

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 6, 2014

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

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Presentation to the Blanski Family

On behalf of Borough Council, Mayor Hatzas presented Mrs. Sheree Blanski and family members with a commemorative plaque in honor of her late husband, Lawrence S. Blanski. Mr. Blanski was a former Borough Council member for 12 years during which he served as President for ten years. Mayor Hatzas read the plaque inscription: "In recognition and appreciation of Lawrence S. Blanski, for his many years of dedication to the Borough of Kenhorst, including his tireless commitment to our park and playground programs and for his service as Council President, Awarded posthumously at a public meeting of Council, March 6, 2014, Kenhorst Borough Council, David R. Roche, President, Nickolas J. Hatzas, Mayor". Mrs. Diesinger shared that after the presentation the plaque will be displayed in the main room of the Community Center.

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC

Ms. Janice Johnston, 600 Block Haig Boulevard – Ms. Johnston requested that Council consider reinstating the odd/even snow plowing plan. She said that parking on her block was very difficult because half of the residents moved their cars and half do not. After discussion, President Roche responded that Council will be reviewing the snow plan along with input from the police and the Borough's Public Works department. The odd/even plowing plan will be included for consideration. Ms. Johnston stated that she feels the threat of a parking ticket is enough to get residents to move their cars.

Mr. Ralph McIlvaine, 1600 Block Commonwealth Boulevard – Mr. McIlvaine said he agreed with Ms. Johnston's comments and expressed concern about a large mound of snow that had been piled in front of his home. He is able to park in his driveway; however, the snow pile has caused problems with his mail delivery. President Roche confirmed that the unnamed Commonwealth Blvd resident who told Mr. McIlvaine that Council was upset with him pushing snow across the street from his house did not speak on behalf of Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Council met in an Executive Session from approximately 7:12 to 7:23 PM. Ms. Nagy reported that the executive session concerned personnel and potential litigation regarding the road salt contract. No decisions were made and the topics will be future meeting agenda items.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES, PRESIDENT ROCHE - Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the February Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mohn and the roll call vote was unanimous.

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MAYOR HATZAS –

- Mayor Hatzas reported a total of \$1,182.26 in fines collected in February.
- Mayor Hatzas initiated a discussion about the difficulties encountered this year with compliance and enforcement of the Snow Emergency plowing plan. Chief Heim said he would have to write a snow emergency policy for the Reading Police officers to use in Kenhorst. The City hasn't enforced their plan in years. President Roche said the Snow Emergency routes would be reviewed along with the rest of the Snow plan. The Borough may need to send letters to every property owner and resident along the snow emergency routes to reinforce current rules and to notify them of any changes.

POLICE CHIEF HEIM –

- Chief Heim reviewed the February Crime Report statistics. There were no Part I offenses reported during February. Chief Heim noted that this trend was also experienced in the City as the cold weather and snow kept crimes to a minimum.

FIRE CHIEF HART

- Chief Dwayne Hart reviewed February's fire call activity report - there were 24 calls for the month and no loss to the Borough.
- The Fire Company's annual Easter Flower Sale this year will be held on April 17-19.

TAX COLLECTOR DENICE CARROLL - absent

FINANCE, COUNCILMAN FRITZ - Mr. Fritz presented the revenue and expenditure report and made a motion to approve the February expenses. The motion was seconded by Mr. DePasquale and the roll call vote was unanimous.

CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE

- President Roche summarized the February codes and permitting report from Kraft Code Services. The open permit report has been posted on the bulletin board for Council's review.
- President Roche and Mrs. Diesinger attended the Berks Purchasing Council meeting this week where the status of the Cargill road salt contract was discussed. Mr. DePasquale made a motion to authorize Mrs. Diesinger to compose a letter to Mayor Vaughn Spencer thanking the City for taking on the contract and recognizing the assistance of his staff in procuring salt for the Borough. Mr. Ibach seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND - The Parks and Recreation Committee met in February and decided to stay with the same playground program as last year. The Committee will meet at the playground once the snow is gone to inspect the facilities in preparation for this season. This year's playground program may need to be shortened to 7 weeks if the schools' snow makeup schedules delay the end of the school year.

PERSONNEL, PRESIDENT ROCHE – the Personnel Committee met in February to discuss the part-time administrative position and approved a schedule of 24 hours/week. Mr. Correnti made a motion to hire Denice Carroll to fill the position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ibach and the roll call vote was unanimous.

PROPERTY, VICE PRESIDENT CORRENTI

- Mr. Correnti reported that we are waiting for the 10 ton truck to be repaired – a muffler is on order. Public Works Supervisor Hart estimated that the Borough has about 40 tons of road salt left and another 50 tons are on order.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN

- Mr. Mohn had nothing to report, but mentioned that the Eagle crews had a tough time with trash and recycling pickups due to this year's winter weather.
- Mrs. Diesinger is dealing with Eagle to resolve the recent traffic safety concerns.

SANITARY SEWERS, PRESIDENT ROCHE

President Roche reported that he met recently with Cumru Commissioner Tony Sacco regarding the status of the City sewer system agreement. He asked that Council approve an additional \$2,000.00 in engineering fees that may be needed for sewer system agreement negotiations between the Township and the Borough. Mr. Ibach made a motion to approve the additional \$2,000.00 if needed. Mr. Correnti seconded by Mr. Ibach and the roll call vote was unanimous.

STORM WATER/STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH – Mr. Ibach said the Streets Committee will be meeting to review what repairs are needed on Borough streets once the winter weather is improved.

SOLICITOR NAGY – Ms. Nagy reported that we are in the first of three waiting periods required in the sheriff sale process initiated for 1105 Fern Avenue. The sale is planned for April this year. The property's owner, Wells Fargo Bank, has not responded to any correspondence thus far.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – February's report was previously provided to Council – of special note:

- Submitted the 2013 Chapter 94 Report to the City and the Annual Recycling Report to the Solid Waste Authority and DEP.
- Installed a new hydraulic motor and new heater at the pump station.
- Mailed 250 arrears letters – payments are due by March 10th.
- Completed the final draft of the next 10-year Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement.

Unfinished Business

- Woodcrest Tree Removal-permit issued, access agreement signed, project to be scheduled once the snow cover is cleared.
- Ms. Nagy provided copies to Council of the Draft Ordinance for Annual Real Estate Registry Requirements. She explained that the ordinance may seem complicated because she used language direct from the PA Borough Code regarding annual census requirements. Council should review and be prepared for discussion at the April workshop meeting.

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New Business

- 724 Bridge over Angelica Creek east of Sunoco – Mrs. Diesinger provided an update on her meeting with Penn DOT regarding this upcoming 2016 project. Additional information will be provided periodically.
- Notice received of upcoming traffic data collection by Penn DOT (March – June 2014) – Mrs. Diesinger indicated that the data collection is not associated with any specific projects, but will be generally used by Penn DOT.
- Authorized Execution of County Polling Place Agreements for 2014 Primary and General Election - Mr. DePasquale made a motion to approve the Berks County Polling Place Agreement for the 2014 elections subject to prior review by Ms. Nagy. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized Advertisement of Draft Ordinance for Adoption of Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement - Mr. Correnti made a motion to approve advertising the draft ordinance for the cable franchise agreement. Mr. Ibach seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- *Reminder – Berks Municipal Officials Dinner, Thursday, March 27th at 6 p.m. at Reading Country Club*

REMARKS – There being no further remarks or business, Mr. DePasquale made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Ibach. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

ATTEST: _____

Eileen D. Becker – Secretary/Treasurer