

BOROUGH OF WEST CONSHOHOCKEN
COUNCIL MEETING
August 13, 2024
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 & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

OPENING COMMENTS & EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Blumenthal thanked everyone for their attendance. Mr. Blumenthal addressed Borough Manager Michael English and spoke about Mr. English's dedication and efforts, leadership and achievements. Mr. Blumenthal also indicated that a new Police Officer Elizabeth Moran will be sworn in this evening.

ROLL CALL

Danelle Fournier, Mayor	Present
Stephen Blumenthal, President	Present
Tara Gorney, Vice President	Present
Tori Conicello-Emery	Present
Jeff Ewing	Present
Amelia Gale	Absent
Chris Cella	Present
Richard Marr	Present
Michael F. English, Borough Manager	Present
Douglas Borgerson, Asst Borough Manager	Present
Steven English, Borough Solicitor	Present
Khal Hassan, Borough Engineer	Present

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Blumenthal asked for approval of the Agenda and with unanimous consent the Agenda is approved

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEMS

Guy Davis, resident, congratulated Michael English

Dave Frankenfield, resident, congratulated Michael English and indicated that George Clay Fire Company will be drafting a resolution for Mr. English. Mr. Frankenfield also congratulated Ms. Moran on her position with the Police Department.

Cristina Meade, Administrative Assistant of West Conshohocken Codes Department thanked and congratulated Michael English.

Walter Gleba, resident, congratulated Michael English.

Dennis Frankenfield, former resident and Fire Chief, congratulated Michael English

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the bills for this month were a total of \$483,043.80 and asked for a motion to approve the bills.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing
Seconded by: Chris Cella
Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
The motion passes

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the grand total is \$14,840,585.68 with a negative difference of \$378,109.92, interest earned on investments accounts was \$25,426.18. The pension accounts total \$10,880,721.70 and Pension accounts are not included in the total. No questions or comments were presented. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve the financial report.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing
Seconded by: Chris Cella
Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
The motion passes

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the Consent Agenda includes committee reports and without objections, the Consent Agenda was approved unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

1. Borough Manager Michael English- Mr. English thanked Council members, community members, spoke about the Fire and Police Department, Borough Staff members
2. Borough Solicitor John Iannozzi had nothing to report on business and wanted to acknowledge Mr. English and congratulate on him on his retirement
3. Borough Engineer Khaled Hassan discussed that under new business there is an item that will be for Council's approval later this evening. Mr. Hassan also wanted to congratulate Mr. English on his retirement.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. The swearing in of new West Conshohocken Police Officer Elizabeth Moran.

Officer Elizabeth Moran was present and sworn in as new West Conshohocken's police officer.

2. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on the resignation letter of Edwin McKeon from the Planning Commission.

Edwin McKeon resigned from the West Conshohocken Borough Planning Commission as he relocated out of the Borough.

Motioned by: Chris Cella
Seconded by Tara Gorney
Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
The motion passes

3. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on the appointment of Fred Reinhard to the West Conshohocken Borough Planning Commission.

Mr. Reinard is currently an alternate on the Planning Commission and now wants to fill the opening of the full-time active member as there is a current full time active member opening since Mr. McKeon resigned from the Planning Commission.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing
Seconded by: Tara Gorney
Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
The motion passes

4. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on the recommendation of the Borough Engineer to award a contract in the amount of \$79,829.00 to Jurich Inc. of Aston, PA for the Church Street stormwater project. The Borough received a small water grant for \$83,900 and the Borough must match 15% of the total project cost. The Borough match will come from ARPA funds that the Borough received.
5. Borough Engineer Mr. Hassan indicated that bids were opened on August 2nd for the Church Street drainage project to which six bids were received. The lowest bidder was Jurich Inc. at \$79,829.00. The project was originally estimated to be approximately \$81,145.00. The Borough received a small water grant for \$83,900 and the Borough must match 15% of the total project cost. The Borough match will come from ARPA funds that the Borough received.

Councilmember Cella wanted to clarify those funds of the grant to which Mr. Hassan explained. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to move forward with this project. This project will be completed by the fall, a pre-construction meeting will be held, and residents and Borough will be notified

Motioned by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Seconded by: Chris Cella
Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
The motion passes.

6. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on the acceptance for the retirement for the West Conshohocken Borough Manager Mike English.

Councilmembers Chris Cella, Jeff Ewing, Tara Gorney, Mayor Danelle Fournier congratulated Michael English on his new chapter ahead and thanked Mr. English.

Motioned by: Chris Cella

Seconded by: Tara Gorney

Ayes:5

Nays:1 by Tori Conicello -Emery (always votes against when members leave Council or retires)

7. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on the recommendation of Mike English in the promotion of Assistant Borough Manager, Dr. Douglas Borgerson to Borough Manager of West Conshohocken.

Mr. Blumenthal provided the background of former Council President and now Assistant Borough Manager. Dr. Douglas Borgerson will begin his role as Borough Manager at the end of August 2024.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing

Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery

Ayes: 6

Nays:0

The motion passes

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that now that the new Borough Manager has been appointed there will need to be motion to approve the employment contract.

Motioned by: Tori Conicello-Emery

Seconded by: Tara Gorney

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

The motion passes

8. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on Resolution 2024-15 authorizing empowering and directing the appointments of liaison between the Borough of West Conshohocken and Berkheimer.

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that this will not transfer from Michael English to Dr. Douglas Borgerson. No comments or questions were presented. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2024-15.

Motioned by: Chris Cella

Seconded by: Richard Marr

Ayes:6

Nays:0

The motion passes

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Frankenfield, resident, indicated that George Clay is hosting a back to school giveaway with school supplies and also hosting a recruitment event. George Clay will be at Recreation Community Event as well as National Night Out.

Guy Davis, resident, asked for minutes to be taken at every committee meeting. Borough Solicitor John Iannozzi to which Mr. Iannozzi indicated that there is no legal reason to take minutes at every sub committee meeting.

Walter Gleba, resident, spoke about the Community Event this Saturday, August 17th and wanted to thank Council on the help they have provided.

Denise Malecki, resident, asked for clarification on the difference between Berkheimer and writing tax checks to an individual. Ms. Maleck also indicated some concerns about the business on Bullock and someone leaving a note in the property next door to her indicating that the property was abandoned which the house is actually for sale. Ms. Malecki also spoke about communication and her concerns of subcommittees and resolutions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Blumenthal indicated that Executive Session is on a matter of personnel and Council will not be returning as no action will be taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Blumenthal asked Council for a motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm

Motioned by: Chris Cella
Seconded by: Tori Conicello-Emery
Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
The motion passes

Respectfully Submitted



Cristina Meade
Borough Secretary