

BOROUGH OF EAST GREENVILLE

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 7, 2013

Call to Order: Mr. Pierson called to order the October 7, 2013, meeting of Borough Council at 7:50 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Attendance: The following Council members were present: Josiah Pierson, Andrew Rock, Ryan Pugh and Leon Steinert. Also present were Mayor Ryan Sloyer, Steven Kramer, Solicitor, Barry Tomlinson, Solicitor, James Fry, Borough Manager, and Sharon Kachmar, Borough Secretary/Treasurer.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Rock to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2013, meeting. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously approved.

Visitors: Mr. Randy Reinhart of East Greenville, Ms. Kelly Umberger, Ms. DeAnn Mensch from the Town & Country, Mr. Doug Bricker of East Greenville, Mr. Bob Gery of East Greenville, Ms. Michele Fillippo and Ms. Luanne Stauffer

Mr. Bricker had questions about the recent ordinance pertaining to animal control. He would like the same regulations that pertain to dogs to also pertain to cats as far as leashing them and citing the owner when their cat trespasses on other people's property, similar to how another local municipality is handling the situation. Mr. Kramer explained that it is difficult to regulate cats because the state doesn't regulate them like they do dogs and passing an ordinance of this nature might not hold up in court. Mr. Bricker also expressed his frustration that he wasn't able to trap the cat in question and asked that if the other municipality is challenged and wins in court, would the Borough consider looking at adopting those regulations. Mr. Tomlinson agreed to look into the issue again if that was the case.

Ms. Umberger asked for information about the Oktoberfest event scheduled for Saturday, October 26th. As a business owner of Repeat Boutique on Main Street, she was concerned that she didn't have any details about the event and recently found out that Main Street between Second and Fourth Streets was approved to be closed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. according to PennDOT. She mentioned that this will be the third time in 30 days that Main Street has been closed for an event, and since she doesn't have parking behind her building, it affects her business. She mentioned that several other businesses on Main Street who will be affected by the road closure were also not aware of this event. Mr. Pierson thanked her for expressing her concerns and explained that the whole idea behind this event was to provide entertainment and increase foot traffic in the downtown area. Closing the road was done for safety reasons. Ms. Umberger asked that in the future all those affected by road closures be notified before permits are issued.

Ms. Fillippo, Project Coordinator for Perk Up, handed out their business directory for 2014 and mentioned upcoming Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce (UPVCC) events and current projects. She also handed out the annual report and introduced Ms. Stauffer, president of UPVCC, to update Council on the status of one of their major projects, wayfinding and identity in the valley. Pictures of the final design were distributed. Ms. Stauffer expressed her desire that the Borough accept and support the design that was chosen. The next step is to determine the location of the prototype and for students at Western Montgomery Career and Technology Center to build the prototypes. Council was thanked for the wayfinding donations received in 2012 and 2013 and were asked to consider another year of contribution to the program. The final goal is to apply as a community for a grant to put the signs throughout the Upper Perkiomen Valley.

Police Commission Report: Mr. Sloyer mentioned that the contract for the officers should be finalized shortly.

Mayor's Report: No updates to report.

Solicitor Items: Atty. Tomlinson reported that the ordinance amending the Property Maintenance Code is currently being advertised. It will be ready for adoption at the October 22, 2013, meeting.

Water Committee: Mr. Rock announced that the water supervisor's report is on file. He also reported that all the old brass meters that could be sold back were done so, and the ones left need to be scrapped due to higher lead content than allowed under new regulations. Mr. Rock made a motion to allow the Water Department to exceed the \$1,000 max on equipment scrap for the brass meters that are no longer usable to the Borough. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously approved.

Pertaining to the water tank inspection report, Mr. Fry suggested that another clean out of the tank may be needed in 2015. In the next 9 to 12 months, he would like to discuss with our engineers the lifespan and condition of the paint to obtain a time frame for repainting.

Source Water Protection: No report.

Zoning/Planning/Codes: No report.

Road Committee: Mr. Steinert announced that Patch Management was used to patch potholes on Washington Street from the Borough line to Fourth Street, Bank Street from Washington Street to the township line, Morris Road, 100 block of School Alley and under the railroad trestle on Third Street. Crack sealing was done from Main Street to State Street.

Mr. Steinert asked Mr. Reinhart to address Council concerning the purchase of a new dump truck. Mayor Sloyer was concerned about spending \$125,000 for a truck that is not used on an everyday basis. Mr. Pierson asked that this topic be tabled so that the Finance Committee can review the budget for next year and a plan for going forward.

Finance Committee: Mr. Rock made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously approved. Mr. Rock made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Mr. Steinert and unanimously approved.

Mr. Fry updated Council that a letter was sent to Upper Hanover Township requesting shared payment for the workman's compensation insurance for East Greenville Fire Company. Upper Hanover replied that they would discuss this as part of their 2014 budget.

The estimate by Styer Associates was reviewed and discussed for the audit of tax collector records after this year's election. Mr. Rock made a motion to approve Styer's audit plan not to exceed an amount of \$4,500. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously approved.

Mr. Pierson asked that all committees get their budget requests submitted. Mr. Fry indicated that we have the budget requests and are working on preparing a preliminary budget. Next step is to set a date to review the preliminary draft. Mr. Pierson suggested the first review start with the Finance Committee, then dates be set when all Council can be present.

Personnel Committee: Concerning the request for a crossing guard at Sixth and State Streets, Mr. Fry met with Mr. Wickard, principal of Upper Perkiomen Middle School, to discuss the walking route which involves walking under the bridge on Sixth Street where there are no sidewalks and crossing at State Street. It was decided to observe the

situation and document any issues. The police will be asked to watch the intersection at Sixth and State Streets and let us know if any issues arise.

Property Committee: Discussed request from Lighthouse Christian Fellowship to use the exterior and interior of Clubhouse for “Light the Night” community outreach event on October 31. Due to existing plumbing issues, security cameras not yet installed, insurance issues and lack of a written policy, Council was reluctant to offer use of the interior. Mr. Rock made a motion to allow Lighthouse Christian Fellowship to use the grounds down at the clubhouse. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously approved.

Waste Management Report: No report.

Recycling Committee: Leaf collection dates to be Saturday, November 23, 2013, and Saturday, December 7, 2013.

Sewer Authority: No report.

Revitalization: No report.

Regional Planning: No report.

Emergency Management: Concerning radio upgrades for East Greenville Fire Company, Mr. Fry has no definite dates but best estimate of the earliest payment due would be fourth quarter of 2014. The fire company would come to the Borough to get a loan under the Borough’s name.

Borough Manager Updates: Mr. Fry attended a meeting this afternoon which was organized by the school district in an attempt to open lines of communications between the school and surrounding municipalities. One topic discussed in detail was the resurfacing work to be done on the tennis courts at the high school in the amount of \$300,000. Mr. Fry was asked to bring to Council for discussion a request from the school district for a contribution to offset the cost. Mr. Sloyer requested we get a list of the rules for the use of the courts due to a concern that they may ban public use. Mr. Fry mentioned that he did relay to the school district that we have our own recreation space and tennis courts in East Greenville Borough that require maintenance. Mr. Pierson asked to leave this item on the agenda for future discussion. The school district also wanted to ask Council to keep them updated on any future housing developments in the Borough of East Greenville. Mr. Fry relayed that although we are required by law to inform them of any housing developments, he also offered to send the school district an invitation to attend meetings related to zoning hearings or land development plans. Mr. Sloyer recognized that the school district also has a representative who attends regional planning meetings.

Correspondence: None.

Other Business: None.

Executive Session: Mr. Pierson called an executive session at 9:05 p.m. to discuss a land purchase. Regular meeting reconvened at 9:21 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Being no further business, Mr. Rock made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Pugh. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Submitted by:

Sharon Kachmar, Borough Secretary/Treasurer