

BOROUGH OF WEST CONSHOHOCKEN
COUNCIL MEETING
July 11, 2023
7:00 PM

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

Stephen Blumenthal, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. Blumenthal took a few minutes to thank the public for their attendance at the meeting and to thank all first responders as well as Public Works for their hard work with the storm this past weekend. Mr. Blumenthal also took a moment to welcome our new Assistant Borough Manager Doug Borgerson. Mr. Blumenthal discussed some items that will be brought before Council this evening.

ROLL CALL

Stephen Blumenthal, President	Present
Danelle Fournier, Mayor	Present
Tara Gorney, Vice President	Present
Tori Conicello-Emery	Present
Jeff Ewing	Present
Kelly Snizavich	Present
Zachary Nelson	Present
Amelia Gale	Present
Michael F. English, Borough Manager	Present
Steven English, Borough Solicitor	Present
Khal Hassan, Borough Engineer	Present

APPROVAL OF THE AMENDED AGENDA

Stephen Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve the amended Agenda.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale
Seconded by: Tara Gorney
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEMS

Walter Gleba, resident, thanked George Clay for their working during the storms. Mr. Gleba also commented on the Mayors Report which included community day and asked for more volunteers to help out. Mr. Gleba also indicated that he was opposed to the permit parking for residents.

GEORGE CLAY FIRE COMPANY RESOLUTION

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-12 honoring Geroge Clay Fire Company for 125 years of dedicated service to the community. Mr. Blumenthal read aloud Resolution 2023-12 honoring George Clay. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to adopt.

Motioned by: Tara Gorney
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The Motion passes 7-0

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the bills for this month were a total of \$455,755.07 and asked for a motion to approve the bills. No questions were presented

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing
Seconded by: Zachary Nelson
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the grand total is \$15,741,230.38 with a negative difference of \$196,322.52; interest on all investment accounts of \$28,160.80. Pension accounts are not included in the total. Non-uniform pension account \$1,195,127.03 and police pension account \$8,842,229.94. Mr. Blumenthal and asked for a motion to approve the financial report.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale
Seconded by: Zachary Nelson
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve the amended consent agenda items.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

MOTION TO AMEND CONSENT AGENDA TO REFLECT A VERBAL REPORT FOR THE OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the Consent Agenda reports didn't include the Open Space committee as the meeting was held the evening before and the report wasn't available in time. Tara Gorney was going to give her verbal report at this evening's meeting.

Motioned by: Kelly Snizavich
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Tara Gorney began her verbal report with discussion of updates to the Borough official map followed by discussion of phases for the overlay map and the beginning of Phase 1 of MacKenzie Park. Mr. Hassan also provided input for grants and bidding process

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

- A. Mr. English indicated his report is in the packet. Mr. English discussed the damage with the storms this past weekend and in hopes to get a storm declaration underway. Mr. English also wanted to highlight Mr. Borgerson's employment with the Borough and his history with the community. No questions were presented
- B. Steven English opened a public hearing for Ordinance No. 2023-03 amending Chapter 109 to remove reference to the pilot permit parking program for Merion Ave parking lot. Mr. English announced exhibits as: Letter to Times Herald, Proof of Publication, Letter to Planning Commission, letter to the Law library, Copy of Ordinance and legal notice. No questions were presented, and Mr. English closed the public hearing. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to enact Ordinance No. 2023-03.

Motioned by: Kelly Snizavich
Seconded by: Jeff Ewing
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

- C. Mr. Khal Hassan, provides updates on the following:
 - 1. Mr. Hassan presented a Land Waiver letter to Council for the warehouse space located at 1083 New Dehaven. Mr. Hassan indicated that the property owner wanted to build an additional 625 square feet of warehouse space for personal use. There is no stormwater concerns and sees no issues to the size. Applicant must proceed with building and grading permits. Mr. Blumenthal asked if there was a motion to waive applicants Land Development Agreement. No questions or comments were presented. Mr. Hassan advised applicants to submit the applications for permits.

Motioned by: Kelly Snizavich
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

2. Mr. Hassan indicated that there is a detailed breakdown of improvements that were made to the Official Map and this was discussed at the Open Space Committee Meeting. Planning Commission will review and make comments for Council

3. Mr. Hassan was asked to review the lighting at the Elizabeth Street Park. Mr. Hassan summarized a proposal of 5 soft lights that would not interfere with neighboring properties. The proposal including concrete is \$40,000. No action is needed this evening, this is for Council to review at this time. Tara Gorney asked Khal Hassan if the lights meet the standard to which Mr. Hassan indicated they did.

4. Mr. Hassan indicated that he was contacted regarding the storm damage on Elizabeth Street this past weekend. Mr. Hassan did a site visit and found damage to the storm inlet which required emergency repair which would result in less than \$13,000 of repair costs Passarini. Borough Solicitor, Mr. English, did not object as this is an emergency repair and does not fit into the bidding process. Tori Conicello-Emery had questions regarding the possibility of another storm to which Mr. Hassan provided further detail on construction of the systems.

Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve the emergency repairs on Elizabeth Street.

Motioned by: Tara Gorney
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to adopt Borough Engineers plans for the Police Station. No questions were presented

Motioned by: Kelly Snizavich
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Mr. Hassan would also like to advise Council that there were two properties that had significant damage during the storms, one commercial and one residential. Forms will need to be completed to submit to FEMA. Mr. Hassan advised that the county needs to reach threshold before FEMA

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to approve the occurrence of a 5K run in West Conshohocken Borough on October 7, 2023.

Mayor Fournier and Interim Police Chief Carfagno spoke about the possibility of having a 5K run in West Conshohocken Borough on October 7th. Discussions took place regarding path, road closures, notifying local businesses, parks and where the donations will go. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve the 5K Run.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale
Seconded by: Jeff Ewing
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Kelly Snizavich wanted to address Council regarding joining the police consortium as there have been several police that have retired and will be upcoming retirements. Lengthy discussions took place between council members and interim police chief regarding this. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to join the consortium for testing. Mr. Davis wanted to acknowledge Upper Merion in hiring.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale
Seconded by: Tara Gorney
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to allow police to determine the criteria for the new hire.

Motioned by: Zachary Nelson
Seconded by: Amelia Gale
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Frankenfield, resident, spoke of the upcoming water rescue training on Wednesday evenings, July 26th Fire house visit to the park, Community Day, Aug 13th Back To School supply event/Cookout, August 1st National Night Out. Concerns with PennDOT regarding debris and parking lot clean up at the park & ride. Mr. Frankenfield also addressed concerns regarding the recent flooding.

Guy Davis, resident, wanted to speak on behalf of Pat Zapien in regard to the speeding down on Church Road. Mike English indicated that he would work with Pennoni to review.

Connie Herman, resident, also wanted to comment on the speed humps on Ford Street.

Walter Gleba, resident, also wanted to comment on the trash at the Park & Ride. Mr. Gleba also wanted to address the recently filed Right to Know request that he submitted in regard to the lights for MacKenzie Park. Revised Ordinance 205-01 outlining rules and regulations addressing the hours of operation, animals/pets. Mr. Gleba requests that the costs for the lights be used for other safety purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Stephen Blumenthal asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm

Motioned by: Tara Gorney
Seconded by: Zachary Nelson
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cristina Meade". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Cristina Meade
Borough Secretary