

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, August 21, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Tina Sokolowski, Council President  
Kathleen Kingsley, Council Vice-President  
Anita Barton, Senior Council Member  
Alan Chmielewski, Council Member  
Stacy Ellam, Council Member  
Ralph Frey, Council Member  
Adrian Serna, Council Member  
Yaniv Aronson, Mayor

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

**PUBLIC HEARING ON 2024 CDBG APPLICATION**

**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. Sokolowski, Borough Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT (for agenda items only)**

There was no public comment.

**PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

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

- a.) **Consider authorizing advertisement of an amendment to the group home provisions of the Zoning Ordinance**

Mike Peters reminded Council that the proposed ordinance amendment permits group homes by special exception in the RO, BR-1, and BR-2 Zoning Districts. He explained that a special exception would not be required for individuals in a protected class category, as defined in Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988.

**Mr. Serna made a motion to authorize advertisement of an amendment to the group home provisions of the zoning ordinance, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- a.) **Approve and adopt the July 17 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- b.) **Approve the July-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable**

**Mr. Serna made a motion to approve and adopt the July 17 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.**

**Ms. Ellam made a motion to approve the July-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$2,959,312.35, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a.) **Consider appointing an applicant to the EAC**

**Mr. Serna made a motion to appoint Evan Campbell to the Environmental Advisory Committee, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.**

- b.) **Consider reappointing Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. to conduct the Borough's annual financial audit for the fiscal years ending 2024, 2025 and 2026**

Mr. Serna made a motion to reappoint Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. to conduct the Borough's annual financial audit for the fiscal years ending 2024 for \$23,500, 2025 for \$24,000 and 2026 for \$24,000, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

- c.) **Consider authorizing advertisement of an RFP for Engineering Services for the 2023 CDBG Curb Ramp Project**

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize advertisement of an RFP for Engineering Services for the 2023 CDBG Curb Ramp Project, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

- d.) **Consider awarding a bid for the Green-Light-Go project**

Mr. Frey made a motion to award a bid for the Green-Light-Go Project to Lenni Electric Corp in the amount of \$1,963,844.05 for the following intersections: W. Elm and Colwell at \$648,013.70; E. Elm and Harry at \$504,5484.75; W. Elm and Maple at \$443,158.60; and W. Elm and Oak at \$368,087, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a.) **Consider approving Resolution 2024-17 extending temporary parking regulations specifically a stop sign at West 1<sup>st</sup> and Maple and a handicap parking space in the area of 10 East 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-17 extending temporary parking regulations specifically a stop sign at W. 1<sup>st</sup> and Maple and a handicap parking space in the area of 10 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, seconded by Mr. Chmielewski. The motion carried 7-0.

- b.) **Consider authorizing a one (1) year extension of the 2021 CDBG contract**

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to authorize a one-year extension of the 2021 CDBG Contract, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

- c.) **Consider authorizing a one (1) year extension on the 2019 HOME contract**

Mr. Serna made a motion to authorize a one-year extension of the 2019 HOME contract, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

- d.) **Discuss the disclosure of a potential conflict of interest related to Housing Rehabilitation Program application and authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare a legal opinion related to the potential conflict.**

Ms. Cecco stated that Marty Eckert, who serves on the Civil Service Commission 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.

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare a legal opinion indicating that there is no conflict of interest with Marty Eckert's application per state or local laws or regulations, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

- e.) **Consider approving Resolution 2024-18 approving a supplemental appropriation for the purchase of a Wood Chipper**

Ms. Cecco explained that a wood chipper is needed for the Public Services Department to provide sufficient services to the Borough following severe inclement weather. Mr. Sokolowski provided further justification for the purchase and discussed additional details about the wood chipper. Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider approving a supplemental appropriation from the Capital Fund.

Mr. Frey made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-18 approving a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$83,309.50 for the purchase of a wood chipper, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

- f.) **Consider approving payment certificate no. 1 for the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction and Stormwater BMP project**

Ms. Ellam made a motion to approve payment certificate no. 1 for the Sutcliffe Trail Reconstruction and Stormwater BMP Project in the amount of \$19,937.34, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS**

Mayor Aronson shared that the Conshohocken Police Department held Coffee with a Cop, which promotes communication and positive interactions between law enforcement and the community. He shared photographs from the final Sprinkler Night of the season and Conshohocken’s National Night Out. He announced that Destination Conshohocken will be hosting Conshy Strong Bingo which supports local restaurants. He provided details about the annual paper shredding event hosted by the Conshohocken Police Department.

Ms. Barton provided an update on the Mary Wood Park Commission.

Mr. Serna reminded everyone that the Recreation Department is hosting Movie in the Park featuring Coco on August 23, 2024 at dusk at Mary Wood Park.

Ms. Sokolowski reminded everyone about the final Summer Concert Series. She shared some of her favorite moments from the Simon’s Heart Conshy Class Bike Race.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Stephanie Cecco,  
Borough Secretary