

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, August 5, 2020

PUBLIC MEETING held via GoToMeeting 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: Michael E. Peters, Borough Solicitor

PUBLIC HEARING ON CDBG APPLICATION

Ms. Leonard announced that the hearing on the CDBG application is canceled and would be rescheduled for the August Voting Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Conshohocken Borough Council duly advertised, was held remotely using the GoToMeeting platform. Colleen Leonard, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Leonard announced that the Borough received the COVID-19 Supplemental Firefighters Grant, which provides funding for the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) for the Borough's Fire Department. She stated that the total grant awarded was approximately \$50,000.00. Ms. Leonard asked Council to consider approving the Borough's acceptance of the COVID-19 Supplemental Firefighters Grant.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the Borough's acceptance of the COVID-19 Supplemental Firefighters Grant, seconded by Mr. Griffin. The motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Recognition of Service, EAC Member

Mayor Aronson shared that Matthew Breidenstein has resigned from his position as Chair and member of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). Mayor Aronson recognized Mr. Breidenstein for his service and contributions to the EAC and presented him with a plaque of appreciation.

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) SEPTA Station Project Zoning Hearing Board Application

Eric Johnson, Zoning Officer, provided an overview of the project, which consists of the construction of a Regional Rail Station, with ADA accessible full-length high-level platforms, a reconfigured parking lot, stormwater management facilities and an at-grade pedestrian crossing. He explained that the applicant is seeking variances related to development in the Flood Conservation District, and dimensional relief with regard to the proposed parking lot access drives, landscaping and lighting. Michael Gill, special counsel for the applicant, discussed the project. He reviewed each variance being requested. Ms. Barton asked questions related to access and lighting, which SEPTA representatives answered.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

There was no Council business.

MANAGER MATTERS

a.) Consider approving Resolution 2020-20 approving an extension of the local disaster emergency

Ms. Sokolowski made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-20 approving an extension of the local disaster emergency until September 2, 2020, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider approving 337 West Sixth Avenue financial security escrow release for demolition in the amount of \$12,100.00

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve 337 West Sixth Avenue financial security escrow release for demolition in the amount of \$12,100.00, seconded by Ms. Flanagan. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider accepting the resignation of an EAC and Vacancy Board member

Mr. Stokley made a motion to accept the resignation of Matthew Breidenstein from the Environmental Advisory Council and the Vacancy Board, seconded by Ms. Sokolowski. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider approving SORA West financial security release no. 2 in the amount of \$2,845,000.00

Ms. Flanagan made a motion to deny the SORA West financial security release no. 2 in the amount of \$2,845,000.00, seconded by Ms. Sokolowski. Mr. Stokley recused himself. The motion carried 6-0.

DEPARTMENT MATTERS

a.) Consider approving the revised Citizen Participation Plan for CDBG and HOME Programs

Ms. Leonard shared that the Citizen Participation Plan was revised to conform to the Department of Community and Economic Development's format and content by Chris Stetler, Community Development and Grant Coordinator. She asked Council to review the revisions for consideration of approval on August 19, 2020.

LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal matters.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson shared information about Conshy Strong Virtual Bingo, which is scheduled to be held on August 27, 2020. He also shared that Conshy Strong yard signs are on sale for \$10.00 each and that proceeds would go to the Colonial Neighborhood Council. Mayor Aronson thanked emergency services personnel for their hard work during tropical storm Isaias.

Ms. Barton thanked emergency services personnel for their hard work during tropical storm Isaias. She advised residents to report missing, abandoned or found bicycles to the Police.

Ms. Flanagan recognized the hard work and preparedness of emergency services personnel during tropical storm Isaias.

Superintendent Metz thanked Sergeant Lennon for his dedication and commitment to serving the Borough.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Brittany Rogers, Executive Assistant to the Borough Manager, stated that no public comments were received via email submission.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary