

HATFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING
October 7, 2009

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

- () 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 four members of Council were present at roll call, as well as, Borough Manager, Michael J. DeFinis, Mayor, Robert L. Kaler, III, Josh Ganz from Timoney Knox and Assistant Secretary, Linda L. Watts. There was no media.

Vice President Farrall announced there was a Boy Scout in attendance that was trying to earn his Good Citizen badge.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Stevens to approve the Agenda of October 7, 2009. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Moyer and unanimously approved with a vote of 4-0.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Manager, DeFinis reviewed the announcements.

- Next Council meeting is October 21, Regular Meeting at 7:30 P.M.
- HERC will meet October 22, 2009 at 8:00 A.M.
- The Planning Commission will meet November 2, 2009 at 7:00 P.M.

3 REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

Budget, Finance and Labor: Vice President Farrall announced the Budget, Finance and Labor Committee met two times to work on and review the 2010 budget.

Public Safety: Councilmember Moyer informed Council the Public Safety Committee met and reviewed the 2010 budget with the Public Works Department, and that the security cameras are up and running.

Property and Equipment: Councilmember Stevens informed Council the Property and Equipment Committee met to discuss the 2010 budget.

Recycling: Mayor Kaler III informed Council the Recycling Commission met but was unable to attend the meeting.

4. MANAGER'S REPORT: Manager, DeFinis made the following announcements.

General Report and Project Updates.

- Enclosed in the packets is the 2010 priorities list that was developed at the retreat. The list will be part of the 2010 workshop meeting items.
- Public Works Director, Fred Leister and Manager DeFinis attended the PMEA & PMPA conferences last week at Penn State. Several items were addressed during the business meetings on Friday. PMEA and other communities that receive power supply from AMP have one seat on the board of directors. Vance Oaks from Grove City will be the representative. The group is recommending representatives from AMP serviced communities be present at the October 28, 2009 election to ensure the representative is from a PMEA community. PMEA & PMPA executive boards have recommended changes to their bylaws. The PMEA changes are being finalized the PMPA changes were adopted at the conference. A one time special legal assessment was requested for PMEA & PMPA legal services and lobbying efforts. The expense for each community will be included in the 2010 budget.
- Staff and Manager DeFinis are working on the 2010 budget. The intent is to have a draft for review at the November 4th workshop meeting. As well as working on the budget staff is planning for next year with a focus on revitalization plan implementation and the Council generated priorities list.
- The Borough received documentation of \$237,081.63 returned to the Borough from the parking lot grant. The parking lot grant punch list needs to be completed. The sign may not be covered.
- In discussion of the budget process it was identified that the Fire Safety Inspection Fees have not been increased for over nine years. The Budget, Finance and Labor Committee chose a \$5.00 increase per inspection category. The inspections are carried out every other year and the cost covers the work. We have identified that going back and reexamining and re inspections have become cumbersome and the \$5.00 increase will cover that.
- The bid documents for the Chestnut Street bridge revamping will be on the next meeting agenda.

5. ACTION ITEMS:

- Motion to approve Advertisement of the Grass Cutting Bid for one and two year contracts.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to approve advertisement of the Grass Cutting Bid for one and two year contracts. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote of 4-0.

Manager DeFinis answered questions regarding the certification of the Public Works Manager and where he would spray for weeds and the number of cuts per year.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Manager DeFinis reviewed the Discussion Items.

- 309 / PA Turnpike Connector Road
- Montgomery County Planning Commission Ordinance review letter
- D.E. Walker / William Cooper letter and Resolution
- Penn Suburban Chamber of Commerce request
- Assessment Appeals
- Township Golf Outing thank you
- Business Façade Improvement Program Extension
- Retreat Projects List

Manager DeFinis updated Council on the 309 / PA Turnpike Connector Road. The road project was awarded to Allen Myers. A letter to the Borough has been sent to Representative Godshall. Representative Godshall is going to address the letter with PennDOT and the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

Manager DeFinis updated Council on the Montgomery County Planning Commission Ordinance review letter from Anne Leavitt-Gruberger. The three issues were discussed at the Planning Commission meeting. 1) The size limit of the Accessory Buildings. 2) Outdoor Dining in the Core Commercial District. 3) Riparian Corridor Ordinance. Representative Joshua Ganz reviewed and answered questions regarding the Planning Commission letter from Anne Leavitt-Gruberger and Borough Solicitor Catherine M. Harper.

Manager DeFinis updated Council on the Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper's letter dated September 22, 2009 to William R. Cooper, Esquire regarding D.E. Walker and the outstanding issues. 1) Mr. Walker had apparently constructed a small addition to the steel building without benefit of a building permit. 2) The steel building was originally to be used for storage but was then converted to a manufacturing or assembly use, a nonconforming use in that location, with a promise that the occupants of the building would use a bathroom in the main building. 3) Weeds along Mr. Walker's property. A discussion ensued.

Manager DeFinis updated Council on the Penn Suburban Chamber of Commerce request for contribution to the 29th Annual Local Heroes Banquet. It was the consensus of

Council for Hatfield Borough to participate this year as in the past years. The tickets will be given to the Fire Department and the Police Department .

Manager DeFinis informed Council Borough Solicitor, Catherine M. Harper will handle the Assessment Appeals. Joshua Ganz will coordinate with Solicitor Harper and gave Council an overview of what happens in the Assessment Appeals process.

Manager DeFinis informed Council that the Hatfield Township Board of Commissioners and the 2009 Golf Outing Planning Committee thanked Borough Council for there contribution and participation in the September 14th event.

Manager DeFinis informed Council the extension request for the Business Façade Improvement Program approved by the County Community Revitalization Board on September 22, 2009 . The project has been granted an extension to January 31, 2011. There will be not further extensions.

Manager DeFinis asked Council to let him know if there are any corrections that need to be made to the 2010 projects list.

Manager DeFinis informed Council the Borough Association Dinner/Meeting is October 22, 2009 at Marjeane Caterers and is hosted by Lansdale and North Wales Boroughs.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion: A motion was made by Councilmember Moyer to adjourn the meeting of October 7, 2009. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kroesser and unanimously approved with a vote of 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Executive Session:

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda L. Watts, Assistant Secretary