

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT:

Colleen Leonard, Council President
Jane Flanagan, Council Vice-President
Robert Stokley, Senior Council Member
Anita Barton, Council Member
Tina Sokolowski, 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 at the Conshohocken Borough Hall, 400 Fayette Street, Conshohocken, PA. Ms. Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

INTERVIEWS FOR PARKING TASK FORCE

a.) 6:00 PM – First Interview

Mary Ann Costello, resident, was the first interviewee of the evening. Ms. Leonard asked why she would like to serve on the Parking Task Force. Ms. Costello replied that she would like to channel her frustration about the parking situation into something constructive. Mr. Stokley asked if there is a particular issue that she believes needs to be addressed. She discussed the lack of parking for residents in the upper avenues and confirmed that line striping could potentially increase the number of available parking spaces. Ms. Sokolowski asked how she would define the success of the Task Force. Ms. Costello defined success as the identification of parking solutions. Ms. Tutino asked what resources the Task Force needs to be successful. Ms. Costello replied the involvement of stakeholders from varying backgrounds and with varying interests and knowledge.

b.) 6:10 PM – Second Interview

Rita Montemayor, resident, was the next applicant to interview. Mr. Stokley asked why she would like to serve on the Parking Task Force. She replied that she feels very passionate about the parking situation in the Borough and that she is willing to volunteer her time and effort to identify and implement parking solutions. Ms. Montemayor confirmed that she served on the Borough's Comprehensive Plan Task Force, which provides her with an understanding of the Borough-wide parking needs. Ms. Tutino inquired about resources needed to be successful. Ms. Montemayor replied that a resolution would require significant analysis of the Borough's current parking rules and regulations and current parking conditions throughout the entire Borough.

c.) 6:20 PM – Third Interview

Julian Miraglia, Borough property owner and developer, was the next interviewee. Mr. Stokley asked why he would like to serve on the Parking Task Force. He explained how his service on the Borough's original Parking Authority could help contribute to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Task Force. Ms. Sokolowski inquired about most critical action item for the Task Force. Mr. Miraglia replied seeking funding to build a parking structure to accommodate current and future parking needs as the Borough continues to grow and develop. He provided a brief overview of how to get a parking structure built, which included planning and site analysis, applying for federal and state funding programs and collaborating with the Borough's Economic Development Council. Mr. Griffin inquired about the congestion caused by truck drivers making deliveries at peak traffic times. Mr. Miraglia suggested enforcing off-peak delivery hours

and establishing designated loading and unloading areas off of Fayette Street. Ms. Sokolowski inquired about outcomes that would give the perception that the Task Force was successful. He replied that visual results, such as a parking structure, would give the perception of success.

d.) 6:30 PM – Fourth Interview

The next interviewee was Betty Stanley, owner of Pasta Via. Ms. Stanley shared proposed solutions to the Borough's parking issues, which included constructing a parking structure, utilizing a trolley system, establishing parking regulations, such as time limit parking spaces, and scheduling deliveries during off-peak hours. Council and Ms. Stanley discussed the idea of shared parking in existing lots after business hours. Ms. Sokolowski inquired about outcomes that would give the perception that the Task Force was successful. She replied the implementation of alternative modes of transportation and revised parking regulations.

e.) 6:40 PM – Fifth Interview

James Flanigan, owner of Flanigan's Boathouse, was the next applicant to interview. Mr. Stokley asked why he would like to serve on the Parking Task Force. Mr. Flanigan stated that parking is a critical issue affecting residents and the economic success of the businesses. Mr. Stokley inquired about truck deliveries. Mr. Flanigan reviewed when and where trucks typically make deliveries. He explained how customer parking impacts residential districts and stressed the importance of establishing adequate parking in the commercial district in order to reduce customer parking in residential areas.

f.) 6:50 PM – Sixth Interview

The final interviewee was Stacy Ellam, resident and member of the Planning Commission. Mr. Stokley asked why she would like to serve on the Task Force. Ms. Ellam responded that as a Planning Commission member she is aware of the parking issues faced by business owners and residents. She confirmed that parking issues and solutions vary depending on the area of the Borough. She proposed parking solutions for downtown, which included constructing a parking lot or structure, increasing parking enforcement and evaluating parking regulations. She also proposed parking solutions for the upper avenues, which included creating a parking system, striping parking lines and increasing the size of garages. Ms. Sokolowski asked what success would look in one (1) year. Ms. Ellam explained that success would be addressing the top one or two parking concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary