

COLLEGEVILLE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by council president Cathy Kernen

ROLL CALL: President Cathy Kernen, VP Gary Hoffmann, PPT Craig Farr, Marion McKinney, Kathy Costello, Valarie Beckius and Dean Miller

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

MOTION to approve the minutes from the May meeting by McKinney with a second by Costello
MOTION carries 7-0

Ms. Kernen noted that there was an executive session regarding a personnel matter and a possible litigation matters earlier in the week.

Ms. Geiser opened the hearing for the new parking Ordinance. She entered articles into the record:

- A. A true copy of the ordinance
- B. Proof of Publication
- C. The Minutes from the April Planning Commission meeting
- D. The review letter from the Montgomery County Planning Commission dated June 6, 2023

Ms. Kernen explained that the parking ordinance that is in place is from the 80's and this is an updated version that better suits the borough today.

No public comment

Hearing closed

MOTION to approve the new parking ordinance by McKinney with a second by Beckius
MOTION carries 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Terri Stagliano 201 Independence Court – Ms. Stagliano thanked council for the new trash service. She said the can capacity allows her to only have to pull them out every few weeks and has made her life easier.

Jim Traupman 256 E 9th Ave – Mr. Traupman agreed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BUDGET & FINANCE:

MOTION to approve the finance report and check numbers 6177-6232 and ACH transfers in the amount of \$1,129,619.02 and deposits in the amount of \$1,377,106.96 by McKinney with a second by Costello
MOTION carries 7-0

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Kernen reported that a Local Share Grant has been awarded in the amount of \$74K and will be used to map out a redevelopment plan for the 400 block of Main Street. No final decisions will be made without public input.

CPVRPC: Mr. Miller reported that the committee met on May 15 and they discussed the regional comprehensive plan. This plan is revised every ten years. They are seeking public input via surveys. Affordable housing is a major issue in the region.

CTMA/PUBLIC WORKS: Ms. McKinney reported that the committee paid bills and discussed investments as usual and the potential for hooking in to North Penn Water Authority in Skippack Township is in the talk stages.

LPVRS: Ms. Stagliano reported three capacity rights agreements were approved last month. The sludge tank and mixer is working as designed. Gilmore & Associates has completed a site inspection of the chemical storage building roof and provided initial recommendations. Construction has started for the grit building pipe replacement. This work is halfway complete with all pipes underground. The representative meter pits that were damaged during Hurricane Ida will be repaired in house. Evaluations are underway.

PARKS: Ms. Costello noted that the last concert (Barefoot Bobby) was a huge success! Unfortunately, due to the haze in the area from the Canadian fires, the decision was made that the Bigg Romeo concert that was scheduled for June 8 be postponed. The basketball court project has been completed and the new mulch at the playground has been installed.

PERSONNEL: No report

STREETS & PUBLIC SAFETY: No report

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

ENGINEER: Mr. Leh reported that the 8th Avenue replacement project is substantially complete and it is anticipated that 8th Avenue will be reopened to traffic no later than Tuesday, June 6. We have received payment request #2 from the contractor

MOTION to approve payment #2 in the amount of \$298,385.06 to MDX, LLC by McKinney with a second by Farr

MOTION carries 7-0

All sidewalk and curb work associated with the 2023 paving project has been completed. The contractor is tentatively planning on paving the last week of June.

SOLICITOR: Ms. Geiser noted that she is closely following the progress at Glenwood Reserve and is happy to report that they are down to the last few items on the punch list. She will continue to monitor to conclusion.

MANAGER: Ms. Twardowski gave an update to the status of the Perkiomen Bridge Hotel. The borough has issued several citations over the last few weeks and the owner has a date at district court coming soon. If Judge Rebar upholds the citations, he can then appeal to the Montgomery County Court. Ms. Twardowski will continue to give updates as they come. Historic Trappe has requested a donation from Collegeville Borough to be a sponsor for their “Dinner on Main” event. Ms. Kernen is asking for approval to donate \$500 to strengthen the relationship between the borough and Historic Trappe and also as a show of appreciation for the assistance they provided in assessing the Perkiomen Bridge Hotel and the former DaVinci’s building. This is a general donation to Historic Trappe rather than a dinner sponsorship.

MOTION to approve donating \$500 to Historic Trappe by McKinney with a second by Beckius

MOTION carries 7-0

Ms. Twardowski presented Resolution 2023-05, a Public Comment Policy, and explained why there is a time during meetings for public comment. This resolution gives guidelines as to who can speak, the duration and that it is for comment only. Council meetings are not a time to debate or argue.

MOTION to approve Res. 2023-05 by McKinney with a second by Farr

MOTION carries 7-0

Ms. Twardowski reported that she and the Chief visited the intersection of 4th & Main Streets and agreed that one space needs to be removed to increase visibility. She will have our Public Works department spray paint an X to remove it from use.

Ms. Twardowski noted that street sweepers will be in the borough on June 14 & 15.

POLICE: Chief Bucher explained the new countywide Blue Envelope Program. This program allows for individuals with special needs, social anxieties and other mental issues to present the blue envelope to an officer at a traffic stop or accident scene. The officer will then have more awareness of the situation and the hope is that the incident will be handled in such a way to cause less stress. The envelopes are available at our police station.

MOTION to approve our Fire Police assisting at the following events by McKinney with a second by Costello

June 9 PVSD graduation

July 4 Fireworks in Lower Providence

July 4 Skippack 4th of July Parade

July 4 Limerick Fireworks

July 9 Historic Trappe’s Dinner on Main

Sept 30 Lower Providence Fire Department Hero Run & BBQ

MOTION carries 7-0

FIRE: No report

AMBULANCE: Mr. Long reported that things are going well in their new location.

MAYOR: No report

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chris Louten 39 E 4th Ave- Mr. Louten asked about a property pin that was removed from a property by the developer of Glenwood Reserve. He also expressed concern about the disregard drivers have for pedestrians at crosswalks. He inquired about reimbursement for all of the events that Collegeville Borough Fire Police take part in and our Fire Department assisting other municipalities. He shared statistics for parking and feels that two spaces should be "X"d for better site lines at 4th & Main. Mr. Sassaman noted that the Fire Company is paid by Upper Providence to assist and that other fire companies also assist us.

MOTION to approve all reports by McKinney with a second by Costello

MOTION carries 7-0

Ms. Kernen noted that the first Movie on the Lawn at Ursinus College is scheduled for June 23 and will be Lilo & Stitch. There will be activities for kids and food trucks on site.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:15PM