

**CAMP HILL BOROUGH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
2145 WALNUT STREET, PROSSER HALL
CAMP HILL, PA 17011
December 9, 2015**

President Peter Robelen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council Members present were:

Terri Edwards
Richard Guerin
Peter Robelen
Carl Schultz
Leigh Twiford
Richard Woodard

Also present were Police Chief Doug Hockenberry, Interim Borough Manager Sam Robbins, Solicitor Steve Feinour, Borough Engineer Michael Mehaffey, Codes Enforcement Officer Chris Miller, Recreation Director Audrey Logar, and Nate Sterling as recording secretary.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Wednesday November 11, 2015 regular meeting were presented.

- Motion made by Mr. Guerin, seconded by Mr. Woodard, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

On behalf of Mayor Simpson Mr. Robelen thanked everyone who was involved with the annual Toys for Tots Parade and all those that attended the event.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

At this time Ms. Logar presented the Volunteer of the Year Award for 2016 to Mrs. Jill Williamson for her many years of passionate commitment and service to the Borough, the Recreation Commission, and Camp Hill School Board. She received standing applause from all of those present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Before the Public Comment period began Mr. Robelen informed those present that the decision on the topic to allow chickens in the Borough had been referred to the Planning Commission. At this time they had not yet met to discuss the issue [meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2016].

- Bruce Bigelow, 20 South 26th Street, asked if Mr. Robbins could provide an update on the status of the metal plate between 26th & 27th Street near the high school. Mr. Robbins responded that it was determined that the support structure was deteriorating and in the spring the plate would be removed and it would be permanently repaired.
- Jinny Springen, 134 North 23rd Street, read a personal statement regarding the chickens in the Borough topic. She provided some historical information and expressed her concerns regarding the potentials issues such as noise disturbances, odors, chickens flying, as well as chickens drawing birds of prey and animals such as foxes to the area. Ms. Springen also stated concerns with decreased property values and the quality of life in the Borough and concluded that the chicken issue should appear on the April ballot for consideration.
- Mark Hoover, 20 South 24th Street, also spoke regarding the chicken issue. He felt that to allow certain animals such as cats and dogs but to now allow chickens was discriminatory and stated that chickens were no different than dogs. He felt that chickens could be introduced into the Borough if it was done in a civil manner and that chickens should not be prohibited based on a perceived fear that someone might not be a responsible chicken-owner.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Ms. Edwards thanked the Camp Hill Fire Department for driving Santa Claus around town and then asked Chief Hockenberry if he could present the monthly Police and Fire reports on behalf of Mayor Simpson. Chief Hockenberry provided the monthly Fire Departments statistics and stated the monthly focus was on Santa visits and replacing breathing apparatus.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Robelen introduced Sam Robbins as the new Interim Borough Manager. He was promoted from Assistant Borough Manager & Director of Public Works and continues to perform those duties as well as the duties of Borough Manager.

Mr. Robbins stated the Treasurer's report for October 2015 was included in the packets. Next he provided council with an update on the Consent Order and Agreement (CO&A) and Corrective Action Plan (CAP). Mr. Robbins stated the Creek Road Basin project had been completed which included the scope of work to eliminate sanitary sewer backups and overflows and documentation indicating the requests of the DEP had been satisfied were in order. Lastly, he informed council that a mulch fire had occurred at the Public Works compost facility on Friday, November 27, 2015. Mr. Robbins stated the fire occurred from natural combustion due to the large pile size and the lack of operational space to spread the mulch out.

HEALTH and SANITATION

Mr. Guerin stated the monthly and engineer's reports were in the packet and was pleased to announce there were no items pending for payment approvals this month.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Ms. Twiford read the list of announcements for upcoming meetings and motioned for the following items:

- Motion made by Ms. Twiford, seconded by Mr. Guerin, to request approval of the 2016 Budget as advertised. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Ms. Twiford, seconded by Ms. Edwards, to request approval of the 2016 Tax Ordinance as advertised. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Guerin made note that the tax rate was remaining the same.
- Motion made by Ms. Twiford, seconded by Mr. Schultz, to request approval of the 2016 Sewer Rate Ordinance as advertised. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Guerin made note that sewer bill rates were slightly decreasing due to a savings discount the Borough was receiving from Hampden Township for what it charged the Borough for sewer.
- Motion made by Ms. Twiford, seconded by Mr. Schultz, to request approval to spend [up to] \$1,200.00 on the annual Employee Holiday Party Appreciation Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, December 22nd at 11:30 a.m. in Prosser Hall. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE

Mr. Woodard presented vouchers for payment and motioned for the following items:

- Motion made by Mr. Woodard, seconded by Mr. Guerin, to pay vouchers in the amount of \$1,577,412.17. Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion made by Mr. Woodard, seconded by Mr. Guerin, to request approval to advertised the proposed Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS) contact amendment. Mr. Guerin asked Mr. Feinour if was in approval with the amendment to which Mr. Feinour responded that was in approval of it. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time there was continued discussion on the proposed alternate pension plan which was being considered for new hires and would involve employee and employer contributions towards investment plans. Mr. Schultz asked Mr. Woodard as to what the next step might be in the process. Mr. Woodard responded that he would try to get a recommendation for Council in the next 90 days in time for new hires. The Council consensus was to move forward in this manner.

INFRASTRUCTURE

There was no report this month.

PERSONNEL, POLICIES and PROCEDURES

There was no report this month and Ms. Twiford presented the following motion:

- Motion made by Ms. Twiford, seconded by Mr. Woodard, to request approval to accept the resignation of [former Manager] Ms. Anne Shambaugh. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS RELATIONS

At this time Mr. Schultz proved a 1-year update on the Camp Hill Borough Strategic Plan. He distributed to Council materials containing the revised edition of the Strategic Plan packet, a Progress Report summary sheet, and a detailed spreadsheet of the Strategic Plan Objectives. Mr. Schultz stated that this was the first of the annual report and certain elements of the Plan would be reviewed quarterly. He was pleased to announce many of the objectives already underway such as: the designation of more green space (through the acquisition, demolition, and repurposing of Schaeffer Elementary School); addressing sewer infrastructure needs through projects completed within the Consent Order and Agreement and Corrective Action Plan; storm water mapping; the Bike-Friendly Community effort; and the new Camp Hill Borough Website. Mr. Schultz concluded by requesting that everyone get involved if possible and praised the Borough stating there was a great deal of talent in the town.

PARKS and RECREATION

Ms. Edwards stated the monthly report is in the packet and there were no requests for approval. She also state that this year's Toys-For-Tots effort was superior and that both container pods in the parking lot for the collected toys were completely filled. She also gave a reminder that those wishing to participate in the Annual House Decorating Contest for prizes have their houses ready for judging by Monday, December 14, 2015.

PLANNING & ZONING

Mr. Woodard stated the monthly report was in the packet presented the following motion:

- Motion made by Mr. Woodard, seconded by Mr. Schultz, to authorize the Planning Commission to be the fact-finders in order to present a recommendation to Council regarding the request to allow chickens in the Borough. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Guerin stated the monthly report is in your packet and stated his appreciation for the service of Ms. Edwards and Mr. Woodard's as Borough Council members.

SCHOOL DISTRICT

At this time there was brief discussion regarding the demolition of Schaeffer Elementary School. Mr. Robelen requested that the Infrastructure subcommittee oversee the process to ensure that the proper demolition methodology be used and to make sure it was a successful project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Sherry Bowman, 498 North 25th Street, [representing a group of residents formally requesting chickens be allowed in the Borough] thanked Council for continuing to consider the matter and for holding a separate meeting regarding the topic. She stated she had information on benchmarks for making comparisons with other communities allow chickens and they had revised there information packet on the topic. Mr. Robelen requested that she forward any information they would like reviewed to Mr. Tom Devlin, Chairman of the Planning Commission.
- Monica Rhodes, 1706 Lincoln Drive, stated that in regards to the demolition of Schaeffer Elementary School there might be an interest from architecture salvage companies to remove items which could be of interest to people in the community.
- Paul Garrett, 40 North 19th Street, representing the Camp Hill Environmental Club, stated he was promoting a MS4 Best Management Practices class series available to all homeowners and tenants and provided some highlights of what was planned. Both council and Mr. Robbins were interested in helping promoting the classes through the Borough Website.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed into executive session to seek advice from the Solicitor and to discuss legal and personnel matters at 7:47 p.m.

Council returned to regular session at 8:21 p.m. at which time Mr. Robelen expressed his appreciation for the service of both Ms. Edwards and Mr. Woodard as Council Members.

There being no further business a motion for adjournment was made:

- Motion made by Mr. Woodard, seconded by Ms. Edwards, to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathaniel Sterling