

HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL  
WORKSHOP MEETING  
March 4, 2009

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

- (X) John H. Weierman, President
- ( ) Kenneth V. Farrall, Vice President (arrived at 8:10 p.m.)
- (X) Bryan A. Moyer
- (X) Lawrence G. Stevens
  
- (X) Mayor, Robert L. Kaler III

The record shows that three members of Council were present at roll call, as well as, Interim Borough Manager, William J. McCauley, III, Mayor Robert L. Kaler, III, Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper and Assistant Secretary, Linda L. Watts.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to approve the Agenda of March 4, 2009. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Stevens.

President Weierman asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were none.

The March 4, 2009 Agenda was unanimously approved with a vote of 3-0.

2. PUBLIC INPUT: President Weierman asked if there were any comments or questions. There were no questions or comments.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS: President Weierman made the following announcement. .

- The Fire Company Banquet is Saturday, March 21, 2009 in Sellersville.

6. MOTION – Consideration to Appoint John Kroesser to Fill the Unexpired Term of Michael J. DeFinis on Borough Council.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to Appoint John Kroesser to Fill the Unexpired Term of Michael J. DeFinis on Borough Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Stevens.

President Weierman informed Council that they were fortunate enough to have one applicant that expressed desire to be on Borough Council and who has also participated on the Planning Commission and is now willing to step in and be on Borough Council. Council looks forward to working with John and appreciates all he has done so far.

The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 3-0.

Judge Deatlehouse presided over the swearing in ceremony of John Kroesser to Borough Council.

Council congratulated Councilmember John Kroesser on his appointment.

Council thanked Judge Deatlehouse for swearing in John Kroesser to Borough Council.

Councilmember Kroesser took his place at Council table at 7:42 PM.

5. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES AND MAYOR:

Recycling: Mayor Kaler, III informed Council a Recycling Meeting was held on March 3, 2009. The Spring luncheon will be coming up. Library Bindery will be honored for their recycling.

Public Works: Councilmember Moyer informed Council the Public Works Department did a very good job on the streets with the recent snow storm.

HERC: Councilmember Stevens asked Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper how long the HERC dissolution of the corporation would take.

Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper updated Council on HERC's status and informed them that within the month all the paperwork should be in order. The IRS has approved the withdrawal of HERC's status as a tax exempt entity effective in 2008. A Court Order is needed before HERC's corporation is dissolved, Council will need to appoint members to the committee.

Councilmember Stevens reminded Council that once HERC's corporation is dissolved, Council will need to appoint members to the committee.

President Weierman informed Council that HTV is set up in the main office and thanked everyone for their joint effort.

President Weierman and Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper thanked Assistant Secretary, Linda L. Watts for the NSF collections and the delinquent electric collections.

President Weierman informed Council they would need to re-designate Committee members and shift around some Committee members and make alignment changes.

7. MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. McCauley made the following announcements.
- The Borough received \$19,890.60 from State Farm Insurance Company for the accident at 44 Market Street for the contractor to replace the pole and borough forces and material.
  - The Borough has been aggressive in collecting property claims to date in the amount of \$33,888.04 in a team effort by Assistant Secretary, Linda L. Watts and Public Works Director, Fred Leister.

Councilmember Stevens thanked Interim Manager, William J. McCauley III and Staff for following up on the claims.

- The Borough received a letter from Brian O'Leary from the Montgomery County Planning Commission dated March 3, 2009 stating since the upgrades would include a better clock, fence, and sign they have no concern with using some of the \$252,000 grant for the three plaza upgrades as proposed. Hatfield Borough has the County's permission to use \$20,000 of the \$252,000 grant for the plaza upgrade. Borough Engineer Mark Mattucci has received a copy of the letter from Mr. O'Leary and change order will be forth with.
- Monday, the day of the snow storm was the start date for the Liberty Bell Trail and Plaza Parking Lot project. Mr. Mattucci has been in contact with the contractors and they did the survey and stake out work. The contractors are ready to move.

8. DISCUSSION:

- Possible Uses for Open Space Funds
- Letter from Hatfield Township Municipal Authority re: Act 537 Plan
- Letter of Inquiry re: 8 North Market Street
- 2009 Founder's Day

Open Space Funds - Interim Manager, William J. McCauley, III, informed Council the application is completed for Heritage Park improvements. Mr. McCauley met a month ago with the Building, Planning and Zoning Committee and reviewed some options for applying for funding and to see if money is available for streetscape improvements. Resources are not available right now. Under the Open Space Plan, lights, decorative pavers, textured sidewalks, and to continue the streetscape is in the plan. Borough Engineer, Mark Mattucci will put together a proposal to continue the streetscape and touch base with Simone Collins for suggestions. Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper will prepare a resolution to submit an application for balance of funds.

Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper suggested a joint plan with Hatfield Township as the Borough as a co-applicant that both may benefit from.

Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper and Council discussed issues regarding ownership of the Chestnut Street bridge.

Borough Engineer Mark Mattucci informed Council the Chestnut Street Trail Plan is completed. A discussion ensued where the trail would go to and the cost. Interim Manager, William J. McCauley, III, will follow through on the application.

HTMA – Borough Engineer William Dingman updated Council on the letter from Hatfield Township Municipal Authority requesting the Borough to respond to the Department of Environmental Protection's requirement to update the Township's Act 537 Sewerage Facilities Plan. The Authority is dependant on a proper submission for certain expansion of our capacities and improvements to our infrastructure that we wish to undertake. To be fully compliant we are dependent on Hatfield Borough's formal notice of their projected sewerage planning needs in accordance with the Act. CET's report is the projected sewer needs for Hatfield Township and its outlying service areas for twenty years. The current update is necessary to allow Hatfield Borough to be more definite in regards to any new planning. Mr. Dingman recommended the Borough request 100,000 gallons a day. The Borough has exceeded the parameters under the agreement with HTMA and HTMA has not been aggressive in collecting.

It was the consensus of Council for Mr. Dingman to coordinate an informal meeting with HTMA.

8 N. Market Street - Interim William J. McCauley, III, informed Council he receive an inquiry regarding a property for sale located at 8 N. Market Street from Christine and Arian Seseeri. Mr. and Mrs. Seseeri are interested in purchasing and or leasing the facility to open up a produce stand. The intentions would be to sell produce.

It was the consensus of Council for the applicant to come back with plan and intentions as to what they want they are planning on doing with the property.

Founder's Day - Assistant Secretary Linda L. Watts informed Council that Founders Day as a joint staff effort is coming along. Several recommendations for the event would be music, food, and moon bounce toy for the children, balloon clowns and a face painter and the Hatfield Volunteer Fire Department Fire Trucks on display. The event would take place on June 22, 2009 at Centennial Park from 5 -8 PM.

Mayor Kaler, III informed Council he received a thank you letter from the Peak Center for the Borough's generous contribution of \$500 to assist older residents.

#### 9. OTHER BUSINESS:

Stephanie Court Detention Basin - President Weierman updated Council on the detention basin storm water deterioration at Stephanie Court. Borough Engineer Mark Mattucci will look into the situation.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to adjourn the meeting of March 4, 2009. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Stevens and unanimously approved with a vote of 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Executive Session:

*Respectfully Submitted,*  
Linda L. Watts  
Assistant Secretary