

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

PUBLIC MEETING held via GoToMeeting video/teleconference

PRESENT: Colleen Leonard, Council President
Tina Sokolowski, Council Vice-President
Anita Barton, Council Member
James Griffin, Council Member
Jane Flanagan, Council Member
Karen Tutino, Council Member
Yaniv Aronson, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Cecco, Borough Manager
Michael E. Peters, Borough Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held remotely using the GoToMeeting platform. Colleen Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

PRAYER FOR COUNCIL

Ms. Sokolowski read a Prayer for Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Leonard thanked everyone for attending the virtual Council meeting. She reviewed the meeting logistics and participation instructions.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) 2021 Fireworks Event

Ms. Cecco announced that the Borough plans to host the July Fireworks Display on Saturday, July 3, 2021, at Sutcliffe Park. She stated that this year's fireworks display would be larger than previous years so that fireworks may be visible from as many vantage points as possible throughout the Borough. She explained that due to the larger size in fireworks, a wider safety perimeter surrounding the discharge zone is required. Therefore, Sutcliffe Park and surrounding areas would be closed to the public during the event.

LAND USE, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

There were no land use, public hearings and ordinances.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Leonard read and reviewed the items included on the consent agenda.

- a.) Approve and adopt the May 5 and May 19 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- b.) Approve the May-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable**

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve and adopt the May 5 and May 19 Regular Meeting Minutes, second by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the May-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$557,994.11, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

NEW BUSINESS

a.) Consider accepting the resignation of Council Member Flanagan

Ms. Flanagan announced that she plans to move out of the Borough and therefore, must resign from her position as Ward 5 Council member.

Ms. Barton made a motion to accept the resignation of Council Member Flanagan effective July 15, 2021, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

b.) Discussion on Flag Pole Policy and Regulations

Ms. Cecco shared that Borough Council advised administration to develop a Flag Pole Usage Policy. She reviewed administrative recommendations regarding the use of the Flag Pole at Borough Hall for all flags other than the American Flag.

Ms. Cecco stated that Borough Administration received public comments or sentiments of support in favor of the Borough flying the pride flag on the flagpole in front of Borough Hall. She explained that the majority of these comments were identical or the sentiments shared were the same. Therefore, Ms. Cecco provided a summary the comments.

Brittany Rogers, Executive Assistant to the Borough Manager, read the name and addresses of the following individuals who provided public comment on the topic.

Christine Bertino, 448 West 6th Avenue
Daryl Chayse, 75 Maple Street
Dennis Hannan, 448 West 6th Avenue
Holly and Russ Holst, 207 E 6th Avenue
Jennifer Magliente, resident of Plymouth Township
Joseph Albanese, 522 Harry Street
Kristy Campbell, 112 Wood Street
Marlowe Doman, 19 E 11th Avenue
Maura Manzo, 240 West 6th Avenue
Maya Jensen, resident of Whitmarsh Township
Michael Meehan, 301 Washington Street
Michelle Schaeffer, 438 West 10th Avenue
Richard Buttacavoli, Founder of the Montgomery County LGBT Business Council
Sharon Marino, 307 East 10th Avenue
Adrian Serna, 245 East Hector Street
Carol Smith, 109 Maple Street
Hally Ammons, 218 East 5th Avenue
Julia Park, 442 East Hector Street
Stacy Ellam, 334 West 10th Avenue
Tim Beckel, 333 West Elm Street

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to authorize the Flag Pole Policy recommended by Administration, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve the raising of the Pride Flag for June 2021, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

Ms. Tutino made a motion to authorize Administration to look into purchasing a wall-mounted staff for Borough Hall to be utilized in the future for all other flag requests per the approved Flag Pole Policy, seconded by Ms. Flanagan. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a.) Consider appointing an applicant to the Vacancy Board

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to appoint Holly Holst to the position of Vacancy Board Chair, seconded by Mr. Barton. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

b.) Consider approving Hometown Heroes Banner Program

Ms. Flanagan made a motion to approve the Hometown Heroes Pilot Program for 2021 subject to final administrative approval, seconded by Ms. Sokolowski. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the Hometown Heroes Program for the 2022/2023 cycle subject to final administrative approval, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 6-0. (Stokley absent)

COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson thanked Borough Council for approving the raising of the Pride flag. He thanked all parties responsible for making the Arts Festival and Car Show a success.

Ms. Barton recognized the success of the Arts Festival and Car Show. She announced that Juneteeth has been recognized as a national holiday.

Ms. Flanagan recognized the success of the Arts Festival and Car Show.

Ms. Griffin encouraged everyone to attend this year's Fireworks Display.

Ms. Sokolowski recognized Emergency Management for preparing an extensive and comprehensive emergency preparedness plan for the Fireworks Display.

Superintendent Metz encouraged residents to report all incidents directly to Police.

Ray Sokolowski, Executive Director of Operations, provide an update on the Fire Department on behalf of Fire Chief Tim Gunning. He shared that the Fire Department recruited nine (9) new volunteer fire fighters and hired a new part-time fire fighter. He recognized the Conshohocken Fire Department's water rescue team who participated in a water rescue on Conshohocken Road in Plymouth Township.

Ms. Leonard wished everyone a happy Fourth of July. She announced that the next Borough Council meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Rogers stated there was no additional written public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary