

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Wednesday, June 17th, 2015

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Mayor
James Griffin, Council Vice-President
Karen Tutino, Council Member
Anita Barton, Council Member
Matthew Ryan, Council Member
Robert Stokley, Council Member
Edward Phipps, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT: Richard J. Manfredi, Borough Manager
Michael Savona, Borough Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held at Conshohocken Borough Hall, 8th Avenue & Fayette Street, Conshohocken, Pa. Mr. James Griffin, Council Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PRAYER FOR COUNCIL

Ms. Anita Barton read the Prayer for Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PRESENTATIONS

- a) **Approve or reject West Elm and Corson Street plans for major land development and approve or reject height bonus request, LD-2015-01.**

Mr. Manfredi explained that Ms. Tutino requested, and was granted by Council, time to review the application and would share a comment. He added that Mr. Savona would detail the project conditions before the matter would be put to vote. Ms. Tutino highlighted the advantages to the Borough in approving the additional height bonus request for this project.

Mr. Savona summarized the project and the key conditions of the resolution. Mr. Savona also explained that the height bonus, if granted, would add one floor to the building and the additional 46,000 sq. ft. is estimated to generate an additional \$60,000.00 in real estate taxes to the Borough and over \$200,000.00 a year in real estate taxes to the school district. He cited other examples of how the project would have a positive tangible economic impact on the Borough.

Mr. Savona stated Council would determine how to allocate the twenty spaces that would be dedicated to the Borough in a separate discussion at a later date.

Mr. Stokley inquired if a tenant was selected. The applicant, Mr. Bob Dwyer stated that there was.

With no further comment from the applicant or the public, Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve the twenty-five foot height bonus in exchange for the comfort station as per the final design to be approved by the Design Review Committee and Council, seconded by Mr. Phipps. The motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve Resolution 2015-12 to approve the final land development plan for 400 West Elm Street, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 6-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Manfredi introduced the consent agenda.

- a) **Approve and adopt April and May Borough Council Meeting Minutes.**
- b) **Approve and adopt Resolution 2015-08 supporting fair housing and Resolution 2015-09 appointing a Fair Housing Officer.**
- c) **Accept resignation of Matt Mittman from the Planning Commission.**
- d) **Grant a waiver of off-street parking for 128 Fayette Street.**
- e) **Appoint McCormick Taylor as special traffic engineer and Bergmann Associates for landscape architecture and related services at the rate schedules submitted.**
- f) **Approve filing a joint ARLE grant application with the Borough of West Conshohocken.**
- g) **Approve allocation of funds for professional custodial services at all Borough facilities.**

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve items (a) through (g), second by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 6-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) **Approve and adopt Resolution 2015-10 authorizing the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement.**

Mr. Manfredi stated that there is a franchise grant included in the agreement. He explained that this means that Comcast will grant \$21,890 for the Borough to create a production studio that will be used to broadcast Council meetings. Comcast has agreed to a side letter that specifies that Comcast will hold a discussion with the Borough on the possibility of HD broadcasting.

Mr. Manfredi added that the Borough Channel would be available on cable, Comcast, and Verizon. Mr. Stokley asked how many subscribers are viewing their meetings and Mr. Manfredi shared that there are no numbers presently.

Mr. Griffin then allowed for public comment. Ms. Rosemary Northcutt, asked whether the Borough's channel would be similar to what Colonial School District produces. Mr. Savona confirmed that it would be. Mr. Manfredi clarified that the Borough's channel and Colonial School District's channel would not be inter-related. Ms. Northcutt then asked if there was a cost to the Borough to produce the network. Mr. Manfredi explained that the grant in the agreement would be used to establish and studio and that the Borough would run the studio. Mr. Savona explained that, due to provisions of the Telecommunications Act, Comcast cannot legally charge a fee to provide an educational channel. Another resident asked if the Council meetings would be aired on the website. Mr. Manfredi stated that it is the Borough's intention that the meetings be on YouTube or streamed on a new Borough website.

Mr. Stokley made a motion to approve the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement, seconded by Mr. Phipps. The motion carried 6-0.

NEWBUSINESS

- a) Approve and adopt Resolution 2015-11 appointing a new Applicant Agent for the Hurricane Irene Disaster Relief Grant.**

Mr. Manfredi explained that the reason for this item falling under new business is the need to act on the item by the end of the month in order to prevent the risk of losing the \$28,700.00 of grant funds that had previously been allocated to the Borough.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve and adopt Resolution 2015-11 appointing a new Applicant Agent for the Hurricane Irene Disaster Relief Grant, seconded by Mr. Stokley. The motion carried 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no comment from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Secretary