

MINUTES  
BROOKHAVEN BOROUGH COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2015

At 7:00 PM, Council President Ben Linowski called the meeting to order. After welcoming everyone, he led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

The record shows all Council Members present as were Solicitor Maddren, Engineer Catania and Secretary McKinley. Mayor Hess is on vacation.

Mr. Linowski said he would like to make a comment as a citizen and member of this Council. He thanked the Public Works Department for the tremendous work that they have done to try to get the Borough cleaned up from the June 23 storm. He had an extremely large amount of storm damage and with the help of his family, friends and a contractor he hired, there were seven large truckloads of chipped branches, whole branches and trunks removed from his property. He thanked Mr. Wilwert for overseeing the Public Works Department. Mr. Wilwert said he would pass on to the Public Works employees Mr. Linowski's thanks.

#### Public Discussion

Tom Dykes, 305 West Brookhaven Road, thanked the Public Works Employees for the great job they are doing cleaning up the Borough after the storm on June 23. He said when they came to chip the branches he had put out, he gave them water. Mr. Wilwert thanked him for that. Mr. Dykes asked "where do we stand with the Chester Water Authority? Mr. Linowski said that we are making progress. Mr. Maddren said he and Mr. Linowski will be meeting with them tomorrow but as of this evening there is nothing concrete to report. Mr. Linowski said that we are constantly working on it. Mr. Dykes asked about fund-raising for a park. Can a fund-raising committee be formed? Mr. Maddren said that is certainly worth discussing. Possibly it could be set up as a 501 (c) (3). Mrs. Truesdale said our Recreation Committee does fund raising activities all year long. Mr. Linowski said the committee might be called "Friends of Undeveloped Land". Mrs. Truesdale suggested Mr. Dykes share his ideas by attending the Recreation Committee Meetings. The next one is on July 30 at 7:00 PM.

#### Solicitor's Report – Mr. Maddren

Mr. Maddren said that he is working on the proposed ordinance that would increase the size of sheds. He has received Delaware County Planning's comments and recommendations as well as those from the Brookhaven Planning Commission. Our Planning Commission would like to see an even larger size shed allowed—200 square feet because lawn care equipment takes up a lot of room in a shed and residents need more room to store other items—bicycles, tools, etc. Delaware County Planning is suggesting, among other things, that we re-examine our requirement for a 4" concrete pad under the shed. Mr. Maddren said Council can consider these things or "let this one run". He needs 14 days to advertise. We can go either direction. Council took the matter under advisement.

Next Mr. Maddren spoke about 133 Charles Avenue. We were dealing with the Walker family but someone purchased the home at a tax sale. The new buyer can't close without putting money in escrow to demolish this home with a "hard deadline" on it.

#### Mayor's Report – Mayor Hess is on vacation in Las Vegas

Liaison to Zoning Hearing Board, Chair Finance and Insurance Committee, Chair Long Range Development Committee, Member Civil Service Commission, Chair Condo Association Committee, Member Historical Committee and Member Vacancy Review Committee – Mr. Linowski

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Mr. Linowski said Mrs. McDade will be preparing an updated Bills for Approval List. He will be asking for approval of that list.

The Zoning Hearing Board will be meeting on August 11. Lowe's needs a variance for their signage. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

### Council Reports

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

Ms. Leslie said that there will be an electronics waste pickup here at the municipal center on September 5 from 9:00 AM until Noon. She is still working on getting a date for a paper shredding day later in the fall.

Ms. Leslie said that she, along with the Albert Merlino Memorial Post 94 and a committee that has been formed will be hosting a Welcoming Home Parade for the Vietnam/Korean Veterans of Delaware County that served in the Theater of Operations during the war. Brookhaven is giving them the welcoming home that they never received. The parade will be held on Sunday, September 13, forming at 11:00 AM at The Christian Academy and stepping off at 12:00 Noon. The parade route will be going out the back of The Christian Academy on to North Gray Street, making a left on Melvin Drive then another left on to Chandler, a right on Coebourn Boulevard, across Edgmont Avenue ending in the gymnasium at the Municipal Center. Mrs., McKinley advised Ms. Leslie a parade permit from the Police Department is necessary. Ms. Leslie will get the permit.

Chair Public Works Department, Co-Chair Inspectors and Fire Marshal, Member Fire Committee, Deputy Emergency Management, Chair Building/Rental Committee, Member Grant Committee and Member Police Committee – Mr. Wilwert

Mr. Wilwert said that on a normal year of chipping we answer somewhere between 225 to 243 calls for the chipper. In 214 there were 243 stops that produced about 10 truckloads of chips. This year in ten days we have stopped at 253 homes and have produced 33 loads of chips or about 260 yards of chips. This does not include the homes where we have had to use the front end loader to pick up the piles and put them in a dump truck to be transported to Camp Upland for disposal because we cannot physically pull the piles apart. They are too tangled up. We are going around the Borough following the leaf collection Zones schedule. We are just about finished Zone 2 and we should start Zone 3 tomorrow. Notes were left at the following homes because the branches were put curbside after the chipper had already been on that street: 4843 Shepherd Street, 608 Lincoln Drive, 5003 and 5005 Chester Creek Road, 4225 Chandler Drive and 4201 Mount Vernon Avenue. 421 West Brookhaven Road was left a note because the logs they put out were too large. A resident called the Borough Office informing them that his/her branches were ready to be picked up on July 27 and the resident on the corner of Mount Vernon Avenue and Edwards Drive put out a limb by the sidewalk that was about 15' long. The crew could not move it, let alone get it into the chipper or dump truck. Mr. Wilwert said he personally checks each street that is completed that day to ensure that there were no limbs missed on those streets. Mr. Wilwert said the public works employees are working hard. Not only are they chipping/picking up limbs but they are cutting grass and doing other routine maintenance things.

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

Mrs. Fooks said the Ordinance Committee did meet on Wednesday, July 25 to discuss possibly changing the

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permit fee schedule for sidewalk sales. It was decided that they would not but instead have Council continue using the existing permit fee schedule with the discretion to modify on a case by case basis.

Jim Cadden, Rob Nelson and Mrs. Fooks met on July 13 to discuss our website and what we can do to improve the overall site. One example is a “Welcome” Section for new residents. Jim will be working on the programming. She will request another meeting with them the latter part of August and every few months thereafter to ensure we stay on track and continue with website improvements throughout the year.

She continued her report by reminding those who may not know that it is the law that all drivers must yield to pedestrians trying to cross Chester Creek Road to get to the Brookhaven Swim Club. Unfortunately she has personally witnessed adults and children coming very close to being hit by a passing vehicle. She advised everyone to slow down at that crossing or stop completely when people are either crossing or waiting to cross. She will ask Aston Township to put something about this on their website as well.

Mrs. Truesdale asked Mr. Wilwert if a sign can be put up about the pedestrians crossing. Mr. Wilwert said the signs are already there.

Chair Arbor/Shade Tree Committee, Liaison to Health Inspectors and Health Officer, Member of Grant Committee, Liaison to Planning Commission and Member Long Range Development Committee –  
Ms. Sawicki

Ms. Sawicki said that sometime during the next two weeks the Arbor/Shade Tree Committee Members and other volunteers will be weeding the butterfly garden. The rain has caused the weeds to grow fast.

The Planning Commission did meet on July 16 to review the proposed revised Shed Ordinance. They had some suggestions including increasing the maximum size to 200 square feet.

Chair Historical Society, Liaison to Holiday Parade Committee, Traffic Calming/Speed Humps Assignor, Chair Comprehensive Plans, Chair Inspectors and Fire Marshal– Mr. Camma

Mr. Camma complimented Ms. Leslie on the Welcome Home Parade for the Vietnam/Korean Veterans who never got the welcome home they deserved. It is a great idea. He’ll be glad to do whatever he can to help with the parade. He thanked everyone for the wonderful welcome home their son got.

On August 15, the Holiday Parade Committee will be having a big fund raiser—a Tag Day.

Liaison to Recreation Committee, Chair Personnel Committee, Member Finance Committee, Member Fire Committee and Member Police Committee – Mrs. Truesdale

Mrs. Truesdale said she was unable to attend the Theatre in the Park performance because of a prior commitment but she did hear that it was a success.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Catania

Mr. Catania reported that the 2015 Street Resurfacing Program is finished. If there are any problems, please let him know.

At the Council Meeting on August 3, Mr. Catania will be recommending Council authorizing Catania Engineering to go out for bids for the work that needs to be done at a spectator field in Memorial Park.

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Also at the Council Meeting on August 3, he will be recommending authorizing Catania Engineering to ask for proposals for us from road salt suppliers for the 2015/2016 season.

There is a sight distance problem because of a low hanging tree branch and vehicles parked in front of the store at the corner of Shepherd Street and Dutton Mill Road.

Research is needed for the disposition of land in the area on Victor Avenue where there is a pipeline easement/right of way. There are trees down in that area from the storm in June.

Inspectors' Reports

Fire Marshal – Mr. Leslie

No report.

Board of Health – Mrs. Warfield

Mrs. Warfield said it appears that grass is getting cut at homes for sale and/or abandoned homes. She said there are a few stubborn ones but, she has used all of her methods to get grass cut. She spoke about a house on Mount Vernon Avenue that is in deplorable condition both inside and outside. She called the son of the resident and he is cutting the grass. There are photos of this property on line. They have been given 30 days to correct the situation. Mr. Maddren said this is a public nuisance.

She continued her report by saying there is a woman who is baking cookies in her home on Forrestview Road. All cookie sales are done via the internet. Mrs. Warfield has asked that this baking facility be added to the Borough's business list.

Code Enforcement, Electrical and Plumbing and Mechanical – Messrs. J. and R. Grant

J. Grant asked if the Borough could look into adopting an ordinance for generators on private property. Mrs. Fooks said she will look into that and Mrs. McKinley said she would see if the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs has any copies of Ordinances on the subject other Boroughs have adopted.

Mrs. Fooks asked Mr. Wilwert if he had time to look at the trees on Chester Creek Road on the hill. Stone Hill Apartments needs to clean them up. Mr. Wilwert said we cannot make them do anything because downed trees are in the wooded area. Mr. Maddren said if a limb falls into the street, it is the responsibility of the landowner to clean up. Mr. Maddren will check codes.

There was no other business to come before Council. Mrs. Truesdale made the motion and Ms. Leslie the second to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ellen McKinley  
Borough Secretary