

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
January 3, 2013

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC – no residents asked to be heard.

MEETING MINUTES, PRESIDENT ROCHE – Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the December 2012 Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.

MAYOR HATZAS

- Mayor Hatzas reported a total of \$2,159.89 collected in fines during the month of December.
- Solicitation Ordinance – will be addressed under Unfinished Business agenda item.

POLICE CHIEF HEIM

- Submitted the December month end and 2012 year end police reports. The Reading Police Department is happy to conclude its third year of providing services to the Borough. Kenhorst will continue to have Officer Burkhart serve on day shift and Officer Zacchey will start January 7th as Kenhorst's second shift officer.
- Chief Heim commented that while Kenhorst's solved crime percentages are better than most Berks County communities, he will concentrate efforts to increase the percentage of crimes being solved. Chief Heim will soon begin to provide a new report to Council showing crime trends within the Borough.
- President Roche asked where parking tickets/violations appear on the Chief's report – they are captured under "Traffic" on page 5.
- President Roche asked the Chief to provide some information about a parking ticket violation that had been issued recently in the 1300 Block of Brooke Boulevard. Apparently the responding officer issued the ticket after the owner of the vehicle moved their car to a legal parking spot. The Chief said while it is not illegal for a ticket to be issued after a vehicle is moved, it is unusual that the officer did so.

FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER

- Submitted December month end and 2012 year end fire call activity reports. There were 291 fire calls during 2012 and a total loss of \$67,900.00 to the Borough.
- On behalf of the Borough, President Roche thanked Chief Weidenheimer and his crew for all of their hard work and service throughout the year...

TAX COLLECTOR JOANNA ROCHE – President Roche stated that Mrs. Roche will provide a year-end report at the next Council meeting.

FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ

- Mr. Fritz provided the revenue and expenditure report and made a motion to approve the December expenses. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous. Mr. Fritz commented that December's total expenses are high because of two large bills: the fourth quarter Police Services payment and the third quarter Sewer Treatment payment.
- President Roche asked Council to review the year-end financial information and what is planned in the budget for 2013. Please get any questions/comments to Mrs. Diesinger.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
January 3, 2013

CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE

- President Roche reviewed the permit, rental inspection and property maintenance activities for December. Kraft's permit report will be posted on the bulletin board.
- Solicitor Nagy reported that she and Mrs. Diesinger attended a property maintenance hearing regarding the Hamilton property. Kraft Code Services along with Mayor Hatzas will conduct an inspection of the home's interior later this month. There will be another court date following the inspection. Mayor Hatzas commented that the exterior of the house looks worse than ever. President Roche asked whether the Borough can recoup these inspection costs from the property owner. Solicitor Nagy said after this initial inspection, the judge will address the Borough's expenses.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND – no report at this time.

PERSONNEL, PRESIDENT ROCHE

- The final draft of the revised Employee Manual is ready for Council's comments. A copy will be available here at Borough Hall. The Councilmen should review it and give Mrs. Diesinger any final questions or comments prior to the February workshop meeting.
- Councilman Jonathan Smith notified President Roche, Mayor Hatzas and Mrs. Diesinger of his immediate resignation from Council due to personal reasons. Solicitor Nagy confirmed that Council has thirty days from the date of the resignation to appoint a replacement. She recommended that tonight's meeting be recessed and then reconvened to formally accept Mr. Smith's resignation and appoint his replacement.

PROPERTY, COUNCILMAN CORRENTI – no report at this time.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN

- Mr. Mohn talked with Eagle Disposal's driver and crew when they picked up this year's first recycling pickup. He noticed that many recycling buckets had not been returned to the curb area and had been thrown into the street or along sidewalks.
- Mr. Mohn plans to meet with the owner of Eagle Disposal in the near future, accompanied by Mrs. Diesinger. He stated that Eagle has always been responsive and helpful in past meetings and responsive in addressing any problems or concerns about their service.

SANITARY SEWERS, PRESIDENT ROCHE – Work is continuing on the sewer agreements and flow meters.

STORMWATER/STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH – no report at this time.

SOLICITOR NAGY – nothing else to report.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – December month-end and 2012 year-end reports were previously submitted to Council. Thanked Council and Borough staff for their support and hard work throughout the year. Of note:

- The total arrears recovered in December was approximately \$7,900 (60 days or more).
- Thanked the Mifflin Broncos organization who surprised the Borough with a donation of \$750.00 for the Parks and Recreation Program/Facilities. They will complete the field restoration work after winter and look forward to their upcoming season

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
January 3, 2013

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Draft Solicitation/Peddling Ordinance – Council and Ms. Nagy discussed the various ways the Borough could impose controls over solicitation within the Borough. The law does not allow the Borough to prohibit all soliciting. However, Council can specify the days and times when it is permitted and charge “reasonable” fees as a way of limiting solicitation requests. Also, there can be two separate forms/fee schedules to differentiate for-profit from non-profit groups. There will be a sample “No Solicitation” sign residents can choose to post on their front door included in the next newsletter. Mayor Hatzas commented that while these rules are good for those legitimate solicitation groups, the real problems occur with those who do not follow the rules.
- Storm Water Mitigation at High and Commonwealth Blvd – Mrs. Diesinger is applying to the GMACC to consider this for a possible 2013 Joint Project.
- Replanting of Smaller Diameter Trees on Brooke – The ten trees originally purchased for the Brooke Blvd. islands were planted in the islands in the 1100 and 1200 blocks of Broadway Blvd. Mrs. Diesinger is researching the cost of smaller diameter trees that would be appropriate to plant in the Brooke Blvd islands.

NEW BUSINESS FOR CONSIDERATION

- December’s Holiday Lights Contest – Mayor Hatzas announced the winners of the annual holiday lights contest: 1st Place – \$75.00, Scott and Jean Moyer, 1700 Block Hancock Boulevard; 2nd Place - \$50.00, Ms. Ann Caraballo, 1400 Block Bleeker Avenue; 3rd Place – Michael & Rose Holub, 1600 Block Commonwealth Blvd. Winners will also be acknowledged in the spring newsletter.
- Draft Burning Ordinance – President Roche reported that they are very close to having a final draft for Council’s review and discussion at the March or April workshop meetings. Solicitor Nagy will need to review the final version after Council’s comments are received.
- Adopted Resolution # 621 - 2013 Fee Schedule – Mr. Holland made a motion to adopt Resolution #621 which included the Borough’s Fee Schedule for 2013 as well as the list of 2013 fees for Kraft Code Services (Appendix A). The motion was seconded by Mr. Correnti and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Adopted Resolution # 622 - 2013 Municipal Appointments – Mr. Fritz made a motion to adopt Resolution #622 which lists the Borough’s municipal appointments for 2013. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Kenhorst Borough Rep for WBRA – President Roche volunteered to be the Borough’s alternate representative to the WBRA. He may need to attend their meetings when they conflict with Mrs. Diesinger’s Borough meeting obligations.
- Adopted Resolution # 623 - 2013 Appointments to Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB), Planning Commission (PC), Municipal Authority (MA) and the Western Berks Refuse Authority (WBRA) – Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the 2013 Appointments to the ZHB/PC/MA & WBRA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ibach and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Ordinance Codification Expenses Approved Not to Exceed \$1200 - Mrs. Diesinger outlined the cost proposal to upload the Borough’s recent legislation (since August 2009) and an upgrade to the most current version of E-Codes. After discussion, Mr. Fritz made a motion to proceed with the General Code proposal not to exceed \$1,200.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Correnti and the roll call vote was unanimous. President Roche reminded Council that the Borough will have to, at some future point, undergo the more extensive and much more expensive re-codification of all Borough ordinances.
- Phone and Voice Mail System Proposal – Mrs., Diesinger reviewed the proposal recently submitted by Comcast. The Borough would get a user friendly voice mail system and current internet services at a potential annual savings of \$600.00. After discussion, Council recommended that she confirm that the switch would not involve the Borough having to purchase new phone equipment. Also, it should be verified that the new arrangement is compatible with the current system used for security alarms. Mrs. Diesinger will confirm requirements with our security system provider before proceeding.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

January 3, 2013

- American Cancer Society Relay for Life at Alvernia University – Mrs. Diesinger met with representatives from the American Cancer Society regarding a Relay for Life event to be held on June 7th and 8th at Alvernia. The event spans a 20 hour, overnight timeframe. Council should let Mrs. Diesinger know if they have any questions/comments about the event. Suggestions were made to advise neighboring Kenhorst residents about the event and to request that Alvernia use the light screen during the overnight hours.

At Solicitor Nagy's direction, President Roche asked for a motion to recess tonight's meeting at 8:15 PM to be reconvened on Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at 7:15 PM. The purpose of the reconvened meeting will be to formally accept Jon Smith's resignation and select the candidate to fill the position vacated by former Councilman Smith. Mr. Ibach made the motion to recess the meeting as recommended. Mr. Holland seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.

Special Meeting of Kenhorst Borough Council

January 29, 2013

(Reconvened from Regular Council Meeting held on January 3, 2013)

President Roche called the Special Meeting of the Kenhorst Borough Council to order at 7:18 PM. Present: Mayor Hatzas, Councilmen Correnti, Fritz, Ibach, Holland and Mohn and Fire Chief Roger Weidenheimer. . Eileen Becker, Borough Secretary/Treasurer recorded minutes of the meeting. Absent: Reading Police Chief William Heim, Solicitor Nagy, Borough Manager Jeri Diesinger and Tax Collector Joanna Roche.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL VACANCY

- Resignation of Councilman Smith Accepted - Mr. Fritz made a motion to accept the resignation of former Councilman Smith. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ibach and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Welcome to Candidate Kevin DePasquale, Jr. of Fern Avenue - President Roche explained that six candidates initially expressed interest in being considered for the vacant council position. As of this morning, all of them had notified Mrs. Diesinger that they had to rescind their nomination. Mr. Kevin DePasquale reconsidered and decided he was still interested in the councilman position. Mr. DePasquale and his family have been residents of the Borough since 2001. The Borough is important to him and he would like to be involved in decisions concerning both the present and future of the Borough. President Roche thanked Mr. DePasquale for stepping up to the plate.
- Mr. Ibach made a motion to appoint Kevin DePasquale, Jr. to the vacant Council seat. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fritz and the roll call vote was unanimous. Mr. DePasquale was sworn in by Mayor Hatzas.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Roche reminded Council about the two documents they need to review before next week's meetings: the drafts revisions for the Personnel Handbook and the Burning Ordinance. Also, Council is reminded that they are welcome to attend tomorrow's Benefits Presentation at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Eileen D. Becker, Secretary/Treasurer