

BOROUGH OF WEST CONSHOHOCKEN
COUNCIL MEETING
September 14, 2021
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

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

ROLL CALL

Douglas Borgerson, President	Present
Tara Gorney, Vice President	Present
Tori Conicello-Emery	Present
John Cooper	Present
Stephen Blumenthal	Present
Jose Gonzalez	Present
Richard Greenstein	Present
Danelle Fournier, Mayor	Present
Michael F. English, Borough Manager	Present
John Iannozi, Solicitor	Present
Khal Hassan, Engineer	Present

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA

Al Kleinschmidt, 200 Moir Ave, spoke in favor of the outdoor dining extension

Toby Beck, 313 Ford Street, spoke in favor of the outdoor dining extension

Lisa Bader, 212 Ford Street spoke in favor of the outdoor dining extension

Ada & Kevin Farrell, 114 Moorehead spoke in favor of the outdoor dining extension

Michael Beck, 126 Ford Street, spoke in opposition of the outdoor dining extension

Kim Streginari & Michael Golden, partners of Gypsy, spoke of the effect of outdoor dining during the pandemic, hours and trying to accommodate neighbors. There is no issue with parking as there is open parking spaces

Michael Beck, 124 Ford Street, spoke in opposition of the outdoor dining extension and presented a petition signed by residents that the outdoor dining is a disturbance to the neighboring properties

Samantha Marshall, manager of Victorinos is requesting 2 short term parking spots for delivery drivers/ customers to avoid parking tickets which has impacted their business. Ms. Marshall also spoke in favor of Gypsy outdoor dining extension

Walter Gleba spoke in favor of outdoor dining extension

PRESENTATION OF THE 2020 BOROUGH AUDIT BY DON PIERCE, CPA OF MALLIE LLP

Don Pierce summarized the 60 page audit report. There was no change in principals and no restrictions to the scope of the audit. Mr Pierce thanked Borough staff for provided everything that was asked for. This is just an opinion of financials. There was an increase in the general funds, capital assets of \$6,400,000, pension assets of \$1,200,000; net position as of December 31, 2020 of 21,700,000. The Borough has assets of \$22,800,000. There was no questions from Council or public.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2022 MINIMUM MUNICIPAL OBLIGATION BY JOSEPH DUDA

This evaluation is performed every year for police and non-uniform pension plans. The MMO has decreased in unfunded liabilities. The last evaluation the interest rate was not lowered. Currently assuming 7.25% , Mr. Duda presented three options and recommended option C with an interest rate of 6.75%. Mr. Borgerson asked for a motion to adopt Plan C lowering the percentage to 6.75%

A motion: Richard Greenstein
Seconded by: Jose Gonzalez
All in favor: yes
The motion passes 7-0

1280 VALLEY ROAD ZONING ADVISORY

Mr. Hassan updated Council that applicants submitted a plan from 4 single family homes instead of 5. There was lengthy discussion between Applicant, Borough Engineer and Council regarding steep slope disturbance and council voted 4 (Cooper, Greenstein, Conicello-Emery and Gorney) to 3 (Blumenthal, Gonzalez & Borgerson) to send Solicitor to the zoning hearing in opposition. Applicants will change the notice from 5 to 4 single family homes.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Borgerson asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes of the regular Council Meeting of August 10, 2021.

Motioned by: Tara Gorney
Seconded by: Richard Greenstein
All in Favor: Yes
Motion Passed: 6-0

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Doug Borgerson requested a motion to approve the bills for this month as of August 10, 2021, for the total amount of \$256,474.64.

Motioned by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Seconded by: Tara Gorney
All in Favor: Yes
The motion passed 7-0
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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. English indicated his report is in the packet. Mr. English first thanked the Public Works department for their clean-up efforts during Tropical Storm Ida as well as the help they provided to Bridgeport. Rob Dronitsky was asked to provide the benefits to the Bobcat MT100, a single person operable equipment that was purchased for the Borough with four attachments. This will help with snow, leaf collection, landscaping and fields. Mr. English also spoke of the 9/11 Memorial Services and commended the Committee, Fire and Police Departments.

COMMITTEE, DEPARTMENT, AND MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Fournier thanked Borough staff and volunteers for the memorial services of 9/11. Mayor spoke of the Blood Drive, Movie Night, Clean Up Day and Mayor would like to host a bucket brigade to help the residents effected by Tropical Storm Ida in Bridgeport.

Stephen Blumenthal indicated that monthly meetings continue for public safety and the police department. Mr. Blumenthal commented on the 9/11 Memorial Services.

John Cooper indicated that Mr. Hassan spoke of the process/ plans and funding at the next Open Space Committee meeting on October 11, 2021 at 6:30pm

Chief Sinclair spoke of the effort with Borough staff and police department during Tropical Storm Ida.

Dennis Frankenfield commended the public works department for their efforts during Tropical Storm Ida. Mr. Frankenfield recommended PennDOT to be contacted for Church Street drainage issue. Mr. Hassan indicated that there is a meeting this Thursday to address this with Mr. English and Rob Dronitsky.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

John Iannozzi presented Resolution 2021-10 Emergency storm water repair on August 25th for a sink hole on Elizabeth Street not to exceed \$11,360.00.

Motioned by: John Cooper
Seconded by: Richard Greenstein
All in favor: Yes
The motion passes: 7-0

John Iannozzi indicated that an agreement letter was received from Echo Ridge HOA. Mr. Hassan indicated that the landscaping portion of the land development on the south east corner by Moir Ave. A Motion to approve the partial waiver on conditions of payment of HOA and all outstanding invoices to the Borough are made. There was discussion between Council and Borough Engineer regarding storm water issues but Mr. Hassan indicated that this has nothing to do with the land waiver.

Motioned by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Seconded by: Stephen Bluemnthal
All in favor: No
The motion passes: 5-2

Mr. Iannozzi indicated that a letter was received from the attorney of Gypsy Saloon requesting a 60 day extension of the Outdoor Dining Resolution extending which would expire on November 15, 2021.

There was discussion between Council and Mr. Borgerson indicated that Gypsy will be submitting a zoning application in the near future. Mr. Cooper opposed to extending. Mrs. Conicello-Emery indicated that a resident presented a petition where 12 residents signed the petition against the extension and 9 people spoke in favor this evening. Ms. Conicello-Emery spoke of challenges with delivery drivers and customers lingering on other properties. Mr. Iannozzi indicated that the concerns would be brought up at a Zoning Hearing and this evening's motion pertains to the 60 day extension.

Motioned by: Richard Greenstein

Seconded by: Tara Gorney

All in favor: No

The motion passes: 6-1 John Cooper opposed

Mr. Iannozzi updated Council American Rescue Plan Act update and provided a Compliance Reporting Act posted on the Pennsylvania Department of Treasury and also provided a Quick Reference Guide which has several different categories on where the funds are to go. The funds must be obligated by 12/31/2024. The first reporting must be completed by October 31, 2021.

Khal Hassan indicated that the Borough received 3 bids for the 2021 Milling & Overlay Bid with the lowest bid from Berg Construction, LLC \$189,158.00. Mr. Hassan recommends Berg Construction for the base amount, contingent under compliances outlined in a letter dated August 24, 2021.

Motioned by: John Cooper

Seconded by: Tara Gorney

All in favor: Yes

The motion passes: 7-0

Mr. Hassan discussed the ADA Compliance Removal of Architectural Barrier the ADA ramps. Mr Hassan indicates that 5 bids were received and the lowest bid was Mor Construction Services for \$171,325.00 with compliance with the contract documents.

Motioned by: John Cooper

Seconded by: Stephen Blumenthal

All in favor: Yes

The motion passes: 7-0

Mr. Hassan discussed the MacKenzie Park Concept Plan. There will be an Open Space Meeting held on October 11th at 6:30pm at Borough Hall and Planning Commission Meeting held on October 7th, which Mr. Hassan will await feedback.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion to request to create a 15 minute temporary parking spot in the Borough Hall parking lot or on the 100 Block of Ford Street for pick-up of takeout food ordered from local restaurant.

Mr. Iannozzi indicated that the request to use Borough Hall parking lot should be eliminated. There was discussion between Council and it was requested that this be addressed in the Parking and Traffic Committee meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Beck, 124 Ford Street discussed his concerns regarding the outdoor dining, parking and delivery drivers

Kyle Levesque, 126 Ford Street wanted to second Mike Becks comments regarding parking and added that there are disturbances from the customers which is a disturbance to the community.

Chet Gleba questioned Lower Merion's position on the zoning hearing for 1280 Valley Road. Mr. Gleba wanted to address the discussion that took place at the Safety Meeting regarding the water run off from Echo down to the firehouse. Mr. Gleba thanked Mr. Dronitsky for coming to the meeting.

James Goggin, 113 Moorehead spoke in support of outside dining.

Dave Frankenfield would like to thank Council and Community for the 9/11 Ceremony and the help provided through Tropical Storm Ida. He hopes to see much support at the Blood Drive.

Mr. Dronitsky discussed some concerns on facebook and lack of police presence at bus stops, which he wants to address as a parent has seen a lot of police presence.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session took place at 9:46pm for personnel matters

ADJOURN

Douglas Borgerson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46pm

Motioned by: Richard Greenstein
Seconded by: Stephen Blumenthal
All in favor: Yes
The motion passes:7-0

Respectfully Submitted,



Cristina Meade
Borough Secretary