

MINUTES
BROOKHAVEN BOROUGH COUNCIL
WORKSHOP
JANUARY 25, 2016

Council President, John Wilwert, called the regularly scheduled Workshop Session of Council to order at 7:00 PM. He led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and welcomed all who were in attendance.

The record shows the meeting was held in Council Chambers at the Brookhaven Municipal Center and the following people were seated at the Council Table: Mr. LaPera, Ms. Sawicki, Mrs. Fooks, Mr. Wilwert, Ms. Leslie, Mr. Donaway, Mayor Hess, Solicitor Maddren, Engineer Catania and Secretary McKinley. Mr. Linowski was absent. He is recovering from neck/spine surgery.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Mr. Maddren

Mr. Maddren said that he and Mrs. Fooks have been discussing the Liquor Referendum. He will report back on this at the next Council Meeting.

Regarding the amended Garage Ordinance, Delaware County Planning will be hearing this next month.

MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Hess

Mayor Hess said he had no report.

Chair Finance and Insurance Committee, Chair Long Range Development, Member Fire Committee Member Civil Service Commission and Chair Condo Association Committee - Mr. Wilwert for Mr. Linowski

A more complete bill list will be ready for approval at the February 1 Council Meeting.

Mr. Linowski asked Mr. Wilwert to extend his appreciation for all of the cards, calls and well wishes he has received as well as prayers being said for his recovery.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Chair Emergency Management Administration, Chair Recycling/Trash Committee, Chair Fire Committee and Chair Police Committee – Ms. Leslie

Ms. Leslie said that the Fire Company, Police Department and the Emergency Management Team were ready to go should the need arise from the snow storm but there was no need for it.

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 the Borough Public Works Crew came out Friday night and worked until 3:00 PM on Saturday. He sent them home to get some sleep and they were back out again on Saturday night and worked until “the wee hours” of Sunday. There are still some streets that are a little rough. The areas of Swiftwater, Edgewater, some of the Presidents streets clean and dry. Mr. Donaway said he asked Mr. Thompson (Gary)

what the difference is. Gary said it is the equipment. Two of the five trucks have rubber bars on them because of the areas in the Borough where some of the manhole covers are raised high. Hitting one of them would put the plow out of commission. The Public Works Crew pre-treated the streets with salt but some streets may not have gotten done as well. There is also the “experience level factor” involved too. Gary has 27+ years under his belt but some of the guys have very little plowing experience. What do we have to do to make it better? We will do whatever we have to. The crew will be back out tonight at midnight to clean up. Mr. Donaway said he would be out with them. They will be dropping more salt. We have had almost two feet of snow in the last 34 hours. They did the best they could. Mr. Donaway said he knows they are out there. We were praised on one hand and “damned on the other hand and everything in between”. Don’t throw us under the bus. Mrs. Fooks asked Mr. Donaway if it would be good to have rubber blades on all of the plows. Mr. Donaway said we do not need them on all of the plows. Gary’s truck has one. Mr. Wilwert said that on Sunday he was in the Borough and found that most roads were passable.

Mr. Donaway continued his report speaking about a meeting he recently had with a representative from Catania Engineering, Richard Breitenstein from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Gary Thompson concerning the MS4 report. This concerns storm water issues and not polluting water that goes down into the storm sewers. We are in the first phase of this permit. Mr. Donaway said he remembers when former Borough Engineer, F. Clark (Sande) Walton told him that “some day we will be responsible for every drop of rain that falls on us”. One of the requirements for the MS4 is to educate the public—we must modify people’s behavior. This is a case of unelected bureaucrats making demands for which they provide no funding assistance. Over the years the Borough has been putting MS4 related information out via the newsletter, television channel, electronic sign and handouts at Family Day. We need to include funding for MS4 requirements in our budget. Mr. Catania said that MS4 came in 2005. This is the third renewal. It’s actually a Federal Mandate and there are 6 “MCM’s” of compliance to which we must adhere. Each year it gets stricter. As Mr. Donaway said, it’s an unfunded mandate. Mr. Donaway said we have to set goals but not set them too high because what you set out to do must be done. We have to find balance. The catch basins behind Giant in Cambridge Square Shopping Center the former K-Mart were discussed. They have to be properly maintained. Mr. Wilwert asked by whom? Mr. Catania said by the property owner or the tenant. The one behind the former K-Mart is a privately owned system. There will be a follow up meeting in April at a date yet to be determined.

Mr. Donaway said that the handicapped access doors on the front vestibule have been installed. Because there is a huge snow mound and ice handling from the roof at the back entrance (doors near the State Representative’s Office) that entrance has been declared unsafe for use. The area has been properly barricaded.

Continuing his report, Mr. Donaway asked about the current Police Contract. He said Mrs. McDade had given him a copy of it. We are in the 4th year of a 4 year contract. Mr. Maddren said we tried to time it and thinks Mr. Donaway may be looking at the wrong one. Mr. Maddren said we have to write to the Fraternal Order of Police and he will get us an update for the February 1 Council Meeting.

Liaison to Zoning Hearing Board, Liaison to Recreation Committee, Member Grant Committee, Member Long Range Development, Member Condo Association – Mr. LaPera

Mr. LaPera said that tomorrow he will be meeting with someone to get prices to supply and install cameras in Memorial and Sampson Parks. He does not think we can do cameras in Garzia or Eaton Parks because there is no electricity there. He said he would like to try to get money to develop Eaton Park. He suggested a walking trail there. What would it cost? Mrs. Fooks said she needs to know financial information to do a grant. She asked about the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). Mr. Catania said the Borough is not eligible for CDBG but he suggested she put together what she wants and he will put a grant application together.

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Business and Revitalization Coordinator, Chair Ordinance Committee, Member Condo Association, School Board Liaison, Chair Technology Committee, Chair Grant Committee and Member Police Committee – Mrs. Fooks

Mrs. Fooks said the Ordinance Committee met on January 21 at 6:30 PM. They discussed the 2015 ICC Property Maintenance Code. They will be meeting again on February 18 at 3:00 PM. They are looking at changing some of the fines we have in the Borough, e.g., parking in the fire lane fines.

Web-site meetings are continuing. Messrs. Wilwert, Cadden, Hess and she will be meeting again in the near future.

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

Our Planning Commission met on January 19, 2016 to review the amended Garage Ordinance. It is their recommendation that the amended Garage Ordinance be approved for adoption.

Our Planning Commission is looking forward to receiving the paperwork for Shop-Rite but as of now it is their understanding no paperwork has been received by the Borough or Delaware County Planning.

The Planning Commission has nothing on their agenda for February so notice will be posted on the front door that their meeting on February 16 is cancelled.

Chair Inspectors and Fire Marshal, Member Fire Committee, Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator, Chair Traffic Calming, Member Technology Committee and Member Historical Committee – Mr. Wilwert

Mr. Wilwert said that he has been working on an Employee Handbook. Mr. Maddren is reviewing it and when that is complete, Mr. Wilwert will be giving it to Council for their review.

A policy for public discussion is also being put together.

Mr. Wilwert said he thought the Borough Public Works Employees did a good job with the snow. In this snowstorm there was no way to plow and have it perfect. Harry Swayngim also did a good job clearing the Municipal Center area.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Mr. Catania

Mr. Catania suggested holding an annual meeting each March for MS4. At that meeting we would solicit public input.

He continued his report speaking about the 2016 Street Resurfacing Program and he'll have the County Aid Resolution ready for adoption at the February 1, Council Meeting.

The next step in the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission's (DVRPC) LED Street Light Program will be a follow up meeting on February 8. There will be a meeting with consultants to say what the Borough would save. Council at that point would decide whether to continue with the process or not.

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Mr. Catania said that at the Shoppes at Brookhaven work is progressing. Silt socks have been installed around the whole site. They are allowed to clear 35' from the property lines on Shepherd Street. They have a safety fence up and they will replant trees so there will be a 60' buffer between the ball field and the houses. Addresses have been assigned at Shoppes at Brookhaven. Mr. Wilwert asked "what is the thing that looks like a bonnet?" Chief Montella said it is a light.

INSPECTORS REPORTS

Board of Health – Mrs. Warfield

Mrs. Warfield said that she would like to have a meeting with the inspectors to go over procedures. She asked if the water, gas and electricity should be shut off in vacant houses. Could those utilities become a hazard? No answer was given.

Fire Marshal – Mr. Leslie

Mr. Leslie said there have been no plans for the proposed Shop-Rite in Plaza 352 provided to the Borough.

There has been illegal late night (11:30 PM) burning on Commerce Avenue.

The sprinkler main broke at Lowes in Plaza 352 and at Wawa there was another delayed 9.1.1. call. Mr. Leslie said he contacted the Risk Management Manager and the Risk Management Manager said that calling the maintenance people for Wawa was the store manager's rule, not corporate. The manager was reprimanded. The Board of Health had to close Wawa down because when the ceiling tiles were taken down, debris fell into the food and contaminated it. After everything was cleaned up and the contaminated food was disposed of, the Health Inspector authorized Wawa to open for business.

Mr. Leslie said that Texas Eastern/Spectra Energy did a wonderful job on the clearing project—Trimble Boulevard to Victor Avenue and Victor Avenue to Bridgewater Road; however, the residents keep throwing their debris, yard waste and trash on the pipeline's property.

Mr. Leslie said the National Fire Protection Association has put out a warning—Don't sign up for Vonage because when you call 9.1.1. you may get Brookhaven, New York, Brookhaven, Arizona and finally Brookhaven, Delaware County, PA.

Zoning Officer – Mr. Hampton

Mr. Hampton said that F. Clark (Sande) Walton was great for water control. All sheds need rain gutters and they had to not drain on the street. The water had to go across one's grass. Mr. Hampton said he would provide Mr. Donaway with what can be done to make sure storm water reaches storm drains uncontaminated.

Mr. Hampton said he and Mr. LaPera will be meeting tomorrow.

There are no Zoning Variances for February or March. There may be something on the horizon for April.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None

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Ms. Leslie made the motion and Mr. Donaway the second to adjourn Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ellen McKinley
Borough Secretary