

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
April 3, 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, Reading Police Captain Madison Winchester, Attorney Sean Summers, Borough Manager Jeri Diesinger. Absent: Solicitor Jill Nagy, Police Chief William Heim, and Tax Collector Denice Carroll. Eileen Becker, Borough Secretary/Treasurer, recorded minutes of the meeting.

PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC

Mr. Walter Hamilton, owner of 1471 Hancock Blvd – Mr. Hamilton expressed his and his family’s concerns regarding the conditions at 1469 Hancock Blvd. which is the property immediately adjacent to his and which is owned by relatives. Mr. Hamilton had previously rented his property to tenants and now is in the process of cleaning and rehabbing it in order for his daughter to move in. Over the years, there have been issues with the amount of trash and junk accumulated at 1469 Hancock Blvd. as well as bad smells coming from the property. Now, trash and other items are starting to encroach on Mr. Hamilton’s property. He also mentioned concerns regarding the vacant house at 1473 Hancock Blvd. which is on the other side of his property. There is an above ground pool which has been unattended to for several years as well as 4 foot high weeds/grass at the back of this property.

President Roche responded that Council is also concerned about the property maintenance conditions at 1469 Hancock Blvd and has been actively pursuing the situation for several years. Mr. Ibach made a motion to authorize the Borough’s Code Enforcement officer, Kraft Code Services, to initiate appropriate action regarding 1469 Hancock Boulevard. Mr. Mohn seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous. He asked that Mrs. Diesinger contact Kraft to evaluate the conditions at both properties and proceed accordingly.

Mr. Jason Fisher and Mrs. Lori Fisher, 1300 Block Commonwealth Blvd – The Fishers expressed concerns about the Reading Police not having enough of a presence in their neighborhood. They reported that cars routinely speed along Commonwealth Blvd. and they’ve witnessed residents riding dirt bikes on the road. Mrs. Fisher asked if the police could patrol more along Commonwealth, Wesleyan and the areas around the college.

Captain Winchester responded that Reading Police designate what they call “hot spots” of neighborhoods so they target specific issues such as speeding. He will follow up with Chief Heim regarding increased patrols and speeding details in that area. President Roche recommended that the Fishers call the Reading Police as soon as they see an issue such as the dirt bike riders. All residents are encouraged to contact the Police at the non-emergency numbers to report any concerns requiring a police response.

MAYOR HATZAS –

- Mayor Hatzas reported a total of \$1,047.14 in fines collected in March.

POLICE CHIEF HEIM – absent

- In Chief Heim’s absence, Captain Winchester reviewed the March Crime Report statistics.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
April 3, 2014

FIRE CHIEF HART

- Chief Dwayne Hart reviewed March's fire call activity report - there were 25 calls for the month and no loss to the Borough.
- Reminder that the Fire Company's annual Easter Flower Sale this year will be held on April 17th, 18th and 19th until sold out. The Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Playground Saturday, April 19th at 10AM. It will be held in the Social Quarters Ballroom if it rains.

TAX COLLECTOR DENICE CARROLL - absent

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

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

CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE – President Roche summarized the March codes and permitting report from Kraft Code Services. The open permit report is posted on the bulletin board for Council's review.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND – There have been a few early playground sign up's and the early registration discount period continues through the end of April. The Committee will be meeting April 29th prior to the Council Workshop meeting to inspect the Playground and Community Center areas in preparation for this year's program.

PERSONNEL, PRESIDENT ROCHE – nothing to report at this time.

PROPERTY, VICE PRESIDENT CORRENTI - Mrs. Diesinger is gathering information for Council to consider replacing the Borough's thirteen year-old 10 ton dump truck. She and Public Works/Roads Supervisor Hart are reviewing COSTARS pricing and specification information.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN –

- Mrs. Diesinger has contacted Eagle Disposal to request a change in the timing of when they pick up trash on New Holland Road. Council is concerned about the traffic backups and potential for accidents and delays when the truck stops for picks up during rush hour on Monday mornings. The current contract with Eagle does not contain specifics about New Holland Road pickup times.
- President Roche attended the Western Berks Refuse Authority's January quarterly meeting. The Borough has submitted a Right-To-Know request to obtain WBRA financial information and reports. Mr. DePasquale made a motion to have the Finance Committee review the WBRA information received. Mr. Ibach seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.

SANITARY SEWERS, PRESIDENT ROCHE - nothing to report at this time.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
April 3, 2014

STORM WATER/STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH – The Streets Committee members should let Mrs. Diesinger or Mr. Ibach know when they are available to meet to review this year’s streets repairs.

SOLICITOR NAGY – Attorney Sean Summers attended in Ms. Nagy’s absence.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – March’s report was previously provided to Council. Of special note:

- Spring 2014 Newsletter published and mailed
- Arrears recovered - \$40,373 – water shut off to 5 properties this cycle
- Ordered last recycle grant items – event containers, Borough reciprocating activities remain
- Began patching of potholes, cleanup of tree branches, inspection of islands and facilities for repairs, etc.
- General Code has provided the first deliverable of the codification project, the Organizational Analysis.

Unfinished Business - Woodcrest Tree Removal project – pending work scheduled.

New Business

- Ordinance #561 Adopted - 2014 Kenhorst - Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement – Mr. Fritz made a motion to sign the Comcast Franchise Agreement per Ordinance #561. Mr. Holland seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized advertisement of draft Ordinance for Real Estate Registry/Census – Mr. DePasquale made a motion to authorize advertising the draft Real Estate Registry/Census ordinance. Mr. Holland seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized Security System at Brooke Blvd garage – Mr. DePasquale made a motion to authorize the installation of the security system at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00. Mr. Correnti seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized Security System Upgrade at Community Center – Mr. Ibach made a motion to authorize the security system upgrade at a cost not to exceed \$500.00. Mr. Holland seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Ratified 1607 New Holland Road sewer lateral repair cost of \$3,202 – Mr. Ibach made a motion to ratify the Borough side repair which was completed on March 24, 2014. Mr. Correnti seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized J/M Fence to repair shop gate - Mr. Ibach made a motion to approve the fence gate repair at a cost not to exceed \$670.00. Mr. Mohn seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized Industrial Grounds Maintenance for Street Sweeping - Mr. DePasquale made a motion to approve IGM to conduct street sweeping the week of May 13th, 2014 at a cost not to exceed \$3,200.00. Mr. Holland seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Authorized Road Closure permit for One United Church of Christ - Mr. Mohn made a motion to approve One UCC’s road closure permit application for their Flea Market/Car Show being held May 31, 2014 from 8 AM to 5 PM. Council’s approval is contingent on One UCC first obtaining approval from the property owners of 666 High Boulevard. Mr. DePasquale seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous. Mrs. Diesinger was asked to check the ordinances regarding the “one-way” sign at the church parking lot exit on New Holland Road.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

April 3, 2014

- Authorization for New Dump Truck (specs and price quote) – Mr. Hart and Mrs. Diesinger will continue gathering information and quotes to replace the 10-ton dump truck.
- Adopted Resolution #635 for PT Property Maintenance employment offer - Mr. Ibach made a motion to extend an employment offer to Mr. John Sielski to serve as a Part-Time Property Maintenance Inspector. Mr. Correnti seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Approved owner's intent to pave portion of rear alley at 1348 Brooke Blvd/Brick House Pub - Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the owner's intent to pave part of the alley behind 1348 Brooke Blvd which is within the Borough's Sanitary Sewer Right-Of-Way. This is contingent upon the owner receiving an approved zoning permit application from the Borough Engineer as well as obtaining permission from all adjoining property owners. Mr. DePasquale seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Approved Advertising Draft Rental Ordinance Amendment - Mr. DePasquale made a motion to advertise the draft Rental Ordinance amendment. Mr. Ibach seconded the motion; the roll call vote was unanimous.

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 7:58 p.m.

ATTEST: _____

Eileen D. Becker – Secretary/Treasurer