

# **BOROUGH OF EAST GREENVILLE**

## **BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**March 10, 2014**

**Call to Order:** Mr. Huff 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: Timothy Huff, Tracey Hunsinger, Josiah Pierson, Ryan Pugh, Andrew Rock, and James Young. Also present were Mayor Ryan Sloyer, Stephen Kramer, Solicitor, James Fry, Borough Manager, and Sharon Kachmar, Borough Secretary/Treasurer.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Mr. Young to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2014, meeting. Seconded by Mr. Rock and unanimously approved by all except Mr. Pugh who abstained due to his absence from the meeting.

**Visitors:** Mike Schwenk, Jamison Messa, Mary Messa, Joe Arahill, Shane Dierolf, Scott McMackin of Cowan Associates, and Allison Czapp of Town & Country Newspaper

**Police Commission Report:** Mayor Sloyer reported that the monthly police allocation is \$44,529.41 plus rent. He also reported that last year the Police Commission was in the red by \$3,500 to \$4,000.

**Mayor's Report:** Community Day will be held again in September. Mayor Sloyer will be asking for a road closure and assistance from Council.

**Solicitor Items:** Mike Schwenk, resident at 112 Jefferson Street, questioned the wording of the draft Handicapped Parking Ordinance 91.22(B) (4) (a) where it pertains to the number of handicapped parking spaces permitted on a block. Atty. Kramer clarified that current handicapped spaces are grandfathered in but a newly requested space that exceeds the limit of what is allowed by this ordinance would not be permitted unless otherwise approved by Borough Council. Mr. Schwenk also had an issue with the wording of (6) (a) which states the Borough reserves the right to rescind the designation for a handicapped parking space at any time for any reason. Mr. Huff explained that this gives the Borough the ability to regulate and remove the space if needed. Mayor Sloyer expressed his concern with (5) (b) which denies a permit to an applicant who does not own a vehicle. Council discussed this provision in length and agreed to strike (5) (b) from the proposed ordinance. Mayor Sloyer voiced his opinion that the Mayor should be able to approve all applications. After further discussion, Council also agreed to give the Mayor the authority to grant special exceptions by a vote of 5 to 0 with Mr. Rock being neutral. Mr. Fry asked if wording for (1) (a) (c) & (d) can be changed to read '... at the discretion of the Mayor, *or in his absence*, the Borough Manager, ...'. Mr. Schwenk questioned why we are charging a fee. Council decided that the initial application fee of \$25 to cover administrative costs was appropriate and a 'reserved for' sign can be purchased for \$15. Council agreed to strike (2) (e) renewal fee from the ordinance.

Mr. Schwenk expressed concern on how snow was plowed into the handicapped curb cuts and near bus stops. Mr. Huff explained that with the amount of snow this year and lack of thawing between storms, there were not a lot of places to go with it. Mr. Fry agreed to talk to the road crew and make them aware of the complaint.

**Water Committee:** Monthly report is on file. Mr. Fry recommends the removal of a pine tree to the right of the water plant. Borough employees will take it down or get an estimate to present to Council.

**Zoning/Planning:** Atty. Kramer presented both a Development Agreement and Joint Escrow Agreement for Council approval for a 12-unit condominium project at 413 Jefferson Street. There were two versions of the Joint Escrow Agreement; one that indicated the developer shall choose the financial institution and type of interest bearing account at which such escrow shall be maintained, subject to Borough's approval, and another with that statement

redacted. Mr. Rock made a motion to approve the Development Agreement and the Joint Escrow Agreement with the redaction, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - aye, Mr. Pugh – aye, Mr. Pierson – aye, Mr. Huff - aye, Mr. Young – aye, Ms. Hunsinger - aye. Motion passed.

**Road Committee:** Monthly report is available for review.

Scott McMackin of Cowan Associates presented a roadway plan to Council which was originally quoted in 2011. They propose doing an analysis of the Borough's road network, developing a proactive plan with priorities for fixing each road and coming up with a systematic way to follow up with maintenance. They would be willing to help keep costs down by utilizing the assistance of Borough employees and will help look for grant funding. Mr. Rock made a motion to have Cowan Associates start to work on the road service plan not to exceed \$10,000, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - aye, Mr. Pugh – aye, Mr. Pierson – aye, Mr. Huff - aye, Mr. Young – aye, Ms. Hunsinger - aye. Motion passed.

**Finance Committee:** Mr. Rock made a motion to pay the bills, seconded by Mr. Young. Roll call vote: Mr. Rock - aye, Mr. Pierson – aye, Mr. Huff - aye, Mr. Young – aye, Ms. Hunsinger - aye. Motion passed. Mr. Rock made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Mr. Pugh and unanimously passed. Mr. Rock reported that this year's highway aid from PennDOT was over budget by \$5,717.92. This will help to offset the budget overage in expenses for the purchase of salt.

**Personnel Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Property Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Recycling /Waste Mgmt Committee:** Reports are on file.

**Sewer Authority:** Nothing to report.

**Revitalization:** Nothing to report.

**Regional Planning:** Mr. Pierson reported that the Upper Perkiomen Valley Regional Planning Committee met on February 26, 2014. All seven municipalities were present with East Greenville Borough being represented by Bob Gery and Josiah Pierson. Mr. Pierson highlighted the minutes from the meeting and in particular the progress of the gateway sign project. The Borough will be getting a welcome sign and a parking sign for the new lot. Mr. Pierson asked if the engineer can look at wind loads and concrete specs. to be sure there will be no issues. The unveiling is scheduled for either April 28<sup>th</sup> or May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Emergency Management:** No report.

**Borough Manager Updates:** Grant applications for next year through CDBG are due April 11th. Mr. Fry reported that about \$3 million will be available. Projects must have a direct benefit to residential properties, and applicants that have current projects and/or had one in 2011 may be rejected or lose points. Council agreed to pursue applying for assistance for road reconstruction on Second Street between Main and Washington Streets. Mr. McMackin was asked to provide construction cost estimates. A resolution to apply for funding would be needed at the next meeting.

**Correspondence:** Received request from East Greenville Fire Company asking for road closure on Washington Street between Fourth and Fifth Streets during their carnival on July 9 through July 12, 2014. Mr. Young made a motion to grant road closure. Seconded by Mr. Pierson and approved unanimously.

Mayor Sloyer asked Council to watch for abandoned vehicles on the streets that should be brought to Mr. Fry's attention. Mr. Fry clarified that in order for a vehicle to be considered abandoned, it must be unregistered, have

expired inspection and an unreadable VIN number. It can also be towed by the police if there are parts missing or fluids leaking. Vehicles parked on private property are in violation if they are not registered.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Being no further business, Mr. Rock made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Young. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Sharon Kachmar, Secretary/Treasurer