

BOROUGH OF EAST GREENVILLE

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 26, 2013

Call to Order: Mr. Pierson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Attendance: The following Council members were present: Josiah Pierson, Andrew Rock, Ryan Pugh, and James Young. Also present were Mayor Ryan Sloyer, Steven Kramer, 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 November 4, 2013, meeting. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously approved.

Visitors: Ms. Mary Kerscher, Town & Country; Pamela Moran; A. Uhl; D. Finn

Ms. Finn speaking for her mother, Mrs. Uhl, owner of 615 Morris Road, showed Council a picture of a large hole in the sidewalk at 615 Morris Road where a mailbox had been removed. She asked when the Borough would be out to fix the hole. The U.S. Postal Service recently removed the mailbox and put in a cluster box further down the street. Upon receipt of an email from Mrs. Uhl who expressed concern about safety issues, Mr. Fry inspected the hole, deemed it a hazard, covered it with a traffic cone, and issued the homeowner a correction report to repair the sidewalk in accordance with the East Greenville Property Maintenance Code. Ms. Finn stated that the repair should be the responsibility of the Borough and showed a picture of a repair made by the Borough to a section of sidewalk near 615 Hamilton Road. Mr. Fry explained that the Borough fixed what was in the right of way. Mr. Kramer remarked that there is an ordinance in place that makes sidewalk fixes the responsibility of homeowner. If the Borough fixes the sidewalk, they violate their own ordinance and take on liability. Mayor Sloyer stated that the real issue goes back to the U.S. Postal Service. He recommends they take this issue up with them and perhaps contact her local congressman or senator for assistance. Mrs. Finn asked to go on record asking if Mr. Fry's job is to enforce codes, why not enforce codes for a house that needs to be cleaned up and referenced a house behind hers that she believes is a fire hazard. Mr. Fry replied that progress has been made at that property and there are extenuating circumstances that have stayed the enforcement. Ms. Finn also showed a picture of a raised sidewalk at 445 Colonial Drive that she believes is a hazard. Mayor Sloyer remarked that we are in the final stages of addressing sidewalk replacement/repairs throughout the entire Borough. Ms. Finn was concerned about the timeframe given to make the repair. The correction notice gave a deadline of December 16 and included a reference to contact the Borough if an extension is needed. Mr. Rock made a motion to extend the sidewalk repair at 615 Morris Road for an additional 15 days, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh - yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Police Commission Report: Mayor Sloyer reported that the proposed budget was approved at the meeting last night. The increase to East Greenville Borough's budget for 2014 is just under \$25,000.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Sloyer asked that East Greenville Borough donate an additional \$750 for the Hometown Christmas Parade event to help out with expenses this year. They didn't get all the funding they were asking for from businesses. Mr. Rock made a motion to donate \$750, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh - yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed. Mayor Sloyer thanked East Greenville, Pennsburg and Red Hill Boroughs for donating extra this year to help fund this event for the community.

Solicitor Items: Concerning the purchase of the Owl's parking lot, Mr. Kramer reported that they are waiting for the formal lease agreement to be completed by their realtor. He recommended a settlement date of either December 9, 10 or 11. Mr. Pierson asked him to coordinate closing with the seller.

Mr. Kramer advised that their office has reviewed the Stormwater Management Ordinance and made small revisions. Most of it is state law and DEP requirements. The goal of this ordinance is to keep runoff on properties rather than the streets, storm sewers and sanitary sewers. It will affect new construction mostly and some existing homes. He will work on finalizing this ordinance for the NPDES permit.

A resolution with regard to the Borough disposing of records according to statutory requirements is proposed. This resolution is similar to the one adopted for the disposition of tax collector records earlier this year. Mr. Kramer has reviewed it and recommends it for advertising. Mr. Rock made a motion to advertise resolution pertaining to disposition of records, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Water Committee: Mr. Rock reported that we submitted to the Delaware River Basin Commission our ground and surface water withdraw permit to be heard at a public meeting in December.

Source Water Protection: No report.

Zoning/Planning/Codes: Montgomery County Planning Commission has proposed a new three-year contract to cover 2014, 2015 and 2016 planning assistance. Potential work items include renewable energy, green audit recommendations, open space plan 2016 update, and downtown design guidelines. Year one of the contract would total \$6,828, year two is \$6,940, and year three is \$7,053. Mr. Young made a motion to approve the three-year contract with Montgomery County Planning Commission, seconded by Mr. Pugh. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Fry explained to council that Ms. Moran, owner of property at 517 Main Street, is present to hear council's decision about keeping the existing slate pavers when making sidewalk repairs. An inspection revealed that the flagstone slate sidewalk needs repair, and Ms. Moran has a proposal to cut a portion of the slate away and fill with brick pavers. Council expressed their approval of either the suggested repair or concrete replacement.

A motion was made by Mr. Rock to approve the Borough of East Greenville Curb and Sidewalk Inspection and Maintenance Policy, seconded by Pugh. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh - yea; Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Road Committee: Arlington Street Reconstruction grant contracts that were to be finalized in October are not yet received. Jefferson Street at the middle school is still being monitored. Mr. Fry would like to dispose of an old paint sprayer that no longer has value to the Borough. Parts are not available, and its value is less than \$1,000. Mr. Rock made a motion that we allow Borough employees to advertise an airless paint sprayer, seconded by Mr. Pugh. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Finance Committee: In the absence of Mr. Huff, Mr. Rock indicated that the proposed budget for 2014 will raise property taxes one mil which will allow for the increase to the police, a large amount of money to fix roads, and a little extra for any kind of emergency. Mr. Rock made a motion to advertise the budget, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Rock made a motion to have Styer & Associates perform the audit for 2013, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Mayor Sloyer asked that Council approve sending the police their allocation for January on January 2nd, which falls before the monthly Borough Council meeting that month. Mr. Young made a motion to pay the police allocation on January 2, 2014, seconded by Mr. Rock. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Personnel Committee: No report.

Property Committee: Discussed Signal Service proposal for maintenance of traffic lights in the Borough. Mr. Young made a motion to approve the proposal from Signal Service for traffic light maintenance, seconded by Mr. Rock. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Mr. Fry mentioned that last year our insurance company advised that the premium to insure the clubhouse for use by organizations would be \$159 annually. We would need to obtain a copy of the organization's certificate of liability insurance, listing the Borough as additionally insured. The cost to add property insurance for the building at \$100,000 is \$264 annually. Mr. Fry will confirm numbers again and report back to council at the December 2, 2013, meeting.

Ms. Finn asked about the parking spaces at the Colonial Village Clubhouse. She was informed that there are 20 spaces total – 12 are designated for clubhouse use and the 8 remaining are for public use.

Waste Management Report: No report.

Recycling Committee: No report.

Sewer Authority: Mr. Pugh indicated that an accident over the weekend triggered an electrical surge that blew up the transformer serving the water treatment plant. He commended Mr. Glenn Quinn on his handling of the emergency situation. They are on line with backup utility power.

Revitalization: No report.

Regional Planning: Mr. Pierson reported that at their meeting last night, the Western Center has developed the curriculum to build three to five prototypes by spring. Knoll, Horizon & Reed signs are involved.

Emergency Management: No report.

Borough Manager Updates: No report.

Correspondence: None.

Other Business: Mr. Young made a motion to set the year-end meeting for Thursday, December 19, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. and advertise it, seconded by Mr. Rock. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed. Mr. Rock made a motion to amend the year-end meeting of December 19, seconded by Mr. Pugh. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed. Mr. Rock made a motion to hold the year-end meeting on December 23, 2013, at 7:45 p.m. and advertise it, seconded by Mr. Pugh. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - yea, Mr. Pugh – yea, Mr. Pierson - yea, Mr. Young - yea. Motion passed.

Executive Session: None.

Motion to Adjourn: Being no further business, Mr. Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Rock. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Submitted by:

Sharon Kachmar, Borough Secretary/Treasurer