

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
September 7, 2017

Vice President Alfred Correnti called the September 7, 2017 meeting of the Kenhorst Borough Council to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present: Mayor N. Hatzas and Councilmen K. DePasquale, R. Fritz, K. Holland, Fire Chief D. Hart, Reading Police Department, Lt. David Liggett, Solicitor J. Nagy, Esquire and Borough Manager/Secretary J. Diesinger – *Absent:* J. Ibach, E. Mohn and D. Roche.

VP OF COUNCIL

- Council Vice President Correnti read the letter received from Council President David R. Roche announcing his resignation from his position as President and as Councilman effective immediately.
- Vice President Correnti then called for a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Roche with regret. Mr. Fritz made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Holland and the vote was passed unanimously to accept the resignation of Mr. Roche with regrets.
- Mr. Correnti then turned over the call for nominations to Solicitor Jill Nagy.

SOLICITOR

- Council President - Ms. Nagy explained how the nominations would occur. She then call for nomination of Council President. Mr. Fritz nominated Mr. Correnti for Council President. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Nagy asked for a roll call vote which passed unanimously in favor of Mr. Correnti as the next President of Council.
- Council Vice President – Ms. Nagy then called for nominations for Council Vice-President. Mr. Holland nominated Councilman Kevin DePasquale, Jr. Hearing no other nominations, Ms. Nagy asked for a roll call vote which passed unanimously in favor of Mr. DePasquale as the next Vice President of Council.
- Filling of Vacancy – Ms. Nagy then called for nominations to fill vacant Council seat. Mr. Fritz nominated Scott Stamm and Mr. DePasquale nominated Kerry Grassley. Hearing no other nominations to fill the vacant seat on Council at roll call vote was taken with four votes in favor of Scott Stamm. Mr. Stamm was then sworn in by Mayor Hatzas and invited to take his seat at the Council table.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – no executive session

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – President Correnti presented the minutes from the August 3, 2017 meeting. Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the minutes from August 3, 2017 with Mr. Holland offering a second. Motion passed unanimously.

PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD –

- Darryl Golembiewski – 1500 block of Fayette Avenue –
 - Street Lights - Addressed Council regarding how dark the street is. Council indicated that Mrs. Diesinger is keeping a list of areas reported by the residents and that the Council Streets Committee will tour the Borough after the time change when the lights are on to determine if additional lighting is required. Once a list has been confirmed the Borough can then petition Met-Ed to install additional lighting.
 - 1635 New Holland Road Property Maintenance Issue – Complained to Council regarding this vacant property which he called an eyesore. Mrs. Diesinger responded that photos have already been taken of the property and she has spoken to the property owner who still lives in the Borough. Procedures are in place to move forward in cleaning up the property for resale.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

September 7, 2017

- Reading Police Response to Recent Call – This resident made a complaint regarding the City day shift officer who responded to his call regarding an apparent abandon vehicle on the block with broken windows, muffler in the back seat, etc. He feels the responding officers should have been more responsive. However, he complimented Night Patrol Officer Carter who took care of the situation by having the vehicle tagged and towed.
- Nelson Ojea – 1500 block of Fayette Avenue – Mr. Ojea addressed Council regarding his concerns about the Bugay property located at 1536-1540 New Holland Road. He relayed some of the issues, including: lack of adequate parking for the dance studio, snow removal practices which impede access to the alley, the paving business equipment parked and unsightly, the obvious building code and property maintenance violations, as well as the lack of adherence by the patrons of the dance studio to heed the yellow curb and “No Parking” signs along Milford Avenue. Council noted that under New Business Council would be addressing those concerns through the Codes Committee and authorized the Borough Zoning Officer to review the concerns and take appropriate action regarding the zoning and property maintenance violations.
- Angie Jakubowski – Outreach Coordinator for Adult and Teen Challenge – Ms. Jakubowski briefly described the faith-based drug and alcohol program and left brochures and other information.
- Branden Moyer – 1400 block of Hancock Boulevard – Mr. Moyer presented this year’s Halloween event which will be a haunted corn maze to be conducted each Friday and Saturday through the month of October. Since he ran a successful event last year, Council approved this year’s event and expects that Mr. Moyer will continue to work with Mrs. Diesinger to secure all permits, allow the Councilmen and Fire Chief to review the final set up and provide appropriate insurance naming the Borough as an additional insured. Mr. DePasquale made the motion to approve the event and Mr. Stamm provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS –

Mayor – Mayor Hatzas reported that in the month of August the Borough received \$75.00 in Local Police fines and \$896.15 from the District Justice’s office for a total of \$971.15. Mayor Hatzas also signed a commendation recognizing September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Reading Police Department – Lt. David Liggett was unable to present the August police report due to a change of personnel in the Records Department. Lt. Liggett announced that Officer Ray Carter was going to “speed school” to be able to conduct traffic speed details in the Borough. When asked if the right turn only signs on New Holland Road would be removed once the PennDOT bridge project was completed he deferred a response to the October meeting. By October the bridge project may be completed and we can assess traffic patterns becoming more normalized.

Kenhorst VFD Chief – Chief Dwayne Hart presented the August Fire Chief’s activity report as follows: There were no fires in the Borough. The department received 42 calls for the month, 168 firefighters responded, average number of firefighters per call - 4, total time spent 21 hours and 27 minutes with no loss to the Borough. In addition, Chief Hart reported to Council that the Chicken BBQ on Sunday, August 6th was successful and yielded a total profit for the fire department of \$1,751.77.

Finance – Councilman Richard Fritz provided the financial report for August. Mr. Fritz made a motion to approve the bills paid in August and accept the finance report. Mr. DePasquale provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

Codes, Safety & Emergency Services – Mrs. Diesinger presented the Kraft Code Services August report and indicated that the open permits list as of August 31st was posted.

Parks & Playground – Councilman Kieran Holland reported that the Committee met with the Broncos regarding the memorandum of understanding (MOU) and the park storage building. He indicated that the MOU was amended to read that the storage building would revert to the Borough ownership if the agreement is terminated by the Broncos. In addition the Broncos are still granted full use of the shed if they decide not to use the field. The Broncos will provide evidence of content and liability insurance for use of the shed and the Borough will place the shed under our liability insurance police. Mrs. Diesinger will require the specifications in order to obtain the building permit. We expect the shed to be constructed by the end of October. Mr. Holland made a motion to accept and sign the MOU and Mr. DePasquale offered a second. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel – No report

Property & Buildings – No report

Sanitation – No report

Sanitary Sewers – Sanitary sewer items are discussed later in the agenda.

Streets & Stormwater – Mr. DePasquale indicated that the 2016 road work punch list is added to the 2017 road work via change order and we would like to add paving of the alley between the 1300 block of Liberty and Columbia as a second change order. The Committee met with the Borough Engineer regarding options for stormwater easement flooding at High and Commonwealth.

Solicitor – Ms. Nagy had no report other than what is on the agenda.

Borough Manager – Mrs. Diesinger provided Council with a written summary of the many administrative and public works-related activities which occurred in August. She reported that the Borough received a grant from PADEP in the amount of \$12,499 for our efforts in recycling over 600 tons of material in 2015. We typically receive between \$6,000 and \$7,500, so this grant was a nice increase. Mrs. Diesinger then announced her plans to retire at the end of her current contract which expires on December 31, 2018. She believes that by providing her intentions now, Council would have ample time to plan and facilitate a smooth transition to the next manager. She offered her full support through this period of transition to insure continued progress and success for the Borough.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS -

- 2016 Road Work – Change orders were discussed under Streets and Stormwater committee report.
- High/Commonwealth stormwater easement flooding – This topic was discussed under the Streets and Stormwater Committee report.

NEW BUSINESS

- Adopt Memorandum of Understanding between Broncos and Borough re: storage building – this action was addressed above.
- Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for MH#7 - Ratify funding obligation – Council passed our funding obligation to split the cost of the first phase of the CAP with Cumru Township. Mr. Fritz made the motion and Mr. DePasquale provided the second. Motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL

September 7, 2017

- Adopt Resolution #684 – Sale of 1452 Crowder Avenue property – Mr. Stamm made a motion to adopt Resolution #684. Mr. Fritz seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- Adopt Resolution #685 – 2017 Governor Mifflin Area Joint Comprehensive Plan – Mrs. Diesinger asked if this could be tabled until October since the County Planners just notified the Borough that the final plan was not yet available.
- Receive Minimum Municipal Obligation information for 2018 – Council received the information provided for the Minimum Municipal Obligation for 2018.
- Authorize purchase of confined space entry kit and multi-gas monitor – *Not to exceed \$1,400* – Mr. DePasquale made the motion to purchase the entry kit and gas monitor and Mr. Holland offered the second. Vote was unanimous and the motion passed.
- Authorize Codes Committee to review Property Maintenance issues at 1536-1540 New Holland Road – *A meeting will be scheduled.*
- Authorize renewal of Animal Rescue League agreement and provide 2017 donation of \$1,200 as budgeted – Mr. DePasquale made the motion to renew the agreement and provide the 2017 donation and Mr. Holland seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Reconsider conducting workshop meetings on Tuesday nights prior to Council meetings – Mr. DePasquale made a motion to conduct workshop meetings on Tuesdays prior to Council meetings beginning in January. Mr. Holland provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.
- Offer of Trees – Mr. Robert Pyle of the 1200 block of Liberty Avenue is a member of the Arbor Foundation and he contacted the Borough to see if he could donate some trees and shrubbery. Council was provided a listing of the trees which would be delivered in November or December when they were ready to be planted. Each tree would arrive as 2 to 3 feet in height. Mrs. Diesinger will contact Mr. Pyle that the Borough is interested in the donation and to notify us when the trees are in so that Dwayne Hart can inspect them and find the best location.
- Waiver of Fines for Grass Blown into Streets – Part 1 - Mayor Hatzas requested on behalf of a resident on Hancock Boulevard that the violation fine of \$35 be waived for grass being blown into the street by his contractor. Council conducted a discussion of the current policies. Anyone can appeal the ticket issued by the Borough by writing or addressing the Council at a meeting. If the fine is waived by Council the ticket will serve as a warning and will be placed in the property file. Any future infractions of the same nature will prompt a fine for the second offense - \$50. Mr. DePasquale made a motion to waive the fine for the gentlemen on Hancock Blvd; however, the ticket remains in his file as his official warning. Mr. Stamm provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.
- Waiver of Fines for Grass Blown into Streets – Part 2 – Mrs. Diesinger read a letter she received from a resident in the 1400 block of New Holland Road regarding waiver of the fine for the contractor blowing grass into the street. Mr. Holland made the motion to waive the fine; however, the ticket remains in the file as an official warning and any future violation of the same nature will be issued a ticket as a second offense. Mr. DePasquale provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.
- Rental of the Community Center – Mrs. Diesinger asked for Council's opinion regarding reinstating rental of the Community Center which was suspended this year during renovations. Council decided to wait until the October meeting to see how far along the construction of the adjacent storage shed is by that time which may impact use of the Community Center.
- Ambulance Services – Council President Correnti asked Mr. Fritz if the Ambulance Association was still sending out mass donation letters. Mr. Fritz reminded the public to ignore these requests

REGULAR MEETING OF KENHORST BOROUGH COUNCIL
September 7, 2017

or make a donation if they wish; however, the Borough pays for the ambulance service for each resident in the Borough.

Final Remarks, Reminders

Adjournment – With no other business before Council, Mr. DePasquale made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeri L. Diesinger
Kenhorst Borough Manager/Secretary