

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL  
December 6, 2012

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

**PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL**

**RESIDENTS/PUBLIC –**

Mr. George Mang, President, Southern Berks Regional Emergency Services (SBREMS)

Mr. Mang thanked Council for its past support and expressed the organization's hope that Kenhorst would renew its service agreement with SBREMS. President Roche indicated that approving the agreement was on the meeting agenda. He mentioned that the agreement includes a penalty clause of \$500.00 per occurrence should SBREMS contact Kenhorst residents regarding membership or donations without first providing draft correspondence to the Borough for review.

Mr. Donald Bertschler, One United Church of Christ, 1730 New Holland Road

Mr. Bertschler asked how the church would be affected by the Borough's decision to vacate the extension of Commonwealth Blvd (which is located behind the church property). He asked who would be responsible for maintaining the road.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Shannon, 600 Block of High Blvd.

Mr. and Mrs. Shannon questioned how the road vacation (Commonwealth extension) would affect access to their driveway. They have a young grandchild living in their home and are concerned about drivers continuing to use the road as a short cut from Commonwealth Blvd to New Holland Road. They already have problems with drivers speeding and leaving trash on their property, as well as the traffic causing potholes in the road.

Solicitor Nagy explained that the road vacation changes nothing as far as its current status as a public alley in the same manner as the other alleys in the Borough. The road vacation was intended to prevent Alvernia from petitioning to have the current paved alley widened and maintained as a road. Solicitor Nagy stated that the paved road can't be made private land. Mrs. Diesinger said the Borough would check into stabilizing the stop sign pole and review their request of posting a one-way sign.

**MEETING MINUTES, PRESIDENT ROCHE** – Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the November 2012 Meeting Minutes with one change. On page 2, under Personnel, the words “and a 2% increase in the second year” should be deleted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and the roll call vote was unanimous.

**MAYOR HATZAS**

- Mayor Hatzas announced a total of \$1,269.88 was collected in fines during the month of November
- Mayor Hatzas introduced Reading Police Captain Steven Powell who is attending in Chief Heim's absence.

**POLICE CHIEF HEIM**

- Captain Powell submitted the November police report.
- Officer Hutchinson has opted to return to another shift schedule and as such the second shift for Kenhorst coverage was up for bid. Officer Daniele Zacchey will replace Officer Hutchinson beginning the second week in January. Lt Cole will coordinate the transfer of building access and ordinance information to Officer Zacchey.

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**FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER**

- Submitted November report of fire call activity – there was no loss to the Borough.
- Reminded Council about the annual Christmas Parade and Children’s Party. The parade will begin at approximately 1PM leaving from the Kenhorst Shopping Plaza. The party for the Borough’s children and grandchildren will begin immediately after the parade at approximately 2PM at the Fire Company Social Quarters.

**FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ** – Mr. Fritz provided the revenue and expenditure report and made a motion to approve the November expenses. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.

**CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE** President Roche reviewed the permit, rental inspection and property maintenance activities for November. Kraft’s permit report is posted on the bulletin board.

**PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND**

Mr. Holland reported that there has been recent vandalism in the park. Playground equipment was damaged and there was a separate incident where a fire was set in one of the trash cans near the ball field. There was some discussion about what the Borough can do to prevent such unwanted activity.

**TAX COLLECTOR JOANNA ROCHE** - absent

**PERSONNEL, PRESIDENT ROCHE** – President Roche reported that the revised Employee Manual is undergoing some final tweaking and will be distributed to Council in January.

**PROPERTY, COUNCILMAN CORRENTI**

- Mrs. Diesinger reported that the garage and shed roofs were replaced.
- The Borough Public Works crew discovered that the storm water catch basin behind the Borough building is damaged. Mrs. Diesinger will work on developing a maintenance plan to present to the Storm Water Committee. It will focus on inspecting and repairing the catch basins in the worst condition on a priority basis.

**REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN** – Mr. Mohn plans on travelling to meet with the president of Eagle Disposal as he has done in the past before the start of the new refuse contract. He said that when the Borough had Eagle in the past, they were very quick to respond to and correct any problems. President Roche asked that Mrs. Diesinger accompany Mr. Mohn when meeting with Eagle as he feels it is best to have more than one person present.

**SANITARY SEWERS, PRESIDENT ROCHE** – There was discussion about the status of the sewer agreement with the City of Reading. President Roche said the Cumru/Kenhorst Sewer agreement needs to be updated before the sewer agreement with the City can be addressed.

**STORMWATER/STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH** –absent

**SOLICITOR NAGY** –

The matter regarding the previous solicitor’s legal fees is resolved as the timeframe for an appeal is over. Solicitor Nagy worked with the Borough Manager on several property maintenance issues this month.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL  
December 6, 2012

**BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER** – report previously submitted to Council. Of note:

- Total arrears recovered in November was approximately \$13,000.
- A total of eight properties are slated for water shut off this month.
- PennDOT closeout of 2011 and 2012 road projects completed.
- Attorney General's office Audit of Liquid Fuels account for 2010 and 2011 Projects successfully completed.
- Met with City regarding Installation of Flow Meters and Sewer Mapping Corrections.
- Shop Roof Repair, Street Light on Woodcrest repairs begun, Leaf Collection, Winter Newsletter

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Open Burning Ordinance – the Codes Committee is still working on a draft - will have ready in January.
- Solicitation/Peddling Ordinance - Solicitor Nagy is working on getting a draft for Mrs. Diesinger to review.
- Storm water Mitigation, High at Commonwealth (mitigation of flooding) – this item is still being worked on.
- Trees for Brooke Boulevard grass islands – As a result of ordering the required PA One Call before planting the trees, it was discovered that the water line on Brooke Boulevard runs directly under the islands. As such, it is unadvisable to replant trees with such large root balls. Mrs. Diesinger is checking into other options.

**NEW BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- 2013 Final Budget Adopted - Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the 2013 Revenue and Expenditure Budget of \$2,021,183. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Ordinance #550 Adopted, 2013 Tax Levied - Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve Ordinance #550. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous to increase current fire tax by 1.0 mil.
- Resolution #617 Approved, 2013 General and Sewer Fund Expenditures - Mr. Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #617. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fritz and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Ordinance #551 Adopted, Road Vacation – Ken-Grill parcels - Mr. Smith made a motion to approve Ordinance #551. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous. Solicitor Nagy asked that the record reflect that no one requested a special hearing regarding this road vacation.
- Ordinance #552 Adopted, Road Vacation – Commonwealth Blvd. Extension - Mr. Holland made a motion to approve Ordinance #552. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and the roll call vote was unanimous. Solicitor Nagy asked that the record reflect that no one requested a special hearing regarding this road vacation.
- Ordinance #553 Adopted, Sanitary Sewer Rates Amended - Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve Ordinance #553. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous to increase base rates per 12,500 gallons to \$90/quarter and from 0.0054 to 0.0072 for each gallon over 12,500 gallons.
- Resolution #618 Approved, 2013 Workshop, Regular Council and Planning Commission Meeting Dates - Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve Resolution #618. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Resolution #619 Approved, Western Berks Refuse Authority – Statement of Authority Revival for 5 years (repeals Resolution #615) - Mr. Holland made a motion to approve Resolution #619. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- SBREMS (Ambulance) Agreement Extended- Mr. Smith made a motion to approve extending the Borough's agreement with SBREMS for a two year period provided that there be no soliciting of memberships to our residents and that the agreement include having SBREMS paying a \$500 fine per occurrences. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous. Mrs. Diesinger and Ms. Nagy will finalize the changes to the agreement and send to SBREMS.
- Approved CD being deposited into General Savings Fund – Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve depositing the Emergency CD which is maturing on December 9<sup>th</sup> into the General Savings Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and the roll call vote was unanimous.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

December 6, 2012

- Resolution #620 Approved, 2013 Council Committee Assignments - Mr. Smith made a motion to approve Resolution #620. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fritz and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Approve Earmarked Portion of January 2013 SBREMS Payment as First Radio Payment - Mr. Fritz made motion to approve ambulance radio payment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Smith and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Borough Christmas Luncheon Approved – President Roche asked Council if they would again support having the annual Christmas Luncheon for staff, council and our service providers such as Kraft Code Services, Solicitor Nagy, Borough Engineer E. J. Walsh and the Planning and Zoning Board members. Council approved the estimated \$250.00 cost for luncheon refreshments.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Holland, to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Eileen D. Becker, Secretary/Treasurer