

MINUTES
JANUARY 23, 2017
BROOKHAVEN BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP

At 7:00 PM, Council President, John Wilwert, called the regularly scheduled Workshop Session of Brookhaven Borough Council to order. He led in the Pledge of Allegiance to The American Flag.

The record shows the meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Brookhaven Municipal Center, 2 Cambridge Road, Brookhaven, PA 19015. The following people were seated at the Council Table (from my right to left): Ms. Sawicki, Mr. LaPera, Mrs. Fooks, Mr. Wilwert, Solicitor Maddren, Mayor Hess, Mr. Donaway, Mr. Catania from Catania Engineering and Secretary McKinley. Mr. Linowski was absent because of a family obligation and Ms. Leslie was absent because of her employment.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION – No one wished to address Council.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Mr. Maddren had no report.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Hess had no report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

CHAIR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION, CHAIR RECYCLING/TRASH COMMITTEE, CHAIR FIRE COMMITTEE AND CHAIR POLICE COMMITTEE – Ms. Leslie was absent.

CHAIR FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE, CHAIR LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT, MEMBER FIRE COMMITTEE, MEMBER CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION AND CHAIR CONDO ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE – Mr. Linowski was absent.

CHAIR PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS, LIAISON TO HOLIDAY PARADE COMMITTEE, CHAIR COMPREHENSIVE PLANS, MEMBER TRAFFIC CALMING COMMITTEE AND MEMBER POLICE COMMITTEE – Mr. Donaway

Mr. Donaway said that on the 16th of January there was a gas main break on Dutton Mill Road—the Middletown Township side. 20 people were evacuated from their home to the Municipal Center. Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Elmer and Mr. Swayngim helped also by cooking breakfast for them.

Our new dump truck is in now being used.

The storm we had today took out some lights and electricity. There was one tree down on East Maple Avenue. It fell out of the woods. Our Borough Public Works Employees will check it in the morning but in the meantime, Mr. Donaway went to the home where the tree was almost in their driveway to update them on what would be happening in the morning. Mr. Wilwert asked if we could back-charge the contractor if one was used by the Borough to remove the tree. Mr. Maddren said he would look into that. Mrs. McKinley said that in 2012 a letter was sent to someone on School Lane where the Borough had to have a downed tree removed and we went the bill to the homeowner. The homeowner never reimbursed the Borough so a lien was placed on the property via Mr. Maddren’s office. Mr. Maddren will also check to see if any municipalities in Delaware County have an ordinance governing tree situations like the above ones.

LIAISON TO ZONING HEARING BOARD, LIAISON TO RECREATION COMMITTEE, MEMBER GRANT COMMITTEE, MEMBER LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT, MEMBER CONDO ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE – Mr. LaPera

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Mr. LaPera said that the Zoning Hearing Board did not meet in January nor do they have anything on their agenda for February.

The Recreation Committee will meet on January 26 at 7:00 PM at which time a new member will be appointed. The Spring/Summer sports groups will be starting soon.

In the near future, Catania Engineering will be authorized to go out for bids on the Eaton Park Project. Mr. LaPera would like to put together a letter concerning the project. The letter will be sent to homeowners whose property borders the park.

Mr. Wilwert recommended that a post and rail fence with wire behind it be placed around the retention basin near the new baseball field on Coebourn Boulevard. Right now the basin is wet and it looks like someone's feet might sink into it. He would like Mr. Thompson to get a price on that. Mr. Donaway asked if we want some other kind of fence there. Mr. Catania said that the retention basin is an attractive nuisance.

Mr. LaPera continued his report by saying that residents are asking us to open the gymnasium for residents who would like to play basketball during the day or at night when the gym is not being used. He will bring this up at the Recreation Board Meeting on Thursday night. Mayor Hess said in the past people wanted to come in during the summer when the children are out of school to play basketball. There may have been an insurance liability issue with that. Mr. Maddren said maybe a waiver could be used.

BUSINESS AND REVITALIZATION COORDINATOR, CHAIR ORDINANCE COMMITTEE, MEMBER CONDO ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE, SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON, CHAIR TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE, CHAIR GRANT COMMITTEE AND MEMBER POLICE COMMITTEE – Mrs. Fooks

Mrs. Fooks said the Ordinance Committee met on January 19 and she mentioned to them the possibility of creating a drone ordinance. Mr. Maddren will see if other municipalities have one and will share those with her. The purpose of the ordinance will not be to prohibit drones, but rather, provide guidelines. The Ordinance Committee will meet again on February 16 at 6:30 PM.

Business Revitalization

LA Fitness is not open for business and it is being used by a lot of people. Giant Foods has a new property management agent for their vacant building in the Cambridge Square Shopping Center. She said she has contacted them today and will provide information as she gets it. Early last week Mrs. Fooks reached out to a few more restaurants—Gennaro's, Timothy's, Ralph's and LaTolteca—about the possibility of them taking a look at Brookhaven. As of today, she has received no response from any of them.

Brookhaven Community and Business Association will need to convene the members again to determine how to move forward. They will need new board members in place. She and Mayor Hess believe we need to have another meeting in early February with the businesses—perhaps a coffee conversation. They will invite the members via email since it's quicker to get the word out and gather replies. Mrs. Fooks will get in touch with Mr. Swayngim to see when the Community Room will be available.

Community News

Providence Animal Center, formerly the SPCA, will hold its Vaccine and Micro Chipping Clinic here on Tuesday, April 18 from 4:00-6:00 PM in our gym. Flyers are in the back of the Council Room if anyone is interested in taking advantage of this program.

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CHAIR ARBOR/SHADE TREE COMMITTEE, LIAISON TO HEALTH INSPECTORS AND HEALTH OFFICER, MEMBER OF GRANT COMMITTEE, LIAISON TO PLANNING COMMISSION, MEMBER LONG RANGE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND MEMBER FIRE COMMITTEE – Ms. Sawicki

Brookhaven's Planning Commission did not meet in January. Approval for the outparcel in Plaza 352 will be recommended at the February 6 Council Meeting.

Ms. Sawicki spoke about the need to set the Borough Tax Collector's salary for the next four years. Mrs. McKinley said this will be handled by Council under Mr. Linowski's report on February 6.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Mr. Catania

Mr. Catania said that the LED Street Light Conversion Bill of Materials needs to be approved, the solicitor's Opinion. Mr. Catania asked if we need a new resolution because the interest rate increased. Mr. Maddren said yes and he will have a modified resolution for the February 6 Council Meeting. There will be a pre-construction meeting in May 2017 and construction should begin in June/July 2017. Mr. Wilwert said we need more lights on Coebourn Boulevard—one at the entrance to the new ballfield and one across from Coebourn Elementary School. Mr. Catania said he will handle that.

The Green Light Go Grant scope of work can be revised.

Mr. Catania would like approval from council to draw up the plans and specifications for the Eaton Park Project and would like to tentatively set the bid opening for February 27 Workshop.

The County Aid Resolution will be put on the February 6 Council Meeting Agenda for adoption.

The Trimble Boulevard Storm Sewer Project is approximately 30% complete. The work is being done by Ridley Excavating, Inc.

The Police Station Epoxy flooring is complete.

A revised plan review is pending on the Plaza 352 Outparcel Plan.

A traffic consultant is looking at the timing on the Edgmont and Brookhaven Road Traffic light.

Regarding the Grandview Avenue Sanitary Sewer issue there are 2 sags in the pipe and broken pipe in the manhole drop connection. The video of the line shows that grease in the line is coming from the Tom Jones Family Restaurant. Mr. Catania would like authorization to repair the 2 sags and broken pipe.

CHAIR INSPECTORS AND FIRE MARSHAL, MEMBER FIRE COMMITTEE, DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR, CHAIR TRAFFIC CALMING, MEMBER TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND MEMBER HISTORICAL COMMITTEE – Mr. Wilwert said he will give his report at the February 6 Council Meeting.

INSPECTORS' REPORTS

BOARD OF HEALTH – Mrs. Warfield

Mrs. Warfield placed a door hang tag at each Councilperson's seat. It is entitled Notice of Violation and is

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From the Brookhaven Code Enforcement Department. The property owner's name and address is placed on the tag as well as the date and time it was put on the door. The Borough has adopted the 2015 International Code Council Property Maintenance Code and the hanger lists the various sections of the code that are checked off for the violations. Mr. Maddren said the tag looks good and Jim Halligan should look at it too.

The Code Department sent letters to business owners and landlords along Edgmont Avenue. The letter says that the Property Maintenance Department of Brookhaven will be conducting drive-by inspections of their business in regard to landscaping, weeds, grass and trees, dumpster areas, weeds in the curb-line, trees and shrubs interfering with pedestrian and vehicle traffic, litter, snow removal, and tires on location.

Mrs. Warfield said it is important that both the front of the property and rear of the property have the address posted. Mr. Wilwert thinks that the name of the business should be on the back door too. Ms. Sawicki suggested asking the Fire Marshal about this.

Health Licenses are ready and the Board of Health will be doing inspections.

FIRE MARSHAL – Mr. Leslie had to leave for a fire call.

PUBLIC FIRE SAFETY – Messrs. Montella and/or Bynum had to leave too for the fire call.

ZONING OFFICER – Mr. Hampton had no report.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Harry Seth, 3633 North Clearwater Lane spoke to Council about World War I and its 100th Anniversary. He spoke about this at the January 9 Council Meeting and it is recorded there. Mr. Wilwert said it would be best if the World War I marker were in the form of a headstone, not a flat marker. That causes problems when cutting the grass and the lawn mowers could damage it. He would like to see more on the stone. Mr. Cullis said the Borough would have to pour the foundation for the stone which is proposed to be placed at the Veterans' Memorials area of the traffic island. Mr. Wilwert said it would be nice to have the families of soldiers who were in World War I present for the dedication ceremony of the stone. Mr. Seth said he and John Coleman are working on locating relatives. Ms. Sawicki said if we get enough names we should have a plaque made and put it in the vestibule like we have done for the other wars and conflicts. World War I happened before we were even incorporated but maybe there are families throughout the family had soldiers back then. In addition, Mr. Seth would like to see Poppies planted on the island since they were the flowers spoken about in the poem In Flanders Fields. Ms. Sawicki said that since this is a two year event it would be best to take our time to do it beautiful the first time. Mr. Seth said he will be talking to Harry Swayngim about having the Destination Delco Dinner at the Municipal Center.

No one else wished to address Council. Mr. LaPera made the motion and Mrs. Fooks the second to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ellen McKinley
Borough Secretary