

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

October 3, 2006

President Stu Strauss called the regularly scheduled Council meeting to order at 7:07 PM

Mayor Connie Peck led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Strauss stated that at the Executive Session held following the September 5, 2006 Meeting, legal matters were discussed and no action taken by Council.

Roll Call by the Secretary – Those present were Mayor Connie Peck, President Stu Strauss, Vice President Nevin Scholl, Mark Carrig, Steve Kurcik, Matt Watson, and Ken Fulmer. Ed Kane was excused. Also in attendance were Engineer Doug May, Solicitor Bob Kerns, Treasurer John Klink and Manager Chuck Sardo.

Minutes of the Meeting of September 5, 2006 – Everyone received a copy of the Minutes of September 5, 2006. There were no noted amendments or corrections.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Minutes as presented, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Presentation of the Bills – J. Klink

Everyone received a copy of the September Accounts Payable. There were additional bills as follows:

Ivan Simpson (Auxiliary Police)	\$ 327.50
Barry Stott (Auxiliary Police)	\$ 268.75
All Cleaning Services and More	\$ 400.00
Kerns, Pearlstine Onorato and Hladik	\$ 4,810.00
Trappe Borough Relief Association	\$29,284.23

S. Kurcik motioned to approve payment of the bills to include the additional bills, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Financial Reports – J. Klink

Everyone received a copy of the Treasurer's Reports. There were no comments or questions.

N. Scholl motioned to approve the Financial Reports as presented, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

At this time, President Strauss acknowledged Glenn R. Umberger, Commander of the Kline-Styer-McCann VFW Post 7155 who presented to Council a Certificate of Appreciation acknowledging the support of the VFW and their appreciation for Council's dedication with regard to the reopening of the Post Home.

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MANAGER'S REPORT – C. Sardo (Copy of report on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the September, 2006 Manager's Report.

Parking on East First Avenue – There is an Ordinance in place that addresses No Parking on First Avenue. The signs were faded and have been replaced and an additional signage installed.

Lilac Circle and Laurel Drive – There is not an ordinance that addresses no parking on these streets, therefore, it cannot be posted as no parking. There was no further discussion in this regard.

Traffic Signals – Signal Service is providing a quote for the replacement of lamps in our traffic signals with LED modules. Copies of the quote will be provided to Council when received.

M. Carrig motioned to approve the Manager's Report as presented, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 6 - 0.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – D. May (Copy of report on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the September Engineer's Report. The report was reviewed by Doug.

Carriage Ridge – Some punch list items remain to be resolved i.e. trees; the trees are on site, once they are installed they will finish up within the next couple of days. After this work is completed the project is at a point of going into the maintenance period. The Solicitor was directed by Council to prepare the paper work for the maintenance agreement to be executed at the November meeting. Council voiced no objections and the developer acknowledged his agreement.

M Carrig motioned that the Solicitor prepare necessary documents for the maintenance agreement, the documents will not be executed until the punch list items are completely done and then the documents to be executed at the November, 2006 Council meeting, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

145 College Avenue – with regard to the sanitary sewer pipe at the Milligan property that is causing erosion, Doug has been in communication with the CTMA engineer to remove the sewer pipe. Application for a permit will have to be made to remove the pipe.

Bentley Manor – issues to be addressed in executive session.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Engineer's Report, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – B. Kerns

Silver Leaf Farms – An October 3, 2006 letter will be sent to the Gambone counsel with regard to the spalling/cracking of concrete sidewalks stating enough core samples should be taken to determine the integrity and meeting of the requirements to withstand the future use. If the concrete has integrity, then Council should consider the developer's idea of bringing someone in to the epoxy process to cover the concrete that will probably work. If there is a problem with the concrete itself, then the concrete will have to be

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taken out by the developer and replaced completely. The Solicitor will consult with the Borough engineer, the Gambone attorney and report back to Council.

Capetola Conditional Use Decision – The Decision has been prepared with regard to the use of the Capetola property in the Village Commercial zone, it was determined that retail purposes for the front of the building is permitted; however, the proposal for the use of the garage at the rear of the property for automotive electronics installation is viewed as repair or service of automobiles and is not a permissible usage. Council was provided a copy of the Decision for review.

N. Scholl motioned to approve the Decision as presented, second by M. Watson, all ayes. Motion carried.

N. Scholl motioned to approve the solicitor report as presented, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

MAYOR’S REPORT – C. Peck

Connie reported on Community Day, Commissioner Matthews and Senator Dinniman attended the opening ceremonies and she spent significant time at the event visiting with residents and attendees. She complimented Committee Chairman Stu Strauss and his committee on a job well done.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Fred Schuetz, Planning Commission Chairman – Fred was before Council on behalf of the Open Space Committee on the subject of the trail connection from College Avenue to Hunsberger Woods via land owned by the Wismer family. He summarized the monthly sequence of the progress beginning June, 2005 to the present. There was communication with Mr. Wismer and members of the Open Space Committee. At the recommendation of the Open Space Committee it was included in the Borough’s Open Space Plan. Mr. Wismer indicated he would be in favor of the route if it did not include any crop fields (it did not) and in March, 2006 an appraisal by Indian Valley Appraisal was performed.

In May 2006 Fred requested the opportunity to discuss the completed appraisal with Council in an Executive Session and was advised that real estate matters are a public matter. At this meeting, President Strauss directed a letter be prepared and sent to the County and the Wismers indicating the Borough was in full support of efforts to achieve the Hunsberger Woods connection.

At the June 2006 meeting, Fred was given the opportunity to discuss the conditions under which the Wismers might sell and the conditions with which the Borough must comply to be eligible for County Open Space funding. One County requirement is that there has to be an executed agreement of sale. Another that there has to be a valid appraisal; copy on file in Borough office. At this meeting, Solicitor Watt was directed to prepare a draft agreement of sale; Fred offered examples of three previous land acquisition agreements.

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In July 2006, Fred questioned when Council would publicly talk about the possible land purchase and preparation of a sales agreement. Construction costs were mentioned and the Engineer instructed to prepare a cost estimate.

At this point, the Solicitor interrupted to state there was no agreement of sale, no definition of the area actually for sale. The sale is between two parties, there are no numbers, conditions of what is actually for sale, no offer and no negotiations. President Strauss expressed concerned about spending money if the land might not be sold, and questioned whether the trail would be handicap accessible. A proposal was made by N. Scholl for Council members to walk the proposed route, Council agreed. No further action taken on this matter.

At 7:55 PM Council went into executive session.

At 8:35 PM Council returned from executive session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Waste/Recycling/Streets – N. Scholl

Nothing further to report.

Property/Open Space/Traffic – E. Kane

Rambo Park – Fred requested that Council have Public Works place a barricade across the site entrance off Fifth Avenue to prevent access by unauthorized vehicles. Vehicles are presently traveling into wet areas of the site and causing damage.

Also, he said Council needs to take steps to have the Pollarine block building removed; this is a potential liability brought to Council's attention previously.

Main Street Park – Fred reported that the Open Space Committee evaluated two proposals for preparation of a Site Master Plan. Proposals were received from Simone-Collins (\$30,870) and DePallo Planning and Design. It was the recommendation of the Committee that Simone-Collins be engaged to prepare the Site Master Plan

Dr. Eric Hans requested the assistance of the Auxiliary Police for his Halloween Party October 31, 2006 from 12 – 4 PM, rain date November 3, 2006 from 12 – 4 PM.

M. Watson motioned to authorize the Auxiliary Police for traffic control for this event, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0

Perkiomen Valley South Elementary School requested the assistance of the Auxiliary Police for an event October 6, 2006 with rain date of October 13, 2006 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

M. Watson motioned to authorize PVSD use of Auxiliary Police for traffic control for their event, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Election Day, November 7, 2006 – Council authorized the use of Auxiliary Police on Election Day, November 7, 2006 from 7:00 AM – noon and 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM.

S. Kurcik motioned to authorize the use of the Auxiliary Police on the above noted Election Day, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

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Halloween Night Patrol – Council noted and discussed the use of Auxiliary Police to patrol on Mischief and Halloween nights as in past years.

S. Kurcik motioned the Auxiliary Police patrol within the Borough Mischief and Halloween nights, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.
Adoption of Open Space Plan – Pete Stormer, Planning Commission member, was before Council to present the Borough’s Open Space Plan and commented that it is ready for adoption. At the September 6, 2006 public meeting, the Open Space Committee motioned and recommended that Council adopt the Plan. The changes requested by the County were incorporated. After adoption additional copies will be printed and available in the Borough office.

S. Kurcik motioned to adopt the Trappe Open Space Plan, second by M. Watson, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Public Safety – K. Fulmer

Jeff Obrecht issued a report on behalf of the Traffic Committee specifically addressed traffic calming matters. The Committee recommended the use of speed **table** installation at College Ave and Rt 113; overall there are four **tables** that would be effective in reducing speed and volume. It was suggested that a public survey be conducted and named K. Fulmer, Manager C. Sardo and J. Obrecht to initiate such a survey.

Main Street signalization was addressed in Jeff’s report relative to the timing synchronization of the east and west signals.

Fire Plug visibility enhancement, the Committee and Fire Company are in agreement regarding the blue reflective tabs/markers on each fire plug easily identifying the fire plugs. Fire Chief, Brian Long was in attendance and supported the recommendation.

Ordinances/Personnel/Appointments – M. Carrig

Nothing further to report.

Public Works/CTMA – M. Carrig

Public Works – Mark noted receipt of a letter of retirement by Ernest Schmitt from the position of treasurer of Public Works.

M. Carrig motioned to acknowledge and accept the letter of retirement, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

The Minutes to reflect that M. Watson and Mayor Peck thanked E. Schmitt for his many years of service and dedication to the community.

It was noted that Charles Garner, Esq. Counsel for CTMA will be replaced by Bob Kerns. Charles Garner will continue to represent Trappe in the Lower Providence Regional law suit.

M. Carrig motioned that Solicitor Kerns will replace Charles Garner, Esq. as counsel for CTMA, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Mark also noted that Planning Commission representative Summer Frederick will be replaced by Matt Schelly effective at the November, 2006 Council meeting.

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Planning and Zoning – S. Kurcik
Fugo Property

OLD BUSINESS

Wisner Trail – issues discussed regarding handicap accessibility, the master plan, comments grades vs. straight – Fred Schuetz, Ray Spaid, Council, C. Sardo, Manager to arrange the walk.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Meeting - October 9, 2006 at 7:00 PM there will be a public meeting regarding the rezoning of the Stearly property. The meeting was appropriately advertised, court reporter called for and quorum needed.

November Council Meeting – the first Tuesday of November, 2006 is also an Election Day, voting takes place at Borough Hall, therefore the Council meeting date must be changed. The November Council meeting will be held the second Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at 7:00 PM.

With no other business to come before Council the meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM on motion of N. Scholl, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Katona
Secretary