

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

PUBLIC MEETING held via Webex video/teleconference

PRESENT: Colleen Leonard, Council President
Tina Sokolowski, Council Vice-President
Robert Stokley, Senior Council Member
Anita Barton, Council Member
Jane Flanagan, Council Member
James Griffin, Council Member
Karen Tutino, Council Member
Yaniv Aronson, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT: Stephanie Cecco, Borough Manager
Michael E. Peters, Borough Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held remotely using the Webex platform. Ms. Colleen Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Leonard thanked everyone for attending the virtual Council meeting. She reviewed the meeting logistics and participation instructions. She announced that an Executive Session was held immediately prior to the regularly scheduled public meeting regarding property matters.

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

There were no land use matters, public hearings and ordinances.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

a.) Ratify Resolution 2020-06 establishing emergency protocols

Ms. Cecco explained that the resolution allows for administration to allocate resources within the fiscal year 2020 budget, specially related to Emergency Management resources that are required to serve the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Griffin made a motion to ratify Resolution 2020-06 establishing emergency protocols, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Ratify Proclamation 2020-01/Resolution 2020-07 declaring a local state of emergency

Mr. Peters shared that due to the outbreak of COVID-19, the Mayor declared a state of emergency by Proclamation for a period of seven (7) days. He explained that Borough Council must ratify the Proclamation and extend the state of emergency for a period of 30 days by approving a resolution.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to ratify Proclamation 2020-01/Resolution 2020-07 declaring a local state of emergency, seconded by Ms. Flanagan. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider approving Resolution 2020-08 modifying the Real Estate Tax regulations

Mr. Peters explained that the proposed resolution would modify the date of issued Real Estate Tax notices for 2020 to March 31, 2020, with the discount period closing as of May 31, 2020.

Mr. Stokley made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-08 modifying the Real Estate Tax notice issuance date and discount period, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

MANAGER MATTERS

a.) Consider appointing Housing Rehabilitation Program Consultants

Ms. Cecco shared that bids for Housing Rehabilitation Program Consultants were received through an RFP process. She reviewed bid tabulations for Intake Coordinator and Environmental Consultant for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. She shared the recommendation of Chris Stetler, Community Development and Grants Coordinator, to appoint Nancy Nugent as the Intake Coordinator and D-Tech Environmental Testing as the Environmental Consultant.

Ms. Barton made a motion to appoint Nancy Nugent as the Intake Coordinator for the Housing Rehabilitation Program for a period of three (3) years and D-Tech Environmental Testing as the Environmental Consultant to the Housing Rehabilitation Program for a period of three (3) years, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider approving Resolution 2020-09 approving the Sewer Facilities Planning Module for Matson Mill

Ms. Cecco explained that the developers of the Matson Mill project are required to prepare a Sewage Facilities Planning Module as part of the land development process. She asked Council to consider approving the Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the Matson Mill project.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-09 approving the Sewer Facilities Planning Module for Matson Mill, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider authorizing advertisement of Ordinance 01-2020 designating certain parking spaces and/or parking areas as 2-hour parking during certain hours on Maple Street

Ms. Cecco stated that Council had previously authorized advertisement of the ordinance at the February Voting Meeting. She explained that since the March Voting meeting was canceled, the ordinance must be re-advertised.

Ms. Tutino asked Council to consider revising the ordinance to provide 2-hour parking regulations from Monday-Friday only. Mr. Stokley inquired about the work schedule for construction projects. Ms. Tutino recommended that Council table the item until the Parking Task Force reviews Council's recommendation to regulate parking during weekdays only. Council agreed.

d.) Consider approving a resolution to establish a residential permit parking on Maple Street between West Elm Street and West Third Avenue

This item was tabled.

e.) Consider authorizing advertisement of Ordinance 02-2020 amending powers and operational procedures of the EAC

Ms. Cecco explained how the ordinance amendment clarifies operational procedures of the EAC.

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize advertisement of Ordinance 02-2020 amending powers and operational procedures of the EAC, seconded by Ms. Flanagan. The motion carried 7-0.

f.) Consider approving the final financial security release for 120 West Eleventh Avenue in the amount of \$27,672.60

Mr. Griffin made a motion to approve the final financial security release for 120 West Eleventh Avenue in the amount of \$27,672.60, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

g.) Consider approving 120 West Eleventh Avenue professional services escrow release no. 1 in the amount of \$5,026.22

Ms. Leonard made a motion to approve 120 West Eleventh Avenue professional services escrow release no. 1 in the amount of \$5,026.22, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

h.) Consider approving 304 East Hector Street financial security release no. 2 in the amount of \$1,200.00

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve 304 East Hector Street financial security release no. 2 in the amount of \$1,200.00, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

i.) Consider approving 204 East Eighth Avenue financial security release no. 3 in the amount of \$24,399.50

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve 204 East Eighth Avenue financial security release no. 3 in the amount of \$24,399.50, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

j.) Consider approving Resolution 2020-10 authorizing the Borough Manager to execute the ARLE Grant Agreement and all future grant-related documents

Ms. Cecco shared that in 2019 the Borough applied for and was awarded a grant pursuant to the Automated Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) Funding Program for Fayette Street pedestrian safety improvements, specifically warning devices at the intersections of 4th Avenue and 7th Avenue. She identified sources for cost sharing and reviewed cost share contributions. She asked Council to consider approving the resolution at the April Voting meeting. Ms. Leonard had a question about the type of warning devices to be installed. Brian Keaveney, Borough Traffic Engineer, explained that rectangular rapid-flashing beacons would be installed on overhead mast arms.

k.) Consider approving the ARLE Project Funding Agreement

Ms. Cecco asked Council to review the ARLE Project Funding Agreement for consideration at the April Voting Meeting.

l.) Consider approving change order no. 2 for the 2019 Road Program

Ms. Cecco shared that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the contract times for the 2019 Road Program must be extended. She explained that change order no. 2 modifies the contract times to have all work completed after April 1, 2020 once the state approves construction to resume. Ms. Cecco mentioned that change order is at no cost to the Borough.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve Change Order no. 2 for the 2019 Road Program, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

DEPARTMENT MATTERS

There were no department matters.

LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal matters.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson thanked emergency service personnel and Borough Administration for continuing to serve the community during the pandemic. He recognized residents for their patience and compliance during the pandemic. He shared resources for information relative to COVID-19.

Mr. Stokley encouraged everyone to stay home.

Ms. Barton encouraged residents to reach out to the Borough if they are in need during the ongoing pandemic.

Ms. Sokolowski urged residents to visit the Borough website for information and updates relative to the pandemic.

Ms. Flanagan thanked residents for supporting the Colonial Neighborhood Council and shared information on how to donate to the organization.

Mr. Griffin thanked Public Services for continuing to provide trash and recycling services during the pandemic.

Ms. Leonard thanked Borough Administration for continuing to serve the community remotely.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brittany Rogers, Executive Assistant to the Borough Manager, announced that four (4) individuals submitted public comment via email. She read the public comments.

Hannah Conroy, 132 Maple Street, expressed objection to the Maple Street parking regulations. She explained how establishing a permit parking system would cause issues for residents on Maple Street and the nearby cross streets.

Jessica Fraser, 2nd and Maple, suggested that construction workers be required to park in a designated off-street parking area. She expressed a concern about providing proof of residency as a renter. She commented on how the parking regulations would impact business at Guppy's Good Times.

Emily Kilefner, 132 Maple Street, discussed the Maple Street parking regulations. She commented on how the parking regulations would impact guests to her home and patrons of Guppy's Good Times. She recommended that Council designate an area for construction vehicles.

Emma Scarloss, 2nd and Maple, shared that she has not experienced a parking issue on Maple Street. She expressed a concern about providing proof of residency as a renter.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary