

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, December 20, 2021

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Colleen Leonard, Council President
Tina Sokolowski, Council Vice-President
Robert Stokley, Senior Council Member
Anita Barton, Council Member
James Griffin, Council Member
Kathleen Kingsley, 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 5:00 PM.

PRAYER FOR COUNCIL

Ms. Sokolowski read a Prayer for Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Council President announcements.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Recognition of Robert Stokley and James "Ike" Griffin

Borough Elected Officials presented Mr. Stokley and Mr. Griffin with plaques in recognition of outstanding service and dedication to the Borough of Conshohocken as elected members of Borough Council for 16 years (Griffin) and 20 years (Stokley).

b.) Recognition of 2021 Fire Stipend Recipients

Tim Gunning, Fire Chief, provided an overview of the fire stipend program, discussed how the program has helped with recruitment and retention, and thanked Council for approving the institution of the program. Mr. Gunning read the list of 2021 fire stipend recipients.

LAND USE, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Consider adopting Ordinance 07-2021 authorizing the refinancing of general obligation notes

Ms. Cecco briefly summarized the refinancing options for the Borough's General Obligations Notes. She explained that, based on the proposals received, the Borough could reduce the annual budgeted debt service costs by approximately \$173,800.00 per year. She asked Council to consider adopting an ordinance to authorize the refinancing of General Obligation Notes with Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust and Truist Bank.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to adopt Ordinance 07-2021 authorizing the incurrence of debt by the issuance of \$7,067,000 principal amount General Obligation Note, Series A of 2022 (Tax Exempt) and the issuance of \$1,028,000 principal amount General Obligation Note, Series B of 2022 (Federally Taxable) for the purpose of providing funds to fund a refinancing project and authorizing all other necessary actions in connection therewith, second by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an ordinance amendment to establish animal control regulations

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize advertisement of an ordinance amendment to establish animal control regulations, seconded by Ms. Sokolowski. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an ordinance amendment to establish to-go parking spaces within the Borough

Ms. Tutino made a motion to authorize advertisement of an ordinance amendment to establish to-go parking spaces within the Borough, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

- d.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an ordinance amendment to clarify fire services personnel

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize advertisement of an ordinance amendment to clarify fire services personnel, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

- e.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an amendment to the Borough's Solid Waste Ordinance

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to authorize advertisement of an amendment to the Borough's Solid Waste Ordinance, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Leonard read and reviewed the items included on the consent agenda.

- a.) Approve and adopt the November 3 and November 17 Regular Meeting Minutes and the November 3 Special Meeting Minutes
- b.) Approve the November-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable
- c.) Approve and adopt the FY 2022 Budget
- d.) Approve Resolution 2021-31 to levy real estate tax for 2022 and fix the rate thereof

Mr. Stokley made a motion to approve and adopt the November 3 and November 17 Regular Meeting Minutes and the November 3 Special Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the November-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,616,774.15, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Griffin made a motion to approve and adopt the FY 2022 Budget, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Kingsley made a motion approve Resolution 2021-31 to levy real estate tax for 2022 and fix the rate at 4.5 mils, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a.) Consider approving and authorizing advertisement of the 2022 meeting schedules for Borough Council and Boards & Commissions

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve and authorize advertisement of the 2022 meeting schedules for Borough Council and Boards and Commissions, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- a.) Consider approving 385 East Hector Street financial security escrow release no. 3 (final) in the amount of \$9,040.70

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve 385 East Hector Street financial security escrow release no. 3 (final) in the amount of \$9,040.70, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

- b.) Consider approving the release of zoning application escrows

Ms. Cecco read the list of zoning application escrows to be considered for release. She mentioned that the zoning applications under consideration have been heard and decisions have been issued.

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve the release of zoning application escrows for 331 West 7th Avenue in the amount of \$133.78; 824 Fayette Street in the amount of \$741.41; 101 East 7th Avenue in the amount of \$741.41; 900 Fayette Street in the amount of \$880.72; 450 Colwell Lane in the amount of \$286.89; 728 Maple Street in the amount of \$53.86; 1023 Fayette Street in the amount of \$701.21; SORA West in the amount of \$1,043.40; and 200 Block of Washington Street in the amount of \$3,709.95, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

- c.) Consider approving Resolution 2021-32 dissolving the Dog Park Advisory Committee

Ms. Cecco explained that the Dog Park Advisory Committee has fulfilled the goals and objectives set when the Committee was originally formed. The Dog Park is now fully incorporated into the operation of the Department of Recreation Services and Department of Public Services. Therefore, she recommended that Council consider dissolving the Dog Park Advisory Committee. She recognized and thanked the Committee members for their efforts and commitment to the Dog Park.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-32 dissolving the Dog Park Advisory Committee, seconded by Ms. Kinglsey. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider approving Resolution 2021-33 dissolving the Parking Task Force

Ms. Cecco explained that the Parking Task Force has made several recommendations which Borough Council has implemented, and as a result has served its purpose. Therefore, she recommended that Council consider dissolving the Parking Task Force. Ms. Cecco thanked the Task Force members for tackling parking-related issues in the Borough.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Resolution 2021-33 dissolving the Parking Task Force, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

e.) Consider approving the resignation of a Board and Commission member

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the resignation of Stacy Ellam from the Human Relations Commission, Parking Task Force and Planning Commission, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

f.) Consider approving the Second Addendum to the Employment Agreement for the Borough Manager for years 2022-2025

Mr. Griffin made a motion to approve the Second Addendum to the Employment Agreement for the Borough Manager for years 2022-2025, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson discussed and shared pictures from the Senior Holiday Luncheon, Winter Wonderland and Santa Around Town. He recognized Mr. Stokley and Mr. Griffin for their decades of service and thanked them for their mentorship and guidance.

Mr. Stokley wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Ms. Barton recognized Mr. Stokley and Mr. Griffin for their dedication and service to the Borough. She wished everyone a healthy and happy holiday.

Ms. Sokolowski wished everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Ms. Kingsley wished everyone a happy holiday and congratulated all the participants of Holiday House Decorating Contest for a job well done.

Mr. Griffin wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Ms. Tutino wished everyone a happy holiday.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Kosich, 227 East Hector Street, thanked Mr. Stokley and Mr. Griffin for their many years of service to the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary