

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

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 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

Council Member Jane Flanagan read a Prayer for Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Griffin announced a brief executive session would follow the evening's meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations that evening.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Griffin introduced the consent agenda and asked Mr. Manfredi to read and explain the items.

- a.) **Approve and adopt the January 4, January 6, and January 20 Special and Regular Borough Council Meeting Minutes.**
- b.) **Accept the January-ending Treasurer's Report.**
- c.) **Appoint Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. to conduct the Borough's annual financial audit for the fiscal years ending December 31, 2015, 2016 and 2017 at a not to exceed amount as stated in the proposal for all three years.**
- d.) **Approve and adopt Resolution 2016-02 appointing the Borough Manager Chief Administrative Officer of the Borough's Pension Plans.**

e.) Consider Resolution 2016-03 for 603 Spring Mill Avenue, the Conshohocken Italian Bakery.

Mr. Manfredi explained that Resolution 2016-03 is a minor amendment to the previous approval resolution and stated that all matters had been discussed at length at the work session.

Ms. Barton made a motion to accept the consent agenda as read, seconded by Ms. Tutino. With no comment from Council or the public, the motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a.) Hearing on the Borough's new Floodplain Ordinance and adopt the Borough's new Floodplain Ordinance.

Mr. Manfredi introduced the item and asked Mr. Savona to open the hearing. Mr. Savona explained that the hearing is for consideration of an amendment to the Borough's zoning ordinance to adopt a new floodplain ordinance in order to comply with the 2016 FEMA floodplain maps released for Montgomery County. Mr. Savona then provided a summary of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Manfredi added that there were non-substantive changes forwarded to the Borough by Mr. Savona's colleague and that they were summarized in the analysis provided to Council.

Mr. Griffin called for public comment. Mr. Joe Forino asked if the new ordinance would affect residents' flood insurance. Mr. Savona replied that adopting the new ordinance is a requirement of the Borough so that residents that are in the floodplain can obtain floodplain insurance. Mr. Manfredi also noted that this is a voluntary program and that they are required to meet all of the standards set by the administrators. Mr. Griffin called for additional public comment and there was none. Mr. Savona then closed the hearing.

Mr. Griffin made a motion to approve the new floodplain ordinance, seconded by Ms. Flanagan. With no further comment, the motion carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to conduct.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Griffin called for general public comment. Mr. Dennis Beaver shared that, at the last meeting, he shared a misleading comment when he said that trash was being picked up in the alley at 11th and that his source was incorrect; they were only talking about it.

Next, Mr. Bobby Pasquarello of 426 Pleasant Valley Drive shared three items. First, he requested that the "Watch Children" sign on his street also include a 10 mph speed limit sign. Mr. Manfredi replied, if the Borough places a new speed limit sign, it has to be adopted and included in the ordinance so that it is enforceable. Mr. Savona also stated that they Borough could pass the request on to the Police Chief. Secondly, Mr. Pasquarello requested that all three lights on Pleasant Valley Drive be changed out and Mr. Stokley replied that the lights Mr. Pasquarello was referring to were already on a list of lights in need of repair. Lastly, Mr. Pasquarello commented that the street has not been paved since its construction in 1993 and that it is in need of it. Mr. Griffin commented that the street is most likely included on the Borough's paving program and Mr. Manfredi added that he would follow-up on the items.

Mr. Griffin called for any other comment. Mayor Frost asked if there was a decision made regarding the request for plaques at the A-Field. Ms. Barton, Mr. Griffin, and Ms. Leonard replied that Council agreed to permit them. Mayor Frost added that the Borough should try to get in touch with the Conshohocken High School Alumni Association to see if they also have coaches to represent. Mr. Dan Sheedy, the original requestor, replied that the issue had been discussed amongst the planners and that they are willing to include them. Mr. Griffin shared he would get in contact with the alumni association. Mayor Frost also shared that, if any Conshohocken Alumni are watching the meeting when it airs, they should get in touch with him.

Ms. Leonard asked how Council Members are notified when something happens in their ward. Mr. Manfredi replied that the Borough reaches out to the Council Member but the Administration does not always know everything. Ms. Leonard replied that, by the time she received the email about the mercury spill, neighbors were already inquiring. Mr. Manfredi said that he found out about the incident around 7:00 o'clock that night and, when he had the report from the County, he sent it along to Council. Ms. Leonard also shared that there have been a lot of truck and four-wheeler thefts in her ward in the last two weeks and if, situations like that happen, she would like to be able to pass the information along to her ward. Mr. Manfredi and other members of Council commented that they were not aware. Mr. Manfredi replied that he would talk to the Police Chief about it.

Mr. Stokley shared an image of a public urinal screen in San Francisco and stated that he has been commenting on the need for a restroom at the SEPTA station for years. He had hoped that someone from SEPTA might be watching. He added that the issue also extends to the restaurant district where patrons are urinating behind trees and in other open public areas. Mr. Manfredi commented that he had a meeting with SEPTA coming up and that he would give them Mr. Stokley's article. Mayor Frost asked if other nearby stations had restrooms; Mr. Stokley said that maybe 30% do and added that the money that the Borough would receive from Ms. Tutino's ward may be used to put in the restrooms since there would most likely not be a comfort station put in. Mr. Griffin replied that, it is up to Ms. Tutino how she would like to use the money and Mr. Manfredi added that Ms. Tutino has ideas on the comfort station and the possible fee in lieu of that she would share when appropriate.

Lastly, Mr. Stokley commented that Mrs. Nora T. Grzywacz (formerly Bolton), a former Borough employee passed away this week; she was a good friend of his and to the Borough. He also mentioned that the Christmas Dinner put on by Knucklehead Productions at the Community Center was very successful and asked if he could be given some type recognition.

Mr. Dennis Beaver asked if the Borough knew SEPTA's plan for the station. Mr. Manfredi replied that SEPTA has a long-term plan but the current conversation surrounds the approved land development plan for 51 Washington and the land swaps that are required as part of their approval for a parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi,
Borough Secretary