

MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

October 6, 2011

President Frank Quattroco 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, and Jay Ibach, Mayor Nickolas Hatzas, Borough Manager Jeri Diesinger, Solicitor Jill Nagy, Reading Police Chief William Heim and Fire Chief Roger Weidenheimer. Borough Secretary/Treasurer Eileen Becker recorded minutes of the meeting. Absent: Councilmen Edward Mohn and Kieran Holland; Tax Collector Joanna Roche.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

COLLEEN STAMM AND MRS. FLYNN, MIFFLIN AREA LIBRARY

Ms. Stamm provided Council with a handout summarizing library activities and statistics - she has served as the Borough's representative to the Library's board for one year. She believes the library is an asset to community. It serves as an educational resource for children/students, for homeschooling families and as a gathering place for residents. There are 325 Kenhorst library borrowers. The library thanks Council for its support in the past and asks that the Borough consider increasing its financial donation to \$3000.00 if possible. Ms. Stamm informed Council that Berks County will match the Borough's donation. Borough Manager Diesinger thanked Ms. Stamm and Ms. Flynn and commented that their attendance was timely as Council is getting ready to plan for the Borough's 2012 budget.

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC

Attorney Matthew Setley of Georgiadis & Setley LLC – Attorney Setley represents Ms. Kopala who lives in the 1500 block of New Holland Road. He provided several pictures for the meeting record to show Council the alley between the 1600 blocks of Liberty and New Holland Road. .

After last month's meeting, the Borough Codes Officer, Roads Supervisor and Borough Manager inspected the alley area and did not find an issue with it being blocked. It appears that the barrels are located on a resident's private property.

Attorney Setley commented on a black pickup truck shown in some of the pictures, pointing out that it is frequently parked there and also blocks the alley. Mrs. Diesinger responded that residents can call the Police to report such vehicles – there is to be no parking in alleys as they need to be kept open for residents to access their properties and for Emergency Responder access.

Tillie Nabozny, 1700 Block Liberty Avenue

Ms. Nabozny is concerned about these crimes in the area and wants to know the status of investigation and what is being done about it.

Kelly Lint, Ms. Nabozny's neighbor on Liberty Avenue

Ms. Lint inquired whether the same individuals who broke into cars in the different municipalities are the same group who caused the car fires in Kenhorst?

Chief Heim was aware of the car break-in's – he stated that the Police do have a person/persons of interest in those cases. He said he was also aware of the attack on Ms. Nabozny's neighbor where two men apparently hit him from behind, pushed him on the ground and took his wallet. The Chief stated that they are looking into the incident - he shared that although he could not go into detail, the evidence didn't add up to what they usually see in such cases.

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POLICE CHIEF HEIM – Did not have detail report information for September – will have it ready at next month's meeting.

MAYOR HATZAS

- Submitted his report for the month of September (attached – a total of \$724.29 was collected).
- Halloween will be observed in the Borough on Monday, October 31st from 6 – 9 PM for *only* Borough residents and their families.
- Mayor Hatzas requested that the Solicitor research door-to-door solicitation – this is an antiquated way of selling, society has changed. He sees notices in the paper where other municipalities require permits or prohibit solicitation altogether. If Council wishes, can we decide to prohibit. Borough Manager Diesinger commented that the Ordinance regarding solicitation would need to be revisited.

FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER

- Submitted his report for the month of September (attached). There were seven car fires in the Borough – they occurred when our local Reading patrolman was not on duty however, Reading police were dispatched very quickly when the fires were reported. The Pennsylvania State Police Fire investigators are assisting.
- Governor Mifflin Fire Open House – will be held on Saturday 10/9/2011 at the Governor Mifflin HS parking lot from 11-3.
- Radio billing – meeting was held with Berks County Emergency Services regarding the new radio system. It was requested of Brian Gottschall that the County add a line item on their annual billing to municipalities to show charges for new EMS radio.

PRESIDENT QUATTROCK

Asked for a motion to approve the October 6, 2011 meeting minutes. Councilman Fritz made said motion, seconded by Councilman Ibach; with all voting aye. Motion passed.

TAX COLLECTOR JOANNA ROCHE – No report.

FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ – Announced total of the September 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 September 2011.
- Codes Officer Larry Andes reported that new forms for permitting, property transfer inspections and rental housing inspections/permits are ready for use.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND – No report.

PROPERTY, COUNCILMAN CORRENTI – No report. Will be meeting soon with his committee regarding the Codes truck purchase.

SANITATION, COUNCILMAN MOHN – No report

STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH

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- Mrs. Diesinger will review the progress on the installation of the ADA handicap ramps later in the meeting.
- Will have a progress meeting with Burkholder regarding the paving projects tomorrow, 10/7/2011.

SOLICITOR NAGY

- Sought authorization from Council to represent the Borough at the upcoming Egan Sign Zoning Hearing on 10/13/2011. Council approved her attendance
- Reported that last week she participated in a meeting with the solicitors of 14 other municipalities and the City of Reading regarding the sewer plant project. The discussions will continue and the process will be lengthy. She recommends that Kenhorst meet with Cumru Township representatives because of the shared sewer lines. The City has offered to come to Council meetings to present specifics about the sewer plant and the issues surrounding the required government mandated upgrades. She suggests Council take them up on the offer to see their presentation. Borough Manager Diesinger agreed it is a good recommendation and that Council should view the presentation along with Cumru representatives. Council authorized Ms. Nagy to contact Cumru and request that the City make a presentation to both municipalities once the City determines what type of meter is acceptable.
- This maybe the right time for the Borough to pursue installation of sewer meters
- The City will not issue the RFP for the new sewer plant until all of the municipalities can review it.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER

- Report previously submitted to Council
- Approximately \$18,000.00 of arrears has been collected since July 1st.
- Would like to thank Fire Chief Weidenheimer and the Fire Company as well the Borough Road Crew for their help and assistance with the flooding and rain-related problems.

OLD BUSINESS – there were no old business items

NEW BUSINESS

- Ratified Resolution #590 which was a Declaration of Disaster Emergency. Councilman Roche made motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Correnti with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Ratified Resolution #591 which amends the rental property ordinance. Councilman Correnti made motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Roche with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Authorized Solicitor to advertise the ordinance to update EIT tax collection per State Act 32. Councilman Fritz made motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Ibach with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Authorized extension of Refuse contract with JP Mascaro through December 31, 2012. Will ask them to limit their pickup time to no later than 4PM. Councilman Correnti made motion to approve contract extension; seconded by Councilman Fritz with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Sewer Vent Project – a change order is needed due to site conditions not to exceed \$8,500.00. Councilman Roche made motion to approve; seconded by Councilman Ibach with all voting aye. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

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- Pump Station – pump #1 needs to be replaced due to recent flooding conditions. Looking to replace at no more than \$25,000.00. Councilman Fritz made motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Correnti with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Authorized Solicitor to attend Egan Zoning Hearing on 10/13/2011. Councilman Ibach made said motion, seconded by Councilman Correnti with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Authorized Solicitor to coordinate Sewer Plant discussions with Cumru Township. Councilman Roche made said motion, seconded by Councilman Ibach with all voting aye. Motion passed.
- Review Ambulance Services Agreement – this agreement will allow our residents to become members of the Southern Berks Ambulance Association without having additional charges or having to donate to their fundraising. The new local Services Tax will fund this endeavor. Councilman Fritz made motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Ibach with all voting aye. Motion passed.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen D. Becker, Borough Secretary/Treasurer