

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
October 3, 2013

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC- no residents asked to be heard.

Mrs. Colleen Stamm, Mifflin Community Library Board Member

Mrs. Stamm provided a report to Council regarding the Library operations, programs and patronage. There are 356 library members from 261 Kenhorst households. She thanked Council members for their support of the library and asked that they continue donating at the same level of \$2,877.00/year. Mrs. Diesinger and Mrs. Stamm also discussed including information about the library's fundraising efforts in Borough newsletters and on the Borough website.

Mr. Malcolm Cole, Southern Berks Regional Emergency Medical Services

Mr. Cole is the new Executive Director at SBREMS. He provided a presentation to Council regarding the 911 call volume and response time for Kenhorst Borough in 2013. SBMRES' average response time for Kenhorst non-life threatening and emergency response calls was less than 5 minutes. In response to a question from Mr. Roche, Mr. Cole said he would get information regarding total calls to Kenhorst.

Mr. Cole referenced recent newspaper reports about SBREMS' IRS troubles and explained the reasons behind the organization owing back taxes, interest and penalties. He stated that they are making payments on an installment agreement approved by the IRS and a tax payer advocate office is working on obtaining penalty abatement. The back taxes were owed from late 2012 to early 2013. They are now paying all current taxes.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, PRESIDENT ROCHE

- Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the September Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.

MAYOR HATZAS

- Mayor Hatzas reported a total of \$488.64 collected in fines during the month of September.
- Halloween Trick-or-Treat will be observed in the Borough on Thursday, October 31st from 6-8PM.

POLICE CHIEF HEIM

- Captain Damond Kloc and Lieutenant Brian Cole attended on behalf of Chief Heim. Captain Kloc reviewed the September Crime Report statistics. Captain Kloc will be moving from the investigative department to patrol because of Captain Stephen Powell's departure from the Reading Police force.

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FIRE CHIEF WEIDENHEIMER

- Submitted September month end fire call activity report. There were 21 calls and no loss to the Borough.
- Reminder that the Governor Mifflin Area Joint Fire Prevention Open House will be held at the GM High School on Saturday, October 14, 2013 from 12-3PM. Details available on the Fire Company and Borough websites.
- Late Deputy Fire Chief Cory Baker will be honored as a fallen firefighter at a ceremony to be held in Bethesda, Maryland the weekend of October 5th.

TAX COLLECTOR JOANNA ROCHE

- Mrs. Roche provided the 3rd Quarter Tax collection report. A total of \$502,254.18 has been collected thus far in 2013. The total outstanding for the year is \$30,114.64.

FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ

- Mr. Fritz provided the revenue and expenditure report and made a motion to approve the September expenses. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ibach and the roll call vote was unanimous.

CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE

- Mr. Roche summarized the September codes and permitting report from Kraft Code Services. The open permit report will be posted on the bulletin board for Council's review.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND

- Mr. Holland stated that four (4) swings were replaced at the playground. Two of the old swings were kept for backup/parts.

PERSONNEL, PRESIDENT ROCHE – no report

PROPERTY, VICE PRESIDENT CORRENTI

- Mr. Correnti stated there are some minor building maintenance issues at Borough Hall such as repair of gutter and downspouts. These items that can be handled in house by our Borough staff. He will report back to Council with more information as appropriate.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN – no report

SANITARY SEWERS, PRESIDENT ROCHE

- Mr. Roche stated that work is still being completed on the response to Cumru Township's offer to purchase the Kenhorst Sewer System.

STORM WATER/STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH

- Mr. Ibach stated that some patching was completed in September and that Mrs. Diesinger will cover later in the agenda.

SOLICITOR NAGY

- Ms. Nagy reported that there are two citation hearings occurring in October.

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BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – The Manager’s report was previously submitted to Council.
Items of note completed in September:

- Approximately \$25,000 in sewer and refuse arrears was collected in September.
- Fall Newsletter was mailed.
- Over 250 new recycling bins were delivered.
- 2011 and 2012 Liquid Fuels Audit was conducted by the Auditor General’s office – all was found to be satisfactory.
- Roof replacement work was completed on the blighted property at 1105 Fern Avenue. Cost for the roof will be added to property lien and the Borough is moving forward with a sheriff sale for this property.
- Public Works staff attended Storm Water and MS4 workshops.
- Submitted first reimbursement request to DEP for \$10,408 grant reimbursement for new recycle bins.
- Eight property maintenance violation notices were mailed and 2 citations written for soliciting without a permit.
- Alley behind Wesleyan from Second Street to Woodcrest Drive was patched. Gutter on John Glenn at Liberty was patched
- Maintenance was performed on old leaf picker in case leaf pickup has to start before new leaf picker is received.

Unfinished Business –

- Zoning Hearing Board Vacancy – Mr. Fritz made a motion to accept the resignation of ZHB member Brian Focht. He and his family have moved out of the Borough therefore he is now ineligible to serve on the board. Mr. DePasquale seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Zoning Hearing Board Appointment – Mr. Holland made a motion to appoint Mr. Frank Quattro to fill the ZHB vacancy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Correnti and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Second Draft Blight Ordinance Authorized for Advertisement – Mr. DePasquale made a motion to authorize the advertisement of the second Blight related ordinance which addresses the Borough’s ability to recoup expenses with Claims and Insurance Escrows. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ibach and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Ordinance #556 Approved for Blight Reclamation and Revitalization – Mr. Ibach made a motion to approve Ordinance #556 as advertised. Mr. Holland seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.

New Business –

- Bulk Trash Pick Up Day – Monday, October 14th
- Neighborhood Watch - Community Walk - Saturday, Oct. 19th 10 a.m. – meet at the Turkey Hill on New Holland Road at 9:45 a.m. – Next meeting - Thursday, Oct. 24th at 7 p.m.

REMARKS – there were no additional remarks. There being no further business, Mr. DePasquale made a motion to adjourn the meeting; motion was seconded by Mr. Correnti. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

ATTEST: _____ Eileen D. Becker – Secretary/Treasurer