

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 1, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Council VP Gary Hoffmann at 6:30PM.

ROLL CALL: VP Gary Hoffmann, PPT Craig Farr, Marion McKinney, Kathy Costello, Valarie Beckius and Dean Miller. (Kernen absent)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Solicitor Rebecca Geiser, Engineer David Leh, Police Chief Bart Bucher, Manager Tamara Twardowski and Assistant Suzanne Robertson. (Wright-Riggins absent)

MOTION to approve the minutes from the January meeting by McKinney with a second by Farr
MOTION carries 6-0

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET & FINANCE:

MOTION to approve the Treasurer's report which reflects revenues in the amount of \$119,979.62 and expenses, payrolls and ACH transfers in the amount of \$199,009.50 and checks issued #5958-6018 by Costello with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 6-0

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Twardowski noted that the BDC will be inviting business owners and residents to the next meeting to get input on the new Main Street Zoning.

CPVRPC: Ms. Beckius noted that the last meeting was their re-organization meeting and that the committee is working on a new comprehensive plan that she believes will take 18 months to complete. They will be sending out surveys. She also noted that other municipalities in the area are also dealing with EMS issues.

CTMA/PUBLIC WORKS: Ms. McKinney reported that they also had a re-organization meeting. She noted that Mr. Traupman attended the meeting in support of a water increase and thanked him for coming.

MOTION to approve the salary increase for the Public Works Director by McKinney with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 6-0

LVPRSA: Ms. Stagliano reported that 16 EDU's were approved. There was a total of 27 EDU Chapter 94 consistency letters. 25 of them were for Church Road in Lower Providence. Developers for Gravel Pike in Perkiomen Township need these letters as proof that the sewer plant has capacity to process output from 27 homes or businesses. The Middle Interceptor Project is 99% complete. Everything is flowing without any issues. The project permit with the DEP closeout is in progress. Mike McGann will be

sending information concerning a Resolution that passed last month. The resolution allows an owner of a multiple residential unit that is served by a single water meter to request a “user fee adjustment request” from its local authority. The owner must prove that over the previous five consecutive years, the actual usage was 30% more or less than the amount billed. This process will be called ACT 43 and the Regional Authority will consider such requests and then determine the billing and reduced user fee accordingly. Every January the LPVRS has a re-organization meeting. This year will be Ms. Stagliano’s 17th year on the board and 15th as Chair. She said she is honored to represent the Borough for so many years.

PARKS: Ms. Costello reported that Mr. Hastings advised her that we would be unable to mount the tamper proof lights in the pavilion at the park. He said they have to be mounted on poles. She said she has found that other parks in the area do not have lights in their pavilions at all and said they will consider not replacing any of them.

MOTION to approve allowing residents to remove ash wood from Hunsberger Woods for personal use by McKinney with a second by Beckius (applications and waivers are available at borough hall)

MOTION carries 6-0

PERSONNEL: No report

STREETS & PUBLIC SAFETY: Mr. Farr noted that they are moving closer to a residential U&O that would be for safety issues, sidewalks and curbs. PennDOT has approved the new permit for a signal upgrade at the intersection of Route 29 and Freeland Drive. Ursinus is not opposed to having sidewalks installed along E 9th Avenue from Main Street to College Ave, but does not have the funds to do so at this time. They are willing to work with the Borough in applying for grants for possible funding. The Green Light Go grant has been submitted. Ms. Twardowski reported that the County is aware of the safety issues at the trail crossing on Route 29, and the improvement project is out for bid.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

ENGINEER: Mr. Leh reported that Gilmore is out to bid for this year’s paving project which will include Stratford Avenue as well as the eastern most section of East Ninth Avenue. Bids are scheduled to be opened on February 23. Shop drawings for the structure of the 8th Avenue culvert have been provided by the fabricator. They should be approved this week. The structure will then go into fabrication which will take approximately twelve weeks. The bids have been opened for the 5th & 6th Avenue culvert repair project. Unfortunately, they are slightly higher than the previous bid. We have offered our recommendation under separate cover. It was decided by council to send this back to the Street Committee for review and recommendation.

SOLICITOR: No report

MANAGER: Ms. Twardowski reported that she did meet with Upper Providence and Perkiomen Township leaders regarding EMS services and that Perkiomen Township has committed to Freedom Valley for at least the first quarter. All three municipalities seemed willing to give Freedom Valley a chance to prove themselves and, as of now, they are still the closest ambulance. Trappe Fire Co. has

terminated their lease in Trappe. Ms. Twardowski put Mr. Lynch and Mr. Long in touch with Steve Gehringer from Ursinus College to see if any UC buildings could host the ambulance. Mr. Gehringer said they are very close to finding a solution that would keep an ambulance in the borough. This would benefit residents and students. Mr. Lynch said they are thrilled at the prospect of being in the borough.

POLICE:

MOTION to approve the road closing on Main Street between 5th & 9th Avenues on May 13 from 9:30AM to approximately 1:30PM for Ursinus graduation by McKinney with a second by Costello

MOTION carries 6-0

FIRE: Mr. Penuel reported 35 calls and 379.8 hours of service to the community.

AMBULANCE: Mr. Lynch reported 596 calls for January, 36 of those for the borough. On January 14, the training division taught a CPR class to a local Boy Scout Troup. The training division is finishing up an EMT class at Ursinus College.

MAYOR: No report

MOTON to approve the Committee & Administrative reports by Beckius with a second by Costello

MOTION carries 6-0

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:17PM