

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, June 15, 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 7:02 PM.

**PRAYER FOR COUNCIL**

Ms. Anita Barton read the Prayer for Council and initiated a moment of silence for the victims of the recent incident in Orlando, Florida.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Council President announcements.

**PRESENTATIONS**

- a.) **Conshohocken 2016 Funfest: Ms. Kate Kosmin, Recreation Services Manager and Funfest Planning Members: Ms. Janene Reilly, Ms. Chrissy O'Donnell-Leasher, and Mr. Mark Danek.**

Ms. Kate Kosmin, Recreational Services Manager, and Mr. Mark Danek, Funfest Planning Team Member, were present to update Council on the status of the event. They explained the layout of this year's event, plans for entertainment, and other details. Council thanked them both for their presentation.

- b.) **Conshohocken Authority: Mr. Steve Clark, Executive Director.**

Mr. Steve Clark, Authority Executive Director, as well as Mr. Felix Raimondo, Chair of the Municipal Authority Board, and Mr. Frederick E. Ebert, P.E., of Ebert Engineering, Inc. were present to provide an update on the Authority's Corrective Action Plan for the odor problem. The three gentlemen shared the plan in depth and explained how they plan to use a biological solution to solve the issue. Following the presentation, Mr. Griffin called for public comment

and Mr. Dennis Beaver inquired about the true owner of the Authority. In response, Mr. Savona explained that the Borough does not own the Authority but had created it as a separate and distinct entity that serves the Borough residents. He explained that the Borough's only role with the Authority is to make appointments to the Board and that it now operates under the Municipal Authorities Act on its own. There were no further comments or questions and so Mr. Griffin invited Mr. Manfredi to read and explain the items included on the consent agenda.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Manfredi explained each of the items and shared that item e.) to reject the bid for Fayette Street pedestrian crosswalk Rapid Flashing Beacons was the result of Council consensus to do so.

- a.) **Approve and adopt the May 4, 2016 and May 18, 2016 regular public meeting minutes.**
- b.) **Accept the May-ending Treasurer's Report.**
- c.) **Approve the Director Engineering, Licenses and Inspections to also serve as Borough Engineer.**
- d.) **Approve and adopt Fair Housing Resolution 2016-09 and authorizing the advertisement of a notice detailing the Fair Housing complaint process.**
- e.) **Reject the bid for Fayette Street pedestrian crosswalk Rapid Flashing Beacons.**
- f.) **Appoint Council Member Tina Sokolowski to the vacancy on the Conshohocken Rowing Center Board to the unexpired term ending March 1, 2019.**

**Ms. Tutino made a motion to accept the consent items a.) through f.), seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a.) **Consider appointing a Fire Chief.**

Mr. Manfredi explained that two names had been submitted and they were Joseph L. Costello, Jr. and Tim Gunning.

**Ms. Barton made a motion to appoint Tim Gunning as Fire Chief, seconded by Ms. Tutino. Mr. Griffin called for public comment and none was given. A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried 7-0.**

Mayor Frost swore Mr. Tim Gunning in as the Borough's new Fire Chief and Council congratulated Mr. Gunning on his new appointment.

- b.) **Consider purchasing and installing a speed hump: test location to be 12<sup>th</sup> and Maple.**

Mr. Manfredi introduced Mr. Brian Keaveney of Pennoni Associates to share. Mr. Keaveney explained that the cost of the speed hump that the Borough solicited quotes for would be approximately \$8,315.00 and this price would require additional signage and pavement markings to meet PennDOT standards estimated to cost between \$800 and \$1,000; he shared alternative options such as an asphalt hump, pavement markings, and radar speed signs but commented that as a durable, physical barrier, the speed hump is the best suited to correct this speeding issue. Council and the public inquired about the volume of traffic on this particular street, whether or not the bumps were plowable, and the life expectancy of the hump, which Mr. Keaveney estimated to be ten to fifteen years. Ms. Tutino asked if this speed hump purchase was something that Council would be evaluating for other areas of the Borough and Mr. Manfredi explained that there is an expectation that other residents will identify other locations so this hump, if purchased, could be moved and used to test the need at other areas of the Borough as well. Mr. Stokley made a suggestion that Pennoni test these other possible locations as they arise and determine whether or not a hump is warranted on a

case-by-case basis. Mr. George Gephardt, the resident who initially requested the hump at 12<sup>th</sup> and Maple was present and reiterated his reasons on why the speed hump was necessary at this location as well.

**Following discussion, Mr. Stokley made a motion to purchase and install a speed hump at the test location to be 12<sup>th</sup> and Maple. Ms. Sokolowski commented that she would only second the motion if Council reviews the policies of other municipalities on when to install speed humps and Borough staff puts into writing documentation on why Council agreed to purchase this particular hump and install it as well as creates an official policy for speed hump installation in the near future. Ms. Sokolowski then seconded the motion and the motion carried 7-0.**

**c.) Consider approving or rejecting the bid for the Borough Hall Supplemental Landscaping package.**

Mr. Manfredi introduced Ms. Pattie Guttenplan of Bergmann Associates who was present to share additional information on the landscaping package bids. Ms. Guttenplan explained that Ms. Barton had researched the cost of alternative planters to be used; Ms. Guttenplan explained that the planters that Ms. Barton considered are best suited for residential use and that the ones included in the bid are the most durable and will be ideal for commercial use as intended. Ms. Guttenplan offered to perform another re-evaluation of the package but advised that it would not save the Borough any money because what would have been saved would go into the cost of her performing additional study work. Mr. Savona then explained that the Borough Council needed to make a determination to reject or award the bid that evening and that it would not be in their best interest to rebid the package at this time.

**Mr. Stokley then made a motion to approve the bid for the Borough Hall Supplemental Landscaping Package, seconded by Ms. Leonard. The motion carried 7-0.**

Mr. Griffin then asked Mr. Manfredi to introduce the final agenda item.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**a.) Consider Keystone Property Group's request to exercise the second extension of the Firehouse Approval Period effective through June 30, 2017.**

Mr. Savona explained that this extension was included in the agreement and that he would support Council making a motion to grant the request.

**Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve Keystone Property Group's request to exercise the second extension of the Firehouse Approval Period effective through June 30, 2017, seconded by Ms. Barton. Mr. Stokley recused himself from the vote and the motion carried 6-0-1.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Rosemary Northcutt inquired why the Borough rejected the bid for rapid flashing beacons since it was not discussed as part of a public meeting and what the plan is for pedestrian safety going forward. In response, Mr. Manfredi explained that it had been discussed publicly at the work session in detail. Mr. Manfredi added that Council would continue the discussion on Fayette Street on an upcoming agenda and explained that the plan is to continue careful, thoughtful study and analysis before any final action is taken. She also inquired when the crosswalk painting and striping would be completed and Mr. Buek, Public Works Superintendent, responded that the work would begin at the end of July.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Richard J. Manfredi,  
Secretary