

President Frank Quattroco called the Regular Meeting of the Kenhorst Borough Council to Order at approximately 7:02 PM. Present: Vice President David Roche and Councilmen Al Correnti, Richard Fritz, Kieran Holland and Jay Ibach, Mayor Nickolas Hatzas, Borough Manager Jeri Diesinger, Solicitor Jill Nagy, Reading Police Chief William Heim, Fire Chief Roger Weidenheimer and Tax Collector Joanna Roche. Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Eileen Becker, recorded minutes of the meeting. Absent: Councilman Edward Mohn.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

ADA CURB RAMP BID OPENING - Borough Manager Diesinger opened the 6 bid packets received in response to the Borough's legal notice regarding ADA Curb Ramp construction. The apparent low bidder was Forino Company with a base bid of \$19,250.00 and a unit price of \$3,900.00 to replace one additional ramp. The Borough Manager, Borough Engineer and Solicitor will review the bid packets for completeness and all bidders will be formally contacted. Councilman Roche made a motion to accept the apparent low bidder, Forino, provided their bid package is complete. Councilman Ibach seconded the motion; roll call vote was unanimous.

RESIDENTS

Bill Haynes, 1450 Fern Avenue – Mr. Haynes had two comments/questions: 1) people are not cleaning up after their dogs on Borough streets and 2) he would like to know what the status is of the Tom Masano project near his home. Borough Manager Diesinger recommended he contact Cumru Township for an update because the property is in Cumru and not in Kenhorst. The Borough does not have any new information beyond our attendance at the Cumru Township Zoning Hearing Board meeting last year when the project was approved.

Mrs. Michael Marmarou, 1419 Bleeker Avenue – Mrs. Marmarou and her mother asked to speak with someone regarding a police concern. Council President Quattroco said that Chief Heim could meet with them privately after he provides his monthly report to Council. Following his report, Chief Heim and Mayor Hatzas met with Mrs. Marmarou and her mother in the Borough Manager's office.

POLICE CHIEF HEIM – Submitted his report for the month of June

MEETING MINUTES - President Quattroco asked for a motion to approve the June 2, 2011 meeting minutes which all Council members have had a chance to review. Councilman Fritz made said motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holland; the roll call vote was unanimous.

FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER - Submitted fire activity report for June and reminded Council that the Fire Company would be holding its annual Chicken BBQ sale in August. Tickets will be available soon.

TAX COLLECTOR JOANNA ROCHE – The Tax Collector provided her year-to-date report of taxes collected which includes a total of \$315,527.35 in Borough taxes.

FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ - Councilman Fritz announced the total of the June bills and made a motion to have them approved. Councilman Ibach seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.

CODES & EMERGENCY SERVICES, VICE PRESIDENT ROCHE – Reviewed Kraft Code Services monthly report of permits and property transfer inspections done in June. Councilman Roche asked the solicitor to comment on the status of the Alvernia appeal response.

Solicitor Nagy said that since the Borough's appeal to the City of Reading's Zoning Hearing Board was denied, there have been no new developments. Council asked that she request that Alvernia sign an agreement with the Borough to document items previously agreed upon items to address the resident concerns about the field's noise and lights. As of this date, she has not received a response from Alvernia or its attorneys.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND – the Summer Playground Program is up and running. Approximately 50 children registered and they are averaging about 35 attendees each day. A few problems have occurred but nothing major.

PROPERTY, COUNCILMAN CORRENTI

- Community Center windows were replaced and no Borough tax dollars were used; the cost was covered by a grant from DCED
- Overhead garage door at shop was fixed and motorized
- Looking into new garage doors at Brooke Blvd salt shed location

SANITATION, COUNCILMAN MOHN – absent

STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH – Borough Manager Diesinger provided an update:

- ADA Curb Ramp Bids were just opened and will be reviewed for completeness, etc.
- Has contacted Charlie Paris of PennDOT regarding bid request for upcoming street paving work

SOLICITOR NAGY - Solicitor Nagy reported that an agreement has just been reached concerning a pending property maintenance hearing. The issue has apparently been resolved. She will confirm details with the DJ office and will report back to Council.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – previously submitted to Council

OLD BUSINESS

- **Southern Berks Ambulance Association** - President Quattroco and Fire Chief Weidenheimer attended a meeting with Southern Berks Ambulance Association – they are requesting donations from nine different municipalities to pay for the new radio system/equipment purchase. Kenhorst's requested donation amount is \$5000.00. President Quattroco said that SBAA agreed to take Kenhorst's requested share out of the OPT tax money collected by the Borough next year.
- **GMAcc/Brecknock Township** – Brecknock Township requested that the Borough sign an agreement committing the Borough's assistance with an upcoming paving project. Council President Quattroco said the Borough could provide one man and one truck for one day. Councilman Correnti stated that since the Borough signed the original GMAcc agreement, we shouldn't have to sign an agreement each time a project comes up. The Borough's word should suffice.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Mileage Reimbursement** – IRS Mileage rate was increased to \$.55/mile as of July 1, 2011. Recommendation made to Council to adopt new rate for Borough mileage reimbursements. Councilman Ibach made said motion. Councilman Correnti seconded the motion; roll call vote was unanimous.
- **Ordinance #534 – Updated Rental Unit Regulations** – Ordinance #534 updates the regulations concerning rentals units – this includes changes to the permit fees, inspection schedule and parking requirements. Councilman Roche made a motion to approve

Ordinance #534. The motion was seconded by Councilman Correnti; roll call vote was unanimous.

- Zoning Ordinance Amendments, Resolution #587 - Adopting Ordinance #534 also requires new amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. The new Ordinance must be sent to the Berks County Planning Commission for comment only. In addition, the Kenhorst Planning Commission must review – they will meet Wednesday, July 27, 2011 at 7PM. Borough Council will have a special meeting on Tuesday, August 8, 2011 at 7PM to approve the new Ordinance – Solicitor Nagy will advertise appropriately. This timeline will allow implementation of the new regulations prior to the beginning of the school year..Councilman Roche made a motion to approve Resolution #587. Councilman Holland seconded the motion; roll call vote was unanimous. Councilman Roche made a motion to allow Solicitor Nagy to coordinate the entire advertisement and legal process required to enact the new Ordinance. Councilman Holland seconded the motion; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Health Insurance Renewal – after comparing costs and benefits, the Personnel Committee recommends changing the medical coverage from Highmark Blue Shield to Capital Blue Cross – there will be no increase in deductibles and some benefits levels will increase. The switch will actually result in a 9% annual premium savings. Councilman Fritz made a motion to accept the Capital Blue Cross coverage package. The motion was seconded by Councilman Correnti; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Commercial Insurance Renewal – Borough Manager Diesinger recommended that Council proceed with signing the commercial insurance renewal with Selective Insurance. This includes coverage for General Liability, Public Officials, Umbrella, Auto and Worker's Compensation at a cost of \$606.00 more than last year. Councilman Fritz made a motion to proceed with renewal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Berks County Conservation District – the BCCD requested Council sign a standard letter committing their cooperation with the BCCD's goals/efforts, etc. Solicitor Nagy stated that this was a standard letter and recommended Council approve and sign the document. Councilman Roche made a motion to proceed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Road Closure/Usage Application – St. Ignatius Loyola School submitted a road closure/usage application for their annual fundraising walk. Councilman Roche asked that Council have a discussion regarding this request. He stated that Council has received complaints from residents regarding past walks. These included concerns about participating students trespassing on residents' lawns/flowerbeds and residents being inconvenienced for the duration of the walk (approximately 45-60 minutes). He also commented that none of the schools where the participating students come from are located in our Borough. As such, Councilman Roche made a motion to deny the application. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Garage Doors at Shop and Salt Shed – It was decided that Borough Manager Diesinger would investigate costs/options to replace the doors at the salt shed & storage garage instead of spending money on the old doors that will eventually need to be replaced.

Councilman Ibach made said motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Roche; roll call vote was unanimous.

Councilman Correnti made a motion to proceed with installing electric door openers and safety feature on salt shed and Brooke Blvd garage doors. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fritz; roll call vote was unanimous.

- New Story School – The Borough Manager has received complaints from residents regarding New Story buses using Fayette Avenue instead of Kenhorst Blvd and some of these buses are the larger buses (not all are the smaller, van size). There are also concerns about the “No Trespassing” signs New Story posted to prevent residents from accessing the gravel path that leads to the playground by walking on their parking lot. Borough Manager Diesinger has been in touch with New Story officials and will follow up after reviewing the ZHB testimony regarding New Story’s bussing plans. She will also investigate options for extending the gravel path and ask New Story for an easement to allow residents to access the path without going through the New Story parking lot.
- Ken-Grill Pool - there are concerns about stormwater coming from the pool property into the sanitary sewer system. Recommendation for Codes Committee take a look at options of installing a meter on the well to measure water usage which may be less expensive for the pool then installing a meter and new manhole. Councilman Roche made said motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fritz; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Drive25 Campaign – Councilman Roche asked Mrs. Lori Fisher, 1300 Block Commonwealth Blvd., to share information about the “Drive 25” initiative. Residents concerned about speeding and children’s safety have joined with representatives with Alvernia University and Reading Police to communicate the “Drive 25” and “Keep Kids Alive” campaign which includes signs and making residents and others more aware of the speed limit. Exeter Township Police Department is providing assistance as they have implemented such a campaign in certain areas of their township.
- Mayor’s Report and National Night Out - Submitted report for ticket/fine revenue received in June: Police - \$200.00, State Police - \$1,219.23 and District Justices - \$1,642.63 for a grand total of \$3061.86. Mayor Hatzas also reminded Council about this year’s National Night Out Event planned for Tuesday, August 2, 2011 at the Ken-Grill Pool. Representatives from the Reading Police Department, Kenhorst Neighborhood Watch Committee, Kenhorst Volunteer Fire Company and other community groups will participate. All residents and their families are encouraged to attend.
- Permit Parking Survey – Councilman Roche reported on the results of the survey the Borough conducted a survey with residents whose streets are located closest to the Alvernia University campus (Wesleyan, Wingate, Woodcrest and certain blocks of Commonwealth and Greenway Terrace). The majority of respondents were not in favor of implementing permit parking. Over 50% of surveys were returned. Due to the survey results, Council decided not to implement permit parking in this area at this time.

REMARKS – there were no additional remarks.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Ibach and seconded by Councilman Correnti to adjourn the meeting. The Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 PM.

ATTEST:

Eileen D. Becker – Secretary/Treasurer