

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, August 3, 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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING ON CDBG APPLICATION**

Chris Stetler, Community Development and Grant Management Coordinator, shared that the Borough is eligible to receive \$153,080.00 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). She explained that the funds must be used to benefit low- and moderate-income residents and areas of the community. She discussed uses for CDBG funds and provided examples of projects previously funded by the CDBG grant. Ms. Stetler reviewed displacement requirements related to the demolition or conversion of affordable housing. She explained that the purpose of the hearing is to solicit input on how the CDBG funds should be used. She added that comments may also be made on how CDBG funds have been used in the past or any other comments on the funding.

Ms. Leonard asked if there is a waitlist for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. Ms. Stetler shared that there is a limited waitlist for the program and reviewed program eligibility requirements.

Ms. Sokolowski asked about affordable housing in Conshohocken. Ms. Stetler provided information on Pleasant Valley Apartments and Marshall Lee Towers.

Ms. Stetler asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Ms. Stetler shared that the next hearing will be held on September 21, 2022.

**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 7:09 PM.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no Council President announcements.

**LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES**

**a.) Consider granting conditional use approval for 911 Fayette Street**

Mr. Peters opened the public hearing. He reviewed the application, which seeks conditional use approval to permit an insurance office on the first floor of the building. Mr. Peters reviewed the proposed conditions of approval.

**Mr. Serna made a motion to grant conditional use approval for 911 Fayette Street subject to the conditions of approval, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)**

**b.) Public Hearing on Cable Franchise Renewal**

Mr. Peters opened the public hearing regarding the cable franchise renewal for the Borough of Conshohocken. He stated that, as part of the cable renewal process, the Borough is reviewing the cable operator's past performance and identifying the Borough's future cable-related community needs. He reviewed the potential benefits available through franchise renewal. He asked for public comment on cable operator's past performance and/or future cable-related community needs. There was no public comment.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**a.) 2023 Capital Budget Park Presentation (B-Field Playground, Fritz Lodge Pocket Park, Santander Pocket Park), Ray Sokolowski, Executive Director of Operations**

Mr. Sokolowski was present to discuss 2023 capital budget requests related to parks, specifically the B-Field playground and potential pocket parks.

Mr. Sokolowski reviewed the proposed upgrades to the B-Field playground, which includes new equipment, fencing, and surfacing. He shared photographs of the existing playground and renderings of

the new playground equipment. Mr. Serna asked if there would be upgrades to lighting. Mr. Sokolowski confirmed that lighting will be a part of the renovation.

Mr. Sokolowski shared that the Borough has identified two (2) potential locations for pocket parks along Fayette Street, specifically the lawn area at the Fritz Lodge at Fayette Street and East 8th Avenue and the Santander Bank property that is located between the bank and Conshohocken United Methodist Church. He shared design concepts and renderings for each of the proposed pocket parks. He explained that the Borough would construct, maintain, and insure the parks for agreed upon term through license agreements with Santander Bank and the Fritz Lodge.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

There was no Council business.

## MANAGER MATTERS

### a.) Consider approving a shuttle management proposal with GVF

Ms. Cecco reviewed the proposal from GVF for implementing a shuttle system in the Borough. She explained that the proposal includes the development of surveys to gauge travel patterns and provide analysis and recommendations, and the development and issuance of an RFP for a shuttle service.

Ms. Sokolowski asked how this shuttle is different from past shuttle programs. Ms. Cecco responded that this shuttle program will be larger in scope due to the community's growth in population and amenities.

Ms. Cecco stated that the cost of the proposal is \$15,000.00, which would be paid for through development fees. She shared that GVF also offers shuttle management services, which the Borough would consider utilizing once the shuttle service is selected.

### b.) Consider approving zoning escrow releases

Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider approving the following zoning escrow releases: 116 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue in the amount of \$24.04; 509 Spring Mill Avenue in the amount of \$27.75; 1023 Fayette Street in the amount of \$1,061.14; 800 Spring Mill Ave in the amount of \$225.77; 911 Fayette Street in the amount of \$540.47; 101 Washington Street in the amount \$916.98; 434 West Elm Street in the amount of \$752.89; and 125 East Elm Street in the amount of \$603.57.

**Ms. Ellam made a motion to approve zoning escrow release in the amount of \$4,152.61, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)**

### c.) Consider approving a reimbursement request for the Friends of Conshohocken Parks

Ms. Cecco shared that Antoinette Coupe, President of the Friends of Conshohocken Parks, purchased sneaker collection bins for the organization's fundraiser with Got Sneakers. She asked Council to consider approving a reimbursement to Ms. Coupe in the amount of \$70.79 for the cost of the collection bins.

**Ms. Barton made a motion to approve a reimbursement request to Antoinette Coupe for the Friends of Conshohocken Parks in the amount of \$70.79, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)**

## DEPARTMENT MATTERS

There were no department matters.

## LEGAL MATTERS

### a.) Consider approving Resolution 2022-20 amending land development approval for 212 Wood Street

Mr. Peters stated that the proposed resolution amends the land development approval for 212 Wood Street by removing Phase II of the project. He shared that Phase II included the construction of a bridge between the Phase I residential development and Second Avenue Meadows Park. He stated that the HOA of the residential development approved the removal of the construction of the bridge and that the developer paid the required Park and Recreation fee.

**Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve Resolution 2022-20 amending land development approval for 212 Wood Street, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 6-0. (Tutino absent)**

## COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

On behalf of Mayor Aronson, Ms. Leonard shared that August 7, 2022 is Conshohocken Night at the Reading Phils. She also shared information on how to get free tickets to the game. She announced that Mayor Aronson would be participating in an ice cream battle on August 28, 2022. She explained that elected officials from Conshohocken, Bridgeport, West Conshohocken and Norristown would be highlighting their favorite local ice cream shops.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard Kosich, 227 East Hector Street, recommended that Council consider installing a drinking fountain and/or water fountain at the proposed pocket parks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Stephanie Cecco,  
Borough Secretary