

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 3, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Council President Cathy Kernen

ROLL CALL: President Catherine Kernen, VP Gary Hoffmann, PPT Craig Farr (ZOOM), Marion McKinney, Kathy Costello, Valarie Beckius, Dean Miller and Mayor Aidsand Wright-Riggins

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Solicitor Joe McAlee, Engineer David Leh, Police Chief Bart Bucher, Manager Tamara Twardowski and Assistant Suzanne Robertson

MOTION to approve the Minutes from the July meeting by McKinney with a second by Beckius
MOTION carries 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gary Sassaman- 209 11th Ave - Mr. Sassaman shared some ideas about a retention basin to help with storm water. Ms. Kernen agreed it would be worth exploring.

Jan Snovel - 432 Chestnut St – Ms. Snovel asked if, in the future, residents could be notified when the street cleaners are coming so they can move their cars. Ms. Twardowski said she did not get much notice of the date this last time, but will try to ensure she does next time so we can post on sign and FaceBook.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

MOTION to approve the Treasure’s Report and approve expenses, including payrolls, ACH payments and checks 5635-5698 totaling \$266,866.28 by McKinney with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 7-0

Mr. Hoffman gave an overview of the mid-year budget. He showed slides that showed revenues now compared to the same time last year. Everything is tracking as expected.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Kernen noted the RACP 2021 Grant the borough received in the amount of \$500K for improvements to Borough Hall. She would like approval to apply for a second grant. These grants are matching grants, meaning we would need to bring in a developer to handle the new building on this same site. The developer would put up the money for the improved space and in return would collect the rents from the proposed retail space as well as the apartments that would be above. The new building would keep the same classic look of our Main Street.

MOTION to approve applying for RACP 2022 grant with Ms. Kernen and Ms. Twardowski as signers by McKinney with a second by Costello

MOTION carries 7-0

CPVRPC: Ms. Beckius noted that they did not meet in July, but the next meeting is August 15.

CTMA/PUBLIC WORKS: Ms. McKinney reported that at the last meeting they paid the bills and discussed investments.

LPVRS: Ms. Stagliano reported that eleven EDU's were approved along with seven Chapter 94 consistency letters. They entered into a contract with Eastern Environmental via Costars for the purchase and installation of a sludge tank mixer. Gilmore completed the site inspection and provided an initial recommendation for the Chemical Storage Building Roof. Gilmore also gave a final plan review and schedule for bidding on Penn Bid for the generator. Numerous repairs and maintenance were done at the plant. The Middle Creek Interceptor project duration has been 1124 days. The contract amount is \$40,277,551.45 and the work completed to date is \$37,200,000.00. It is 93% complete. Ms. Stagliano shared the following thoughts on the project: The initial planning of the entire interceptor started in 2004. The middle interceptor was put on hold for approximately twelve years due to the former Lower Providence Supervisors and two residents. Those few people cost every taxpayer in the six municipalities at least \$20M which does not include legal fees incurred to fight for our municipalities in court. Every court dismissed their charges. She is thrilled to say that construction planned to be complete on or around August 12. There will be a brief use of bypass pumping near the Chestnut Street Extension are for three or four days for the final connection to be complete. Restoration along the entire project will start in the fall and not be completed until next summer.

PARKS: Ms. Costello reported that the twice cancelled Bachelor Boys concert in the park will take place on Sept 29 at 6:30PM. The next Parks meeting is scheduled for August 16 and will be via ZOOM.

PERSONNEL: Ms. Kernan noted that there was an executive session before this meeting regarding a personnel matter.

MOTION to appoint Ms. Twardowski as the Treasurer by McKinney with a second by Costello

MOTION carries 7-0

STREETS & PUBLIC SAFETY: Mr. Farr noted there will not be a meeting in August.

MOTION to amend the signal permit for Freeland Dr. & Second Avenue by Costello with a second by McKinney

MOTION carries 7-0

There was a discussion to consider installing a permanent blinking speed limit indicator at the entrance to Freeland Square. Chief Bucher added that there is a software subscription fee for that type of light after the first year. He feels it would be worth trying and, after the year, deciding if it was an effective deterrent and worth the cost going forward.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

ENGINEER: Mr. Leh reported that Gilmore is in the process of obtaining access easements from the adjacent property owners of the 5th & 6th Avenue culverts and finalizing the specifications. Once complete, the project will be going out to bid. He and Ms. Twardowski have now met with all of the adjacent residents of the 8th Ave culvert for easements. All were amenable to granting the easements and Ms. Geiser's office is preparing the appropriate documents. His office has received the 4th escrow

release request from Freeland Square project and has offered a recommendation for approval under separate cover.

MOTION to approve Escrow release #4 for Freeland Square in the amount of \$80,025.00 by McKinney with a second by Miller

MOTION carries 7-0

SOLICITOR: Mr. McAlee noted that the solicitor's office worked on the special event permit to allow alcohol in our parks and modifications to the Storm Water and SALDO ordinances.

MOTION to approve advertising the above Ordinance changes by McKinney with a second by Miller

MOTION carries 7-0

MANAGER:

Ms. Twardowski reported the following year end totals per the 2021 Audit:

General Fund: \$757,268

Liquid Fuels: \$70,225

Capital Fund (former Fire Apparatus Fund): \$550,301

General Debt (culverts): \$249,760

Pension for Uniformed Officers: \$7,459,954

There were no findings or corrections to be made.

MOTION to approve appointing Ms. Kernan, Mr. Hoffmann, Ms. Twardowski and Chief Bucher as signers at Victory Bank by Costello with a second by Hoffmann

MOTION carries 7-0

MOTION to authorize amending the parking ordinance on the 400 block of Main Street (only) at this time by McKinney with a second by Farr

MOTION carries 7-0

Ms. Twardowski reported that we should gain about twenty parking spaces when the lines are drawn. Chief Bucher noted that it will be posted "NO PARKING" from 1AM – 6AM. There was a discussion regarding how this will be enforced. Ms. McKinney asked about towing. The Chief said we do not have an Ordinance that allows for towing at this time.

MOTION to approve Resolution 2022-12 to destroy banking records older than seven years by Costello with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 7-0

Ms. Twardowski noted that Trappe Ambulance will be merging with Harleysville Ambulance to become Freedom Valley Ambulance. She explained that this is necessary due to Trappe not being able to sustain ambulance service as a stand-alone agency. She stated that there will probably be a fee collected from the Borough going forward to help support the Ambulance Company. There will be more information to come.

POLICE:

MOTION to approve the Bonfire at Ursinus College on August 27 contingent on there being a fire truck on site by Costello with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 7-0

FIRE: Mr. Sassaman reported 36 calls last month. He highlighted the Annual Car Show on August 14.

MAYOR: The mayor noted that he was away much of July, but that he met with Chief Bucher and is involved in the planning of the Day of Service at Ursinus College on August 27.

MOTION to approve the Committee and Administrative reports by McKinney with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gabby Wright, Ursinus Campus Safety Director suggests that we raise our parking fines as she has been told by students that the borough fines are lower than hers! She also noted that the College will be contributing to the Ambulance Service for the students.

Jim DeVries –137 Russell Circle – Mr. DeVries asked for clarification about the Ambulance situation. Ms. Kernen explained that Trappe Ambulance had financial difficulties due to some internal issues as well as the reimbursements from Medicare and other insurers and low participation of residents to their membership. The collaboration with Harleysville will have more economy of scale. . She said that the borough will help advertise membership values to try to increase resident memberships through our newsletter and social media platforms.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:12PM