

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

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

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 7:01 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Public Hearing on a Conditional Use Application for 922 Fayette Street: Omlie LLC, Applicant

Mark Eastburn, with the Borough Solicitor's office, opened the public hearing on the conditional use application for 922 Fayette Street. Mr. Eastburn explained that the applicant is seeking conditional use approval to permit an office for a business management consulting firm in the existing building.

Sarah Burlew, owner of Omlie, LLC, provided testimony on the petition. She explained that the applicant is proposing to utilize the building as office space for its management consulting business. She discussed number of employees and hours of operation. She testified that the proposed use is of similar intensity and scale to other uses permitted by conditional use in the R-O District. She confirmed that there would be no exterior changes to the property, and that the existing yard and porch would remain as-is. She also confirmed there would be no off-street parking in front of the building.

Ms. Leonard inquired about the number of off-street parking spaces. Ms. Burlew responded that the site offers 11 off-street parking spaces in the rear of the property. She explained that the employees primarily work remotely, and the availability of this office space is viewed by the applicant as a perk for the employees, to have a place to come together to work collaboratively. She confirmed that the applicant does not expect more than 10 people on site at any given time and does not expect to exceed the existing available off-street parking.

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

Mr. Eastburn continued the hearing on the record to January 18, 2023.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

a.) Conduct an interview for a vacancy on the EAC

The applicant for this interview was unable to attend.

b.) Conduct interviews for the Main Street Overlay Ordinance Task Force

Borough Council interviewed the following individuals for the Main Street Overlay Ordinance Task Force: William Tsoubanos, Julian Miraglia, Mark Allen, David Bissell, Brian Magrann, Tim Beckel, and Matt Donnelly.

MANAGER MATTERS

a.) Discuss an RFP for design consultant services for the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction Project

Ms. Cecco explained that the next step in the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction Project is the issuance of an RFP for design consulting services. She provided a brief overview of the RFP and asked Council to consider advertising the RFP at the January Voting Meeting.

b.) Consider approving the VFW event request for use of the Mary Wood Park House

Ms. Cecco shared that the Borough received a request from the VFW to utilize the Mary Wood Park House outside of normal business hours and asked Council to consider approving the request. Walt Harnett, Commander of the VFW, shared that that VFW plans to replicate the signing of the original charter in honor of the VFW's 90th anniversary. He shared additional event details.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve the VFW event request for use of the Mary Wood Park House contingent upon final administrative review, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider approving the elimination of a waiting period for the health insurance start date for new hires

Ms. Cecco explained that the Borough is in the process of evaluating and amending its personnel policies and the non-uniform personnel manual in order to ensure that Borough policies are current and competitive to attract quality employees. She shared that Borough Administration is recommending that Council consider eliminating the 90-day waiting period for the health insurance start date for new hires.

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to work directly with Delaware Valley Health Trust to request permission to eliminate the waiting period for the Borough's Health Insurance start date for new hires, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

DEPARTMENT MATTERS

There were no department matters.

LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal matters.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

a.) Consider approving the 2023 annual Conshohocken Arts Festival and Car Show (Mayor Aronson)

Mayor Aronson discussed event details for the 2023 Conshohocken Arts Festival and Car Show.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the 2023 annual Conshohocken Arts Festival and Car Show on June 3, 2023 with a rain date of June 10, 2023, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Barton wished everyone a happy new year.

Ms. Kingsley wished everyone a happy new year.

Mr. Serna wished everyone a happy new year.

Ms. Tutino thanked all the applicants for their interest in serving on the Main Street Overlay Ordinance Task Force.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary