

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: James Griffin, Council President  
Karen Tutino, Council Vice-President  
Robert Stokley, Senior Council Member  
Anita Barton, Council Member  
Tina Sokolowski, Council Member  
Colleen Leonard, Council Member  
Jane Flanagan, Council Member  
Robert Frost, Mayor

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held at the Conshohocken Borough Hall, 400 Fayette Street, Conshohocken, PA. Mr. James Griffin, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**PRAYER FOR COUNCIL**

Ms. Anita Barton read a Prayer for Council.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Manfredi announced, on behalf of Council President Griffin, that there would be an Executive Session immediately following the regular meeting to discuss real estate and litigation.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**a.) Presentation of a Proclamation for Flocco's 90 Years of Business in the Borough.**

Mr. Manfredi then announced that the first item on the agenda would be for Mayor Frost and Ms. Flanagan to present a proclamation to the Flocco family for their 90 years of business in the Borough. Mayor Frost read and presented the proclamation to Mr. Vince Flocco who was accompanied by his wife and daughter.

**b.) Presentation of a Proclamation for PA One Call.**

Mr. Manfredi then announced that the next item on the agenda would be a proclamation for PA One Call as requested by the group to increase awareness of what they do. He shared that, although no one representing PA One Call was physically present, Mayor Frost would read the proclamation aloud prior to Council's adoption. Mayor Frost then read the proclamation and Mr. Manfredi commented that the Borough would be advertising the information included in the proclamation as a public service announcement to remind residents of the importance of dialing PA One Call's 811 number prior to a digging project.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Next, Mr. Manfredi read through and explained each of the items included on the consent agenda.

- a.) **Approve and adopt the January 4<sup>th</sup> regular, January 18<sup>th</sup> special, and January 18<sup>th</sup> regular public meeting minutes.**
- b.) **Accept the January-ending Treasurer's Report and payables.**
- c.) **Accept Mr. Aaron Weems' resignation from the Planning Commission, effective February 10, 2017.**
- d.) **Approve and adopt Resolution 2017-02 granting approval of the 315 East 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue minor subdivision and land development.**
- e.) **Deny Brian Scott Kennedy's petition for abatement of penalties and interest from 2009-2014 business privilege and mercantile taxes.**
- f.) **Adopt the Dog Park Advisory Committee Scope and Duties and authorize advertisement for its members.**
- g.) **Appoint Julie Dickson, Kristen Hughes Heal, and Jennifer McCracken to serve one-year terms on the Mary H. Wood Park Commission, expiring December 31, 2017.**

Mr. Griffin called for a motion to accept the consent agenda. Ms. Tutino inquired about the number of members that would be appointed to the Mary H. Wood Park Commission because she was under the impression that there would be four. Mr. Manfredi explained that there would be a fourth member in the future but that individual would be added following an amendment to the Borough Code section that addresses the Mary H. Wood Park Commission.

**Mr. Stokley then made a motion to approve consent agenda items a.) through g.) as listed, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Manfredi announced that there were no items to discuss.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Manfredi also announced that there was no new business to be shared that evening.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Griffin called for public comment. Mr. George Gephardt of 131 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue then approached the podium and shared that he would like to make a request regarding the playground equipment at Sutcliffe Park. Mr. Gephardt explained that the old equipment was removed and he would like for Council to consider placing the new equipment further away from the basketball courts to provide a buffer from the language that is utilized by its patrons. He also made a suggestion to place the new equipment closer to the baseball fields if possible. Mr. Stokley responded to Mr. Gephardt's comments and shared that he was in favor of the suggestion Mr. Gephardt made but that it should be researched further prior to a final determination. Mr. Manfredi added that Mr. Ray Sokolowski, Director of Public Services, and Mr. Paul Hughes, the Director of Engineering, Licenses and Inspections had also developed a plan to group the new equipment in age-appropriate areas and the older children would be closer to the basketball courts. Mr. Stokley requested that Mr. Hughes, who was present that evening, approach the podium and explain the layout, which he then did. Council discussed the potential layout further and Mr. Manfredi suggested that a meeting be scheduled within the next few weeks for any interested members of Council to meet with Mr. Sokolowski and review his plan for installation prior to the placement; Council agreed to do so.

Ms. Deborah Cieslewski approached the podium and shared that she is frequently at Sutcliffe Park and that she has noticed basketball players using the electrical outlets to charge their phones and electronics. She also commented that there are drug dealers that use the park often as well. Mr. Stokley replied that the Borough does not mind if they use the electrical outlets for their devices but the drug dealings will

need to be addressed. Mayor Frost commented that Sergeant Michael Connor of the Police Department was in the audience that evening and that her comments would be noted and addressed.

Mr. Griffin called for additional public comment. Ms. Marissa Buck of the Londonbury Apartments was present to thank Council for considering taking on the dog park as a Borough park.

Ms. Leonard shared that, at the last meeting, there was a presentation from the YMCA to discuss leasing the Fellowship House. She shared that she would like to keep the Fellowship House with the Borough.

**Ms. Leonard then made a motion to say no to leasing of the Fellowship House to the YMCA.** Mr. Savona commented that he agreed with Ms. Leonard's idea and that if Council was in agreement that there would be no further negotiations with the YMCA regarding a lease proposal, it would be appropriate to make a motion so that the Borough can move forward in the planning for the facility. **Ms. Sokolowski then seconded Ms. Leonard's motion** and explained that she would like the Borough to start moving forward with its own team in place to get the facility up and running. Ms. Tutino commented that because there are so many needs at the Fellowship House that the YMCA has been able to satisfy at other locations, she is concerned that the Borough would be able to address the needs in the same manner as the experienced YMCA organization. In response, Ms. Leonard shared that the Borough has begun to make improvements at the Fellowship House but has been stopped because of this decision not yet being finalized. Ms. Tutino suggested that the Borough receive a formal proposal from the YMCA prior to making the decision on whether to pursue a lease with them or not. Council discussed it further and Mr. Griffin called for a roll call vote.

**Mr. Savona clarified that the motion would be to suspend any further discussions with the YMCA to move forward with the Borough's implementation to run programs at the Fel. Mr. Manfredi took the roll call vote and all but Ms. Tutino voted in favor. The motion carried 6-1.**

Mr. Griffin called for any additional public comment. Ms. Deborah Cieslewski approached the podium and shared her suggestion to promote their silver sneakers programming at the Fellowship House to draw additional seniors to the facility.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Richard J. Manfredi,  
Borough Secretary