## BOROUGH OF CONSHOHOCKEN BOROUGH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

# 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, Borough Council President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### COUNCIL PRESIDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Ms. Sokolowski explained that public comments received from constituents following a livestreamed meeting, will be read into the record at the next applicable regularly scheduled public Council meeting. She stated that questions will be addressed either at the public meeting or through administrative procedures.

Ms. Sokolowski shared that she received a public comment from Erika Johnson, 343 East Elm Street. Ms. Johnson asked if the proposed internal circulation plan for the SEPTA surface parking lot, which proposes two-way traffic, provides for enough space for cars to pass safety. Ms. Sokolowski responded that the Borough professionals will evaluate the final plans submitted by SEPTA to ensure that there are sufficient passing lanes for vehicles in the proposed parking lot. Ms. Johnson asked if additional signage could be installed at the Schuylkill Trail Crossing for pedestrian and vehicular safety. Ms. Sokolowski replied that concerns related to the Schuylkill Trail will be forwarded to Montgomery County. Mr. Johnson suggested recognizing Black History Month in the Mayor's newsletter. Ms. Sokolowski acknowledged the comment. Ms. Johnson discussed increased volume and speeding on East Elm Street. Ms. Sokolowski stated that the concern has been forwarded to the attention of the Chief of Police who will continue to monitor the East Elm Street corridor for speeding violations.

Pastor Bertha Johnson of the Historic St. John AME Church agreed with Ms. Johnson's comment regarding speeding on East Elm Street.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT (for agenda items only)

There was no public comment pertaining to agenda items.

### PRESENTATIONS

# a.) Proclamation 2025-02 Recognizing Black History Month

Mayor Aronson read a proclamation recognizing Black History Month in the Borough of Conshohocken. Pastor Bertha Johnson of the Historic St. John AME Church was recognized by State Representative Greg Scott.

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve Proclamation 2025-02 recognizing Black History Month in Conshohocken Borough, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0

# LAND USE MATTERS, PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

a.) Consider approving Resolution 2025-03 approving a waiver of land development for the SEPTA Surface Parking Lot Project

Mr. Peters reviewed the requested waivers and conditions of approval per the proposed resolution.

Mr. Chmielewski made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-03 approving a waiver of land development for the SEPTA Surface Parking Lot Project, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider authorizing advertisement of the amendment to the Parking Ordinance

Ms. Barton made a motion to authorize advertisement of the amendment to the Parking Ordinance, 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 January 15 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b.) Approve the January-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to approve and adopt the January 15 Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the January-ending Treasurer's Report and Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,284,487.50, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a.) Consider authorizing advertisement of the 2023 CDBG Curb Ramp Installation Project

Mr. Serna made a motion to authorize advertisement of the 2023 CDBG Curb Ramp Installation Project, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

b.) Consider appointing an applicant to the Human Relations Commission

Mr. Frey made a motion to appoint Allison Rehmann to the Human Relations Commission, seconded by Ms. Ellam. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an RFP for the purchase of public space trash receptacles

Ms. Kingsley made a motion to authorize advertisement of an RFP For the purchase of public space trash receptacles, seconded by Ms. Barton. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider authorizing advertisement of an RFP for the replacement of windows at the A-Field

Mr. Serna made a motion to authorize advertisement of an RFP for the replacement of windows at the A-Field, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

## NEW BUSINESS

a.) Conduct an interview for a vacancy on the Friends of Conshohocken Parks

Ms. Sokolowski introduced Chris Mundiath who was present to interview for the Friends of Conshohocken Parks. Mr. Mundiath discussed his experience with fundraising and explained how he hopes to contribute to the Friends of Conshohocken Parks. He discussed his passion for giving back to his community.

b.) Consider approving Resolution 2025-04 authorizing the submission of a Montco 2040 Implementation Grant application for the Veteran's Memorial Plaza Project

Mr. Chmielewski made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-04 authorizing the submission of a Montco 2040 Implementation Grant application for the Veteran's Memorial Plaza Project in the amount of \$250,000.00, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

c.) Consider approving zoning escrow releases for 313 West Sixth Avenue and 541 East Hector Street

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve zoning escrow releases for 313 West Sixth Avenue in the amount of \$255.23 plus interest and 541 East Hector Street in the amount of \$259.61 plus interest, seconded by Mr. Serna. The motion carried 7-0.

d.) Consider approving a tuition reimbursement for Detective Bahn for the 2025 spring semester

Ms. Ellam made a motion to approve a tuition reimbursement for Detective Bahn for the 2025 spring semester in the amount of \$1,365 plus the cost of books, seconded by Mr. Frey. The motion carried 7-0.

e.) Consider approving payment application no. 2 for the Traffic Signal Modernization Project along East and West Elm Streets

Mr. Serna made a motion to approve payment application no. 2 for the traffic signal modernization project, specifically: E. Elm and Harry St. in the amount of \$16,649.97, W. Elm and Colwell Lane in the amount of \$114,865.61, W. Elm and Maple Street in the amount of \$20,884.26, and W. Elm and Oak Street in the amount of \$16,365.82, seconded by Ms. Kingsley. The motion carried 7-0.

f.) Consider approving 400 West Elm Street professional services escrow release no. 1 in the amount of \$212,313.86

Ms. Barton made a motion to approve the 400 West Elm Street professional services escrow release No. 1 in the amount of \$212,313.86, seconded by Mr. Chmielewski. The motion carried 7-0.

# COUNCIL AND MAYOR MATTERS

Mayor Aronson shared pictures from the Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby event. He announced that he and his family are among the official ambassadors for this year's CHOP Philly Spin-In cardiac fundraiser. He shared details about joining or contributing to the Conshohocken Spin Team. He announced that he and his wife welcomed their second child.

Ms. Barton encouraged everyone to show support for children's heart disease.

Mr. Serna recognized Public Services for the substantial contributions they make to the health, safety, and quality of life of the community.

Ms. Sokolowski thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting to celebrate Black History Month. She recognized the Conshohocken Fire Department who is providing mutual aid to Abington Township for an ongoing industrial fire.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

# ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Cecco, Borough Secretary