

HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
November 1, 2017

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

- (X) John H. Weierman, President
 - () Kenneth V. Farrall
 - (X) Stephen E. Keib
 - (X) John Kroesser
 - (X) Lawrence G. Stevens
- (X) Mayor, Robert L. Kaler III

The record shows that four members of Council were present at roll call, as well as, Mayor Robert L. Kaler III, Solicitor Catherine M. Harper; Timoney Knox LLP, Borough Manager Michael J. DeFinis, and Assistant Secretary Jaime E. Snyder.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Keib to Approve the Workshop Meeting Agenda of November 1, 2017 with additions. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser and was unanimously approved with a vote of 4-0.

2. PUBLIC INPUT: President Weierman asked if there was any Public Input.
Media Not Present.

Wayne and Leah Kieffer from 490 Edgewood Drive with support of Katherine Tomlinson of 230 West Vine Street addressed Borough Council this evening with their concern for the high volume of speeding they see on West Vine Street. Mr. Kieffer stated that he as well as other residents are even more concerned now since the accident that occurred weeks prior with the young neighborhood boy. Mr. Kieffer suggested that the neighbors would like to see a stop sign placed on West Vine Street around Edgewood Drive as all the neighbors believe this would help with the speed of traffic on the street.

Lieutenant Robertson from the Hatfield Township Police Department was present at the meeting and addressed the concerns of the residents from the West Vine Street / Edgewood Drive neighborhood. The Lieutenant went on to describe the legal uses to properly place a stop sign at an intersection and addressed the speeding issues on the street stating that the accident that occurred a few weeks prior was not a speeding issue but the Police Department has made their presence know more on that street and

that traffic studies have been completed on West Vine Street; most recently this time last year. The Lieutenant also suggested that neighbors get together to pass out flyers to spread the word about traffic safety and speeding.

Mrs. Kieffer mentioned that she works at Brooks Instruments on West Vine Street and recently they have had a staff meeting addressing traffic safety concerns.

President Weierman stated if anyone would like assistance in creating a flyer for the neighborhood the Borough would be glad to assist and thanked the residents and the Lieutenant for their time and concern regarding this topic.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Manager DeFinis made the following announcements:

- Next Borough Council Meeting November 15, 2017 Regular Meeting @ 7:30PM at the HVFC
- HERC is scheduled to meet Wednesday, November 15th @ 8:00AM at the HVFC
- Next Planning Commission Meeting is Scheduled for Monday, December 4th @ 7:00PM at the HFVC
- The Borough Offices will be closed on Friday, November 10th in Observance of the Veterans Day Holiday
- Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, December 2nd @ 6:30PM at Railroad Plaza

4. MUNICIPAL COMPLEX BID PACKET DISCUSSION:

Manager DeFinis stated that Melissa Murawsky has taken over the project lead for the Municipal Complex and she, the Assistant Secretary and I have been working hard on completing the bid specs for this project and if you are interested in going through them they can be made available for you. Manager DeFinis added that in the Council packets is an advertisement to go out to bid.

Melissa Murawsky addressed Borough Council and expressed her excitement and commitment to this project and stated that she was looking forward to taking the next step in the process.

Solicitor Harper asked if the pre bid meeting was mandatory and Ms. Murawsky stated that it was not. Solicitor Harper stated that the Borough usually insists on approving all sub contractors and asked if that was in that in the bid documents. Ms. Murawsky stated that she would check the bid documents and get back to Ms. Harper.

President Weierman asked since the recent natural disasters if KCBA had noticed a pricing increase in materials. Ms. Murawsky stated that they did notice one at first but she believes everything is stabling out now.

President Weierman thanked Ms. Murawsky for attending this evening.

5. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES AND MAYOR:

6. 2018 PRELIMINARY BUDGET DISCUSSION:

President Weierman outlined the Borough Budget for Council and Mayor Kaler. President Weierman stated that in 2018 there will be no increase in taxes, electric and sewer rates.

Manager DeFinis stated that there will be a few minor adjustments from what was placed in your packets due to health care increases. Manager DeFinis stated that any changes will be distributed over the three major funds.

President Weierman asked if anyone has any questions to send them over to Manager DeFinis as this is looking to be on the Agenda for consideration at the December 6, 2017 Workshop Meeting.

7. MANAGERS REPORT: General Report and Project Updates. Manager DeFinis reviewed the Reports and made the following announcements:

1. Land Use & Development Updates:

- A. St. Mary St. Kyrillos Coptic Church / Use Under Review
- B. GLC (Grace Lutheran Church) / Construction Complete
- C. Gambone/Snyder Townhomes / Project Near Completion
- D. Hatfield Auto Museum / Nothing New
- E. Crystal Rose Catering / Nothing New
- F. Hattricks / Waiver of LD Request Granted / Bar enclosure installed under a building permit / Flea Market Approval Pending
- G. 122 ½ Towamencin Ave. / Access to Property / Nothing New
- H. PIRHL - Biblical Seminary Project / Zoning Application Approved
- I. Salter's / Woodburners Improvements
- J. Edinburgh Square Subdivision / Caracausa Development
- K. 138 Diamond Street reconstruction

2. Utility Billing Update:

- A. Staff continues to monitor past due Electric & Sewer accounts. No Electric disconnects are scheduled at this time.
- B. Email Billing available for Electric & Sewer Accounts. I encourage all account holders to take advantage of the cost effective billing delivery opportunity.
- C. Borough staff has committed to securing a vendor for Credit card and online payments. MuniPAY has been selected by staff to handle the CC and online payments.

3. 2017 Project Updates:

Bid Items for 2017:

- A. Centennial Park Sanitary Sewer Project is under review
- B. The East School Street CDBG Grant Application has been awarded Staff is waiting on formal notification from Montgomery County Department of Housing & Development.

4. Items of Interest:

- A. HMHS Meeting November 21st at 7:00PM
- B. Hatfield Chamber of Commerce Tree Lighting December 2nd at 6:30PM
- C. 309 Connector Route
- D. PSAB November Update
- E. NextEra 5th Annual Public Power Summit
- F. AMP Update/FERC
- G. Legislative Updates
- H. DVIT Aetna/CVS
- I. 72 W. Vine Street

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Act 172 Municipal Tax Credits for Volunteer Fire/EMS

Solicitor Harper stated that there is a new state law that allows you to help out your Volunteer Fire Fighter / EMS with municipal tax credits. Solicitor Harper mentioned that local government is looking at this as a way to encourage volunteerism. Solicitor Harper stated that in your packets in a copy of the Hatfield Township Ordinance that was adopted to give Real Estate and EIT credit to volunteer firefighters. A discussion ensued amongst Council about the Ordinance and it was decided to sit down and speak with the Volunteer Fire Department and see what would benefit them and request a current list of active members that reside within the Borough.

B. Ordinance #529 Fixing the 2018 Real Estate Tax Rate

President Weierman went over the 2018 Tax Rate which calls for no increase from 2017 which allots 1.75 mills for general purposes and .25 mills for the fire tax totaling 2 mills.

C. Resolution 2017-20 Appropriating Specific Funds for 2018

President Weierman stated this Resolution is setting funds for 2018 and is looking to be considered for December 6, 2017.

D. 2018 Borough Council & Planning Commission Meeting Dates

President Weierman went over the 2018 Borough Council and Planning Commission dates. A discussion ensued amongst Council about the 2018 scheduled dates.

E. Resolution 2017-21 Authorizing 2018 Employee Compensation

President Weierman stated that this Resolution outlines employee compensation for 2018 and will be on for consideration at the December 6, 2017 Workshop Meeting.

F. Vanic Co. Change Order # 1

Manager DeFinis stated that we are still waiting for the contractor to sign off on all the paperwork.

G. Vanic Co. Payment Request

Manager DeFinis stated that we are still waiting for the contractor to sign off on all the paperwork.

H. Citizen of the Year

President Weierman stated that a candidate was confirmed and we are working on gathering information for a Resolution and Proclamation.

I. Resolution 2017-22 Recognizing Hurricane Relief Assistance

President Weierman informed Council that this will be in honor of those who have dedicated their time and efforts for hurricane relief collections.

J. Resolution 2017-23 Opposing House Bill 1620 “Wireless Infrastructure Deployment”

Manager DeFinis stated that in the packets was the North Wales Resolution, PSAB Legislative call to Action and a sample Resolution from PSAB to oppose HB1620. Manager DeFinis stated that we will work to get a Resolution drawn up for consideration at an upcoming meeting.

9. OLD BUSINESS DISCUSSION ITEMS:
REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager DeFinis and President Weierman updated and answered questions regarding the Reports and Correspondence.

Lieutenant Robertson went over the monthly police department report and addressed any questions.

- Monthly Investment Report
- Monthly EIT / LST Report
- Police Department Report
- Fire Department Report
- Public Works Department Report
- Engineering Report
- Fire Marshal / Fire Safety Inspection Report
- Zoning Officer / Property Maintenance Report / Building Code

10. Edinburgh Square subdivision Preliminary Plan Update

Manager DeFinis discussed this as part of his Managers Report.

11. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Motion to Set Hearing Date and Advertise Ordinance # 529 Fixing the 2018 Real Estate Tax.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Keib to Set Hearing Date and Advertise Ordinance # 529 Fixing the 2018 Real Estate Tax. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser.

President Weierman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions.

The motion was approved unanimously with a vote of 4-0.

B. Motion to Advertise the Availability of the Borough of Hatfield Budget Appropriating Specific Funds for 2018.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Keib Advertise the Availability of the Borough of Hatfield Budget Appropriating Specific Funds for 2018. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser.

President Weierman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions.

The motion was approved unanimously with a vote of 4-0.

C. Motion to Advertise the 2018 Borough Council and Planning Commission Meeting Dates.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Keib to Advertise the 2018 Borough Council and Planning Commission Meeting Dates. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser.

President Weierman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions.

The motion was approved unanimously with a vote of 4-0.

D. Motion to TABLE Change Order # 1 from Vanic Co. as recommended in the letter from Borough Engineer Chad E. Camburn.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Stevens to TABLE Change Order # 1 from Vanic Co. as recommended in the letter from Borough Engineer Chad E. Camburn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser.

President Weierman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions.

The motion was approved unanimously with a vote of 4-0.

E. Motion to TABLE Payment Request # 2 from Vanic Co. as recommended in the letter from Borough Engineer Chad E. Camburn.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Stevens to TABLE Payment Request # 2 from Vanic Co. as recommended in the letter from Borough Engineer Chad E. Camburn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser.

President Weierman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no comments or questions.

The motion was approved unanimously with a vote of 4-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Keib to adjourn the Workshop Meeting of November 1, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser and unanimously approved with a vote of 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:56PM.

Executive Session Personnel, Litigation and Real Estate

Respectfully Submitted,
Jaime E. Snyder
Assistant Secretary