

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Colleen Leonard, Council President
Jane Flanagan, Council Vice-President
Robert Stokley, Senior Council Member
Anita Barton, Council Member
Tina Sokolowski, Council Member
James Griffin, Council Member
Karen Tutino, Council Member
Yaniv Aronson, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Cecco, Borough Manager
Zachary Sivertsen, Esquire, Eastburn & Gray

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held at the Conshohocken Borough Hall, 400 Fayette Street, Conshohocken, PA. Ms. Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Leonard announced that there was an Executive Session held immediately prior to the meeting regarding a property matter.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) FY 2019 Budget Presentation

Ms. Cecco provided an overview of the budget process and highlighted 2018 accomplishments for each department.

With regard to the 2019 proposed budget, Ms. Cecco reviewed the primary sources of revenue, which included various taxes and the fund balance. She explained real estate tax in more detail, specifically highlighting how those revenue dollars are utilized. She provided a breakdown of the specific categories that make up the operating revenues and of the operating expenditures by department. She noted that the overall increase in expenditures from FY 2018 to FY 2019 is 2.18% with the majority of the increase coming from contractual obligations, legal fees, and an increase in the recreation personnel and operating budget. Ms. Cecco explained how the revenue generated from the recreation programs would cover associated costs. She also provided an analysis of the general fund.

She shared highlights from the proposed 2019 budget, which included no tax increase, decreased personnel costs, savings through acceptance in Delaware Valley Trust, decreased reliance on fund balance, allocated funds for Debit Service, and continued investment into public safety, public services and recreation programming. Ms. Cecco also discussed departmental goals for 2019 and next steps in the budget process.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

a.) 125 East Elm Street Zoning Hearing Board Application

Jennifer Wunder, the applicant's attorney, stated that the applicant proposes to establish a valet parking service for the commercial office building located at 125 East Elm Street. Ms. Wunder presented a brief summary regarding the applicant's need to institute a valet parking operation in the garage due to

employees being relocated to the property as the result of the SORA West development project. She confirmed that the parking garage could accommodate the extra employees, but the valet service was necessary to allow for better flow of guests and visitors to the building and handle any overflow that may be created. Ms. Wunder described how the valet parking service would operate.

Ms. Sokolowski inquired about the hours of operation and the location of the pickup/drop off area. John Ostertag, VP of Property Management for Keystone Property Group, responded that the service would typically operate from 8:30 am until 5:00 pm. Ms. Wunder responded that there is a valet staging area within the parking garage.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve sending a letter of recommendation to the Zoning Hearing Board for 125 East Elm Street, seconded by Ms. Flanagan. The motion carried 7-0.

MANAGER MATTERS

There were no manager matters.

DEPARTMENT MATTERS

There were no department matters.

LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal matters.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

There were no Council Member and Mayor matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt O'Hanlon, 200 West Elm Street, was present to request assistance from the Borough to resolve building issues at the Grande. He explained the circumstances surrounding the condemnation of his unit and the actions taken by the management company to date. Mr. O'Hanlon inquired about regaining occupancy of the unit. Ms. Cecco explained that administration's attempts to collaborate with the management company have been unsuccessful and confirmed that the Commercial Building Inspector would assess the current condition of Mr. O'Hanlon's unit.

Mayor Aronson thanked all parties responsible for making the Halloween Parade a success and provided event details for the VFW Veterans Day ceremonies.

Mr. Stokley mentioned that he received feedback from several senior citizens who are concerned about the size of the new roll cart trashcans. Ms. Flanagan suggested that the trashcans be displayed during upcoming senior events at the Community Center.

Ms. Barton provided a Sewer Authority update, which included the status of the PA Small Water and Sewer Grant, the completion of the interceptor rehab project and the implementation of the RBC wastewater treatment process.

Ms. Sokolowski acknowledged the success and importance of the Emergency Management Simulation that was held November 4, 2018.

Ms. Flanagan announced that the next Mary Wood Park Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12, 2018. She added that the Committee has been working on marketing materials for the solicitation of corporate sponsorships. Ms. Flanagan encouraged all senior citizens to attend the Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon at the Community Center.

Mr. Griffin thanked Ms. Cecco for presenting the proposed budget for FY2019.

Ms. Tutino encouraged residents of the Grande to reach out to Borough Administration with any concerns that they may have regarding their condemned unit.

Acting Chief Metz announced that the Police Department is participating in No-Shave November/December to raise funds for cancer research, treatment and education.

Ms. Leonard thanked Borough Administration for coordinating the Halloween Parade.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary