

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL  
May 3, 2012

Council President David Roche called the Regular Meeting of the Kenhorst Borough Council to Order at 7:00 PM. Present: Vice President Correnti, Councilmen Fritz, Holland, Ibach and Smith, Borough Manager Jeri Diesinger, Solicitor Jill Nagy, Fire Chief Roger Weidenheimer and Reading Police Chief William Heim. Absent: Councilman Edward Mohn and Tax Collector Joanna Roche. Borough Secretary/Treasurer Eileen Becker recorded minutes of the meeting.

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL**

**RESIDENTS/PUBLIC** – No residents asked to be heard.

**PRESIDENT ROCHE** – Councilman Fritz made a motion to approve the April 5, 2012 Meeting Minutes. Motion seconded by Councilman Smith; roll call vote was unanimous.

**POLICE CHIEF HEIM** –

- **Crime Statistics** - the Chief presented the April 2012 crime statistics report
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Commonwealth Blvd Intersection** - Chief Heim researched the problems at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Commonwealth Blvd intersection. He does not believe it is a dire situation. If Council wants to make any changes, he recommends limiting parking to one side of the street. Although parking on both sides makes it narrow, it may offer a benefit by slowing cars as they pass through the intersection. Solicitor Nagy advised on what would be needed in order to enact parking or one-way changes. After much discussion, Council decided to take the Street Committee's recommendation to make no changes at this time. Chief Heim observed frequent violations of drivers parking their vehicles too close to the stop sign at that intersection. He will direct the police officers to step up their enforcement and issuance of tickets for cars parked too close to stop signs.
- **Left Turns onto Lancaster Avenue from MacArthur Blvd** - Chief Heim also researched the problem of drivers not being able to see when turning left onto Lancaster Avenue from MacArthur Blvd because of vehicles parked too close to the corner. While he can have officers step up enforcement of no parking in the yellow areas, his recommendation is that drivers use the light at Lancaster Avenue and Kenhorst Blvd to turn left. Because Lancaster Avenue is such a busy roadway, he feels turning left from any intersection without a traffic light is ill advised.

**MAYOR HATZAS** - A total of \$322.65 was collected in fines during the month of April.

**FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER** – There was no fire loss to the Borough in April. The radio agreement discussion and decision is noted under Unfinished Business.

**CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE** - President Roche reviewed the Kraft Code Services April report: 17 permits issued and 1 property maintenance issue. Kraft continues to work on rental and property transfer inspections. Their monthly report is posted on the bulletin board in Council chambers.

**FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ** - Gave revenue and expenditure report. Councilman Smith made motion to approve April 2012 expenses. Motion seconded by Councilman Correnti; roll call vote was unanimous.

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**PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND** - Councilman Holland explained that Council was given a revised memo regarding Playground and Community Center items and they will be covered under New Business.

**PROPERTY, COUNCILMAN CORRENTI** – The Borough is considering purchasing a bagger for the new tractor mower. Discussion and decision is noted under New Business.

**REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN** – Mrs. Diesinger shared that she is working with Jane Meeks of the Berks County Solid Waste Authority on our 902 Recycling Grant application prior to our meeting with DEP on May 21, 2012.

**STORMWATER AND SANITARY SEWER, PRESIDENT ROCHE** – Sewer items to be covered under New Business.

**STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH** – The Streets Committee met recently and discussion/topics will be covered in new business.

**SOLICITOR NAGY** – Alvernia/Ken-Grill Plan Approval – concern regarding the ability of ambulances and other emergency vehicles being able to safely travel across the access bridge leading to Alvernia' s playing fields behind the Ken-Grill Pool. Councilman Smith made a motion to authorize Mrs. Diesinger to contact the Southern Berks Regional EMS organization to confirm the weight limit of their ambulances. Motion seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous.

**BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER** – report submitted to Council. Highlights include:

- First Quarter Sewer/Refuse bills mailed – initiated the 2.5% quarterly penalty on arrears total
- Sewer/Refuse Arrears Collection Update \$13,176 – 16 properties sent to RAWA for shut off
- DCED accepted Park Grant Closeout Documents
- 2012 Sewer TV and Repairs – completed televising of over 10,000 feet of line (\$53,442.25)

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Zoning Ordinance, SALDO and Floodplain Ordinances - Councilman Smith made a motion to authorize advertising the June hearing date to review the updated Zoning Ordinance, SALDO and Floodplain Ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Correnti; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Radio Promissory Note and Security Agreement - Fire Chief Weidenheimer explained what the County is requesting regarding the Radio Promissory Note and Security Agreement. Councilman Smith made a motion to sign the security agreement. Motion was seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous.
- 2012 Street Paving - Councilman Ibach made a motion to authorize Mrs. Diesinger to proceed with an RFP for the 2012 Street Paving work. Motion seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous.
- 2012 Street Sweeping - Councilman Ibach made a motion to authorize selecting Industrial Grounds Maintenance to conduct the 2012 Street Sweeping work at a cost of \$2,750.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Fritz; roll call vote was unanimous.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Solicitor Payment - Councilman Fritz recommended that Council consider paying \$200.00 to Solicitor Nagy in light of her unbilled services to defend the Borough in the Krafczek matter.

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Councilman Ibach made motion to authorize payment of \$200.00 to Solicitor Nagy. Motion was seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous.

- Community Center Items - Councilman Holland made a motion to proceed with the improvements/repairs/purchases highlighted on Council's memo. Improvements include: blinds for the community center, parking area bollards, additional mulch for playground area and painting of the swing sets and to designate the park and playground as a "Smoke Free Area". The other noted items are tabled. Motion was seconded by Councilman Fritz; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Sewer Flow Meters per Engineer's Memo – Councilman Fritz made a motion to authorize Mrs. Diesinger to request price quotes and options for the purchase and installation of Sewer Flow meters per the Borough Engineer's recommendation. Council will then review the quotes and at that time, make a final decision whether to proceed after also reviewing current agreements in place. Motion seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Shared Fire Equipment Agreement – Councilman Smith made a motion to authorize the execution of the Shared Fire Equipment Agreement with Cumru Township. Motion was seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Proposed Traffic Island Installation in the 1400 – 1600 blocks of Commonwealth Blvd. – Council discussed the pros/cons of continuing the islands farther down Commonwealth Blvd. Islands would reduce the amount of asphalt area thereby increasing ground water infiltration and decreasing the amount of road surface to be maintained, plowed, etc. The islands provide additional space for plowed snow. They could also serve as a speeding deterrent. Councilman Ibach made a motion to authorize Mrs. Diesinger to investigate options/costs to install islands. Motion seconded by Councilman Fritz; roll call vote was 5-yes and 1-no (President Roche) – motion passed.
- Bagger for Riding Tractor - Mrs. Diesinger reviewed options regarding purchasing a bagger for the Borough's new riding mower. There was a discussion regarding the pros and cons of mulching versus bagging grass on the borough properties (community center, fields, islands and borough buildings). Councilman Correnti made a motion to proceed with the bagger purchase at a Costars cost of \$3098.00. Motion was seconded by Councilman Ibach; roll call vote was unanimous. With the vote to proceed, it was agreed that the bagger would be used only when the grass was a certain height to cause clumping.
- Temporary Road Closure Request – One United Church located at 1730 New Holland Road, has requested to temporarily close the private road behind the church property the day of their scheduled flea market/car show on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Councilman Fritz made a motion to approve the road closure request with the following conditions: 1) the church takes care of posting the signs/barricades and 2) the road closure starts beyond the driveway entrance so as not to block access to the property at 666 High Blvd. Council waived the road closure fee and the Borough office will notify emergency services personnel regarding the closure. Councilman Ibach seconded the motion; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Neighborhood Watch Committee – Dog Walk, May 19<sup>th</sup> – Councilman Fritz made a motion to approve the NWC's Dog Walk Day request and waiving the standard road closure permit fee. Motion seconded by Councilman Holland; roll call vote was unanimous.
- Mayor's Association Clambake Invitation – Councilman Fritz made a motion to authorize the Borough paying for one ticket for each council member to attend. This has been the Borough's practice for several years. Motion seconded by Councilman Correnti, roll call vote was unanimous.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Ibach, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Eileen D. Becker, Borough Secretary/Treasurer