

MINUTES
BROOKHAVEN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2015

At 7:00 PM Council President Linowski called the regularly scheduled meeting of Brookhaven Borough Council to order. He welcomed all present and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. Mayor Hess read the names of the Borough residents who passed away during the month of June—Dennis Kounnas, Sr., Joan Frankenfield, William Grogan and Joseph D’Alessandro. In their memory a moment of silence was held.

Public Discussion

George Scarino from 4112 North Gray Street spoke about the June 23 storm. He said his heart goes out to all those who were affected by the storm. He was fortunate that only a couple of limbs fell in his yard. He spoke about the heavy rain on Tuesday, June 30. It caused flooding in his area and in other areas of the borough. He found toilet paper in his back yard, driveway and his lawn “smelled like a toilet”. The same sewers flood during heavy rain. What is the status of Phase II of the remedy? Mr. Linowski asked Mr. Catania to respond. Mr. Catania said the work was authorized already by Council. Mr. Scarino’s portion of the remedy is ready to go and we are going to combine 2 projects. The work will go out for bids in September. Mr. Linowski said other areas in the Borough were flooded too, partially because of the large volume of rain that fell in a short period of time and also because of sump pumps that are illegally discharging into the sanitary sewer system.

Tom Dykes, 305 West Brookhaven Road spoke about the safety hazard at the 352 Diner and other businesses at the Maple Plaza Shopping Center parking lot. The potholes are enormous. Mrs. McKinley said that Joseph Sucher and Sons will be doing the work there and it is expected to begin within this week or next week. His second area of concern is the noise from his neighbor’s barking dog. The dog is let out at 5:00 AM and barks until he leaves for work at 7:00 AM when the dog is still outside. The Borough’s noise ordinance covers that problem. It was suggested by Mr. Linowski that Mr. Dykes get the address of the neighbor with the barking dog and someone will send a letter out. Animal complaints are normally handled by the Police Department. Mr. Dykes asked about the status of the 2nd public discussion request at meetings. Mr. Linowski said that Council is still considering that but the Pennsylvania Borough Code only requires one session of Public Discussion and that is held at the beginning of the meeting. He said what Council doesn’t want is feedback after the meeting about what they may have done wrong. Mr. Dykes commended Council, the Borough employees and all others who helped for everything they did during and after the storm. He said that there were severe communication problems. Unless a person has a cell phone that is connected to the internet, there was no way of getting information about what was going on to help people needed shelter, meals, etc. Ms. Leslie said that on Wednesday and Thursday morning, she and others who were riding around the Borough were telling residents who were outside their homes to come up to the Municipal Center to eat, charge their cell phones, etc. The residents were asked to pass that information along to their neighbors.

Fire Chief’s Report – Chief Montella

Chief Montella reported the following statistics for June as well as those for the first six months of the year:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>
Fire Incidents	2	16
Non-Fire Incidents	37	117
Mutual Aid	32	147
Drills	5	27
Total	76	307

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Fire Chief's Report (continued)

<u>Loss</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>
Structure	\$0	\$ 51,000
Contents	\$0	\$ 35,000
Vehicles	\$0	\$ 0
Loss Total	\$0	\$ 86,000
Property Endangered	\$0	1,690,000

Under the Injury Report there were no firefighter injuries or deaths or civilian injuries or deaths during the month of June nor were there any during the first 6 months of the year.

<u>Manpower</u>	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Avg. Pers.</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Fire	75	18	930	4,883
Training	5	28	287	1,596

Brookhaven Fire Company commends the work of Brookhaven Borough during this devastating storm. Emergency Management, police, Borough officials, Highway Department, community volunteers and residents who pulled our town through this horrible storm. They also commend the businesses who donated food to the Borough.

The Borough had miles of primary and secondary power lines, transformers, PECO poles and transformers on the ground or destroyed. PECO Energy should be commended for getting help in to assist them on getting the power back on in as timely a manner as safe and possible.

Brookhaven Fire Company personnel each spent an average of 52 hours on fire trucks answering calls during the state of emergency.

Brookhaven Fire Company answered 72 calls during the state of emergency.

Brookhaven Fire Company Ambulance answered 44 calls during the state of emergency with 24 transports and assisted residents who required oxygen therapy.

Brookhaven Fire Company responded to 4 building fires in Brookhaven in June and had a motor vehicle accident with entrapment on Duttons Mill Road. They also responded to 8 other motor vehicle accidents with injuries.

They assisted Chester Fire Department on 2 second alarm building fires, assisted Middletown Township on 5 building fires, assisted Chester Township, Aston Township, Ridley Township and Upland Borough—each municipality having one building fire.

Brookhaven Fire Company handled all emergencies in the Borough with no assists from mutual aide due to the number of 9.1.1. emergencies.

Chief Montella said he is very proud of the dedication of the Brookhaven Fire Company members to answer every 9.1.1. emergency in Brookhaven.

One of our ambulances was involved in a motor vehicle accident on Friday, July 3. The EMT was injured.

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Chief Montella said everyone needs to obey the laws regarding approaching emergency vehicles.

The June Ambulance Report shows there were a total of 87 transports, 24 refusals, 31 assists for a total of 142 (588 calls from January through June, 2015).

The call totals for other Boroughs/Townships for June shows Brookhaven-52 96; Media-23 6; Rocky Run-46 2; Parkside-45 4; Middletown-50 10; Chester Township 47 5; Wallingford/Nether Providence-65 1; Aston-17 1; South Middletown-51 0; Upland-57 3; Chester-100 0; Rose Tree 73 0; Chester City 82 10 and Chester City 83 2.

Police Chief's Report – Chief McGoldrick

Chief McGoldrick spoke about the ice storm on January 8, 1996 that crippled the Borough and caused a state of emergency to be declared. That was a bad storm but the one that came through here on June 23 far surpasses that one. "It knocked us out."

The storm hit at approximately 5:45 PM and shortly after that, after riding around the Borough with Chief McGoldrick, Mayor Hess declared a state of emergency. He told Chief McGoldrick to do what he had to do to keep the residents safe. A large tree from the Mayor's home had fallen and he left his wife, Jeanne, to deal with the tree. All of Council was affected in some way but they all still "kicked in to do whatever they could to help. Councilwoman Fooks changed her vacation plans to stay and help. Even though a huge tree fell demolishing Mr. Wilwert's home, he was calling the chief reporting suspicious activity and for updates on the status of other residents. Mrs. Truesdale was out helping neighbors on her street. Ms. Leslie was in full speed ahead at the Municipal Center running the shelter with other Borough Council people, officials and volunteers. She and her son slept here but Chief McGoldrick had to wake her several times to update her on what was going on. Emergency Management Coordinator, Steve Schultz, made a list of streets that were blocked by fallen trees, wires and other debris. Councilman Camma was on Upland Road with Mr. Garvey and several other neighbors clearing the Road of a tree that fell across the road. Caught in this impassable situation was a SEPTA bus that had passengers on it. It took about 4 hours get the tree off the road so traffic could get through. Solicitor Maddren who was on vacation in Tennessee accepted all phone calls from Borough Officials and he even came back early from his vacation to meet in special session with Council, the Mayor and some members of the Emergency Management Team on Sunday, June 28 to discuss plans and the status of the many situations from the storm. Ending his report, Chief McGoldrick asked Ms. Szostek from 340 Trimble Boulevard if she had seen Mr. Softee in the Borough. She said he's been here.

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Maddren

Mr. Maddren said the Shoppes at Brookhaven erected a sign for which the Borough charged them a permit fee; however, this is a sign permitted by the Borough's sign ordinance for which there should have been no charge. Mr. Maddren recommended a motion to refund the permit fee. Mrs. Fooks made the motion and Mrs. Truesdale the second to refund the permit fee. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mr. Maddren recommended a motion to authorize a Request for Proposals for advisory services from InR in Media, PA. These advisory services are the Borough's pension plans. Mrs. Truesdale made the motion and Ms. Leslie made the second. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Maddren said he is working on the sub-lease for the Verizon cellular tower at the Borough's Wastewater Treatment Plant (200 Bridgewater Road).

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He ended his report by saying over the years he has worked in various municipalities and has never witnessed what he did in Brookhaven. He said he has not seen so much compassion around an emergency event anywhere. The compassions shown were unbelievable. Congratulations!

The amendment to the Shed Ordinance is going before Brookhaven Planning Commission on July 21. It has also been sent to the Delaware County Planning Commission for review.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Camma made the motion and Mr. Wilwert the second to approve the Minutes from the June 1 Council Meeting. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The record shows that because of Election Day and the Memorial Day Holiday, the June 22 Workshop was cancelled; therefore, there are no Minutes for approval.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Hess

Mayor Hess echoed the comments of Police McGoldrick. He said is more proud of this Borough that he has ever been. So many people helped each other. There were volunteers at the Municipal for 4 days, 24 hours a day just helping people. We did whatever we had to do to keep our Borough safe. The whole Borough came together in a way he has never seen before. We are a Community with Unity for sure.

He read a letter he had received from a resident on Marianne Drive who was unable to attend the meeting. The resident suggested that because of all the storm damage permit fees for work that has to be done be reduced for storm damage related things. Mr. Linowski said this will be discussed privately at an Executive Session.

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

Mr. Linowski asked for a motion to approve the bill listed which totaled \$76,537.44, said list dated 6:02 PM 07/06/15. Ms. Leslie made the motion and Mr. Camma the second. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The Zoning Hearing Board did meet on June 9 and granted a variance with restrictions for a fence at 417 Dutton Mill Road. Since there is nothing on the Zoning Hearing Board's agenda, the July 14 Meeting is cancelled.

Ms. Leslie made the motion and Mrs. Truesdale to approve the Shoppes at Brookhaven's escrow recommendations from Catania Engineering as follows: \$6,006,802 Phase 1-3; \$379,997.89 Phase 4-6; \$584,512.87 Ball field and \$73,682.13 Inspection documents. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Linowski thanked Mrs. McDade and Mrs. McKinley for everything they did to get the Borough through the Liquid Fuel Audit. We came through the audit "with no problems".

Ms. Leslie made the motion and Mrs. Fooks the second to waive the permit fee for K-Mart's Store and Garden Center Liquidation Sale. The sale will be from July 16 through September 15 and the permit allows them to sell merchandise outside on the sidewalk and in the parking lot. K-Mart will vacate the store on September 30. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mrs. Truesdale made the motion and Ms. Leslie the second to approve Mr. Softee's permit to sell ice cream and related products within the Borough for a permit fee of \$1,000, said fee covers from May 25 through September 7. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Linowski reported that the office staff has been receiving many phone calls about branches that need to be picked up and chipped, branches on the sidewalk and branches on lawns that, if left where they are waiting for the chipper will kill the grass underneath them. Mr. Linowski said he just spent \$2,500 to have a company come and chip the branches from some of the trees that fell on his property. There were two full truck loads of chips and there are still a lot more to be brought curbside and others too big to be chipped. He said people have to take care of their own problems. He asked the residents to be patient. Later in the meeting we will be authorizing renting another chipper—a bigger one than ours—to help speed up the chipping; There still will be residents who have to deal with tree trunks and other debris too big for the chippers to handle.

Council Reports

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 the Public Works crew did a great job. Thank goodness they have the attachment for the front end loader that enabled them to lift extremely heavy tree trunks, branches and whatever else needed to be lifted. He said he has been part of the Emergency Management Team for 12 years. This time he got to see the situation from another angle because his house was heavily damaged—unsafe and uninhabitable—because of the neighbor's tree that crashed through his house. He thanked Mrs. Truesdale, his next door neighbor, for helping his son, Tim, when the tree fell and until the time he and his wife, Lori, came home early from a little vacation later that night. Mrs. Truesdale spoke in a neighborly manner and said "I love you, John". He said that during the whole episode there are just too many people to thank by name who came to their aid. He mentioned Ms. Leslie, Mr. Donaway, and Mrs. Jones but stopped for fear of missing someone. From a victim's side, he said this was an eye-opener. He said now we know about the communications problems at the Municipal Center—phones out, computers down, etc. and what we need to do to correct that. He thanked the Fire Company, EMT's, Police Department and everyone who came out to help and to keep our Borough safe.

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 will meet on July 15 at 6:00 PM.

Mrs. Fooks made the motion and Ms. Leslie the second to appoint Shawn McKenna to serve on the Ordinance Committee. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mrs. Fooks commended everyone for whatever they did during and following the storm on June 23. She said it was nice to see everyone helping each other.

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 also thanked everyone who helped out during and after the storm. She and her mother came to the Municipal Center during the night to help in whatever way they could. A lot of people were devastated. She said it was encouraging to see everyone come together. She said she was glad that Mayor Hess declared the state of emergency as fast as he did.

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Ms. Sawicki said that there was nothing on the Planning Commission's Agenda for June 16 so the meeting was cancelled. There is, however, the proposed revision to the Borough's Shed Ordinance on their agenda for their July 21, 2015 Meeting. The meeting will start at 7:30 PM.

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 started his report by saying that after the storm blew through early in the evening on June 23, Fire Marshal Leslie came to Upland Road where there was a SEPTA Bus with passengers on it stranded because of downed trees. A few neighbors, including him, Mr. Garvey and others, helped clear the street. Also arriving to help with an ax in hand was Father Izzo from Our Lady of Charity Church. Father Izzo addressed Mr. Camma as "son" and asked how he could help. The funny thing about that is Mr. Camma is older than Father Izzo. They got a good laugh out of that. The volunteers finally got the street cleared by a little after 9:00 AM. Wednesday morning. Mrs. Camma was the hostess to the bus driver and passengers allowing them to use the restroom and having them inside out of harm's way. She also served refreshments to them.

The 2015 Holiday Parade will be dedicated to law enforcement men and women. The next Holiday Parade Committee Meeting will be on July 8 at 7:30 PM. Volunteers are needed.

Mr. Camma called Lynn McMonagle forward. A little surprised, she came forward. She was presented with a beautiful plaque that read Appreciation Award Presented to Lynn McMonagle For Your Dedicated and Devoted Service to the Borough of Brookhaven. Ms. McMonagle is the Secretary of the Recreation Committee, a Member of the Recycling Committee, Original Member of Town Watch, Member of the Family Day Committee as well as other community and church committees.

Mr. Camma told Mayor Hess that the potholes on Upland Road have been fixed.

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

Mrs. Truesdale also thanked everyone involved with the shelter at the Municipal Center and others who were neighborly and looked out for people living near them.

She said that the Theatre in the Park will be at the Municipal Center on July 24 at 7:00 PM, Family Day will be on September 26 and the Golf Outing will be held at Beckett in October.

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

Ms. Leslie said 44 people attended the shredding paper event. 2,175 pounds of paper was shredded by Wiggins Shredding. The electronic waste figures totaled 12.9 tons—1,860 pounds of light iron, 2,340 pounds of laptops, towers, keyboards, 86 pounds of insulated copper wire. The next recycling event for E-Waste is Saturday, September 5 from 9:00 AM until Noon.

Her Emergency Management report said: As everyone is aware, we had a severe storm come through the Borough on Tuesday, June 23, 2015. It took all of us by surprise. Many homes were severely damaged including one of our own Councilmen, John Wilwert. We have a wonderful Emergency Management Team including our Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works, Engineer, Health Inspectors, Building Maintenance that all pulled together to make our residents feel safe and comforted. The Mayor called the state

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of local emergency at 7:00 PM on June 23rd. Upon driving around the borough with the fire department to assess the damages, our borough was in devastation. Trees smashed through roofs on houses, cars, fences. Trampolines were flipped out of yards, wires were down everywhere. Power was out in the whole borough. We tried to sound the emergency management alarm but the backup generator had not kicked on. Whenever we have some sort of emergency, the siren will sound for 3 minutes straight to alert everyone.

When we do have these emergencies in the borough, we will open up the borough municipal center as a shelter or safe place for everyone to come to as we have done in the past during the flooding events. Please let your neighbors know about this. We put this sort of news out in the newsletters, borough television channels and websites and on social media. We are here to help our residents of Brookhaven. We also provide sleeping quarters here if you need to stay the night. We did have some residents come up to sleep on the cots in the gym.

She thanked Pathmark, Giant, WAWA, 352 Diner, Swiss Farms, Pizza Party, Save-A-Lot, Roly'n's, Kyj's Bakery, Sinfully Delicious Bakery, Harvest Grill, Pat's Pizza, Brookhaven Baseball for all of their food and drink donations. Just a few facts on the amount of people we were feeding on the days after the storm. Breakfast we cooked for 100 people, lunches we cooked for 250 people and dinners we cooked for 387 people and that lasted from Wednesday until Saturday at about 11 AM. So, if you are in our local businesses, please thank them for all the food donations they sent to the Borough. She said she has already sent out thank you letters on behalf of the Borough and Emergency Management. Also, residents who had no electricity were bringing up their own food from their freezers and refrigerators to help feed people, knowing they were going to have to throw away the food if it spoiled.

Special notes of thanks go out to Mayor Hess, Steve Schultz, the Fire Department, the Police Department, Fire Marshal Leslie, Borough Engineer Charles Catania, Jr., Gary Thompson and all of the Public Works guys, Council woman Donna Fooks, Councilwoman Janice Sawicki and her mother Helen, Dawn Jones and family, Harry Swayngim, and Dave Haley for cooking all of the food, Health Inspectors Cathy Warfield and Helen Elmer, Vawn Donaway, Shirlee Yurko, Dave Schlott, Raymond Redding for getting WAWA to help supply ice from the County, Camp Haven Counselors Gianna Jones, Mike Johnston, Chelsea Jones, Brooke Duplicki, Billy Jones, Ally Giankarros, Jess Skarren and Nick Giankarros, Rob Nelson for updating the websites and Matt Cople who helped tremendously and effortlessly. Everyone truly did a great job and she is thankful to have such generous people in our Borough to volunteer in times of need. She apologized if she missed anyone. That week was a blur to her with her because she was running on a few hours of sleep.

She thanked everyone for the help and support and said she is glad we didn't have any severe injuries. We are a Community With Unity and our Borough will weather any storm that is tossed our way.

Brookhaven was the only Borough that did anything for their residents. Not a single other Borough or Township did. Chester finally opened up the PPL Park on Thursday for their residents.

Team Rubicon was formed in January of 2010. It is international non-profit disaster response organization that Unites the skills and experience of military veterans with first response teams. They are free of charge to the Communities affected by disasters across the country. Team Rubicon was able to come to Delaware County. They worked for three days nonstop in Brookhaven, Aston and Chester. They logged in 710 man hours with 46 volunteers. In Brookhaven we submitted a list of 35-40 homes. They were able to assess 27 of those properties. They generated 16 work orders and 15 of the work orders were completed. She apologized to the residents on the list that Team Rubicon was not able to have the work completed for them. They were only here in our area for a brief time before they had to move on to their next mission. She did get the opportunity to thank them in person on Saturday afternoon at the Aston-Beechwood Fire Hall. They were housed at Northley Middle School where they slept and showered.

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A message from the County—As of July 1st, residents are urged to register for DelcoAlert to get weather and other emergency notices. Severe storms, amber alerts or a threat to your home or business. Delaware County residents now have an upgraded notification system where they can receive emergency notices through their phones, e-mail and mobile devices. DelcoAlert continues to be a free service. It is simple to register. To sign up residents can go to the County website-www.co.delaware.pa.us and click on yellow DelcoAlert icon. If you are already registered, please go in and refresh your old account or make a new account. The notifications will be sent to all devices from text and voicemail to e-mail, in the order preferred by the user and stop when the user acknowledges the receipt.

Ms. Leslie said at Family Day on September 25, the Emergency Management Team will be distributing flyers to inform the public about emergency situations and how they will be handled at the Borough. They will also be asking for information from the residents to be used by the Team in the case of an emergency.

With so much storm damage and so many branches to be chipped, Ms. Leslie made the motion and Mr. Wilwert the second to rent from Best Line Equipment a chipper that will accommodate branches up to 9” in diameter at a cost not to exceed \$185.00 per day. Motion carried by unanimous vote. A member of the audience suggested he may be able to get us a chipper for less per day; however, upon checking his supplier, there were no chippers available.

Engineer’s Report – Mr. Catania

Mr. Catania said their office has reviewed the Public Improvements Cost Escrow Estimates for Lowe’s in Plaza 352. Catania Engineering recommends that the construction escrow be set as follows:

Site Improvement	\$426,079.50
Inspection	\$ 21,300.00

Mrs. Fooks made the motion and Ms. Sawicki the second to accept Catania Engineer’s recommendation. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Catania’s written report also said that the 2015 Street Resurfacing Program will begin on July 8. Joseph Sucher and Sons are the contractors.

A site inspection was done at 340 Trimble Boulevard because of a drainage issue.

Brookhaven Green Estates—the proposed development behind Wendy’s on Edgmont Avenue- The developer has asked to be assigned a street address.

There is an ongoing investigation at 4907 Jackson Drive because of a water issue—constant water seepage. Chester Water Authority checked and found no leaks.

A sinkhole in the street at 617 Hillside Avenue had to be repaired. Mr. Wilwert made the motion and Mrs. Truesdale the second to ratify this repair. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Catania asked that Council authorize repair of a street lateral at 203 Morris Avenue and a storm sewer pipe repair at 630 Kenney Circle. Council authorized the repairs.

Regarding the FEMA Community rating System, Mr. Catania followed up with FEMA on the status of Brookhaven’s request. FEMA is sending Catania Engineering more paperwork.

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Inspectors' Reports

Board of Health – Mrs. Warfield and/or Mr. R. Grant

Ms. Leslie took the opportunity to thank Mrs. Warfield and Mrs. Elmer for their help with the shelter here at the Municipal Center. Mrs. Warfield had nothing new to report.

Fire Marshal – Mr. Leslie had no report

Code Enforcement, Electrical, Plumbing and Mechanical – Messrs. J. and R. Grant – Neither inspector had a report.

With no other business to come before Council, Mr. Wilwert made the motion and Mrs. Truesdale the second to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Ellen McKinley
Borough Secretary