

MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
EAST STROUDSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
TUESDAY JUNE 16, 2020 -7:15 p.m.

To meet the requirements established by the Office of Open records for virtual meetings, this meeting was recorded with audio and video via Publicinput.com/Webex from the initial announcement of the meeting till its end with the exception of executive session, if any, which shall not be recorded.

VIRTUALLY PRESENT: Borough Manager Brian Bond, Mayor Martinelli, Carrie Panepinto, Don Cross, Ken Konz

PRESENT AT MUNICIPAL BUILDING: Sonia Wolbert, Maury Molin, Roger DeLarco, Bill Reese, Solicitor John Prevoznik, Borough Engineer Nate Oiler, Zoning Officer Marv Walton and Public Works Director Brian Ace

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Solicitor's Report on Executive Session

Executive Session was held prior to the start of the regular meeting. Possible action and mitigation on possible easements, PennDot Condemnation, Eagle Valley Pump Station, and personnel matters were all discussed and no decisions were made.

June 2, 2020 Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert, to approve the June 2, 2020 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing – Chapter 157, Zoning

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to recess the regular meeting and convene a public hearing on Ordinance No. 1362. The motion carried unanimously.

A public hearing was held for Ordinance 1362, Chapter 157, Zoning, C-1B was held. Mr. Walton advised a new zoning district “C-1B” is being created, which derived from the Borough’s Comprehensive Plan’s idea of redevelopment within the Borough, and comes recommended by the Zoning Ordinance Review Committee and the Comprehensive Plan Task Force. This was reviewed by both, the Monroe County Planning Commission, and the Borough’s Planning Commission. The areas within the proposed zoning district were posted by the Borough appropriately. Curtis Bair of Stroudsburg asked what the approved height of buildings will be if this ordinance is approved. Mr. Walton advised building height of up to 70 feet will be allowed; Mr. Walton provided Mr. Bair a copy of the exhibits for his reference. Mr. DeLarco added the committees had met often and has been discussed for months, resulting in a thorough review, with input from the comp plan committee, and this is an example of moving the comp plan forward. A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. DeLarco to enter exhibits 1 through 9 into evidence. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. DeLarco to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. DeLarco and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve Ordinance No. 1362 amending Chapter 157, Zoning, as advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing – Chapter 140, Subdivision and Land Development, Sidewalks

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to recess the regular meeting and convene a public hearing on Ordinance No. 1363. The motion carried unanimously.

A public hearing was held for Ordinance 1363, amending Chapter 140, Subdivision and Land Development, Sidewalks. Mr. Walton advised this is an offshoot of the C-1B ordinance that was just approved, and updates sections of the ordinance as related to sidewalks and development. Mr. Prevoznik stated Chapter 140 is listed on the Borough's website and is a comprehensive document, as opposed to this ordinance which is just updated certain points. Curtis Bair of Stroudsburg asked if this pertains to just the locations within the C-1B district, to which Mr. Walton replied it applied to any location within the Borough. A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to enter exhibits 1 through 6 into evidence. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve Ordinance No. 1363 amending Chapter 140, Subdivision and Land Development, Sidewalks, as advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing – Community Development Block Grant FY 2020 CDBG and CDBG-CV

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to recess the regular meeting and convene a public hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

Martha Robbins, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority, led the first public hearing to the Borough residents, as required. Ms. Robbins announced for CDBG Entitlement funds, Monroe County will be allocated \$420,561, and East Stroudsburg Borough will be allocated \$153,680. For CDBG-CV funds, Monroe County will be allocated \$166,152, and East Stroudsburg Borough will be allocated \$76,360, which may only be used for activities that prevent, prepare and respond to the coronavirus. Also, Monroe County is considering applications to be submitted utilizing their previous program year funds under the CDBG Local Revolving Loan Fund for the effects of COVID-19 on local businesses. These funds will be used for working capital such as salaries, wages, inventory, utilities, rent, insurance payments and must retain LMI jobs. The estimated amount available will be \$400,000. Mr. Prevoznik asked how the Borough can apply for the COVID funding. Ms. Robbins stated the Borough must decide how to utilize the money; some examples could be utility assistance, mortgage assistance, deep cleaning for public parks. Mr. Reese asked if deep cleaning for the public pool would qualify. Ms. Robbins advised that would qualify. September 2021 is the deadline for applications and the reimbursement process.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None.

SROSRC

Ms. Wolbert announced the pool is scheduled to be open for the 4th of July. There will be no concessions or season passes and will be limited to day passes. The capacity is limited to 50% of normal limits, and the pool will close mid-day for cleaning. There will be security for park

patrol and enforcement, masks are required to enter the facility and must be worn in the pool house and on the pool deck. There will be a pre-entrance COVID-19 questionnaire for everyone to complete, and staff will have their temperatures taken daily. Dansbury Park will be taking reservations once the county goes into the “green” phase. Summer Camp currently has 40 children enrolled, and will increase attendance once we go “green”. Basketball hoops will be installed Wednesday, June 17.

Veterans Park Update

Mr. Reese reported there are seven panels along the fence on the mural available for sponsorship. Contact Brian Bond if interested.

Police Report

Captain Gasper advised the SARPD monthly meeting was cancelled, therefore, there is no report from May to report at this time. Captain Gasper reported that during the pandemic and civil unrest, he is proud to say that the SARPD officers remained professional, working with pride, and during the four local protests, there was not one arrest.

150 +1 Update

Mr. Molin announced the next committee meeting will be Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

East Stroudsburg Community Alliance

Ms. Wolbert announced ECA will be having a meeting at the end of July.

Engineer’s Report

The Engineer’s Report was distributed. No action items.

Public Comments – New Business

Curtis Bair of Stroudsburg asked if the Recovery Plan is only while the county is in the Yellow Phase, and if the Barber Shop wanted to put a table outside, do they have to apply with a map and certificate of insurance. Mr. Bond stated the policy has been amended to include the Green Phase, and if the table remains on their property, no application is necessary. If they cross onto Borough property, then an application and supporting documents are necessary. Mr. Bair expressed his concern regarding the loud music and the large crowd with no masks along Crystal Street recently. He was advised to report any violations of the Recovery Plan to Mr. Bond.

Lydia Strunk of East Stroudsburg reported she visited Crystal Street Saturday night. The tables were adequately spaced and everyone maintained social distancing. The band stopped at 10:30 pm, and she felt very comfortable in that environment. She appreciates the opportunity to have these amenities locally. Mr. Bair stated he has pictures and video to prove differently. Frank Summa stated there was no social distancing, and he lost four tenants because of noise on Crystal Street. Mr. Bond advised the Borough does not have a noise ordinance, and recommends calling the police for to report disturbing the peace if after 11:00 pm. Patrice Summa stated after the Borough marked the sidewalk up with measurements to follow when placing tables outside, the businesses did not abide by them and left no room for a table in front of Summa’s Barber Shop. The bands are too loud, residents on the street are bothered and Ms. Summa requested the Borough review a noise ordinance. Marie Summa of East Stroudsburg requested the Borough to reinstate the noise ordinance. Captain Gasper advised noise ordinances are basically unenforceable, and he is not aware of any municipality within our county who has one. Mr. Prevoznik added he is very familiar with noise ordinances and advised they are outrageously expensive and almost impossible to enforce. It is approximately \$4,000 to \$6,000 a test to standup in court, and you need the right equipment and qualified people. The Liquor Control

Board can enforce any violations of the liquor license, and if the noise is that bad after 10:30 pm, call the police. Patrice Summa reported the “no parking” regulation along Dansbury Terrace is not being enforced; delivery trucks and cars continue to block Summa’s driveway. Mr. Bond advised our parking enforcement should be writing violations and patrol Dansbury Terrace. Debbie Kuchinski asked the status of the breezeway is, regarding landscaping, lights, and tables and chairs. She asked if we could temporarily use the extra picnic tables from the park until the others are delivered. Mr. Bond advised he has ordered two ADA tables, and two four-seat tables, and there will be gravel laid; if we can somehow secure the picnic tables we may be able to repurpose them temporarily. Marie Summa asked how much this project will cost. Mr. Bond stated each table cost about \$1,000 and the Borough will install them ourselves. Patrice Summa advised the tables should be at least three feet from the property line, and concerned this project will devalue their property, bring more noise and asked if the tables could be placed on only one side of the breezeway, further from Summa’s Barber Shop. Mr. DeLarco added this will make the area more vibrant and enhance businesses.

Reports:

Brian Ace:

The DPW Report was distributed.

Fire Chiefs Report:

The Fire Chiefs Report was distributed.

Marv Walton:

The Permits, Violations, Inspections and Parking Enforcement Reports were distributed.

Mr. Walton reported the request of the Lot Consolidation Plan for Dansbury Properties, LLC for the Brewskie’s Beverage site.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to approve the Lot Consolidation Plan for Dansbury Properties, LLC for the Brewskie’s Beverage site, contingent upon approval of the plan and deed. The motion carried unanimously.

Ken Konz:

The Borough Financial Statements for May 2020 were previously distributed.

Mayor Armand Martinelli:

No Report.

Sonia Wolbert:

No Report.

Don Cross:

No Report.

Maury Molin:

Mr. Molin reported that the ZORC will begin meeting again on Mondays at 8:00 am, beginning June 22, 2020.

Roger DeLarco:

Mr. DeLarco reported on the Terra Greens Golf Course finances, and stated comparing May 31, 2019 to May 31, 2020, we are in a much better situation now.

Carrie Panepinto:

Ms. Panepinto presented Resolution 7-2020, declaring June 2020 as LGBTQIA and Pride Month.

A motion was made by Ms. Panepinto and seconded by Mr. Molin to accept Resolution 7-2020, declaring June 2020 as LGBTQIA and Pride Month. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to approve starting Parking Enforcement on a limited basis for Fine Lane, Fire Hydrants, Handi-Cap, alternate side and Residential Permit Parking on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 and to start full Parking Enforcement for Metered Parking to begin on Monday, July 6, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Molin to approve starting the Regulated Rental Housing Inspections on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 to be conducted pursuant to the COVID-19 guidelines. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond requested approval to purchase a 2003 Sterling L7500 Vactor Truck 2100 Series VIN# 2FZAATAK03AM01188 from the Borough of South Williamsport for \$55,000.00. This purchase is a budgeted item, originally \$100,000 was budgeted for this purchase.

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. DeLarco to approve the purchase of the 2003 Sterling L7500 Vactor Truck 2100 Series VIN# 2FZAATAK03AM01188 from the Borough of South Williamsport for \$55,000.00. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond reported the request from AWSOM for a donation of a round of golf for two with a cart at Terra Greens Golf Course for a fundraiser on Monday, August 11, 2020.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to approve the request from AWSOM for a donation of a round of golf for two with a cart at Terra Greens Golf Course for a fundraiser on Monday, August 11, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bond thanked the Maintenance Department on the work performed in order to open the pool.

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Mr. Cross to authorize the Borough Manager and RKR Hess to work with the owner of the Rosen's property to discuss sewer easements. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Cross and seconded by Ms. Wolbert to authorize the Borough Manager to review the IPP Regulations. The motion carried unanimously.

Bill Reese

No Report.

Bills Payable

A motion was made by Ms. Wolbert and seconded by Mr. Cross to ratify bills payable through June 16, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Molin and seconded by Ms. Wolbert at 9:55 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 @ 7:15 p.m. in person at the East Stroudsburg Borough Municipal Building and via virtual/telephonic means.