

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 9, 2015

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RESIDENTS/PUBLIC

Mr. John Lis and Mr. John Muir, Esquire, Kozloff Stoudt – Attorney Muir, on behalf of his client, Mr. Lis, requested that Council provide a response to Mr. Lis’ inquiry regarding the Wingate Terrace fair value purchase offer. Ms. Nagy stated that she had purposefully had not filed a Right of Ownership action. Ms. Nagy will get back in touch Mr. Muir tomorrow morning with the Borough’s offer. Mr. Muir will then respond back to Borough Council within 10 days. Question to Jeri/.Jill? - do I need to document his specific statements about the 110 edus, interest accrual and the \$1.2 M offer received a few years ago.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Council met in an Executive Session from approximately 7:10 to 7:55 PM. Ms. Nagy reported that the executive session concerned property/real estate matters.

MEETING MINUTES, PRESIDENT ROCHE – Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Holland; the roll call vote was unanimous.

MAYOR HATZAS –

- Mayor Hatzas will report both the February and March fine revenue information at the April meeting.
- President Roche asked if residents are able to move their cars back once their block on a snow emergency route was plowed to the curb instead of waiting until the Snow Emergency was lifted. After some discussion it was decided that this topic would need to be tabled and revisited at a later time.

POLICE REPORT –

- Chief Heim provided February’s Crime Statistics report.
- There were only 3 Motor Vehicle Accidents reported in February. The Chief commented that this was very good considering the bad weather and road conditions during the month.
- President Roche thanked Chief Heim for the assistance provided by the officers in clearing vehicles off of the Snow Emergency routes during the recent storms.

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FIRE CHIEF HART – President Roche read the February fire call activity report on behalf of Chief Hart. In February, there were 32 calls involving an average of 4 firefighters for a total of 18 hours and 11 minutes. There was no loss to the Borough.

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. Ibach; the roll call vote was unanimous.

CODES AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, PRESIDENT ROCHE – President Roche shared a summary of the February Codes and Permitting report received from Kraft Code Services. The new open permit report is posted on the bulletin board for Council's review.

PARKS & RECREATION, COUNCILMAN HOLLAND – Mr. Holland said he had items that will be covered under New Business.

PERSONNEL, PRESIDENT ROCHE –

- Mrs. Diesinger reported that Dieter Stucke will be out on Worker's Compensation leave for an extended period of time. She asked Council to consider hiring a temporary full-time replacement for Dieter. Mr. Fritz recommended that Council consider Mr. James Tumminello for the position. After discussion, it was decided that the Personnel Committee would meet and recommend next steps.
- President Roche shared that Mr. Howard Derr, a former Borough Councilman, passed away in February. A sympathy flower arrangement was sent on behalf of Borough Council and Staff. Mr. Derr had been on Council for 8 years. President Roche thinks that it should be the Borough's standard practice to send a sympathy arrangement when a former council member passes away.

PROPERTY AND BUILDINGS, VICE PRESIDENT CORRENTI – nothing to report at this time.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING, COUNCILMAN MOHN – nothing to report at this time other than an Eagle Disposal crew started picking up trash on Mr. Mohn's block at 6 AM today. Mr. Mohn commented that this was too early. Mrs. Diesinger stated that Eagle's contract stipulates that they will start no earlier than 7 AM.

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

STORM WATER/STREETS, COUNCILMAN IBACH – nothing to report at this time. Mr. Ibach said he drove around the Borough streets and felt that they were in good condition and that a good job had been done with the plowing.

SOLICITOR NAGY – Ms. Nagy introduced Ms. Samantha Phillips, Esquire, a new attorney at Summers Nagy.

BOROUGH MANAGER DIESINGER – February's monthly report was previously provided to Council. Of special note in February:

- Solicitors' review of Recodification Draft Manuscript
- Mailed out 192 utility arrears letters
- Completed/submitted 7 copies of 2014 Chapter 94 sewer report to City of Reading
- 2014 Audit conducted by Herbein
- Finalized Spring 2015 edition of newsletter
- Set up Code RED – ready to go except for training
- Purchased new reflective traffic barricades
- Purchased/installed the John Deere tractor weather enclosure

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Update regarding Hancock Blvd property – Ms. Nagy provided an update regarding the status of the sheriff sale proceedings. Delays were experienced due to the difficulties in serving notice to Mrs. Hamilton because she resides in a nursing home. Mr. Hamilton contacted Ms. Nagy's office to inquire about the payoff amount.
- Two new street lights in 1300 block of Fern – this item was tabled in November.
- Hailstorm Repairs to Borough Facilities – Mrs. Diesinger is in contact with the selected contractor - work will commence once the weather breaks.
- PS wet well electric system transfer – this item will be tabled until the April meeting. We are waiting for an updated quote from B&G Electric.
- 2012 Recycling Grant – purchased three additional event bins for event bins for Borough properties at a cost of \$3,334. Mrs. Diesinger has started the grant closeout reporting which is due May 1st.
- Fence Screening along rear Borough Hall fence – Mrs. Diesinger reported that the borough received a quote of \$3,000 for vinyl slats from the J & M Fence Company. A discussion was held regarding whether the screening will satisfy the resident who made the request for screening of the Borough shop yard. Ms. Nagy recommended that the Borough's Zoning Officer review the fence screening to determine if this meets the Zoning Ordinance requirements.
- Temporary/2-hour parking sign adjacent to small business on New Holland Road – this item is still pending. Ms. Nagy is researching options before making a recommendation to Council about this request.
- Authorized CodeRED notification system – Mr. Holland made a motion to authorize the Borough signing a 3-yr contract for the CodeRED communication services at a cost of \$4,010/year. The system will be ready to go online immediately after Borough personnel are trained. Mr. De Pasquale seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.

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NEW BUSINESS.

- Ratified Emergency Pump Station Repair - Costs are expected to total approximately \$12,000 for muffin monster repair and re-installation. This was an emergency expenditure. Mr. Correnti was notified of the need for immediate repair.
- Reviewed Kenhorst Park parking lot project – Mrs. Diesinger reported that the Borough Engineer provided estimates of approximately \$8,000.00 for the design/bid process and \$45,000 - \$55,000 in construction costs to extend current park parking lot. After discussion, it was decided that this item will be put on hold for discussion at the April meeting.
- 2015 Sanitary Sewer inspection/repairs – Mrs. Diesinger reported that approximately \$80,000 will be spent for this year's sewer maintenance work which is well below budget. The contractor has completed the 2013 items and is working on an area last inspected in 2006.
- Approved Diesel UST A/B Operator Certification Training – Mr. De Pasquale made a motion to approve required diesel UST operator training for Mrs. Diesinger and Mr. Hart at a cost not to exceed \$550. Mr. Holland seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- EPA Fund – Mr. Fritz asked whether the Borough could utilize the EPA fund presumably established for future remediation costs associated with the previously closed underground storage tanks. Mrs. Diesinger will see what documentation is on file regarding the EPA fund and will provide to Ms. Nagy for review.
- Authorization to advertise for Temporary Public Works/Road Crew - - Council unanimously approved Mrs. Diesinger pursue a crewman to assist Dwayne Hart during Dieter Stucke's medical leave.?
- Approved advertisement for up to five (5) summer playground leaders, including supervisor – Mr. Holland made a motion to approve advertising (5) playground leader positions which include the supervisor position. Mr. Ibach seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- PADOT request – PennDOT contacted the Borough regarding the possible need for a pedestrian bridge/sidewalk to be installed over the Angelica Creekj (adjacent to the Sunoco Station along Route 724). After discussion, it was decided to table this item for next month's meeting.
- Authorize Increased Contribution Amount for Center for Excellence in Local Government – Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve an increase from \$300 to \$500 for the Borough's annual contribution to the Center for Excellence. Mr. De Pasquale seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- TARCO leaf vacuum – Mr. De Pasquale made a motion to allow Mohnton Borough to keep the TARCO leaf vacuum and use/dispose of as they see fit. Mr. Correnti seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.
- Sidewalk repairs needed at Salt Shed behind Brooke Blvd Garage (along Liberty Avenue) – After discussion, Council agreed to have Mrs. Diesinger solicit estimates for the sidewalk repairs/replacement needed behind the salt shed building located along Liberty Avenue.
- Approved Purchase of Firewall Security Upgrade – Mr. Holland made a motion to approve the purchase of up to \$1,200.00 for the new computer firewall upgrade needed for the Borough's server network system. Mr. Ibach seconded the motion and the roll call vote was unanimous.

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NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

- Municipal Official's Dinner – Mrs. Diesinger reserved three spaces for Kenhorst attendees. It was decided that Mrs. Diesinger, President Roche and Mr. Fritz would attend this year's dinner. Mrs. Becker will confirm their reservations.
- Southern Berks Emergency Medical Services (SBREMS) – President Roche reported that the Borough received correspondence from SBREMS thanking the Borough for their support. SBREMS also provided an activity/call report for Council's review.
- Letter to McCarthy Engineering - President Roche asked Mrs. Diesinger to send a letter to Mr. James McCarthy thanking him for Mr. Edward J. Walsh's excellent service to the Borough as our Engineer and Zoning Officer and wish him good luck in his future endeavors.

Final Remarks and Adjournment

There being no further remarks or business, Mr. De Pasquale made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Fritz. Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:53 p.m.

ATTEST: _____

Eileen D. Becker – Secretary/Treasurer