

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 5, 2020 @ 7:00PM

The meeting was called to order at 7PM by Council President Cathy Kernen.

ROLL CALL: Council President Cathy Kernen, Council Vice President Shannon Spencer (called in), President Pro Tem Gary Hoffmann, Council Member Kathy Costello, Council Member Craig Farr, Council Member Marion McKinney, Council Member Valerie Beckius  
Also in attendance were Borough Manager Geoff Thompson, Engineer David Leh, Police Chief Bart Bucher, Solicitor Dan Greiser, Mayor Aidsand Wright-Riggins and Administrative Assistant Suzanne Robertson.

Ms. Kernen presented Arnold Mann with a gift certificate for his many years of dedicated service to the Borough. Thank you Mr. Mann - you will be missed.

Mr. Farr noted that Ms. McKinney was not noted as part of the Public Safety, Streets Roads & Lighting Committee in last month's reorganization minutes. So noted.

**MOTION** to approve the 1-6-20 Reorganization meeting minutes by Ms. Beckius with a second by Ms. McKinney. **MOTION** carries 7-0

**MOTION** to approve the 1-6-20 Regular meeting minutes by Ms. Beckius with a second by Mr. Hoffman, **MOTION** carries 7-0

Resolution No. 2020-02, Approving the 32, 36 & 40 Eighth Ave. Land Development Plan: Ms. Kernen asked for Consideration of Resolution No. 2020-02, Approving the Land Development Plan for 32, 36 & 40 Eighth Ave. Mr. Thompson explained that the builder has agreed to install a sidewalk along 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. and to pay \$8K fee-in-lieu-of for a waiver for the sidewalk on Chestnut St. Ms. Spencer asked how the figure of \$8K was calculated. She noted the grant application that allowed for \$300K for sidewalks on Main St. Mr. Leh explained that the sidewalk along Main St. is wider are not the same in length. Ms. Kernen said that they are accepting the fee- in- lieu-of the sidewalk because of the topography on Chestnut. The funds will be set aside for other sidewalk projects in the borough. Craig Penuel (208 W 5<sup>th</sup> Ave) asked if has been considered to extend the sidewalk on 8<sup>th</sup> up to Main St. Mr. Leh said that would involve different property owners and not legal to impose upon the developer. Dean Miller (335 E Main St) asked if they are still doing a sidewalk on 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Kernen said they are. **MOTION** to approve Resolution No. 2020-02 by Ms. Costello with a second by Ms. Spencer, **MOTION** carries 7-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Hoffmann noted that there had been a successful meeting on Tuesday to review the 2020 budget. He looks forward to making it easier for everyone to understand where the money goes. Mr. Thompson agreed. Mr. Thompson asked for approval for the Treasurer's Report and check #'s 4070-4122. **MOTION** to approve by Ms. McKinney with a second by Mr. Hoffmann, **MOTION** carries 7-0

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Kernan said they had 2 meetings in January. They discussed with the Main Street Plan and Comprehensive Plan with Mike Lowery from the Montgomery County Planning Commission. Once we have a new plan, it will help the Boro to obtain more grants. There was a second smaller meeting that focused on what types of businesses we want on Main St. They want to have public discussions to find out what everyone wants to see in the downtown. They are working on parking and reviewing the sign ordinance. They are also working to get a Perky Park grant for the boat launch, picnic tables and parking at the creek.

COMMUNICATIONS: Ms. Spencer said that March 1 is the deadline for the logo contest. They have received 3 submissions from 2 different people and are hoping for additional submissions. The newsletter should be out next week.

CPVRPC: Ms. Beckius said the meeting was on January 20. They are continuing to work on an app for the trail that will be tied to Google Maps. The app will be used to let people on the trail know where they can access a bike rack the closest restroom or restaurant. She noted that all meetings are open to the public. They meet at the Lower Frederick Township Building. The next meeting is March 16.

PLANNING COMMISSION: Mr. Thompson said they discussed a townhome overlay ordinance for WB Homes. No decisions were made. WB will be submitting a revised ordinance for review, mostly at the March 19, 2020 meeting.

CTMA: No report

PUBLIC WORKS: Ms. McKinney said that she was unable to attend the meeting but that she called in. She said the topic of the salt shed was discussed and that Trappe is not happy that we shot it down. She said that a cost analysis needs to be done. She also said she needs clarification on what exactly we have to pay back and why. Mr. Farr said it was not a pleasant introduction to the committee.

LPVRS:

Mr. Thompson conveyed for Ms. Stagliano that the interceptor project is proceeding smoothly.

PARKS: Ms. Costello said they met yesterday (2/4/20) and discussed having 3 concerts as always, but that maybe one of those will be a kid's concert. They discussed issues with the playground. She said she met with Montgomery County Planning Commission and looked at the parks. They discussed fencing along 4<sup>th</sup> Ave and a gate to make it secure and ADA compliant equipment. She hopes to gather volunteers to clean up the park and equipment. They discussed a fountain sprinkler and more trees around the playground. The Mayor suggested contacting the Rotary for the cleanup. They are always looking for ways to help.

PERSONNEL: No Report

STREET, PUBLIC SAFETY & LIGHTING: Mr. Farr noted these committees have been combined with a focus on public safety. He said the police and fire chiefs have been invited to sit in on these meetings. They will be the first Monday of the month as needed. He welcomes any and all public input.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

ENGINEER: Mr. Leh noted that in the previous month he worked on the following projects:

- Hudson Square (Rees Property) – The applicant attended the January 16<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting to review a potential overlay district to allow for residential development in the M&I zoning district. It was decided potentially rezoning the area of M&I District within which the applicant’s property resides, might be a more appropriate option instead. The applicant will be submitting a proposal for this option for the Borough’s review.
- 2020 Paving Project – We have completed our specifications package for this year’s paving project and are prepared to go out to bid. The roads to be paved this year will be: Fourth Ave (Main St to Park Ave), Sixth Ave (Main St to the culvert) and Tenth Ave (33 Tenth Ave to Chestnut St)
- Third Ave Montco 2020 Grant Project – We have complete our initial design work and will be meeting with the affected residents over the next few weeks with the intent of placing the project out to bid in March. Mr. Leh said he had several meeting with Mr. Thompson as well as correspondence and site visits with residents regarding various matters.

**MOTION** to authorize the paving project to go out to bid by Ms. McKinney with a second by Ms. Beckius. **MOTION** carries 7-0

SOLICITOR: Mr. Greaser said he worked with Mr. Leh and Mr. Thompson on the No Parking Ordinance.

MANAGER: Mr. Thompson extended an invitation to the Borough’s Association Dinner at Ursinus College new Student Commons Building on February 27<sup>th</sup>. We are hosting the event along with Trappe and Schwenksville Boroughs. Drinks at 6PM with dinner to follow.

POLICE: Chief Bucher said he received two requests from Ursinus College: the first is for a road closure for Main St between 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 7PM on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> for their Music on Main Festival. He will need approval from Council and a permit from PennDOT for the closure. If approved, it will require police and fire police coverage as well as help from other municipalities. Ms. Kernan asked the time for the actual event. Chief Bucher said it probably runs noon to 5PM, but the extra time is for the set up and break down of the bands and vendors. Ms. Spencer asked if there was any precedent for closing the road for that long. Chief Bucher said that Graduation runs about 4 hours and the Car Show runs all day, but that it’s a Sunday which makes a difference. Mr. Greiser said there would have to be a resolution to close the road. Ms. McKinney asked when this was planned. Chief Bucher said he just go the request earlier today. Mr. Botti said the event has been on their website for some time. Mr. Bucher said we can decide think about it and decide next month. Ms. Kernan asked if we could do the motion and then tweak the times after talking to Ursinus. Mr. Greiser said that we could. **MOTION** to approve the road closure for Ursinus on April 4<sup>th</sup> by Mr. Farr with a second by Ms. Costello. **MOTION** carries 5-2 (no by Spencer & McKinney) Chief Bucher also asked for approval for the road closure for Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> for Graduation from 9:30AM – 12:30PM. **MOTION** to approve the May, 16, 2020 Ursinus Graduation road closure by Ms. McKinney with a second by Ms. Spencer. **MOTION** carries 7-0

COLLEGEVILLE FIRE COMPANY: Mr. Penuel read the Fire stats for the month and noted that they did 3 training sessions and met for their 2020 round table discussion.

TRAPPE AMBULANCE: No report

MAYOR: The Mayor represented the Borough at the following events in January:

- MLK Day of Service at the PV School District celebration
- Attended the Planning Commission meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>
- Attended the Streets and Public Safety Committee meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>
- Met with 3 community residents to address concerns and issues

Participated in King Week activities at Ursinus College and as keynote speaker for Sunday Interfaith Service on January 26<sup>th</sup>

The Mayor thanked Chief Bucher for the great work of the Collegeville Police Department for our safe community.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Ms. Kernen said she received a letter from resident Sue Meschter regarding speeding in the borough. She passed this letter to Chief Bucher and the department has increased its speed patrols.

Kelly Siriano 160 Park Ave.: Ms. Siriano said she has lived her for 15 years. Her biggest concern for speeding is from CVS to the park. She said she is afraid to let her kids play outside due to the high speeds on Park Ave. She said she has been harassed by speeders while she drives the speed limit on Park. She wondered if speed bumps would help.

Sue Meschter 222 W 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.: Ms. Meschter said she walks every morning and was compelled to write the letter after seeing the same people speeding through town every day. She suggested painting the speed limit on the street as a reminder to slow down. She has witnessed many box trucks speeding and believes they are from the post office. Also sports buses heading to and from Ursinus.

Matt Evans 43 W 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.: Mr. Evans asked if it was possible to get a 3 way stop sign and crosswalks.

Casey 190 Park Ave.: She said she is also worried about speeding cars and cannot send her kids to cross the street to her mother-in-law's house. She said she has witnessed people speeding at the bus stop at Park & Larkin.

Jim Siriano 160 Park Ave.: Mr. Siriano said he has noticed many large trucks on Park Ave. and thought they were prohibited. He asked if it were possible to get additional signage at Route 29 to notify trucks not to cut through town on Park Ave.

John Travellini 159 Park Ave.: Mr. Travellini said the school buses are also guilty of speeding.

Ms. Spencer said speeding is also an issue on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. She is hopeful the Council will look at the entire borough, not just Park Ave.

Jan Snovel 432 Chestnut St.: Ms. Snovel said she has seen speeding as well and asked if a blinker would help.

Mr. Hoffman said he has seen an effective “drive around” that works near Vanguard. He does not think speed bumps are the answer. Speed bumps are a problem for emergency vehicles.

Chief Bucher appreciates the kind words said about the Police department. He said they are working on solutions. To get a stop sign would require a traffic study. He said he will work on getting signs for the trucks. He noted that we have a strong committee in place to review the issue. Mr. Hoffman noted all meeting are open to the public!

Ray Korenkiewicz 403 W 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.: Mr. Korenkiewicz said he has brought this issue to council in the past. He had pictures of a recent rainy day that depicts water running on to his patio from his neighbor’s driveway. He said this constant water is undermining his pavers. He hopes the borough will help him with this issue. Mr. Hoffman said he is willing to approach the neighbor with Mr. Korenkiewicz and ask for his assistance in blocking the flow of water. Ms. Kernan said that would be the best scenario, if the neighbor is on board to help.

Alex Tweedie 316 Colonial Ave.: Mr. Tweedie said there is zoning issues being considered with the comprehensive plan for the Borough. He feels there is not great benefit to the community with industrial uses. He is for the WB Homes project. Ms. Kernan said there has to be a certain amount of M&I. Mr. Greiser said some communities will join their areas to make up the M&I.

Robert Botti 713 Clahor Ave.: Mr. Botti feels the *Music On Main* Festival is advantageous to the community. He feels we could become the region’s “Main Street”.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

Consideration of Ordinance No. 599 Restricting Parking on W 9th Ave. **MOTION** to approve by Ms. Beckius with a second by Mr. Farr, **MOTION carries 7-0**

Consideration of Advertising Ordinance No. 600, Updated PMRS Plan. Mr. Thompson explained that the Borough has a pension plan with PMRS and that PMRS is requesting that all municipalities in the plan adopt ordinances to revise the plan language to meet current IRS regulations. **MOTION** by Ms. McKinney with a second by Mr. Hoffmann, **MOTION carries 7-0**

Consideration of Resolution No. 2020-03, Approving the Montco 2040 Grant Application. Mr. Thompson explained that staff is requesting to submit a Montco 2040 grant application for the replacement of sidewalk from W. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. to 444 E. Main St. **MOTION** by Ms. Beckius with a second by Ms. Costello, **MOTION carries 7-0**

Ms. Kernan noted that Troubles End Brewing is set to open at the end of February. They will have over 20 craft beers, draft wine and cocktails. They will have a full menu, beyond pub dining. There will be a special area with video games and board games at the tables.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

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Geoffrey Thompson, Secretary