

HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2010

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

- (X) John H. Weierman, President
 - (X) Kenneth V. Farrall
 - (X) John Kroesser
 - (X) Bryan A. Moyer
 - (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, Borough Manager Michael J. DeFinis and Solicitor Catherine M. Harper.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Farrall to approve the Agenda of April 21, 2010 as amended with the addition of Resolution # 2010-2, Sewer Lateral update, and the removal of Didden's Sketch Plan discussion. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moyer and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0.

President Weierman surprised Councilmember Larry Stevens with Resolution # 2010-2 declaring him the recipient of the PA Borough Council Association "Outstanding Councilmember of the Year Award". The resolution states the many accomplishments and activities, along with the countless committees and civic organizations that Councilmember Stevens has been a vital member of. (According to many, it is easier to say what Larry doesn't do, rather than what he does do.)

Along with the press, also present were his wife Debbie, his 2 daughters, and many friends. The actual award will be presented to him at the conference in Pittsburgh on April 27, 2010.

Congratulations to Larry for this momentous occasion in a lifetime of commitment and service to the residents of the Borough of Hatfield!

2. PUBLIC INPUT: President Weierman asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Motion: To Approve the March 3, 2010 Workshop Meeting and the March 17, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Farrall to Approve the March 3, 2010 Workshop Meeting and the March 17, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moyer and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Manager DeFinis made the following announcements.

- Next Council meetings are May 5, 2010 Workshop and May 19, 2010 Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
- HERC is scheduled to meet Wednesday April 28, 2010 at 8:00 AM
- The Revitalization Task Force quarterly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 28, 2010 at 9:00 AM
- The May 3rd Planning Commission meeting has been rescheduled for Tuesday May 4, 2010 at 7:00 PM. This was advertised and also posted on the Conference Room door.

5. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES AND MAYOR:

Recycling: Mayor Kaler updated Council on the Borough's receipt of a check in the amount of \$7,116.88 for the 2007 Grant Money Distribution from the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Commission. A breakdown of all municipalities and their share of the disbursement was enclosed in the packet.

He was recently questioned by a resident about trash pick-up along the Liberty Bell Trail. He suggested we add a few more trash receptacles, specifically by Mom's Water Ice and at the end of Butler Avenue. We may even be able to do this without the use of grant money.

He also noted that in honor of Local Government Week, he attended a function at St. Maria Goretti and spoke to the 3rd grade class about local government. It was a very enjoyable day.

6. MANAGERS REPORT: Manager DeFinis made the following announcements:

General Report and Projects Update

- Please take time over the next several months to review ordinance updates for codification.
- The Taste of Hatfield, Plaza Dedication/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, and Chamber of Commerce business card mixer is set for Monday, May 3rd from 4 to 8 pm. Staff, business owners and the Police are all working together to implement the final plans. The road will be closed from 3 to 9 PM, and a press release has been sent out.

- The Borough is scheduled to present their Implementation Application to the Montgomery County Revitalization Board on May 4, 2010.
- Residents were notified April 6th to pay their delinquent and current electric bill by April 15th. Failure to pay would result in disconnect of electric on April 19th. Residents with current payment plans will not be disconnected. A copy of the notice is in packet.
- Comcast negotiations are continuing at a very slow pace. Geoff Thompson from Collegeville has asked the attorney several times to ramp up the speed of the process. A meeting is scheduled for Monday.
- PENN DOT has released the work order for placement of the 102” trailer restriction signs through Hatfield Borough. The signs will be placed by PENN DOT in locations to give truck drivers access to roads around the Borough. We are waiting to hear from PENN DOT as to which roads and trucks are affected. We will act in support of their decision.

7. ACTION ITEMS:

Motion to Approve Resolution # 2010-3 Accepting the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities Articles of Agreement.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Farrall to Approve Resolution # 2010-3 Accepting the Montgomery County Consortium of Communities Articles of Agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moyer and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0.

8. Motion to Approve Payment of the Bills for April.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Farrall to Approve Payment of the Bills. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moyer and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0.

DISCUSSION:

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Monthly Investment Report
- Monthly EIT Report
- Police Department Report
- Fire Department Report
- Public Works Department Report

President Weierman informed Council the EIT transfer this year is less than last year, although we are on track to collect what was budgeted. Berkheimer is doing an analysis.

Police Chief Toomey and Lt. Tierney reported to Council that there will be 3 officers present for the Taste of Hatfield event.

Solicitor Harper questioned whether or not the ordinance for disturbing the peace was working. Lt. Tierney would have to look into specific instances, but in general, things have been calm.

It was also questioned whether someone could ever be “banned” from public parks. Chief Toomey stated that the penalty would be determined by the type of charge held against an individual. He explained that the police have a Youth Aid Panel which could make recommendations such as suspension of a fine combined with community service and an agreement to never go into the park. This panel, however, would not be effective for the more serious and/or repeat offenders.

Mayor Kaler stated that he has heard many complaints from residents who are fed up with the troublemakers, and he is concerned that someone could get hurt. Chief Toomey suggested the Borough catalog every instance (from simple to serious) for every public area. This will give the police more of a grasp as to what’s happening and where. He explained that he understands the Borough’s frustration, but we must be judicious in our approach to a solution.

Chief Toomey also expressed to Council his concern with “social networking” and the possibility of “Flash Mobs”. While this could become a significant problem in the future, he assured Council they are looking at the repercussions very closely.

9. OTHER BUSINESS: President Weierman reviewed Other Business.

- A. Firefighter Workers Comp Ordinance
Will be considered at the May 19, 2010 Regular Meeting
Ordinances sent to Montgomery Planning Commission for review
Solicitor Harper will advertise.
- B. Didden’s Greenhouse Sketch Plan will be discussed at next meeting.
- C. Planning Commission Vacancy
Council (reluctantly) accepted the resignation of Joe Gadaleta from the Planning Commission effective July 1, 2010, and thanked him for his many years of service.
- D. Sewer Lateral Time Frame
 - Bid document preparation completed by June 2, 2010.
 - Bid opening will be in early July, and awarded in August
 - Work to start in September and completed by mid to late Fall (weather permitting)

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to adjourn the meeting of April 21, 2010. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Farrall and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Executive Session: Litigation & Personnel

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Calhoun, Information Coordinator