

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

March 2, 2017

President David R. Roche called the March 2, 2017 meeting of the Kenhorst Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present: Mayor Hatzas and Councilmen Correnti, DePasquale, Fritz, Holland, Ibach and Mohn, Fire Chief Dwayne Hart, Reading Police Lt. David Liggett, Jill E. Nagy, Esquire and Borough Manager/Secretary Jeri L. Diesinger – Absent: *none*

Swearing in Ceremony – Assistant Fire Chief, Christopher Roche was sworn in by Mayor Nickolas Hatzas.

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD –

- Mr. Frank Gable – 700 block of High Boulevard – Mr. Gable requested that Council and the Reading Police Department watch the traffic at the intersection of High Boulevard and Commonwealth Boulevard especially as the spring and summer construction season gets underway. President Roche indicated that we now have a traffic speed sign to log speeds and other information. The sign currently is placed on New Holland Road near Upland Avenue, but will be moved next to High Boulevard.
- Mr. Terry Shuker – Wesleyan Drive – Mr. Shuker notified Council that the stop sign at the corner of Wesleyan and Woodcrest Drives is ignored by everyone including the residents, school buses, police cars, etc. He did not think there would be anything done regarding this issue. Lt. Liggett made a note regarding an increase in police patrols in both areas discussed by Mr. Gable and Mr. Shuker.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – *none*

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – President Roche presented the meeting minutes from the February 2, 2017 meeting of Council. Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 2nd meeting with Mr. DePasquale offering a second. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS –

Mayor – Mayor Hatzas reported that the Borough received \$50.00 in Police fines, and \$141.60 from the District Justice's office for a total of \$191.60 in the month of February.

Reading Police Department – Lt. David Liggett provided a verbal and written report to Council regarding activities in the Borough during the month of February 2017. Crime statistics dropped in February and there was only one call so far this year for the New Story School. In addition Lt. Liggett related a nice story about our day patrol officer, Officer James Burkhart. Recently, Officer Burkhart's police cruiser accidentally ran over a basketball that had rolled into New Holland Road. He stopped and spoke to the youngster and apologized for the damaged ball. A few minutes later he returned with a brand new basketball as well as a football to present to the young man. The boy's family was so pleased with the gesture made by Officer Burkhart that they contacted the police to tell them the story. Kenhorst Borough applauds Officer Burkhart for his thoughtfulness to the residents of our community.

Mr. Ibach added that his home was vandalized recently. A report was made to the police.

Kenhorst VFD Chief – Chief Dwayne Hart presented the February Fire Call activity report as follows: There were no fires in the Borough – however, the department received 26 calls for the month, 112 number of firefighters responding, average number of firefighters per call 4, total time spent 11 hours and 33 minutes. He also reported that the 1994 International has been sold to a Fire

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 2, 2017

Department out west (Addy, Washington) and the proceeds from the sale will be put towards the purchase of a new truck.

Finance – Mr. Richard Fritz provided the financial report for February and made a motion to approve the bills paid in February. Mr. Ibach provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Codes & Emergency Services – Mr. David Roche presented the Kraft Code Services February 2017 report regarding permitting and inspections and reminded Council that a copy of the open permits list was posted on the bulletin board.

Parks & Playground – Mr. Holland reported that the committee met in February to discuss projects to begin this year. The committee decided to move forward on fixing the drainage problem at the existing playground and purchase a piece of playground equipment. The Public Works crew began improvements to the inside of the Community Center. The stage was removed, the floor under the stage was rebuilt and utilities were moved, the old metal folding chairs will be sold for scrap and Mr. Roche suggested that the old piano could be donated to the Reading Music Foundation. Work will begin this spring on the drainage issues at the playground and a new piece of playground equipment will be purchased.

Mr. Holland made a motion to allow the Public Works crew to install a concession area in the Community Center for a cost not to exceed \$1,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. DePasquale and passed unanimously.

Mr. Ibach made a motion, seconded by Mr. Holland to donate the old piano to the Reading Music Foundation. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel – Mr. Roche had no report

Property & Buildings – Mr. Al Correnti reported that the Public Works crew completed the back porch roof on Borough Hall which looks very nice and he urged Council members to take a look before leaving after the meeting. He also joked that the equipment and vehicles are still in “fine shape” given the mild winter.

Sanitation – Mr. Ed Mohn had no report.

Sanitary Sewers – Mr. Roche indicated that sewer matters will be discussed later in the agenda.

Streets & Stormwater – Mr. DePasquale indicated that road matters will be discussed later in the agenda.

Solicitor – Ms. Nagy reported that an offer letter was sent to Mrs. Hamilton regarding the property at 1452 Crowder. The 30-day notice expired in February and a filing with the Courts will occur within the next day or so. Once that is completed, Council can decide how to move forward with the property. There has been some interest from neighbors.

Ms. Nagy also indicated that the Borough should reaffirm the fire equipment sharing agreement with Cumru Township and she will contact the Township’s solicitor in recommend the Township does the

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
March 2, 2017

same. Mr. Ibach made a motion to affirm the equipment sharing agreement and Mr. Correnti provided a second. Motion passed unanimously.

Borough Manager – Mrs. Jeri Diesinger provided Council with a written summary of activities occurring in February.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Punch List items for 2016 Road Work – tabled until spring
- Pump station electrical work – Mr. Hart reported that Schatz Electric is scheduled to begin work next month.
- Stormwater drainage issues at 1308 Woodcrest Drive – Ms. Nagy has contacted the DEP to set up a staff meeting to obtain guidance as to how best to proceed. In her conversation with the Department, it was determined that correcting the sewer issue at Manhole #7 would eliminate the stormwater issue along Woodcrest Drive; therefore, she awaits a call from a contact in the sewer section at the DEP.
- Emergency Management Coordinator – Mrs. Diesinger reached out to Thomas Bauscher regarding the Borough joining the Western Berks Regional Emergency Management Services Association. Information should be forthcoming by the April Council meeting.
- LED street lights – Mrs. Diesinger received word that Met-Ed has scheduled installation of the LED street lights to begin in March.
- Pump Station barriers – Mrs. Diesinger has been in contact with the property owner at 914 New Holland Road who is very displeased with the esthetics of the new barricades. She reported that the last conversation indicated that the owner will reach out to their hauler to see the feasibility of using totes and if not he will contact his attorney.
- Ordinance regarding Mini-Cell Tower Regulations – Ms. Nagy and Mrs. Diesinger will review the current zoning ordinance to determine what if any changes need to be made.
- Engineer to develop MS4 2018 Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) and Notice of Intent (NOI) – A meeting will be conducted within the next week with Jeremy Brumbach of McCarthy Engineers to assist the Borough in developing the PRP and NOI.
- Engineer to prepare and advertise 2017 Road Work bid documents – Mr. DePasquale indicated that within the next few weeks the Streets Committee and Public Works Superintendent will reassess the condition of the roads to see if anything needs to be changed or added to the list for this year, prior to handing over to the Engineer to prepare the bidding documents.

NEW BUSINESS

- Results of ZHB meeting – The Fire Company Sign variance requests were granted by the Zoning Hearing Board with several conditions including:
 - No animation, movies, internet or intermittent messaging on sign
 - 8 seconds interval or more between messages
 - No operation of sign between midnight and 7 a.m.
 - Message or announcement content must be for activities of the fire company or community for which the fire company does not receive any remuneration
 - Sign shall comply with the zoning ordinance requiring a three foot clearance between the bottom of the sign and ground

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

March 2, 2017

- Cured In-Place Sewer Pipe Lining Project – The initial bid notice was cancelled and will be rebid. Mrs. Diesinger will work with our Engineer to prepare the new bid documents.
- 902 Grant issue – Mrs. Diesinger reported that in order for the Borough to receive the entire grant, Council will have to authorize the remaining two payments for the 2014 Freightliner truck to be paid this year or lose ~\$500 in grant funding. Upon a motion by Mr. DePasquale to give up the approximately \$500 in grant money and maintain the current payment plan, which was seconded by Mr. Ibach, the motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Diesinger will contact PADEP regarding Council's actions so remaining funding can be released.
- Request for use of Playing Fields – A request was received from Alvernia University for the Alvernia Soccer camps to use the Kenhorst park playing fields for two weeks this summer. Since the weeks and times requested conflict with use of the fields during the Borough's summer playground program a meeting will be set up with the University to determine if a compromise can be worked out.
- Municipal Authority – Mrs. Diesinger recommended that the Council begin thinking about reactivating the municipal authority to deal with the next MS4 stormwater permit. Many municipalities are initiating or rolling stormwater programs into their current authority. Mr. Roche requested that Mrs. Diesinger provide an outline for the April meeting of what needs to be accomplished to reactivate our Authority and to provide a synopsis prior to the meeting.
- Thank you note from resident – Mrs. Diesinger read a nice thank you note from a resident on Lacrosse who was pleased with the plowing done on her street during the last snow event.

Final Remarks, Reminders

- Notice regarding S.R. 724 Bridge over Angelica Creek – Mr. Roche announced that PennDOT will close the east bound lane of S. R. 724 in March for a period of at least four months for extensive construction work on the bridge over the Angelica Creek. This is the bridge located in the vicinity of the Sunoco Station. Mr. Hart indicated that he attended the pre-construction meeting at District 5 headquarters in Allentown. PennDOT established a detour which will direct vehicles and truck traffic going east bound on S. R. 724 onto New Holland Road (S.R. 625), to northbound on Lancaster Avenue (S.R. 222) to southbound on Morgantown Road (S.R. 10) back to eastbound on S.R. 724. The Borough Council voiced concerns with the increased traffic throughout the Borough as motorists try to find shortcuts to get back to Route 724 East. Lt. Liggett made a note for the Traffic Department to plan for additional vehicles moving through the Borough.
- Municipal Officials Dinner - Thursday, March 30th Reading Country Club – Mr. Roche urged all members of the Council as well as Mayor Hatzas to plan to attend this event. The speaker will present on the next MS4 stormwater permit cycle which is another unfunded mandate and will be of great importance for Council members to make themselves aware of the issues.

Adjournment – With no other business before Council, Mr. DePasquale made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. which was seconded by Mr. Holland.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeri L. Diesinger
Kenhorst Borough Manager/Secretary