

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, September 18, 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

PUBLIC HEARING ON 2024 CDBG APPLICATION

Chris Stetler, Community Development and Grant Coordinator, opened the second public hearing on the 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. Ms. Stetler shared that the Borough is eligible to receive \$150,366.00 in federal funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). She recommended that the available funding for community development activities be utilized for housing rehabilitation. She reviewed program costs for administration and construction. There was no public comment.

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, Borough Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Council President announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for agenda items only)

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Proclamation Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, Kathleen Kingsley, Council Vice President

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Proclamation 2024-06 celebrating national Hispanic Heritage Month and designate the third Friday of September as the Hispanic Day of Celebration in Conshohocken Borough, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Friends of Conshohocken Parks Presentation, Brian Magrann, Board President

Mr. Sokolowski introduced Brian Magrann, Board President of the Friends of Conshohocken Parks, to provide an update on the Friends of Conshohocken Parks. Mr. Magrann provided an update on the Board's financials and donation programs. He shared that the Board conducted a survey at a community event. He discussed the results of the survey and made recommendations based on those results.

c.) Sewer Authority Stormwater Management Update, Brent Wagner, Municipal Authority Executive Director

Brent Wagner, Executive Director of the Sewer Authority, was present to provide an update on the Sewer Authority's newly established stormwater program. Tyler Erg from HRG reviewed the stormwater program implementation timeline. He discussed correspondence with ratepayers and the Authority's proactive approach to the repair and replacement of inlets. Mr. Erg provided an overview of the financial report and discussed priorities for 2025.

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an ordinance accepting the dedication and opening of a roadway in the area of the 51 Washington Street land development project

Mike Peters reviewed the proposed ordinance accepting dedication and opening of a roadway associated with the 51 Washington Street land development project.

Mr. Frey made a motion to authorize advertisement of an ordinance accepting the dedication and opening of a roadway in the area of the 51 Washington Street Land Development Project, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a.) **Approve and adopt the August 7 and August 21 Regular Meeting Minutes**
- b.) **Approve the August-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable**

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve and adopt the August 7 and August 21 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Sokolowski noted that the accounts payable includes the \$4.1 million transfer of general operating funds from Fulton to Truist Bank.

Mr. Frey made a motion to approve the August-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$5,179,149.51, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a.) **Consider approving the Borough's 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMO)**

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the the Borough's 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension Plan in the amount of \$1,237,078.00, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve the Borough's 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Fire Pension Plan in the amount of \$57,975.00, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve the Borough's 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan in the amount of \$342,567.00, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

- b.) **Consider appointing an applicant to a vacancy on the Friends of Conshohocken Parks**

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to appoint Harry Ogletree to the Friends of Conshohocken Parks, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

- c.) **Consider appointing an applicant to a vacancy on the Mary Wood Park Commission**

Ms. Barton made a motion to appoint John Pedicino to the Mary Wood Park Commission, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- a.) **Consider approving a tuition reimbursement for Detective Bahn for the 2024 fall semester**

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve a tuition reimbursement for Detective Bahn for the 2024 fall semester in the amount of \$1,365 plus the cost of books, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

- b.) **Consider approving Resolution 2024-19 affirming the Borough's commitment to fair housing**

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-19 affirming the Borough's commitment to fair housing, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

- c.) **Consider approving Resolution 2024-20 designating a Section 504 Officer**

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-20 designating Christine Stetler as the Borough's Section 504 Officer, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

- d.) **Consider approving 401-433 Washington Street financial security escrow release for demolition in the amount of \$314,682.50**

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve 401-433 Washington Street financial security escrow release for demolition in the amount of \$314,682.50 contingent upon the Developer recording the approved land development plans, recording the land development and escrow agreements, and posting the related construction financial security, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

- e.) **Consider approving 400 West Elm Street financial security escrow release no. 4 in the amount of \$728,871.16**

Mr. Frey made a motion to approve 400 West Elm Street financial security escrow release no. 4 in the amount of \$728,871.16, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

f.) Consider approving change order no. 1 for the Sutcliffe Park Stormwater BMP project

Ms. Ellam made a motion to approve change order no. 1 for the Sutcliffe Park Stormwater BMP Project which results in a reduction of the contract amount by \$1,940.00, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

g.) Consider approving payment certificate no. 2 for the Sutcliffe Park Stormwater BMP project

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve payment certificate no. 2 for the Sutcliffe Park Stormwater BMP project in the amount of \$490,892.31 contingent upon receipt of the completed certified payrolls, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

h.) Consider approving zoning escrow releases for 440 East 9th Avenue and 200 East 4th Avenue

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve zoning escrow releases for 440 East 9th Avenue in the amount of \$229.05 plus interest and 200 East 4th Avenue in the amount of \$243.13 plus interest, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson shared highlights from the West Conshohocken 9/11 Memorial Service. He recognized the St. Mary & St. Mercurius Coptic Orthodox Church for hosting a successful Egyptian Festival. He provided event details for West Conshohocken's Founder's Day 5k. He reminded everyone about Destination Conshohocken's Conshy Strong Bingo event and the Police Department's annual shredding event.

Mr. Serna reminded everyone about Funfest and encouraged everyone to register to vote.

Ms. Sokolowski recognized Shauna Wylesol, Executive Director of Operations, for receiving GVF's 2024 Top TDM Professionals Under 40 Award for her work with the Conshohocken Cab.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary