

HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
September 2, 2020

MINUTES

THIS MEETING WAS HELD ON ZOOM WITH THE PUBLIC
AVAILABLE BY ZOOM AUDIO

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

- (X) John H. Weierman, President
 - (X) John Kroesser, Vice President
 - (X) Salvatore DiLisio Jr.
 - (X) Jason Ferguson
 - (X) Lawrence G. Stevens
- (X) Mayor, Robert L. Kaler III

The record shows that five 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 Manager Jaime E. Snyder

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember DiLisio to Approve the Workshop Meeting Agenda of September 2, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Stevens and was unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0.

2. PUBLIC INPUT: President Weierman asked if there was any Public Input. The Public was allowed to comment from Zoom audio during this time.

No Public Comment.

Media Not Present.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Borough Offices will be closed Monday, September 7th in Observance of the Labor Day Holiday
- Borough Council will hold a Strategic Planning Session September 16th @ 5:30PM via ZOOM
- Next Council Meeting September 16th Regular Meeting @ 7:30PM via ZOOM
- Hatfield Chamber of Commerce will be doing ZOOM programs in the near future, dates yet to be determined
- HMHS Meeting September 22nd @ 7:00PM via FaceBook Live

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- HERC is scheduled to meet Wednesday, September 23rd @ 8:00AM via ZOOM
- MCBA Dinner Meeting September 24th 6:00PM
- FALL FESTIVAL Saturday, September 26th / CANCELED due to COVID-19 Guidelines
- Planning Commission is Scheduled to Meet Monday, October 5th @ 7:00PM via ZOOM

4. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES AND MAYOR:

BF&L – President Weierman went over the EIT and LST Report and highlighted COVID-19 numbers.

Manager DeFinis spoke about the Audit Report and stated that due to COVID-19 the audit was pushed back and Diane has been working with the auditor and the Borough should see the report in late October or November.

Manager DeFinis stated that if anyone has specific topics to be discussed at the Strategic Planning Meeting to let Jaime or myself know.

5. 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 / Sewer Escrow Under Review
- B. Hatfield Auto Museum / Nothing New
- C. 122 ½ Towamencin Ave. / Access to Property / Under Review
- D. Salter's – Bought Old Firehouse – Plans to Renovate
- E. Edinburgh Square Subdivision – Final Plan Under Review
- F. 369 Edgewood Drive Fence Permit Issued
- G. SEPTA Property / Two Interested Parties
- H. Howard Heckler Subdivision – Approved
- I. Bennett's Court – Still Planning to Submit Plans

2. Utility Billing Update:

- A. Staff continues to monitor past due Electric & Sewer accounts. Residents are being sent reminders for PAST DUE ACCOUNTS. Past Due Accounts will be addressed in two tiers.
- B. I encourage all account holders to take advantage of the cost-effective billing delivery opportunity.
- C. Electric Customer Portal now available.

3. 2020 Project Updates:

- A. East Lincoln Avenue Bridge – project moving forward electric totals look around \$80,000.00

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- B. Curb Ramp Bids – COVID-19 Early 2021
- C. Paving - COVID-19 Early 2021

- 4. Items of Interest
- 5. AMP R.I.C.E. BTM Peaking Project - Electric work in progress
- 6. PMEA Update - Website - Next Board Meeting November
- 7. AMI UPDATE – 1156 Meters installed / in-house prep for billing
- 8. HERC Update:

6. NEW BUSINESS / DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Resolution No. 2020 - 20 Public Power Week

President Weierman stated that this Resolution is in honor of Public Power Week

B. Resolution No. 2020 - 21 Fire Prevention Week

President Weierman stated that this Resolution is in honor of Fire Prevention Week. President Weierman asked about an Open House at the Fire Company and Manager DeFinis stated that he would reach out and get an answer.

C. DCED MTF Grant Application West Broad & Towamencin Ave

Assistant Manager Jaime Snyder we over the grant project scope of work with Council and outlined the proposed concept.

Councilmember Kroesser stated he was concerned with the possibility of increased accidents in the area.

Councilmember Ferguson stated that he would like to see the pedestrian crossing moved back to mid-block for safety concerns.

President Weierman addressed the concept and asked for Lt. Jane Robertson's opinion and it was stated that pedestrian safety is a must for this concept and that she did have concerns and would be happy to have a study done of the area to address any speeding or safety issues.

Borough Council discussed this design concept and the idea of slowing traffic down on Towamencin Avenue while also having a safer route to schools for pedestrians. Borough Council agreed that more conversation needed to be had on this concept and that they would like a study done by the police and for Anton Kuhner, the Traffic Engineer from McMahan to attend the September Regular Meeting for any concerns can be addressed.

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D. Snyder Townhomes Construction Release No. 8

Manager DeFinis stated that in your packets was a letter from Bursich the Borough Engineer stating that this escrow can be released and the project is complete.

E. 2021 Estimated Liquid Fuels Allocation

Manager DeFinis stated that the estimated 2021 Liquid Fuels Allocation is \$78,394.86 which is slightly less than previous years.

F. NMCRC Procedures for Handling Act 101 Violations

Solicitor Harper reviewed at Mikes request and was told by the NMCRC Solicitor another municipality had requested that the NMCRC take enforcement action against a house who was commingling recyclable with trash. The market is such that collecting recycling by itself is tough.

Borough Council brought concerns that any violations should be sent to the Borough for notifications not just handled through NMCRC.

Solicitor Harper stated that she is requesting that the Borough be notified of any violations.

President Weierman and Councilmember Ferguson agreed this should be the haulers that are addressed not the individual residents or business.

Solicitor Harper stated that she can prepare an amended Resolution for Council to look at the next meeting.

Councilmember Kroesser stated that he did not feel this was something that the Borough should be involved in and try and regulate as we are not in the trash business but would like to see what the Solicitor comes back with after taking the concerns to the NMCRC Solicitor.

G. COVID-19 Report

Manager DeFinis shared a recent COVID-19 Report he received.

Councilmember Ferguson added that we will need to think about the long-term complications this could cause as well as the fatality rate.

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H.2020 General Obligation Note Update

Manager DeFinis gave an update on the general obligation note and that the Borough locked in at .873 rate.

I. Halloween Movie Night and Recap

Manager DeFinis stated that this idea was proposed by Lindsay Hellmann the Public Information Officer due to the success of the previous movie nights.

Councilmember Ferguson stated that this is a good substitute for trick-or-treating as we are un aware of the guidelines at this time and seem like a great event. All of Council Agreed

7. OLD BUSINESS:

A. REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

Manager DeFinis and President Weierman updated and answered questions regarding the Reports and Correspondence. Lieutenant Robertson answered questions regarding the Police Report.

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

8. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Motion to Consider the Snyder Townhomes Escrow Release No. 8 / Final in the Amount of \$47,269.47 (Forty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and

Forty-Seven Cents) with an Eighteen Month Maintenance Bond Commencing August 19, 2020

Motion:

A motion was made by Councilmember Kroesser Approve the Snyder Townhomes Escrow Release

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No. 8 / Final in the Amount of \$47,269.47 (Forty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and Forty-Seven Cents) with an Eighteen Month Maintenance Bond Commencing August 19, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ferguson.

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 5-0.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Kroesser to adjourn the Workshop Meeting of September 2, 2020. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ferguson and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:47PM

Executive Session Personnel, Litigation and Real Estate

Respectfully Submitted,
Jaime E. Snyder
Assistant Manager