

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

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, Interim 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. Colleen Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Leonard announced that there was an Executive Session held immediately prior to the meeting regarding a legal matter.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Fire Police Swearing In Ceremony, William Cox

Ms. Leonard invited William Cox to the podium where Mayor Aronson swore him in as a member of Fire Police.

b.) Conduct Interviews for Boards and Commissions

Ms. Cecco introduced Eliza Lanzutti, 300 East 8th Avenue, who was present to interview for the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). Ms. Lanzutti shared her professional background as an Architect and explained her interest in sustainable development and becoming involved in the community. Mayor Aronson asked if there is a specific initiative of the EAC that she would like to be involved in. Ms. Lanzutti identified the solar panel initiative, specifically researching policies and installation and educating residents. Ms. Lanzutti added that she would like to raise awareness regarding small-scale initiatives, such as the use of water efficient fixtures and energy star certified appliances.

Ms. Cecco introduced Christopher Jensen, 444-1/2 West 6th Avenue, who was present to interview for the Environmental Advisory Council. Mr. Jensen shared his professional background as a Civil Engineer and discussed his involvement in several projects that focused on green design and stormwater infrastructure. He explained how his professional skills and experience could help contribute to the environmental stewardship of the Borough. Ms. Flanagan asked him to identify his favorite project. He identified a project for the Community College of Philadelphia, which incorporated several different green design elements, such as rain gardens, rainwater harvesting and green roofs. Ms. Sokolowski asked if he has any experience working with grants. Mr. Jensen stated that he has applied for grants for municipal clients and confirmed that he could assist the Borough with gaining access to funds.

Ms. Cecco introduced Daniel Swartley McArdle, 403 West 5th Avenue, who was present to interview for the Environmental Advisory Council. Mr. Swartley McArdle shared his professional background as a Clinical Microbiologist and an adjunct professor and explained how he would like to use his skills as an educator to

teach residents about best practices. He discussed his involvement in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Public Participation Task Force and the Delaware River Port Authority Citizen Advisory Committee. Ms. Flanagan asked if there is a particular issue that he believes needs to be addressed by the EAC. He identified river water and Schuylkill River Trail (SRT) maintenance. Ms. Flanagan asked what he believes to be the role of the EAC. Mr. Swartley McArdle responded that he believes the role of the EAC is to identify and implement affordable strategies associated with conservation and renewable energy. Mayor Aronson asked how he could assist with educating the public and helping them understand more complicated terms. He stressed the importance of finding language that speaks to general public consumption.

Ms. Cecco announced that there is one (1) vacancy on the EAC and asked Council to consider appointing an applicant at the April Voting Meeting.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

a.) Council Discussion on Borough Ordinance Revisions

Ms. Cecco explained that with the completion of the Comprehensive Plan Update, the next step is to revise some of the Borough Ordinances to reflect the action plans in the Comprehensive Plan. She provided a brief summary of the administrative and legal process for making ordinance revisions. Ms. Cecco reviewed a list of Ordinances that both Council and Administration has recommended be reviewed for potential revisions.

b.) Council Discussion on Borough Auditor appointment

Ms. Cecco stated that Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. was appointed in 2016 to conduct the Borough's annual financial audits for FY15, FY16 and FY17. With their contract ending, Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider either reappointing Bee, Bergvall & Co., PC or authorizing Borough Administration to begin the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. She summarized the proposals received for Professional Auditing Services in 2015 and provided an overview of the financial accomplishments achieved with the assistance of Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. Ms. Cecco recommended that Council consider reappointing Bee, Bergvall & Co., P.C. at their April Voting Meeting.

MANAGER MATTERS

a.) Consider approving a block party request for the 200 Block of West 3rd Avenue

Ms. Cecco invited Frank Costa, point of contact for the block party, to approach the podium. Mr. Costa provided an overview of the event and confirmed that he is working with the Conshohocken Bocce Club to coordinate event logistics. Ms. Sokolowski voiced support of the block party, stating that this type of event helps to create distinct neighborhoods within the Borough, which is a goal of the Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve the block party request at the 200 block of West 3rd Ave contingent upon all Borough Administrative requirements, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider approving the request for the sale and consumption of alcohol at Philadelphia Phoenix games at the A-field

Ms. Cecco introduced Michael Arcata, General Manager of the Philadelphia Phoenix. Ms. Cecco explained that the applicant has submitted the required licenses and permits. Mr. Arcata explained that this is an annual request for the sale and consumption of alcohol at the A-field during Ultimate Frisbee games. Council inquired about their season schedule and the average number of attendees, which Mr. Arcata responded. Mr. Griffin asked about security presence at their games. Ms. Cecco explained that the permit requires the applicant to work directly with the Police Department in the event of an issue.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the request for the sale and consumption of alcohol at Philadelphia Phoenix games at the A-field, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider approving the request for the sale and consumption of alcohol at Fight Rugby games at the A-field

Ms. Cecco introduced Tristan Sylk, representative of Fight Rugby. Mr. Sylk explained that this is an annual request for the sale and consumption of alcohol at the A-field at Fight Rugby games. Council members asked questions regarding the season schedule and the average number of attendees, which Mr. Sylk answered.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to approve the request for the sale and consumption of alcohol at Fight Rugby games at the A-field, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider approving Ordinance 01-2018 authorizing the participation of the Borough of Conshohocken in the Delaware Valley Property & Liability Trust

Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider approving Ordinance 01-2018, which would authorize the Borough to participate in the Delaware Valley Property & Liability Trust.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve Ordinance 01-2018 authorizing the participation of the Borough of Conshohocken in the Delaware Valley Property & Liability Trust, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Peters asked Council to appoint a Trustee to the Delaware Valley Property & Liability Trust to represent the Borough. He recommended that Council appoint the Borough Manager and authorize her to submit any forms to effectuate that election.

Ms. Flanagan made a motion to appoint Stephanie Cecco as Trustee for the Delaware Valley Property & Liability Trust, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

e.) Consider approving Ordinance 02-2018 authorizing the participation of the Borough of Conshohocken in the Delaware Valley Workers' Compensation Trust

Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider approving Ordinance 02-2018, which would authorize the Borough to participate in the Delaware Valley Workers' Compensation Trust.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Ordinance 02-2018 authorizing the participation of the Borough in the Delaware Valley Workers' Compensation Trust, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Peters asked Council to appoint a Trustee to the Delaware Valley Workers' Compensation Trust to represent the Borough. He recommended that Council appoint the Borough Manager and authorize her to submit any forms to effectuate that election.

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to appoint Stephanie Cecco as Trustee for the Delaware Valley Workers' Compensation Trust, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

f.) Consider authorizing the processing of the Delaware Valley Trust Agreements for both Property & Liability and Workers' Compensation

Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider processing of the Delaware Valley Trust Agreements for both Property & Liability and Workers' Compensation.

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize the processing of the Delaware Valley Trust Agreements for both Property & Liability and Workers' Compensation, seconded by Ms. Tutino. The motion carried 7-0.

g.) Project and goal status for FY18

Ms. Cecco provided a first quarter status update on 2018 goals.

DEPARTMENT MATTERS

a.) Consider authorizing the tuition reimbursement for Officer Sean Gregory

Mr. Griffin made a motion to authorize the tuition reimbursement for Officer Sean Gregory, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

LEGAL MATTERS

a.) Consider appointing a Board Member to Friends of Conshohocken Parks Inc.

Mr. Peters explained that a previously appointed Board Member has declined participation in the non-profit organization. Ms. Flanagan introduced the candidate for consideration, Antoinette Coupe. Mr. Stokley stressed the importance of interviewing candidates in the future. Mr. Peters explained that offices held by each member have been assigned by unanimous consent in lieu of an initial meeting for purposes of expediting the corporation bylaws.

Ms. Tutino made a motion to appoint Antoinette Coupe as a Board Member of the Conshohocken Parks Inc., seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

There were no Council Member and Mayor Matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Aronson announced that the EAC would be hosting a Streets Clean Up and provided the event details.

Mr. Griffin voiced a concern about residents leaving their trash and recycling cans at the curb following the Easter Holiday. Mr. Sokolowski, Director of Public Services and Licenses and Inspections, confirmed that citations were issued to residents.

George Gephardt, 131 West 12th Avenue, requested that Council consider approving the installation of a speed bump at the intersection of 12th Avenue and Maple Street. Mr. Gephardt explained that speeding and rolling stops are creating a safety issue. Mr. Peters recommended that the Police Department address individuals not stopping at the stop sign. Mr. Peters confirmed that Borough staff and consultants would evaluate the installation of traffic calming measures in the area. Mr. Gephardt also suggested that Council consider changing the one-way streets in order to improve sight lines.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary