

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

PUBLIC MEETING

PRESENT: Tina Sokolowski, Council President
Kathleen Kingsley, Council Vice-President
Anita Barton, Senior Council Member
Alan Chmielewski, Council Member
Stacy Ellam, Council Member
Ralph Frey, Council Member
Adrian Serna, 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. Sokolowski, Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND INTERVIEWS

Ms. Sokolowski announced that an Executive Session was held immediately prior to the regularly scheduled public meeting on personnel, property, and legal matters.

Ms. Sokolowski welcomed four (4) new members to the Borough of Conshohocken team. She noted that the Borough was currently accepting applications for a new administrative assistant position until March 15th.

Ms. Sokolowski congratulated Borough employees who have recently been promoted.

- Dan Ingram – Stormwater Manager
- Mike Maxwell – Facilities Manager
- Derick Haley – Highway Manager
- Ernesto Contreras – Landscaping and Grounds Manager
- Anthony Scott – Driver
- James Shaffer – Stormwater Laborer
- William Gayle – Stormwater Laborer
- Shauna Wylesol – Executive Administrative Assistant for Operations
- Tim Gunning – Director of Fire Services
- Chris Small – Director of Licenses and Inspections

She thanked those employees for all of their hard work and dedication to the Borough of Conshohocken, making Conshohocken the premier place to Live, Work, Play and Grow!

a.) Presentation on a request for the installation of a GaGa Pit, Girl Scout Troop 7044

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Girl Scout Troop 7044 who formally presented their request for the installation of a GaGa pit at a Borough Park.

Mr. Frey made a motion to approve the installation of a GaGa pit at a final location recommended by Borough Administration and funded in part through the Friends of Conshohocken Parks, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider approving Proclamation 2024-01 recognizing the 150th anniversary of the Washington Fire Company

Ms. Anita Barton read a Proclamation on behalf of the Washington Fire Company celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Mr. Chmielewski made a motion to approve Proclamation 2024-01 recognizing Washington Fire Company's 150th anniversary, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Conduct interviews for vacancies on the Sewer Authority Board

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Christine Bertino who was present to interview for a vacancy on the Sewer Authority Board. Ms. Bertino expressed her interest in the position and discussed her background as it relates to the Sewer Authority Board.

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Liam McGuigan who was present to interview for a vacancy on the Sewer Authority Board. Mr. McGuigan expressed his interest in joining the Sewer Authority Board and explained why his background would be beneficial to the board.

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Jack Ambler who was present to interview for a vacancy on the Sewer Authority Board. Mr. Ambler gave a summary of his background and his reasoning for applying for the vacant position. He explained that he had been to a handful of EAC meetings and is excited for the opportunity to get more involved.

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Review of an amended preliminary/final land development plan for 401-433 Washington Street: KRE Acquisition Corp., Application (subject to 10.22.2014 Settlement Agreement)

Mr. Peters introduced the matter. He reminded Borough Council that this project is subject to a Settlement Agreement and Court Stipulation from 2014. He reviewed the applicants amended application to reduce the number of residential units. Mr. Peters turned it over to the applicants.

Noah Chrismer, applicant, reviewed the original application. Mr. Chrismer explained why they reduced the number of units and illustrated what that change would look like. He displayed technical drawings of the original and revised plan for reference.

b.) Consider adopting Ordinance 03-2024 amending the Borough's Fire Service ordinance to add the appointed position of Fire Captain to the hierarchy of authority as it applies to Fire Services in the Borough

Mr. Peters reviewed the Ordinance, adding the position of Fire Captain to the hierarchy of authority under Part 7 *Fire Service* of the Borough's Code of Ordinances. He explained that the ordinance provides that the Fire Captain is subject to the control and supervision of the Fire Chief.

Ms. Barton made a motion to adopt Ordinance 03-2024 amending the Borough's Fire Service Ordinance to add the appointed position of Fire Captain to the hierarchy of authority as it applies to Fire Services in the Borough, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Swearing in of a Code Enforcement Officer, Mayor Aronson

Mayor Aronson swore in Katelyn Wendling as Code Enforcement Officer

b.) Swearing in of a Fire Captain, Mayor Aronson

Mayor Aronson swore in Megan Klosterman as Fire Captain

c.) Presentation on a proposed Flyers Alumni Walk, Run, Ride Event in June of 2025, Brad Marsh, VP Community Development and President of Flyers Alumni

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Brad Marsh, Vice President of Community Development and President of Flyers Alumni, to discuss a proposed Flyers Alumni Walk, Run, and Ride Event in June of 2025.

Mr. Marsh gave an overview of the Flyers Alumni Association and their mission to support community-based programs. He explained the proposed concept of the event, noting the benefits of hosting it in the Borough of Conshohocken. He went through the potential festival components his team would like to incorporate. Based on previous events, the Flyers Alumni estimates that there will be about 1500 participants. Mr. Marsh presented a tentative timeline of the event.

d.) Presentation on the Sutcliffe Park Trail Renovation Project and the Sutcliffe Park Stormwater PRP project, Karen MacNair, Borough Engineer

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Karen MacNair, Borough Engineer, to present on the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction and MS4 PRP BMP project.

Ms. MacNair provided images of the trail's current conditions noting the several areas of deterioration. She displayed a map of the trail showing the existing path, the proposed extensions to the path and repairs. Ms. MacNair went through the scope of work for each project, including the installments of two rain gardens, an infiltration trench, and an underground dry extended detention basin. The total opinion of probable cost for the projects is \$2,010,000.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

a.) Consider approving the A-Field bid recommendation for the roof replacement project on the Field House

Ms. Sokolowski introduce Lauren Irizarry to discuss the project, bids received, and recommended contractor to award the project to.

Ms. Irizarry reviewed the current condition of the A-Field building, which was previously presented to Council during the 2023 budget meeting. After a thorough inspection of the entire building, it was determined that the existing roof needed to be replaced. Multiple proposals were received from roofing companies to satisfy the scope of work. Ms. Irizarry reviewed the approved budget for the project and recommended awarding the project to Munn Roofing.

MANAGER MATTERS

- a.) **Consider appointing a Voting Delegate for the 2024 Annual PSAB Conference**

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to appoint Anita Barton as the Borough's Voting Delegate for the 2024 Annual PSAB Conference, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

- b.) **Consider authorizing the final release of the SORA West Project Letter of Credit in the amount of \$956,010.60 contingent upon the Developer paying any outstanding legal, engineering, or administrative expenses.**

Mr. Chmielewski made a motion to authorize the final release of the SORA West Project Letter of Credit in the amount of \$956,010.60 contingent upon the Developer paying any outstanding legal, engineering, or administrative expenses, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

- c.) **Discussion on the future use of Borough Facilities by the Conshohocken Bears Organization**

Ms. Cecco reviewed the history between the Conshohocken Bears and the Borough of Conshohocken. She went through the issues and the public's complaints over the past four years. The recommendation is to discontinue the use agreement with the Conshohocken Bears.

LEGAL MATTERS

- a.) **Consider approving Resolution 2024-04 ratifying the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Borough of Conshohocken and the Conshohocken Sewer Authority regarding ownership and responsibility for the Storm Sewer system serving the Borough of Conshohocken**

Mr. Peters reviewed the Resolution based on the parameters of the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement and Bill of Sale between the Borough of Conshohocken and Sewer Authority regarding ownership and responsibility for the Storm Sewer System. He reminded Council that both agreements had been approved at the February Voting Meeting and they were now ratifying that approval through Resolution 2024-04.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-04 ratifying the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement, including the Form of Bill of Sale, between the Borough of Conshohocken and the Conshohocken Sewer Authority regarding ownership and responsibility for the storm sewer system serving the Borough of Conshohocken, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson reminded everyone about the Conshohocken Revolutionary War Hero event on February 20th. He announced that he and his family were raising money for the CHOP cardiac fundraiser. He shared photos from the annual Kindness Challenge event.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Tiernan, 1016 Harry Street, made comment on the proposed Flyers Alumni Event, the Sewer Authority interviews and recommended installing two Gaga pits instead of one. Ms. Tiernan inquired about the Sutcliffe Park Stormwater project and the walkability along the river.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary