

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Colleen Leonard, Council President
Tina Sokolowski, Council Vice-President
Anita Barton, Council Member
Stacy Ellam, Council Member
Kathleen Kingsley, Council Member
Adrian Serna, Council Member
Karen Tutino, Council Member
Yaniv Aronson, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Cecco, Borough Manager
Michael E. Peters, Borough Solicitor

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 7:00 PM.

PRAYER FOR COUNCIL

Ms. Sokolowski read a Prayer for Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Leonard announced that an Executive Session was held immediately prior to the regularly scheduled public meeting on property and legal matters.

LAND USE, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Public Hearing on an Intermunicipal Transfer of a Liquor License

Mr. Peters opened the public hearing on the petition of the Brover Group for intermunicipal transfer of a liquor license from Whitpain Township to 16 East 1st Avenue in Conshohocken. He explained that the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments and recommendations concerning the petition.

The petitioner's attorney, John McCreesh III, shared that his client has entered into an agreement to purchase a liquor license from an entity located in Whitpain Township and is requesting Borough Council's approval to transfer the license for a restaurant to be operated at 16 East 1st Avenue.

Debbie Brodeur, Operations Manager for proposed restaurant at 16 East 1st Avenue, provided testimony related to the proposed concept of the restaurant.

Daniel Brodeur, applicant, discussed his previous restaurant experience. He also discussed the proposed menu and hours of operation.

Mr. Peters called for public comment. There was no public comment.

a. Consider approving Resolution 2022-01 approving the transfer of a liquor license from Whitpain Township

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-01 approving the transfer of a liquor license from Whitpain Township, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider adopting Ordinance 01-2022 establishing animal control regulations

Mr. Peters reviewed the ordinance which amends the Borough's animal control regulations by adding new, and clarifying old, rules and regulations relating to animal control within the Borough.

Ms. Barton made a motion to adopt Ordinance 01-2022 establishing animal control regulations, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider adopting Ordinance 02-2022 establishing to-go parking spaces within the Borough

Mr. Peters explained that the ordinance amends the Borough's parking regulations to provide for certain "15 minute 'To-Go Orders Only'" parking. He provided the specific locations.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to adopt Ordinance 02-2022 establishing to-go parking spaces within the Borough, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider adopting Ordinance 03-2022 clarifying fire services personnel

Mr. Peters reviewed the ordinance which clarifies the organizational structure of the Borough's fire department, including the chain of command.

Mr. Serna made a motion to adopt Ordinance 03-2022 clarifying fire services personnel, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

e.) Consider adopting Ordinance 04-2022 amending collection practices for solid waste and recycling

Mr. Peters reviewed the ordinance which amends the Borough's solid waste and recycling regulations as necessary to reflect the Borough's current solid waste and recycling practices.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to adopt Ordinance 04-2022 amending collection practices for solid waste and recycling, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Swearing-in of the Animal Control Officers, Battalion Chief, and a Fire Police Officer

Mayor Aronson swore in Tracy Daywalt, Jon Daywalt and Ann Margaret Daywalt as Animal Control Officers, Stephen Young as Battalion Chief and Michael Morrison as a Fire Police Officer.

b.) Presentation on the DCNR grant application for the Sutcliffe Park Walking Trail Replacement Project

Ms. Leonard introduced Chris Stetler, Community Development and Grant Coordinator, and Lauren Irizarry, Director of Recreation, who were present to discuss a grant application to the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Ms. Irizarry explained that the Borough proposes to prepare a grant application to the DCNR for funds to replace the walking trail at Sutcliffe Park. She discussed the history of the trail and its current usage and condition. Ms. Stetler reviewed the application requirements, submission deadline, and timeline of approvals for the grant. She explained that an essential component of the application is community input on the project. She asked for comments from Council on the replacement of the trail.

Ms. Tutino recommended installing signage.

Ms. Leonard inquired about widening the trail and materials used to reconstruct the trail. Ms. Stetler discussed the feasibility of widening the trail and recommended materials.

Ms. Sokolowski asked how public input of the application will be gathered. Ms. Irizarry explained that a survey will be posted on the Borough's website and feedback from the Friends of Conshohocken Parks will be requested.

Ms. Ellam recommended rerouting the trail around the baseball fields.

Mr. Serna recommended installing surface markings along a trail can help ensure the safety of trail users.

Ms. Stetler requested public comment. There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Leonard read and reviewed the items included on the consent agenda.

a.) Approve and adopt the December 1 and December 20 Regular Meeting Minutes

b.) Approve the December-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$909,599.15

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve and adopt the December 1 and December 20 Regular Meeting Minutes, second by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Sokolowski a motion to approve the December-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$909,599.15, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

a.) Consider authorizing the Montgomery County Saint Patrick's Parade Committee to hold the 2022 annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Conshohocken

Ms. Cecco shared that the Montgomery County Saint Patrick's Parade Committee is requesting to hold the 2022 annual Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Conshohocken on Fayette Street on Saturday, March 12, 2022 with a rain date of March 26, 2022. She mentioned that Administration and the Committee are working together to establish and implement an operational plan for the event.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to authorize the Montgomery County Saint Patrick's Parade Committee to hold the 2022 annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Conshohocken on March 12, 2022, seconded by Ms. Barton. A roll call vote was taken. (Yes: Tutino, Serna, Kingsley, Barton, Ellam, Sokolowski, Leonard). The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider approving the 2022 annual Conshy Classic 5K

Ms. Cecco shared that the Trustees of the Conshohocken Fire Company No. 2 and the Bryn Mawr Racing Company are requesting to host the 2022 St. Patrick's Day Conshy Classic 5k on Fayette Street prior to the St. Patrick's Day Parade at 11:00am on Saturday, March 12, 2022 with a rain date of March 26, 2022.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the 2022 annual Conshy Classic 5K, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider approving Resolution 2022-02 adopting the revised Emergency Operations Plan (last revised October 2021)

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-02 adopting the revised Emergency Operations Plan (last revised October 2021), seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider approving Resolution 2022-03 authorizing the sale of the 1999 ladder truck to the Chester Fire Department

Ms. Cecco explained that Borough Council previously authorized the advertisement and sale of the 1999 ladder truck on Municibid. She stated that the Borough received no bids on Municibid and therefore, engaged in private negotiations. She requested that Council consider authorizing the sale of the 1999 ladder truck to the Chester City Fire Department for \$30,000.00.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-03 authorizing the sale of the 1999 ladder truck to the Chester Fire Department for \$30,000.00, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

e.) Consider approving 7 Tower Bridge financial security escrow release no. 5 in the amount of \$49,889.80

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve 7 Tower Bridge financial security escrow release no. 5 in the amount of \$49,889.80, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. A roll call vote was taken. (Yes: Tutino, Serna, Kingsley, Barton, Ellam, Sokolowski, Leonard). The motion carried 7-0.

f.) Consider accepting the resignation of the Trustee of the Mary Wood Park Trust

Ms. Cecco stated that Todd Camden has submitted his resignation from the position of Trustee on the Mary Wood Park Trust.

Mr. Serna made a motion to accept the resignation of Todd Camden from the position of Trustee on the Mary Wood Park Trust, seconded by Ms. Sokolowski. A roll call vote was taken. (Yes: Tutino, Serna, Kingsley, Barton, Ellam, Sokolowski, Leonard). The motion carried 7-0.

g.) Consider approving tuition reimbursements for Detective Walter and Sgt. Murray

Ms. Cecco stated that reimbursement of tuition is a stipulation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve tuition reimbursements for Detective Walter and Sergeant Murray, seconded by Ms. Ellam. A roll call vote was taken. (Yes: Tutino, Serna, Kingsley, Barton, Ellam, Sokolowski, Leonard). The motion carried 7-0.

h.) Disclosure of a potential conflict of interest related to Housing Rehabilitation Program application

Ms. Cecco stated that the mother of the Fire Chief/Fire Marshal for the Borough of Conshohocken submitted an application to the Borough's Housing Rehabilitation Program. She shared that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) require that there be no conflicts of interest in provision of rehabilitation assistance using federal funds. She disclosed the potential conflict of interest and explained that the Borough Solicitor issued an opinion which indicates that no conflict of interest exists pursuant to the regulations of the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Mr. Peters explained that the opinion will be submitted to DCED for approval of an exemption.

i.) Consider approving an Animal Control Officer Agreement with Daywalt's Animal Control

Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider an agreement with Daywalt's Animal Control to enforce the regulations of the animal control ordinance.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve an Animal Control Officer Agreement with Daywalt's Animal Control for a period of one (1) year at a cost of \$25,000.00, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. A roll call vote was taken. (Yes: Tutino, Serna, Kingsley, Barton, Ellam, Sokolowski, Leonard). The motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Philip Candelore, 431 East 11th Avenue, asked about the individuals who were sworn in at the meeting. Ms. Cecco provided the names and titles of the individuals who were sworn in.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson shared that Law Enforcement Appreciation Day was on January 9, 2022. He recognized Chief Metz and the Conshohocken Police Department for their service to the Borough. He reminded residents to report any/all issues to the department. He announced that the Conshohocken Methodist Church is hosting a series of non-faith based church groups with virtual and in-person activities. He recognized Elisa Lanzutti and Tim Synder, former EAC members, for their contribution to the protection and improvement of the Borough's environment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary