

BOROUGH OF WEST CONSHOHOCKEN
COUNCIL MEETING
July 14, 2020
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

This meeting was held remotely using the WebEx platform as well as allowing citizens into Borough Hall.

Douglas Borgerson, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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| Douglas Borgerson, President | Present |
| Tara Gorney, Vice President | Present , remotely |
| Tori Conicello-Emery | Present, remotely |
| John Cooper | Absent |
| Danelle Fournier | Present |
| Jose Gonzalez | Present, remotely |
| Richard Greenstein | Present, @7:20 PM |
| Gregory Wesley-Lynch, Mayor | Absent |
| Michael F. English, Borough Manager | Present |
| Joseph J. McGrory, Solicitor | Present |
| Khal Hassan, Engineer | Present, remotely |

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Borgerson opened the floor for public comment on agenda items.

Dave Frankenfield, 580 Ford Street spoke on behalf of the Fire Company to express concerns for Fire, EMS, and Police Response to the high rise office buildings in the event that the buildings were rezoned to allow multi use such as residential use. Mr. Frankenfield understood the Borough looking into the options regarding rezoning but the Fire Company had these grave concerns.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Doug Borgerson requested a motion to accept the meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting of June 9, 2020.

Motioned by: Danelle Fournier

Seconded by: Jose Gonzalez

All in Favor: Yes

The motion passed 5-0

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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Doug Borgerson announced the bills total \$549,123.06 and asked if anyone had any questions. Jose Gonzalez had a question for Chief Sinclair on the MDT purchase and he would ask Chief Sinclair during the Chief's report

Doug Borgerson requested a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$549,123.06.

Motioned by: Danelle Fournier

Seconded by: Jose Gonzalez

All in Favor, Yes

The motion passed 5 to 0.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Doug Borgerson announced the current funds of the Borough as of, July 6, 2020 was \$15,094,928.65 and asked if there were any questions. No questions were posed.

Doug Borgerson requested a motion to approve the Financial Report.

Motioned by: Danelle Fournier

Seconded by: Jose Gonzalez

All in Favor, Yes

The motion passed 5 to 0.

DEPARTMENT, COMMITTEE, AND MAYOR'S REPORT

Police Chief Sinclair answered Mr. Gonzalez's question regarding the capabilities of the recently purchased MDT's to utilize Windows 10. The chief indicated that MDT's were windows 10 compliant. The Chief reviewed activities over the past month.

Fire Company President Fink stated that the Fire Report had been submitted detailing the activity for the month. Mr. Fink wanted to confirm the July 23 Public safety meeting at the Fire House starting at 6:30 PM and other discussions on the LOSAP draft Ordinance that was still being worked on relating to PA Act 66, IRS code regarding some provisions in determining "bona fide volunteers" and "qualified services" of the LOSAP draft ordinance.

There was a question regarding the property at 103 Cedar Ave. The Borough Manager responded that the Property owner had contacted regarding meeting with Borough staff on this matter.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

Borough Solicitor McGrory reviewed with Council the steps required in filling a vacancy for Mayor. Mr. McGrory discussed steps necessary to change the permitted uses in the O-1 Office District. Mr. McGrory suggested that the Building Code Official should do a review Building Code to determine how any zoning change would affect the existing office building. Mr. McGrory also suggested a possible option of use variance process granted by the Zoning Hearing Board.

Councilman Greenstein discussed the possibility of office space use declining as a result of COVID-19 and remote workplace habits.

There were technical issues with Webex during this part of the meeting!!!

Borough Engineer Mr. Hassan reported that the Borough had received 15 Bids for the Municipal Parking Lot Project 8 Merion Ave. specification as the Traffic and Parking committee had not included the gate option in the discussions of the draft Parking Ordinance. Mr. Hassan stated that the gates could be listed as an "add alternate" on the specification and Council could decide after the Bids were received if Council wished to include the gates in the project. Mr. McGrory stated that he concerned that if the base bid only was awarded that the price for the "add alternate" gates

might not be able to be “held to” by the low bidder. Council and the Professional staff discussed possibly taking action on the contract this evening, scheduling a special meeting or tabling to the August meeting. This Agenda Item will be acted upon during the New Business portion of the meeting

Mr. Hassan then reported that he would be preparing a memorandum for Council regarding the Montgomery County Transportation Grant Program. Brian Keaveney and Mike English had a conference call with Matt Edmonds and Matt Popek from the Montgomery County Planning Commission regarding possible projects along Route 23. Matt Edmonds indicated that after discussions with Penn Dot regarding the Borough’s proposed projects, Penn Dot had indicated that those projects would not be eligible under the Penn Dot Liquid Fuels guidelines.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Mr. English stated that his report was in the DropBox. Mr. Gonzalez asked if Mr. English could request from Borough of Conshohocken Authority(BCA) a copy of the Authority’s By-Laws. Mr. English said that he would request a copy of the By-Laws. Mr. Gonzalez stated that he would like to see that West Conshohocken Borough was represented on the BCA board. Dave Frankenfield stated that he advocated that when the West Conshohocken sewer system was being sold. Mr. McGrory stated that he had made that request in 2017 during the sewer system sale process and the Request was denied.

Ms. Fournier asked how the meeting with DEP went regarding Covanta Plymouth. Mr. Hassan stated that Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Cooper and Mr. English participated along with four DEP staff members. The DEP Staff reported that Covanta is regularly checked by DEP and that other than the few issues that were raised in 2019, DEP felt that Covanta had quick to respond to any issues that had arisen.

Ms. Conicello-Emery reported on a conference call with Mr. Hassan, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Cooper, and Mr. English regarding the DEP call earlier in the month. Mr. English also reported that Plymouth Township had commissioned an independent study on Covanta’s activities. The Plymouth Township Manager had assured Mr. English that once the study was reviewed by Plymouth Township that West Conshohocken and Conshohocken Borough would receive copies of the study.

OLD BUSINESS

Doug Borgerson asked if there was any old business. There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

Doug Borgerson requested a Motion to accept the resignation of Mayor Wesley- Lynch as he has moved out of West Conshohocken Borough. Doug Borgerson thanked Greg for all of his years of service to the Borough as a Councilperson and as Mayor.

Motioned by: Richard Greenstein

Seconded by: Danelle Fournier

All in favor, Reluctantly Yes

Motion passed 5 to 0.

Doug Borgerson asked for a motion to Award a contract to Premier Concrete Inc. of Broomall, PA in the amount of \$ 196,805.00 to construct the 8 Merion Ave. Parking Lot.

Motioned by: Tara Gorney

Seconded by: None

The motion failed for want of second.

Doug Borgerson stated that the draft of a Social Media Policy will appear on the August 11 Council meeting,

Richard Greenstein wanted to publicly thank the Borough's Public Works Department for the tremendous job that they have done with Storm water grate replacement project that completed in Merion Hill. Mr. Greenstein the project went very smoothly with little interruption with the flow of traffic

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug Borgerson asked for any general public comment. John Fink asked that since the Mayor's resignation has been accepted, who will be serving as the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator(EMC)? Doug Borgerson stated that Police Chief Sinclair, who was the Assistant EMC, Chief Sinclair would serve as the EMC.

Dave Frankenfield offered Council the use the Fire House second floor room to host the August 11, 2020 Council Meeting.

Doug Borgerson said that a decision on the meeting location would be decided during the first week of August.

Dave Frankenfield also asked if National Night Out would be held this year and Chief Sinclair said the it was cancelled due to COVID-19

ADJOURN

Mr. Borgerson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Motioned by: Jose Gonzalez

Seconded by: Richard Greenstein

All in Favor, Yes.

The motion passed 6 to 0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael English
Borough Manager

