

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING
Wednesday, April 15th, 2015

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Mayor
Paul McConnell, Council President
Mr. James Griffin, Council Vice-President
Karen Tutino, Council Member
Anita Barton, Council Member
Matthew Ryan, Council Member
Robert Stokley, Council Member
Edward Phipps, Council Member

ALSO PRESENT: Richard J. Manfredi, Borough Manager
Michael Savona, Borough Solicitor
Paul Hughes, Borough Engineer
Stephanie Cecco, Director of Recreation Services & Parks

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held at Conshohocken Borough Hall, 8th Avenue & Fayette Street, Conshohocken, Pa. Mr. Paul McConnell, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PRAYER FOR COUNCIL

Mrs. Tina Sokolowski read a prayer for Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made.

PRESENTATIONS

- a.) **Presentation of resolution 2015-04 recognizing Lieutenant George Metz for graduating from the School of Police Staff and Command at Northwestern University.**

Mr. McConnell introduced the item and invited Mayor Frost to read the resolution aloud to Lieutenant George Metz. Mr. McConnell then invited Chief Orler to comment on Lt. Metz's achievement. Chief Orler shared that Lt. Metz received all A's in the courses he took while attending Northwestern University. Chief Orler detailed highlights of Lt. Metz's career from when he began part-time as a county prison guard for Montgomery County in 1985 to his promotion to Lieutenant in 2014. Chief Orler added that Lt. Metz has received many commendations throughout his career, he is reliable, honest, and a good friend. Mr. McConnell invited Lt. Metz to speak and Lt. Metz shared that the hardest thing to believe is that he got straight A's, a 95.7 average.

Mr. McConnell thanked Lt. Metz for all that he does for the community and introduced the consent agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a) **Consider accepting Proclamation 2015-01 recognizing May as Cancer Research and Prevention Month.**

Mr. McConnell invited Ms. Stephanie Cecco, Director of Recreation Services and Parks, to read the proclamation aloud.

- b) **Consider accepting Resolution 2015-07 honoring St. Paul's Baptist Church for their 90th Anniversary Celebration.**

Mr. McConnell stated that Mr. McConnell and Mr. Griffin would present this resolution on Friday, April 10, 2015 at the dinner being held in honor of their 90th Anniversary Celebration.

- c) **Consider Conshohocken Police Association request to hold the Conshy 5K Run, scheduled for Saturday, April 25th, and approve related temporary road closures.**

Mr. McConnell invited council to make a motion to accept the consent agenda. Ms. Barton made a motion to accept and Mr. Griffin seconded the item. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. McConnell invited attendees to ask any questions that they may have related to the consent agenda. Mr. Ryan asked what time the Police 5K race started and no one was able to confirm the exact time. Mr. Ryan explained that the Conshohocken Rowing Center dedication ceremony is scheduled for the same day. Ms. Tutino clarified that the dates were incorrect on the agenda; the agenda originally read that the Police 5K was on Saturday, April 26th, but Saturday would actually be the 25th so there would be no conflict between the two weekend events.

Mr. McConnell invited attendees to share public comment. A woman approached the microphone and shared that she would like to thank the Borough of Conshohocken for permitting the Relay for Life event and for the Borough's involvement; she added that this year would be the event's 5th year anniversary.

Mr. McConnell asked if there were any other comments and none were shared. He then named the next agenda item and invited Mr. Manfredi to introduce the item.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a.) **Consider TN Ward change order requests for New Borough Hall.**

Mr. Manfredi explained that, at the work session, there were a lot of questions regarding the change orders that were discussed. The items that were recommended changes on the list provided at the work session were compiled into Change Order Request #3; however, Mr. Manfredi wanted to address the items that were not on Change Order # 3 though they were discussed at the previous meeting: the access control system and the costs associated therewith and the changes to the lockers in

the police department. Mr. Manfredi explained that they were not on the agenda that evening because the information was incomplete.

Mr. Manfredi then asked that Mr. Hughes read and explain the list of items present on Change Order # 3. Mr. Hughes explained that Change Order # 3 would total \$251,779.80. If Change Order # 3 were approved, the Borough will have allocated \$10,876,100.40 towards the project though the original contract value was \$10,709,600.00. After Mr. Hughes presented the list of items, Mr. McConnell asked what the will of Council was on the matter. Mr. Stokley responded that many of the items were unforeseen and, in his opinion, the Borough should approve the change order so that the Borough could continue making progress on the building. Mr. Griffin and Ms. Barton agreed. With no further comment from Council, Mr. McConnell asked if any member of Council would like to make a motion to approve the change order.

Mr. Stokley made a motion to approve Change Order #3 and was seconded by Mr. Griffin.

Mr. McConnell asked if there were any comments from the public and a resident, Ms. Jackie Cole, shared her concern that relocating the production room door would cost \$10,000.00. Mr. Manfredi clarified that the exact fee was \$6,240.00 and explained that much of the cost is associated with changes to the data and power block to the production room.

Mr. Manfredi added that it should be noted that, when a new building is under construction, a municipality needs to budget for changes and additional costs that may arise as construction is underway, and that the Borough is prepared for this situation.

After the discussion, the motion carried 7-0.

Before moving on to new business, Mr. Stokley asked if Mr. Greg Kane, Construction Manager from Keystone Property Group, could share the details of their earlier conversation regarding the retaining wall. Mr. Kane explained that there is a mock-up of the proposed retaining wall with a form liner and that he did not think it looked the way the Borough had requested; a stucco coat or brick may provide a nicer finished appearance. Mr. McConnell then asked whether it would be possible to construct the wall and then add the finish later and Mr. Kane replied that that was possible. Mr. Manfredi clarified that, if the wall is put up without any form liner, construction could continue without any immediate action required from Council and there was no further discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to be introduced.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Jackie Cole asked if the Borough had considered enforcing a no soliciting policy. She further explained that she has had solicitors come to her home two or three times a week and that it is her understanding that all they require is a \$100.00 permit from the Borough to do so. Mr. Ryan replied that this question had come up before and that she could add her name to a no solicitation list at the Borough office. Mr. Savona explained that there

are first amendment rights in place permitting the solicitors to solicit just the same as she is permitted to speak openly in the Council chambers. He shared that the Borough has required solicitors to register and provide identification for public safety and it continues to maintain a no solicitation list that she may add her name to if she does not want to be solicited. Mr. Savona continued that, when someone gets a permit, they receive a listing of the places where they may not solicit and, if they do, the Borough can penalize them for failure to comply with its ordinance.

Mr. McConnell added that, if someone does come to a resident's home and cannot produce a permit, the resident should contact the police; he also stated that residents should check that the date on a permit, if produced, is not expired. After discussion of Ms. Cole's first item concluded, she brought up another topic for consideration.

Ms. Cole shared that she recently purchased a puppy and was enjoying the dog park near Londonbury but that the location is inconvenient. She asked if there were any considerations for adding a dog park on the upper West side of the Borough. Ms. Barton stated that she was very interested in adding that amenity but that her request to do so was denied. Ms. Cole asked if she should start a petition and Council invited her to do so if she felt so compelled.

Another resident, Mr. Donald Morrison, asked if the Borough could draft a proclamation honoring the 60th anniversary of the Conshohocken Little League in time for their event on Saturday, April 18th. He also shared that he had been working with Mrs. Stephanie Cecco, Director of Recreation Services and Parks, on the Donofrio tournament and that the Borough should be proud to have such an acceptable woman on staff. Mr. Manfredi commented that Mr. Charles Mascio did a fantastic job on the Donofrio tournament as well.

Mr. McConnell asked if there were any additional comments. Mr. Ryan reminded all that the Conshohocken Rowing Center Open House was scheduled for 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 26th and invited all to attend. Mr. McConnell announced that the Community Garden was nearly full and that anyone interested should submit applications within the next week. Mr. Stokley commended all involved once more on their great work on the Donofrio tournament.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Secretary