

MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
September 1, 2011

Vice President David Roche called the Regular Meeting of the Kenhorst Borough Council to Order at 7:00 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: President Quattroco and Councilman Edward Mohn

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER - Borough Manager Diesinger introduced Mr. Larry Andes who recently started with the Borough as the full-time Codes Enforcement Officer. Larry will be responsible for administration of rental unit permits, building/construction permits as well as property maintenance matters.

BID OPENING – 2011 ROAD PAVING PROJECT - Borough Manager Diesinger opened the 3 bid packets received in response to the Borough's legal notice regarding the 2011 Road Paving work. The apparent low bidder was Martin Limestone, a/k/a Burkholder Paving, with a total bid of \$172,955.00.

Councilman Ibach questioned if these bids are definitely comparable, "apples-to-apples". Borough Manager Diesinger responded that the bid language was very specific and was written per PennDOT specifications. The Borough Manager, Borough Engineer and Solicitor will review the bid packets for completeness and all bidders will be formally contacted. Councilman Correnti made a motion to approve Resolution #589 awarding the paving projects to the apparent low bidder, Burkholder, provided their bid package is satisfactorily complete. Councilman Ibach seconded the motion; roll call vote was unanimous.

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC

Attorney Matthew Setley of Georgiadis & Setley LLC – Mr. Setley said he was here regarding the blockage of a public alley within the Borough. He represents a Borough resident who lives at 1643 New Holland Road which is near the intersection of New Holland Road and High Blvd across from Turkey Hill. The resident's garage is located behind her home in the alleyway between New Holland Road and Liberty Avenue. His client, Ms. Kopala, has experienced problems with not being able to access her garage due to obstructions placed in the alleyway by Liberty Avenue residents.

Councilman Ibach addressed Mr. Setley and stated that he lives in the 1600 Block of Liberty Avenue behind Ms. Kopala. Subsequent to confirming his property boundary lines, he and his next door neighbor placed the barrels on their property borders. His reason for doing so was to prevent further damage to his yard and property by large trucks that frequent the alleyway. He stated that due to the heavy truck traffic coming from Walker's Lawn Mowers, ruts as deep as 6 inches appear in the alley when there is heavy rain or snow.

Mr. Setley requested assistance from Borough Council in addressing this situation so that Ms. Kopala could access her garage without obstructions. Solicitor Nagy stated that on a streets map, the alleyway does appear to be a public alley but that it is meant for residents to access their properties and garages and not to be used as a turnaround or thoroughfare for large commercial vehicles.

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Councilman Ibach recommended that Council research this issue and physically come out and take a look at the alley for themselves. In addition, Solicitor Nagy suggested the following:

- Confirming property lines via a survey
- Work with Public Works Department and notify trucks of restrictions
- Post restrictions at both ends of the alley
- Requesting that Ms. Kopala only use the gravel/stone part of the alley and not the grassy areas which appear to be her neighbor's private property

Solicitor Nagy stated that she recommended Mr. Setley attend tonight's meeting. VP Roche concluded by telling Mr. Setley that the Borough would look into the matter in response to Ms. Kopala's concerns.

VICE PRESIDENT ROCHE - VP Roche asked for a motion to approve the August 4, 2011 meeting minutes. Councilman Ibach made said motion which was seconded by Councilman Fritz. Roll call vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

POLICE CHIEF HEIM – Submitted his report for the month of August (attached). VP Roche asked if the Chief's monthly reports could be made available electronically. Borough Manager Diesinger can forward the report to Council members and it can be made available on the Borough website.

MAYOR HATZAS – Submitted his report for the month of August (attached). Mayor Hatzas shared that he and Councilman Correnti were approached by a resident who was very upset about the recent rash of car break-in's occurring in the borough. Mayor Hatzas stressed that residents should always lock their vehicles and homes. Almost all of the vehicles that were ransacked were not locked.

Chief Heim commented that residents should report all crime occurrences however minor so that the Police can track locations and trends in an effort to apprehend the criminals responsible and prevent future crime. Chief Heim recommended that residents file a Citizen's Crime Report when a crime is minor in nature (\$1000.00 or less in damages or theft). The form is available on both the Reading Police and Borough websites. Residents can also obtain the forms at the Borough Hall office.

Councilman Ibach stated that one of his personal vehicles was broken into – it was unlocked and only minor items were taken. The theft occurred after the Reading Police evening shift is over at 2AM.

Councilman Correnti commented that a lot of residents were not aware of the car break-in's. He asked how crime information is shared with the newspaper – it doesn't seem like the minor crimes are reported.

FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER - Submitted his report for the month of August (attached).

- The annual chicken BBQ sale was held on August 7th – 1100 dinners were sold for an approximate profit of \$3,300.00 – the Chief thanks everyone for their support.
- The Chief met with Berks County Emergency Services and came up with a plan regarding the purchase of the new radios for the Fire Company. The total price is \$59,737.91 - the County will pay \$9,326.44 of the total. After discounts, the Borough's share will be \$46,811.47. This will be paid off with annual installments of \$6,687.35 for seven years beginning in 2013. The cost for a radio for the Borough's Emergency

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Coordinator will be \$5,712.96. With discounts, the total owed will be \$4,444.96 which can be paid off with annual payments of \$634.99 over four years.

- The Chief received the draft Fire Study report; it is close to 400 pages long.

TAX COLLECTOR JOANNA ROCHE – No report. The discount period for the school property taxes and per capita taxes ended on August 31st.

FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ – Announced total of the August 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' report of permits and property transfer inspections completed in August (attached). VP Roche again acknowledged Mr. Larry Andes, the Borough's new Codes Officer.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND – No report.

PROPERTY, COUNCILMAN CORRENTI – Reported that he and the Borough Manager are researching vehicles for the Codes Officer - would like to get a pickup truck for approximately \$15,000.00. Councilman Correnti made a motion for approval to move forward in purchasing the Codes truck. Motion seconded by Councilman Holland - roll call vote was unanimous, motion passed.

SANITATION, COUNCILMAN MOHN – Borough Manager Diesinger reported that the sewer vent repair work on Fern and Woodcrest is scheduled to begin the week of September 12th.

STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH – The Borough Manager will review the street work bids with the Solicitor and Borough Engineer. The ADA Ramp installations planned for Haig and Milford are expected to be installed this month.

SOLICITOR NAGY – Announced the Zoning Hearing Board meeting at 7PM on September 8th regarding the Alvernia/Ken-Grill pool property matter.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – Report previously submitted to Council. Over \$20,000 of sewer arrears has been collected since July 1st. Twelve accounts were sent to the City for water shut-off and an additional fifty arrears letters were mailed. Reminder that the fall bulk trash collection is Monday, October 17th.

OLD BUSINESS – no old business items

NEW BUSINESS

- Resolution #588 – Appoints Larry Andes as Building and Property Maintenance Codes Officer and restates alternate codes and zoning officials. Councilman Fritz made a motion to approve Resolution #588. Motion was seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous and motion passed.
- Request to use Kenhorst Ball Field – The Blue Rocks Baseball Tournament organization has requested use of the fields when not in use by MAYBA. Councilman Ibach stated that he was OK with request provided it does not conflict with MAYBA use – MAYBA should come first. Borough Manager Diesinger will follow up to make sure the Borough receives their insurance information and a release of liability agreement. Councilman Ibach made a motion to approve the request. Motion was seconded by Councilman Fritz; roll call vote was

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unanimous and motion passed. Councilman Correnti commented that the Borough should create a permit for use of the ball fields which would require insurance certificates and release of liability.

- Ordinance #536 – Authorization to advertise the increased Local Services Tax of \$52.00/year for 2012. Councilman Correnti made said motion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous and motion passed.
- Drive 25 Event at Kenhorst Park scheduled for Monday, September 19th – Councilman Fritz made motion approving the field use for the Drive 25 Event hosted by Alvernia University and Resident group representatives. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous and motion passed.

REMARKS –

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Ibach, seconded by Councilman Correnti, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen D. Becker, Borough Secretary/Treasurer