

East Stroudsburg Borough, June 3, 2014

A regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg Borough Council was held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday, June 3, 2014. The following members were in attendance: Peter Begley, Roger DeLarco, Edward Flory, William Reese, Richard Smith, and Sonia Wolbert. Also attending were: Mayor Armand M. Martinelli; Manager James S. Phillips; Solicitor John C. Prevoznik; Engineering Representative Samuel D'Alessandro of R.K.R. Hess Associates, Inc.; Codes Official Marvin Walton; and Chief William Parrish of the Stroud Area Regional Police Department.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance – President DeLarco

President Roger DeLarco called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The pledge of Allegiance was led by Steven DeSalva.

Minutes of May 29, Special Council Meeting

Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Begley, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held May 29, 2014 as submitted; the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 13-2014 Recognizing Frank and Marie Summa for Lifetime Achievement Award from Monroe County Historical Association

Mr. Reese noted that Frank and Marie Summa have been involved for many years in helping to preserve and write the history of the local area, and were recently honored by the Monroe County Historical Association with its Lifetime Achievement Award. Mr. Reese said he has known the Summa's all his adult life and thought it appropriate that the Borough recognize them for their achievements. Mr. Reese read proposed Resolution No. 13-2014 and made a motion, seconded by Mr. Flory, to adopt the Resolution; which carried unanimously. All Council members and Mayor signed the Resolution, which Mr. Reese then presented to Mr. and Mrs. Summa.

Crystal Street Merchants – Vagrancy and other downtown issues

Sue Randall, Downtown Manager for the Eastburg Community Alliance (ECA), said she has been making an effort to meet with merchants in the downtown. A meeting was held recently with SARPD Police Chief Parrish to discuss some issues that impact the Downtown, and a representative has attended the meeting tonight to bring some suggestions to Council for making some improvements.

Mayor Martinelli thanked the interested parties attending for coming to Council with possible solutions.

Deanna Jones of Liztech Jewelry, said her Committee has come up with a list of thoughts and suggestions for improving the downtown, which she distributed. Ms. Jones thanked Chief Parrish for recent police efforts to be more of a presence downtown.

Chief Parrish said regarding item 10. on the list – replacement officers - the Department has hired four new officers so far this year, to replace officers who have retired or resigned; and the Department is looking at hiring several more. The current complement of officers is 45. The Chief said he will look into the possibility of getting more video cameras for Crystal Street – item 7. – but one issue obviously is funding.

Mr. Walton noted in regards to item 5. – parking enforcement – the Borough has hired two new part-time Parking Enforcement Officers who are vigorously writing more tickets. In response to item 6. – 2 hour limit for downtown parking – some communities have this type limitation, which would require changes to the parking meters.

Mr. Phillips said, in regards to item 8. - Signage for Business District – wayfinding signage was proposed for the original phase of the Streetscape project but was eliminated and not funded by PennDOT. Mr. Phillips said he would look up what had been proposed for downtown signage.

Mr. Flory asked Ms. Randall, what is ECA doing, monetarily, to address these issues? Ms. Randall said ECA does not really have funds to provide video cameras, for example. Mr. Begley asked if any businesses on Crystal St. have their own video security systems; and was advised no.

Mr. DeLarco said he agrees with item 2. – additional lighting in the Kistler St. parking lot. Mr. DeLarco questioned item 3. – remove benches from Crystal Street, and noted that those benches were provided with federal funds which might have to be repaid. Mr. Begley said he had suggested that the benches be moved to the other side of the street. Mr. Phillips said the existing benches are mounted on the planters and do not have legs; so they could not just be relocated to the other side of the road.

Chief Parrish said in regards to item 9. – parking in the alley (Dansbury Terrace) during free food distributions – he has met with Crossroads Ministry, but they are not the actual group doing the food distribution; it is another church group. Mr. DeLarco said the Police Department should write tickets if cars are parked illegally on Dansbury Terrace.

Mr. Phillips said the Borough would look at whether the benches in Miller Park could be moved “out in the open” more, in regards to item 4. on the list.

Deanna Jones did acknowledge that in regards to item 1. on the list – trim trees and hedges in Miller Park and along the Kistler St. parking lot – the Borough has done a lot of work in the last few days to remove and trim the shrubbery there.

Mr. DeLarco thanked Ms. Jones for attending and told her to keep asking questions if needed to.

Buff-Nauman Preliminary/Final Minor Subdivision Plan, approx. 10.5 acres off Franklin Hill Road, R-1 District

Troy Nauman was present on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Nauman said he has addressed all items on the review letter; they are waiting for DEP action on the Sewage Planning Module and a letter from Smithfield Township accepting the road dedication.

Mr. Walton noted there is an outstanding waiver request regarding the width of the existing driveways. The driveways were field measured and the width corrected on the plan, however the ordinance required a width of 15 feet minimum. Mr. D’Alessandro said his office has recommended approval of the driveway width waiver. Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Begley, to approve the waiver as requested; the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. DeLarco asked Mr. Nauman about rezoning of the property? Mr. Nauman said he is still willing to consider a rezoning for commercial; but does want to get approval for the subdivision. Mr. Walton said the previous discussion was that the landowner applicant should be the “driver” for any new rezoning request; Mr. Nauman said he now understood that.

Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Begley, to approve the Sewage Planning Module submittal; the motion carried unanimously. Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Begley, to grant preliminary/final subdivision approval for the minor subdivision plan based on the latest plan revision dated 5/7/14; subject to the following conditions:

- Approval of the sewage planning module by PA DEP.
- Approval/acceptance by Smithfield Township of the road right-of-way dedication.

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments - Agenda Items

None.

Ordinance No. 1289 (Revised) Amending the Code of the Borough of East Stroudsburg, Chapter 150 Thereof Entitled Vehicles and Traffic, Revising Provisions Regarding Parking Meter Bags

Mr. Phillips said he needs to know exactly what changes Council wants to make in the proposed ordinance as drafted. Mr. DeLarco said Council had discussed allowing up to five meter bags for free for church services and funerals – but they would not be required to obtain

meter bags unless they choose to. Mr. Phillips asked if contractors or utilities would still be charged \$5 per meter per day; and was advised yes. Mayor Martinelli said he thought Council had agreed the last time this was discussed that this was “over-legislating” and not needed. After further discussion, Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Begley, to authorize advertising the proposed ordinance with the changes discussed; the motion carried unanimously.

Report and Action on Bids Received 6/2/14 for Sewer System Infiltration/Inflow Project

Mr. Phillips said nine contractors obtained bid documents for the proposed contract work, and five bids were received on a unit price basis and opened on 6/2/14; a tabulation of bids follows:

Sewer Specialty Services Co., In.	\$ 46,361.50
Pipe Services Corp.	\$ 55,276.40
Tri-State Grouting	\$ 78,357.00
Mr. Rehab., Inc.	\$ 81,015.10
National Water Main Cleaning Co.	\$120,022.50

Mr. Phillips said Council has a letter from Glace Associates, Inc. certifying the bids, and they have reviewed the bid bonds. The low bidder, Sewer Specialty Services Co. has done similar work for the Borough previously, and the recommendation is to accept their bid proposal. Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Flory, to authorize issuance of Notice of Intent to Award the contract on a unit price basis based on the low bid proposal as recommended; the motion carried unanimously.

Report and Action on Bids Received 6/2/14 for Sale of used municipal vehicles via Municibid website:

Mr. Phillips said bids were received up until yesterday for sale of two used vehicles, and the recommendation is to award sale to the high bidders as follows:

- 2000 Ford Expedition SUV(former Fire Co. Command vehicle) - \$1,304.00, William Hayes
- 1990 Chevrolet Dump Truck (former Recycling vehicle) - \$1,125.00, Sam Pegler

Mr. Flory made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert, to accept the bids and award sale as recommended; the motion carried by a vote of 5 -0 with Mr. Begley abstaining because he had participated in the bidding for one of the vehicles.

Proposed 2014 Road Paving Program

Mr. Phillips said he had revised the list based on the costs exceeding budget; these costs are estimated and will depend on actual bid prices. If we get slightly lower prices we may be able to do some additional quantity. Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Flory, to authorize advertising for bids for the proposed 2014 paving work; the motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 15-2014 Approving Pay Rates for Summer/Seasonal Recreation Employees for the 2014 Year

Mr. Phillips said these proposed rates reflect an average increase of 2.0% or less, within the budgeted amount; the increase for lifeguards, for example, is \$0.15 per hour. Mr. Flory made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert, to adopt proposed Resolution No. 16-2014 as submitted; the motion carried unanimously.

Ratification of Hiring of Director of Public Works for the Borough

Mr. DeLarco said the Council Committee had reviewed the applications and interviewed four applicants. Mr. DeLarco then introduced Steven DeSalva, who is the unanimous choice of the Committee. Mr. DeLarco said Mr. DeSalva is former City Engineer for Bethlehem and Public Works Director for Northampton County. Mr. DeSalva said he is interested in the full-service scope of responsibility for the Borough and is looking forward to the opportunity of working for the Borough in the DPW Director position. Mr. Flory made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert, to ratify the hiring of Steven DeSalva as DPW Director effective 6/9/14 at a salary of \$65,000; the motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business

Caydele Forde of 1 Hillside Court asked if time limit could be substituted for the total restriction on parking on Hillside Ct.? Mr. Phillips reviewed the history of the recent prohibition of parking on the road, letters had been sent to residents concerning the proposed change prior to Council adopting the ordinance. Several residents came out to the public hearing and spoke in favor of the parking restrictions. Mayor Martinelli said the main concern was during this past winter when cars parking in front of Mr. Ford's residence made it difficult for Borough trucks and for residents to safely make the turn onto Hillside Ct. from Eagle Valley Lane. Mr. Begley asked how many vehicles are at this residence? Mr. Forde said there is a driveway but no garage at the residence, and tenants both upstairs and downstairs at the residence. Mr. Forde said he would speak with other residents of the street concerning the parking restrictions.

Correspondence:

Mr. Phillips reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:

- i. PA Department of Community & Economic Development – Public Meetings scheduled for review of 2014 Local Share Account Grant Program Requirements
- ii. Stroud Region Open Space and Recreation Commission (SROSRC) – Audit Report for 2013 Year, for SROSRC and the Friends of SROSRC, prepared by Wesoloh Carney & Co., LLC.
- iii. PA Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative – First Distribution from 2013 Claim Fund surplus based on claims for the year - \$45,313
- iv. Monroe County Planning Commission – Final Draft, Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Update
- v. Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Plan – Substantial Revision Approved 4/15/14

Reports

Mr. D'Alessandro reviewed his written Engineer's report previously submitted to Council.

Mr. Prevoznik said the draft permit docket for the Borough's well water sources as revised by the DRBC (Delaware River Basin Commission) through the efforts of our special counsel, now addresses most of the Borough concerns and is set for action by the DRBC at their meeting next week.

Mayor Martinelli asked Mr. Phillips to contact PennDOT concerning numerous potholes on state roads – King Street, N. Courtland St. near the Sunoco station, etc.

Mrs. Wolbert said she was pleased to see numerous parking tickets on vehicles parked at meters on Smith St. near the ESU Fieldhouse this past Saturday.

Mr. Begley noted a large hole on Willow Street that is very deep. Mr. Begley also said he is disappointed that an additional year of groundwater monitoring will be required at the former IBW property, before we can even consider selling the property.

Mr. Phillips said he has spoken with Jim Lambert of the County Waste Authority again concerning working with the Twin Boroughs Recycling Program to handle electronics items.

Mr. DeLarco said a resident has expressed safety concerns to him about couches on porches. Mr. Phillips said Bloomsburg has an ordinance regarding that issue; Mr. Walton said he would obtain a copy. Mr. DeLarco reminded Mr. Phillips to provide a copy of the sewer plans near the "Iron Bridge" to PennDOT as discussed at the most recent meeting concerning the bridge. Mr. DeLarco also noted that cars were parked along East Brown St. this past weekend where it is indicated "no parking" due to the sidewalk. Finally, Mr. DeLarco asked about the air conditioning in the building which obviously is not working properly.

Mr. Walton said the draft of proposed Ordinance No. 1281, parking provisions for existing residential properties, is hopefully in final form and as a zoning ordinance must be

submitted to the Monroe County Planning Commission (MCPC) for review and comments. Mr. Begley said he feels the provisions are costly and too restrictive for residents. Mrs. Wolbert questioned the requirement for a 10' buffer along a rear alley? Mayor Martinelli questioned whether on his 40 ft. wide lot, if he would be able to install a driveway like he did some years ago for his garage? Mr. D'Alessandro said an applicant could always apply for a zoning variance if the setbacks are the issue. After further discussion, Mr. Flory made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese, to authorize submittal of the proposed ordinance in current form to the MCPC. The motion carried by a vote of 4-2, with Mr. Begley and Mrs. Wolbert voting no.

Mr. Phillips said he had received a phone call from Mr. Swarbrick, one of the owners of the Eagle Valley Mall property, concerning the issue of the connecting road between that plaza and Eagle Glen Plaza, and the recent order of the Borough in the conditional use approval for Eagle Glen Realty that requires closing of the road. He is interested in seeing that the connecting road remains open to his plaza and is willing to pay for maintenance of the road if necessary. Mr. Prevoznik noted that the property owner – Eagle Glen Realty – has the main interest in this case, not the Borough.

List of Bills Payable – June 3, 2014

Mr. Flory made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese, to approve the List of Bills Payable as submitted and to ratify payroll and expenditures to date; the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

None.

Adjournment

With no further business, Mr. Flory made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese, to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m.; the motion carried unanimously.

James S. Phillips, Secretary