

BOROUGH OF WEST CONSHOHOCKEN
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Public Meeting Agenda/Sunshine Act" public notice was provided to the Times Herald Newspaper and posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall as required by law.

CALL TO ORDER

Marcy Rogovin, Council President, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Marcy Rogovin, President	Present
Joseph Pignoli, Vice President	Present (Arrived at 7:02 p.m.)
John Cooper	Present
Bernie Couris	Present
Harry Griffiths	Present
Albert Kleinschmidt	Present
Joseph Costello	Present
Donna Frankenfield, Mayor	Present
Caren Andrews, Manager	Present
Joe McGrory, Solicitor	Present
Khaled Hassan, Engineer	Present

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA

Pat Getzfried, 608 Ford Street asked for the value of the Borough's year end surplus. Announcing that the auditor will make this determination Ms. Andrews anticipates \$ 3.5 million.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Rogovin asked if anyone had any questions or correction about the minutes.

Mr. Costello questioned the Matsonford Road change order for signage in the amount of f \$11,326 found on page four. Mr. Hassan said the Borough pays 12% of the change order. The rest is funded by the County grant.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to accept the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2009.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris
Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt
All in Favor, Yes.

The motion passed 5 to 0. John Cooper and Joseph Costello abstained because they were not present at the meeting.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to accept the Workshop Council Meeting Minutes of November 4, 2009.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris

Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt

All in Favor, Yes.

The motion passed 6 to 0. John Cooper abstained because he was not present at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Ms. Rogovin asked if anyone had any questions on the bills list.

Mr. Costello questioned who was responsible for the cost of the Zoning Hearing Board court reported. Mr. McGrory answered the cost is factored into the applicant's fees.

Mr. Couris had several questions. Most were answered by Ms. Andrews. Mr. Couris questioned the purchase of a bible by the Police Department. Mayor Frankenfield said she needed it for swearing in the new officers. Mr. Couris questioned the legality of spending taxpayer's money to purchase a bible and asked Mr. McGrory to look into this matter.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$379,121.36.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris

Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt

All in Favor, Yes.

The motion passed 7 to 0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Rogovin announced the current funds of the Borough as of November 6, 2009 \$4,676,734.00.

Mr. Costello asked about the plan for the certificate of deposit maturing on November 30. Ms. Andrews answered the Borough will reinvest the funds.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Andrews announced she needed an Executive Session.

COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT, AND MAYOR'S REPORTS

Mr. Couris said the park planners completed the preliminary design for the Borough's two parks. The Council needs to review the sketches. Ms. Rogovin said let us do this at the December 2 Workshop meeting. Mr. Couris requested an additional \$2,000 be added to the Year 2010 recreation program budget line to allow for more dances at MacKenzie Park. Ms. Rogovin asked Mr. Couris to bring this up at next week's budget meeting.

Mayor Frankenfield announced the Halloween Parade was a huge success attracting 200 people. She requested the Council approve a \$1,000 check to Recreation Council for the seniors and children's holiday party. Mayor Frankenfield announced she will be on vacation and out of the Borough from November 27th to December 5th.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to donate \$1,000 to the West Conshohocken Recreation Council to fund the holiday party for the seniors and children. This expense will come out of the Mayor's budget.

Motioned By: John Cooper
Seconded By: Bernie Couris
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Ms. Rogovin announced Bill DePhillipo offered to sell his property, which is next door to the Borough Hall, to the Borough.

Mr. Costello thanked Albert Kleinschmidt and Harry Griffiths for their help with getting the new computers and software for Borough Hall. Ms. Rogovin and Ms. Andrews thanked those councilmen as well as Mr. Costello for their efforts.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

Mr. McGrory said he needed guidance on if Council wanted to file an appeal for the reduced reassessment for the Four Falls property, 1001 Conshohocken State Road. He recommended no appeal. The Council unanimously agreed to not appeal the reassessment.

Mr. McGrory stated the draft handicapped parking ordinance has been prepared. There are two questions. First does Council want to assess a parking fee and if yes what is the fee? Second who will review the request, Council or an employee. The Council agreed to not charge a fee. The Council said these requests will come to them. On-street parking is a key issue for the Borough; and, they want to maintain direct control.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to advertise the Handicapped Parking Ordinance.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris
Seconded By: Joseph Pignoli
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Mr. Hassan announced PennDot has reduced to writing the value of Ford Street. This turn back offer from PennDot control to the Borough control has been circulated to Council. PennDot is offering \$177,145. This is the highest amount ever offered for the turn back of Ford Street. The Council held a lengthy discussion. They discussed videoing the storm lines to evaluate the condition of the pipes. They discussed the substrata of the road. They discussed filing for grants for additional repairs.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to accept PennDot's offer of \$177,145 and take back Ford Street.

Motioned By: Joseph Costello
Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt
All in Favor, No.

Ms. Rogovin requested Council to be polled.

Joseph Costello	Yes
Harry Griffiths	Yes
Albert Kleinschmidt	Yes
Marcy Rogovin	No
Joseph Pignoli	Yes
John Cooper	No
Bernie Couris	Yes

The motion passed 5 to 2.

Mr. Hassan was instructed to get prices for the videoing of the storm sewer system on Ford Street.

Ms. Andrews stated PennDot requires this to be done by Resolution. The Resolution was in the Council packet. Mr. McGrory said the Ford Street turnback motion and vote serves as the Resolution. Ms. Andrews asked who will serve as the signer on the PennDot documents. Mr. McGrory said Council President Marcy Rogovin.

Mr. Hassan said the Borough has been working on the flooding issue impacting Mr. Quinn, 24 Dehaven Avenue. Mr. Puhl has made some improvements to his property on New Dehaven Street to control the storm water runoff that is flowing down the steep slope towards Mr. Quinn's property. Mr. Hassan suggested raising the retaining wall by one foot for a length of seventy feet. The wall is located to the side of 24 Dehaven Avenue by the driveway. This extra height would direct the storm water runoff to the street. Mr. Hassan said he has a cost estimate of \$3,850 from Dellose Construction Services. Mr. McGrory asked who owns the wall. Mr. Hassan said it is either owned by Warren Weiner or Mr. and Mrs. Quinn. Mr. McGrory stated in order to do this a temporary construction easement must be signed by Mr. Weiner and Mr. and Mrs. Quinn. He will draft the easement document. Mr. Quinn said he does not own the wall. Mr. Quinn agreed to sign the document.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to accept the proposal from Dellose Construction LLC dated November 5, 2009 in the amount of \$3,850 for raising the retaining wall located to the side of 24 Dehaven Avenue and give her authority to sign the document. This work will proceed if the easement documents are executed.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris
 Seconded By: Joseph Pignoli
 All in Favor, Yes.
 The motion passed 7 to 0.

Mr. Hassan explained the PennDot project for the reconstruction of I-476 and the crushing of the deteriorated concrete slab. The staging area will be situated along the I-476 ramps. Mr. Hassan handed out a plan showing the location. A ten foot buffer will be established to abate the noise and conceal the activity. Mayor Frankenfield said there was a recent tractor trailer spill of sulfur. Mr. Hassan said EPA and PennDot were involved with the cleanup.

Mr. Couris said there is still a site distance problem at the intersection of Bullock Avenue and Front Street. Mr. Hassan said a tree on private property is blocking the view. The contractor offered to relocate the tree, but the homeowner rejected the offer. Once the traffic signal is installed the issue will go away. Mr. Couris asked for a completion date. Mr. Hassan answered January 2010.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. McGrory announced Council is considering a resolution for the land development of S & J Properties, 113 Front Street. Land development waivers are a component of the resolution. No one objected to the waivers.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to pass a Resolution granting permit land development approval for the property located at 113 Front Street, S & J Properties.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris
Seconded By: Harry Griffiths
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Mr. Hassan said the Borough received a \$175,000 CDBG Grant for grading and storm water improvements to MacKenzie Park and the homes on Church Street.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare the bid documents and advertise for bids for the Church Street/MacKenzie Park Storm Drainage Improvement CDBG Project.

Motioned By: Joseph Pignoli
Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to revisit the Civil Service Regulations and abandon the current Civil Service Test for the position of police officer.

Motioned By: Joseph Pignoli
Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Mr. Costello expressed his concerns about the minutes being incomplete.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Couris questioned if the escrow funds proposed to be released to Alliance Design could be given to the residents to make repairs to their damaged driveways. Mr. McGrory replied no.

Ms. Rogovin requested a Motion to close out the Alliance Design and Construction Services Escrow for 30 Dehaven Avenue and return to the developer the balance in the account of approximately \$ 2169.

Motioned By: Bernie Couris
Seconded By: Joseph Pignoli
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Ms. Rogovin announced the Borough Council has been working with the department heads on the Year 2010 Budget. Ms. Andrews has distributed a copy of the 2010 Draft Preliminary Budget. Mr. Kleinschmidt asked since the revised document was just handed out if a budget meeting can be scheduled next week. Mr. Kleinschmidt will poll Council to determine the date and give this information to Ms. Andrews for advertising.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to appoint Stanley N. Booz, LLC to serve as Auditor and provide Auditing Services for Year 2009 in the amount of \$ 10,800.

Motioned By: John Cooper
Seconded By: Albert Kleinschmidt
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Ms. Rogovin announced bulk trash pickup day will be Wednesday, November 25, 2009. This is the last one until January 2010.

Ms. Rogovin announced curbside leaf collection has begun. Leaves will be picked up once a week, normally on Thursday, from now until December 11th.

Mr. Costello said he received a copy of a letter that was distributed to the residents prior to the election. He read the letter aloud. He said the letter was a slap in the face to past Council members and past employees. The large surplus which the Borough enjoys today is attributed to actions taken in the past.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeff Quinn, President of the George Clay Fire Company requested a copy of the 2010 Preliminary Budget pertaining to the fire company. He requested it be sent to Jeremy Quinn, the Treasurer. Ms. Andrew answered she will scan it and send it over to him.

Mr. Couris said the fire siren at the fire station is annoying. He asked if it could be restricted to sounding only when the incident is in the Borough. Mr. Quinn said he would bring this up at the next fire company meeting. Mr. Couris asked about the using pagers. Fire Chief Frankenfield said 25 new pagers have been purchased and are being tested for dead zones. Mr. Couris suggested having one siren at the fire house and one at the other part of town.

Paul Quinn, 24 Dehaven Avenue pointed out that his address was listed on the agenda as 24 Dehaven Street. It is 24 Dehaven Avenue. He thanked Mayor Frankenfield for hosting a wonderful Halloween event. Mr. Quinn apologized to Mr. Hassan for previously stating he was the original engineer that examined his property years ago. He was not the engineer. Mr. Quinn announced he was glad to hear the Council is making progress on the flooding issue. Fixing the wall does not address the major damage done to his home. He said he would be talking to Mr. Weiner but wanted the Borough to know this matter is not over.

Pat Getzfried, 608 Ford Street announced the fire siren should remain as is. Mr. Getzfried asked for the outstanding balance on the Municipal Authority bond issue. Mr. Couris answered \$2.3 million. Mr. Getzfried asked if the Borough would consider loaning the funds to the Authority keeping the money in town. Mr. Couris answered this would leave the Borough with no money for a rainy day.

Mr. Getzfried said taxes being reduced, earned income tax revenue, and all the other great things the Borough is enjoying today are attributed to the Council back in the early eighties.

Dave Frankenfield, 580 Ford Street announced he also had a copy of the distasteful letter that was delivered to the residents prior to the election. He asked if they knew who wrote the letter. Mr. Couris answered it was a collaborative effort. Mr. Frankenfield expressed concern about the OTP Project on Front Street in the area of storm runoff for the residences. Mr. Frankenfield said twenty-three street lights and the lights on the handicapped ramp at Borough Hall are not working. Mr. Frankenfield asked for trash pickup twice a week to prevent trash from blowing around town. He stated more signs are needed at the new road project.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council President Rogovin called an Executive Session at 8:58 pm to discuss legal and personnel matters. The Council returned to the Regular Meeting at 9:08 pm.

Mr. Griffiths requested another sewer credit to the rate payers for the next quarter, the last quarter of the year.

Ms. Rogovin requested a motion to extend another sewer credit to the rate payers for the next quarter in the form of a grant to the Municipal Authority .

Motioned By: John Cooper
Seconded By: Bernie Couris
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Ms. Rogovin asked for the letter to the community to be mailed prior to the Christmas holiday.

ADJOURN

Ms. Rogovin asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:11 p.m.

Motioned By: Harry Griffiths
Seconded By: Joseph Pignoli
All in Favor, Yes.
The motion passed 7 to 0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Caren D. Andrews
Borough Manager / Secretary