

HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
March 3, 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, Borough Manager, Michael J. DeFinis, Mayor Robert L. Kaler, III, and Assistant Secretary Linda L. Watts. Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper arrived at 7:43 P.M. The media was present.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to approve the Agenda of March 3, 2010 as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Farrall and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Manager DeFinis made the following announcements.

- Next Council Meeting March 17, 2010 Regular Meeting at 7:30 P.M.
- HERC will meet March 24, 2010 at 8:00 A.M.

2A. PUBLIC INPUT: President Weierman asked if there was any comments or questions.

Josh Myers residing at 38 N. Wayne Avenue informed Council he submitted a form a few weeks ago to Code Enforcement Officer, Randy Yardumian about the ordinances in Hatfield Borough in regards to a falconry apprentice permit. The document informs the State and Federal Government whether or whether not there is an ordinance against keeping a bird of prey on the property.

Manager DeFinis informed Council Josh presented his falconry request and these are the guidelines that he would be operating under. Mike Hartey, Zoning Officer and Randy Yardumian reviewed the ordinances and codes and there is nothing to restrict a falconry

license. Manager DeFinis talked to the State Gaming Commission and once Josh puts in all his paperwork the State Game Commission will come out and survey the property to see if it meets all the requirements. There are things that Josh will have to adhere to. One of the things that are a concern of Council is where the training will take place. The State Gaming Commission will determine if the training area is and allowable place or not.

Josh informed Council the majority of the training would take place indoors for the safety of the hawk and to limit it getting loose. Another portion of the training is the bird flying free and that would be under constant supervision at the sponsor's house.

Manager DeFinis informed Council that Josh Myers was not the property owner and the Code Enforcement Officer has contacted Mr. and Mrs. Myers, property owner to make sure they were well aware of what was going on. Mike Hartey, Zoning Officer will complete the document and Josh Myers can pick it up.

### 3. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Public Works: Councilmember Moyer informed Council that the Public Works Department has does a phenomenal job taking care of the roads. There have been no bad comments.

Budget, Finance and Labor: President Weierman updated Council on the Borough investments, bond rates and meeting with Al Galante, Investment Manager for the Borough.

Recycling: Mayor Kaler, III, informed Council the Northern Montgomery County Recycling Committee met on March 2, 2010. The audit report of Commission books of last year and everything is acceptable. A recycling drop off is coming up in April. Information will be forwarded to the manager. The drop off will be at Indian Valley Middle School.

Manager DeFinis informed Council Hatfield Borough and Hatfield Township hold a joint recycling event during Earth Day and is advertised on HTV.

Mayor Kaler, III, informed Council the 2007 grant money was approved by the DEP and given to the Controllers Office. The Borough should get its share within two months. The money is split by population. We retain form normal operating expenses.

### 4. MANAGERS REPORT: Mr. 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 Plaza ribbon cutting ceremony is officially scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2010. This event will coincide with the Hatfield Chamber of Commerce Business Card Mixer and the Taste of Hatfield Event.
- Snow Reimbursement Update / Federal Public Assistance Declaration. All Municipalities put in their costs to PEMA.
- Keystate Publishers Preliminary Editorial Report has arrived. I have distributed copies to the PBZ Committee Mr. Farrall and Mr. Stevens. Solicitor.
- Due to the recurring snow storms and emergency situations I find myself referring to the EOP more often. As a result I will return to the task of developing an office emergency policy and procedures as well as updating the Notification and Resource Manual.
- **HAT OFF TO THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT!**

Manager DeFinis answered question regarding Committee meeting and ordinances.

#### 5. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Motion to Approve Ordinance #481 Restating the Defined Contribution Pension Plan for the Non-Uniformed Employees.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to Approve Ordinance #481 Restating the Defined Contribution Pension Plan for the Non-Uniformed Employees. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Farrall and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. The Ordinance was advertised.

B. Approve the Escrow Release for the Penn Street Real Estate LP in the amount of \$3546.01.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to Approve the Escrow Release for the Penn Street Real Estate LP in the amount of \$3546.01. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser.

Manager DeFinis answered questions regarding the final cost, fees and anything outstanding that was owed to the Borough. The Maintenance Bond and all outstanding issues are done.

The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0-1.  
Councilmember Farrall abstained from the vote.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS: Manager DeFinis reviewed the discussion items.

- Zoning Modifications / Simone Collins
- Falconry Apprentice License Request
- Grant Applications / Revitalization Board Recommendations
- Fee Schedule / Ordinance Updates
- Pool Advisory Board Vacancy

- Hatfield Borough Events / Newsletter Mid April
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Examination Report
- Recent Fire Update
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Liquid Fuels Money

Zoning Modifications: Manager DeFinis introduced Peter Simone of Simone Collins to Council. Mr. Simone met with the Planning Commission on Monday, March 1, 2010. Mr. Simone informed Council that the attached are guidelines for existing and new structures. Councilmember Stevens suggested Council make sure we are not doing anything to lesson the historic preservation. Mr. Simone will look closely at the ordinances and discussed preferred materials and the conditional uses of the buildings. Mr. Simone reviewed the design guidelines with Council and answered questions regarding the front façade of existing buildings and the building form, texture and pattern of materials. Solicitor Harper suggested looking closely at the wording for porches. Mr. Simone reviewed the Statement of Intent regarding strengthening the Borough's Core as a center of commercial activity. The proposed changes are aimed at encouraging more businesses to locate in the Borough by making adaptive reuse of the many great buildings for income-producing uses easier. If adopted, these revisions will make existing uses, notably, single family residences, existing non-conforming uses in some of the affected zoning districts. Mr. Simone reviewed the R-3 Residential / Commercial Districts and permitted uses and special exception standards. A discussion ensued.

Grant Application / Revitalization Board Recommendations: Manager DeFinis updated Council on the recommendations from the Revitalization Board on how to proceed with the grant applications that were submitted. We are developing the Business Development and Improvement guidelines along the same lines as the Façade Improvement Grant guidelines and application process to hopefully submit to the Revitalization Board as the final grant submission. The final narrative and grant application has to be in by April 1, 2010.

Fee Schedule / Ordinance Updates: Manager DeFinis informed Council he and Joshua Ganz from Timoney Knox have been working out the details on the fee schedule issues. A draft will be forwarded to Council. The Code Enforcement Officer will review the draft for any changes.

Pool Advisory Board Vacancy: Manager DeFinis informed Council the Pool Advisory Board meets the second Tuesday of every month. There are two vacancies to be filled.

Hatfield Borough Events / Newsletter Mid April: Manager DeFinis informed Council the Borough Newsletter has been moved up. The Spring / Summer Newsletter will have the Taste of Hatfield / Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Business Card Mixer. To alleviate another mailing all the information regarding the pool registration and parks will also be incorporated into the mid April newsletter.

Manager DeFinis announced that the first day of spring chipping is May 3, 2010. There will be three newsletters a year.

Memorandum of Understanding: Manager DeFinis updated Council on the Memorandum Of Understanding developed between Hatfield Township and Hatfield Borough. Manager DeFinis has contacted Hatfield Township Manager, Andrew Haines regarding updating the Memorandum of Understanding.

Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Examination Report: Manager DeFinis informed Council the Borough was audited last year. The Borough commingled the liquid fuels money with the general fund money and the interest wasn't defined. That was the only issue. Everything is now done electronically and back to where it should be.

Recent Fire Update: Manager DeFinis informed Council the Fire Department did a fantastic job. The owner is very appreciative of the Fire Marshal and Fire Chief. The Borough is working with the property owner to help him get his operation up and running as soon as possible.

Army Corps: Manager DeFinis updated Council on the required hearing for the sewer lateral repairs being performed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Bursich Letter / Plaza Punch List: Manager DeFinis reviewed the punch list from Borough Engineer, Mark Mattucci regarding the Liberty Bell Parking Area / Plaza. James R. Kenney Excavating, Inc. has agreed to the punch list.

Liquid Fuels Tax Fund Examination Report: Manager DeFinis informed Council the Liquid Fuels monies came in a month early.

Manager DeFinis updated Council on a change in the cell phone package.

#### ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to adjourn the meeting of March 3, 2010. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Farrall and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

#### *Executive Session:*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda L. Watts, Assistant Secretary