick and thorough manner. She presented Mr. Gehringer with a custom bat engraved in appreciation. Ms. Stagliano said the

last concert of the season will be on Sunday, Sept 15 at 2PM and will feature the band Brass Pocket. She also wanted to mention a young man, Jared Stong, who helped the day of the storm last month moving fallen branches. He stopped to help clear the way on Park Ave so cars could pass. She said she has been trying to find him to thank him personally. Ms. McKinney said she knows his parents and will get his information.

Personnel: No report

Public Safety: No report

Streets, Roads & Lighting: No report

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Engineer: Mr. Leh reported that a preconstruction meeting was held last month for the 2018 CDBG Project. The work is scheduled for the week of September 16. He also reported that they have completed their review of the Royal Farms Final Land Development Plan submission. The plan will most likely be before the Planning Commission at their September or October meeting. Mr. Leh met with Mr. Thompson regarding various matters throughout the month and conducted site visits with residents regarding various matters.

Solicitor: Mr. Kilkenny said he worked on the new ordinance for the commercial property inspections. His office also worked on the Barth contract and with Mr. Thompson regarding real estate matters in the borough.

Manager/Zoning Officer: Mr. Thompson noted that we are closing on the property at 8th & Chestnut on Monday. He stated that the developer was granted the variances to build 3 new homes. That project is moving ahead. They will be submitting a land development plan by the end of the year with construction to begin spring of 2020. He noted that the design has been changed so the homes will not be “snout” houses as discussed at the last meeting.

Police: Chief Bucher submitted a report to Council that includes man hours and incidents.

Collegeville Fire Company: Mr. Sassaman noted the success of the annual Car Show. He said there were 340 cars. The annual Hero Run 5K will be September 29.

Trappe Ambulance: Report in binders.

Mayor:

- Spoke at Mainline Unitarian Universalist Church on the subject “Crucial Questions for Cantankerous Times”. A YouTube of the message is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2AvbN4rgLo>
- Participated in the July 31 Public Safety meeting via Zoom. In that meeting I introduced technology that may make tracking public safety concerns more manageable and transparent.

- Welcomed 200 plus new students to the Community Service Day at Ursinus College on opening day
- Was interview by Rick Barton, host of “Conshy Connect”, an internet talk radio station reflecting on the significance of the 400th anniversary observance of the initiation of chattel slavery in this country and its significance for community life today.
- Participated in the Anniversary Fest at Ursinus College, kicking off the 150th year of the establishment of this esteemed Collegeville institution. I brought greetings on behalf of the Borough, Council and community.
- Met with Lisa Minardi, executive director of the Trappe, Collegeville and Perkiomen Valley Historical Society. The focus of these conversations was on initial thoughts about a combined 125th commemoration and celebration in 2021 of the incorporations of both Collegeville Borough and Trappe Borough in 1896.
- Met with Chief Bart Bucher as part of our ongoing and regular conversations about community policing in Collegeville. Our chief and police department continue to set and meet high marks for excellence, service and communication.

MOTION to approve the Administrative Reports by Ms. Spencer with a second by Ms. Tulio
MOTION carries 7-0

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Elaine Johnson PV Library: Ms. Johnson reported that the Library is taking on a big project to fix the walls. She expressed appreciation for being allowed to do stories in the park. She said there were 16 children in attendance. She dropped of the newest edition of their newsletter. She noted that the book sale has been postponed.

Gary Sassaman 209 11th Ave: Mr. Sassaman wanted to tell Council what a great organization the Perkiomen Watershed is and what a great job Ryan does for them. He said his daughter spent many years participating in their programs. He thinks the boat ramp will be a valuable asset.

Rich Wallace 92 6th Ave: Mr. Wallace said it is a rare treat to see public officials vote for more parks. He is very supportive of the boat ramp and park project presented by the Perkiomen Watershed. He also wanted to thank Steve Gehringer for his help at the Collegeville Park. He said he has worked with him for years and is pleased to see him recognized for his hard work. Ms. Stagliano said the bat was Mr. Thompson’s idea!

John Doman 260 Carmen Dr.: Mr. Doman said he wanted to respond to Ms. Balzareit’s comments during public discussion at the last meeting. He brought a printout of violations received by Steel City to present to Council.

ACTION ITEMS

Consideration of the 2020 Pension Minimum Municipal Obligations: Mr. Thompson explained that the MMO's for the Borough's two pension plans are required to be presented to Borough Council by the end of September.

MOTION to approve the Consideration of the 2020 Pension Minimum Municipal Obligations for uniformed employees by Ms. Stagliano with a second by Ms. Tulio, **MOTION** carries 7-0

MOTION to approve the Consideration of the 202 Pension Minimum Municipal Obligations for non-uniformed employees by Ms. Spencer with a second by Mr. Braun, **MOTION** carries 7-0

Consideration of Advertising Ordinance No. 597, Commercial Inspections: Mr. Thompson said that Mr. Kilkenney's office has prepared a Commercial Property Inspection ordinance. The ordinance will authorize annual fire-safety inspection for all borough commercial and industrial properties. The fee schedule in the ordinance can be amended at any time by a Council Resolution. He stated that we now have a new inspector from LTL Consultants with extensive experience with fire-safety inspections. Ms. Stagliano asked who will be responsible for paying for these inspections. Mr. Thompson said the property owners will be billed. **MOTION** by Ms. Spencer to advertise Ordinance NO. 597, second by Ms. Stagliano, **MOTION** carries 7-0

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:07pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Geoffrey Thompson, Secretary