

BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, December 4, 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. Tina Sokolowski, Borough Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Council President announcements.

PRESENTATIONS

a.) Recognition of 2024 Fire Stipend Recipients, Timothy Gunning, Fire Chief and Leo Costello, Assistant Fire Chief

Calvin Perlman, Deputy Fire Chief, recognized the fire stipend award recipients and service award recipients for 2024.

LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Discussion on preliminary/final land development for 127 East Elm Street

The applicant, Christina Pieri, discussed the revised plans to expand the proposed butterfly garden/amenity space to comply with the Borough's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance regarding public recreational open space.

b.) Discussion on Second Avenue Veterans Memorial Plaza Ordinance

Mr. Peters explained that the proposed ordinance amendment would establish a u-shaped, one-way street from and to Forrest Street and create a public square on the lower end of West Second Avenue closer to Fayette Street.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

a.) Conduct an interview for reappointment to the Human Relations Commission

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Deborah Stovall who was present to interview for reappointment to the Human Relations Commission. Ms. Stovall discussed her commitment to serve her community and the role of the Human Relations Commission.

b.) Conduct interviews for vacancies on the Planning Commission

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Chris Mundiath who was present to interview for a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Mr. Mundiath discussed his professional background in education and commercial real estate. He shared his volunteer experience and confirmed that he is available to commit his time to the Commission.

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Vincent Perozze who was present to interview for a vacancy on the Planning Commission. Mr. Perozze shared his interest in contributing to the growth and development of the Borough. He discussed how his professional qualifications would be beneficial to the Planning Commission.

c.) Discussion on the RFP for marketing services

Borough Council discussed and defined deliverables and goals for the marketing consultant for the FY2025 year. Council evaluated the firms to determine which firm meets the needs and expectations of Borough Council.

MANAGER MATTERS

a.) Discussion on the 2025 meeting schedules for Borough Council and Boards & Commissions

Ms. Cecco reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for Borough Council, which included meetings on the first and third Wednesday of each month and two (2) special budget meetings in September and November. She added that the schedule does not include Work Sessions in January and July. She reviewed proposed meeting schedules for Boards and Commissions. Ms. Cecco asked Council to consider approving and authorizing advertisement of the proposed 2025 meeting schedules at the Voting Meeting in December.

b.) Discussion on applicants for reappointment to Borough Boards and Commissions

Ms. Cecco reviewed list of applicants seeking reappointment to Borough Boards and Commissions. She asked Council to consider reappointing applicants at the Voting Meeting in December.

c.) Discussion on revisions to the fee schedule for 2025

Ms. Cecco reviewed recommended revisions to the fee schedule for 2025, which included roughly a 10% increase across the board for associated fees for the Departments of Licenses and Inspections and Recreation and the addition of a fee and escrow for a Floodplain Development Permit. Ms. Cecco discussed adding language associated with delinquent escrow payments for the Stormwater Management Permit Application.

d.) Discussion on a resolution setting compensation for the elected Tax Collector for the Borough of Conshohocken

Ms. Cecco explained that the Local Tax Collection Law states that any increase or reduction in the compensation or salary for the Tax Collector must be approved by resolution. Ms. Cecco reviewed the proposed resolution which sets the compensation rate and includes a 3% annual salary increase during the four-year term of the Tax Collector. Mr. Peters added that the proposed resolution allows for the Tax Collector to charge fees for the issuance of tax certifications and duplicate bills.

e.) Consider authorizing the Montgomery County Saint Patrick's Parade Committee to hold the 2025 annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Conshohocken

Ms. Cecco shared that the Montgomery County Saint Patrick's Parade Committee is requesting permission to hold the 2025 Saint Patrick's Day Parade on Fayette Street in Conshohocken on Saturday, March 15, 2025 with a rain date of Saturday, March 22, 2025.

f.) Consider approving the 2025 annual Conshy Classic 5K

Ms. Cecco explained that Conshohocken Fire Company No. 2 is requesting approval from Borough Council to host the annual Conshy Classic 5K to be held prior to the St. Patrick's Day Parade. She provided event details.

g.) Consider approving change order no. 4 for the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction and BMP Project

Ms. Cecco stated that that there is no cost associated with change order no. 4. She explained that the change order is to extend the contract times to include the next planting season.

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve change order no. 4 for the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction and BMP Project, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

h.) Consider approving payment certificate no. 5 for the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction and BMP Project

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve payment certificate no. 5 for the Sutcliffe Park Trail Reconstruction and BMP Project in the amount of \$305,462.99, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

i.) Consider approving the Provco Pineville Fayette pre-construction professional services escrow release no. 1 (final) in the amount of \$8,438.68 plus interest

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve the Provco Pineville Fayette pre-construction professional services escrow release in the amount of \$8,438.68 plus interest, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

j.) Consider approving 51 Washington Street maintenance bond release in the amount of \$216,604.57

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve 51 Washington Street maintenance bond release in the amount of \$216,604.57, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

k.) Consider approving payment application no. 5 for Lenni Electric Corp., Inc., for the Fayette Street Pedestrian Crossings Project

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve payment application no. 5 for Lenni Electric Corp., Inc., for the Fayette Street Pedestrian Crossings Project in the amount of \$48,742.61, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

DEPARTMENT MATTERS

There were no department matters.

LEGAL MATTERS

There were no legal matters.

COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson thanked everyone who shopped local on Small Business Saturday and shared pictures from the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. He shared information about Conshohocken Fire Company No. 2's Letters from Santa program.

Mr. Frey recognized the Public Services Department for their hard work with leaf collection.

Mr. Serna shared ways to prevent porch thieves during the holidays.

Ms. Sokolowski reminded residents about the Holiday Drive-in Movie and the Holiday House Decorating Contest.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco,
Borough Secretary