

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Colleen Leonard, Council President
Tina Sokolowski, Council Vice President
Anita Barton, Council Member
Stacy Ellam, Council Member
Kathleen Kingsley, Council Member
Adrian Serna, 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 at the Conshohocken Borough Hall, 400 Fayette Street, Conshohocken, PA. Ms. Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Council President announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for agenda items only)

There was no public comment pertaining to agenda items.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Proclamation Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

Mr. Serna read a proclamation celebrating and recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month in the Borough of Conshohocken. Jacqueline Rocco from the Hispanic Heritage Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania thanked Council for recognizing the contributions of the Hispanic community and shared information about Hispanic Heritage Association.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve Proclamation 2023-04 celebrating and recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month in the Borough of Conshohocken, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an amendment to the Parking Ordinance

Mr. Peters reminded Council that the proposed amendments to the Parking Ordinance were reviewed at the September Work Session. He stated that the ordinance for advertisement includes one additional revision to amend regulations regarding Portable Storage Units (e.g. dumpsters or PODS), including specifically the length of time a Portable Storage Unit may remain in the streets, rights-of-way, or on private property.

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to authorize advertisement of an amendment to the Parking Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

b.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an ordinance accepting the dedication and opening of Oak Street

Mr. Peters reminded Council that the proposed ordinance would open the Oak Street Crossing as a public road. He confirmed that SEPTA, as the appropriate property owner, would be notified of the proposed dedication and opening of Oak Street.

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize advertisement of an ordinance that dedicates and opens portions of the right of way of Oak Street situated in the Borough of Conshohocken, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

CONSENT AGENDA

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

a.) Approve and adopt the August 2 and August 16 Regular Meeting Minutes

- b.) Approve the August-ending Treasurer’s Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,187,106.85

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve and adopt the August 2 and August 16 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Sokolowski. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the August-ending Treasurer’s Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,187,106.85, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a.) Consider approving the Borough’s 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMO)

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve the Borough’s 2024 Minimum Municipal Obligations for the Police Pension plan in the amount of \$1,203,323; Fire Pension Plan in the amount of \$53,887; and Non-Uniform Pension Plan in the amount of \$254,336, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the amended non-uniform MMO once PMRS completes the Borough’s 205 calculation, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to accept and process the amended non-uniform MMO as applicable, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

- b.) Consider appointing an applicant to the Friends of Conshohocken Parks

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to appoint Adrian Kurtz to the Friends of Conshohocken Parks, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

- c.) Consider approving a 2024 Criterium Bike Race in Conshohocken

Mr. Serna shared that one (1) comment regarding the proposed bike race was received by Council from a resident of Ward 3 with concerns related to accessibility for emergency services personnel and residents with disabilities. He summarized a response provided by Ms. Sokolowski, which indicated that the Borough has invested in vehicles, equipment, and infrastructure to be able to navigate and accommodate for large scale events. Mr. Serna and Ms. Leonard reiterated that the Borough will work with community members and event coordinators over the next year to evaluate and plan appropriately for the event.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve a 2024 Criterium Bike Race in Conshohocken for Simon’s Heart on a date to be determined contingent upon final administration and emergency services review, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

NEW BUSINESS

- a.) Conduct an interview for Board and Commission reappointment

Ms. Leonard introduced Mark Danek who was present to interview for reappointment to the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB). Mr. Danek discussed his interest in being reappointed to the ZHB and thanked Council for amending the zoning ordinance to meet the current needs of the community.

- b.) Consider approving change order no. 2 for the 2023 Liquid Fuels Road Program

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve change order no. 2 for the 2023 Liquid Fuels Road Program, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

- c.) Consider approving payment certificate no. 3 for the 2023 Liquid Fuels Road Program

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve payment certificate no. 3 in the amount of \$70,268.85 for the 2023 Liquid Fuels Road Program, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

- d.) Consider approving Resolution 2023-20 authorizing the sale of a Borough vehicle on Municibid

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-20 authorizing the sale of a 2012 Ford Escape for a minimum bid of \$500.00 on Municibid, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)

- e.) Consider approving zoning escrow releases for 261-263 East Elm Street, 205 West Fifth Avenue, 126 West Third Avenue and 301 West Eleventh Avenue

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve zoning escrow releases for 261-263 East Elm Street in the amount of \$955.46 plus interest; 209 West Fifth Avenue in the amount of \$454.86 plus interest; 126 West Third Avenue in the amount of \$203.06 plus interest; and 301 West Eleventh Avenue in the amount of \$306.04 plus interest, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 6-0 (Tutino absent)

COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson thanked Borough Council and Administration for coordinating and hosting the PSMA Mayor of the Year Award ceremony. He thanked everyone for making Funfest a success and announced that the Police Department is hosting a shredding event on September 28, 2023 at Coldwell Banker.

Mr. Serna reminded everyone that the next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) is September 21, 2023 at Borough Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Erika Johnson, 343 East Elm Street, shared that she is working with Ms. Cecco, Acting Police Chief Lennon and Ms. Sokolowski to address traffic and speed concerns on the 200 and 300 block of East Elm Street. She voiced a concern about traffic and parking as it relates to the land development project for 261-263 East Elm Street. Ms. Cecco responded that the land development project at 261-263 East Elm Street has been approved.

Ed Zale, 200 West Elm Street, discussed the installation of curb ramps at Oak Street and Stoddard Avenue.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary