

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

December 4, 2007

President Stu Strauss called the regularly scheduled meeting of Trappe Borough Council to order at 7:03 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Peck.

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

The first order of business was to fill the vacancy on Council created by the resignation of Mark Carrig. President Strauss called for nominations for the vacancy.

M. Watson nominated Robert Fiore, second by J. Durrell

S. Kurcik nominated Catherine Johnson, second by N. Scholl.

It should be noted that the resume submitted by Catherine Johnson was received the evening of the Council meeting and in light that Council did not have the opportunity to interview Catherine nor Robert Fiore who submitted his resume prior but was unable to be present for the interviews by Council at the appointed November 26, 2007 special meeting. President Strauss invited both to make a short presentation regarding their consideration to be appointed to fill the vacancy.

Mayor Peck suggested that the person that received the highest votes the November election be appointed to the position. The Solicitor advised that would not be practical for it would give that person only two years on Council and then have to be a candidate in the next election, it would be more practical for the high vote getter to take his seat in 2008 for a four-year term.

President Strauss called for a vote for:

Robert Fiore	M. Watson	aye
	J. Durrell	aye

Catherine Johnson	S. Kurcik	aye
	K. Fulmer	aye

N. Scholl aye
Pres. Strauss aye

Catherine Johnson received four votes and will fulfill the vacancy created by M. Carrig until 12/31/09. Mayor Peck administered the Oath of Office to Catherine and she took her seat with Council.

Ray Spaid Resignation – Council received and President Strauss read a letter of resignation from Ray Spaid from the Planning Commission. It should be noted that Ray was a member of the Commission for 20 years and Council expressed their appreciation for his contribution.

The letter of resignation was unanimously accepted by all of Council.

President Strauss recognized that with the resignation of Ray Spaid and Catherine Johnson, there are now two openings for members to serve on the Planning Commission.

Minutes of the Meeting of November 13, 2007

Everyone received a copy of the Minutes for November 13, 2007. There were no noted amendments or corrections.

S. Kurcik motioned to accept the Minutes as presented, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Presentation of the Bills: J. Klink

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

All Cleaning Services and More (Nov&Dec)	\$ 800.00
Allied Waste Services	\$28,448.17
Berkheimer Associates (Commissions)	\$ 1,430.11
Simone Collins (Main Street Park)	\$ 1,108.06
H A Thomson Co (Treasurer's Bond)	\$ 226.00
Alert-All Corp (Fire Prevention)	\$ 145.00
John Wentworth (Aux Police)	\$ 373.75

N. Scholl motioned to pay the bills including the additional bills as presented, second by J. Durrell, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Treasurer's Report – J. Klink

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

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Reports, second by K. Fulmer, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Questions with regard to the PECO savings realized when the traffic signals were switched to LED – John advised the billing appears to have dropped to one-half the normal rate.

2007 Close Out Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 27, at 7:00 PM. Meeting to be advertised.

MANAGER’S REPORT – C. Sardo (Copy on file in borough office)

Chuck reviewed his report for Council.

Resolution for Playground Equipment – A Resolution for accepting the grant in the amount of \$5,000 for playground equipment from DCNR was presented to council for adoption.

S. Kurcik motioned to adopt the Resolution for the grant funding in the amount of \$5,000, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

There was mention of some outstanding accounts and Chuck advised he will be follow up.

S. Kurcik motioned to accept the Manager’s Report, second by J. Durrell, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – D. May (Report on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the Engineer’s Report as reviewed by Doug.

J. Durrell motioned to accept the Engineer’s Report, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Solicitor’s Report – B. Kerns (Report on file in Borough office)

Brown vs. Trappe – The Solicitor presented a check in the amount of \$4,800 from Mr. Brown representing the award of attorney’s fees.

Harris Conditional Use – Findings of Fact were presented to Council for denial of the application of Andrew K. Harris of 753 West Main Street, Trappe for his conditional use of the property at 740 West Main Street, Trappe. The Findings were reviewed by Council.

N. Scholl motioned to approve the Findings of Fact, second by J. Durrell. There was discussion with regard to parking standards in the Village Commercial Zone. A conditional use cannot be granted for the proposed use on the subject property (740 West Main Street).

Following the discussion, Nevin withdrew his motion and there was a 4 – 3 vote to table the Findings of Fact:

M. Watson	nay
N. Scholl	nay
S. Strauss	nay
S. Kurcik	aye
C. Johnson	aye
K. Fulmer	aye
J. Durrell	aye

Three nay votes (to approve the Findings), four aye votes to table the Findings of Fact for the Harris conditional use hearing, motion to table passed.

J. Durrell motioned to accept the Solicitor’s Report as presented, second by K. Fulmer, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Mayor’s Report – C. Peck (Report on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the Mayor’s report that she reviewed for Council.

Mayor Peck stated she attended the Speaker’s House meeting held at Ursinus College and the director thanked Trappe for the thousand dollar donation made for the preservation of this building.

President Strauss acknowledged the other year end donations made to Perkiomen Valley Library, Victim’s Services, Trappe Historical Society.

President Strauss thanked her for her report.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sam Mancuso, HOA President/College Woods – Sam was before Council regarding the property at 433–439 West Main Street, Drew Bycoskie owner. Sam expressed concerns of a drain and pipe at the location of the inlet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Waste/Recycling and Streets – Nevin Scholl

Laurel Drive – Nevin reviewed the status of the Laurel Drive reconstruction. He met with approximately 20 people of the Home Owners Association. He wants to see the momentum continue; everyone wants to proceed and the Borough agrees with the home owners. Homeowner’s President, J. C. Collier, is to schedule a meeting with the Engineer and Chuck with regard to Borough specifications; the HOA’s share would be approximately \$125,000.

There will be a hold on Laurel Drive until the December 27, 2007 close out meeting.

Accrual Accounting – Nevin recommended the Borough switch to the accrual basis of accounting and suggested the cut off date would be the end of this year allowing the Borough to 2008 with a clean slate. He stated it is the preferred method of accounting and CTMA/PW are already using accrual and indicated that the 2008 Council should make the decision.

Property/Open Space/Traffic – J. Durrell

Approval for Grant Funding – Council agreed to authorize \$2500 for an appraisal in order to proceed to make application for grant funding for the Main Street Park; as a start an appraisal for the hair salon at 803 West Main.

J. Durrell motioned to approve \$2500 for appraisal, second by M. Watson, one nay vote by S. Kurcik, the remainder of Council all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 1.

Public Safety – K. Fulmer

Refurbish of Donated Vehicle –The Fire Company received a donated ambulance for Fire Police service. The estimated amount to refurbish/convert the vehicle is \$8,425.20.

K. Fulmer motioned to authorize this amount as outlined in the proposal from the Fire Company to repaint the vehicle, purchase and install a mobile radio, arrow sticks, striping, lettering and traffic control scene security equipment, includes Opticon necessary for the conversion and to get into service of the Fire Police, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Pennsylvania State Police Report, November, 2007 – (copy on file in Borough office) – Everyone received a copy of the November report. Ken reviewed the Report with Council.

Pennsylvania State Police – Lt. Giustaitis was again before Council at Council's request to address further questions from the audience relative to the suspicious person that was at PVSD as well as other concerns.

His overall advice was for citizens that had a concern to dial 911; 911 would prioritize the call generally as follows: (i.e. dog complaint), 2 (burglar alarms), 3 (shootings) -

President Strauss thanked Lt. Gustaitis for his willingness and cooperation in coming back for further response to inquiries.

Ordinances/Personnel/Appointments – President Strauss acknowledged appointments to be made due to the resignation of M. Carrig as follows:

CTMA/PW for a 5 year term, N. Scholl nominated S. Kurcik, second by J. Durrell, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Regional Sewer Authority, N. Scholl nominated S. Strauss, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

President Strauss noted that to date no funds have been received from the Collegeville pension fund rightfully belonging to Trappe. The audit has been completed and we are presently working with Collegeville so that the two parties are in agreement with the audit.

Planning and Zoning – S. Kurcik

Planning Commission Appointments – Two resignations from the Planning Commission were received, Ray Spaid and Catherine Johnson. The positions will be advertised and appointments made at the Close Out meeting, December 27, 2007 or in 2008.

OLD BUSINESS

M C Weeks Final Approval, 183 West Main Street – John Riebow, Gorski Engineering, was before Council representing the applicant and seeking final approval for their land development application.

Waivers - The first order of business was approval for waivers as outlined by the Solicitor and presented to Council as follows:

1. A waiver from the provisions of Section 303(D)(B) to permit a paving cross section as differs from code requirements relating to asphalt and gravel.
Council approved 7 - 0.
2. A waiver from Section 310(L)(1) to permit the elimination of the requirement for a fence surrounding the detention basin.
Council approved 7 – 0.
3. A waiver from Section 310(L)(3) to allow a detention basin bottom slope of one percent to promote infiltration.
Council approved 7 – 0.
4. A waiver from Section 310(L)(4) to eliminate the requirement for a sodded flow channel from inlet to outlet in the detention basin in order to promote infiltration.
Council approved 7 – 0.
5. A waiver from Section 310(L)(5) to permit 3H:1V on the side slopes on the interior slope of the detention basin berm.
Council approved 7 – 0.
6. A waiver from Section 310(L)(6) to permit 3H:1V on the side slopes on the interior slope of the detention basin berm.
Council approved 7 – 0.
7. A waiver from Section 310(M)(2)(c) to permit installation of erosion control blankets in swales in lieu of sod.

Council approved 7 – 0.

8. A waiver from Section 319.1 to permit tree replacement as a combination of off-site mitigation and payment of a compensatory fee.

Council approved 7 – 0.

9. A waiver from Section 402(C)(1) and Section 402(E)(1) to accept an aerial photograph depicting features within 400 feet of the property.

Council approved 7 – 0.

S. Kurcik motioned to approve the waivers as presented, second by J. Durrell, all ayes. Motion carried.

Resolution Granting Preliminary/Final Land Development Plan – The Resolution was approved with an inclusion to #7 that the developer shall pay to the Borough the sum of \$18,000 in lieu of tree replacement; applicant agreed.

J. Durrell motioned to approve the Resolution with the above noted inclusion of \$18,000, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Stearly Tract/Longview Development, West First Avenue and Main Street – Mark Clemm, Esq. was before Council seeking final approval for the land development

Waivers – the first order of business was approval of waivers as outlined by the Solicitor and presented to Council as follows:

1. A waiver from Section 303(B)(2) specifying a horizontal radius requirement of 150 ft

Motion to grant: N. Scholl, second J. Durrell, all ayes

Motion passed 7 – 0

2. A waiver from Section 303(B)(3) requiring length of vertical curves to approximate 50 feet

Motion to grant: C. Johnson, second J. Durrell, all ayes.

Motion passed 7 – 0

3. A waiver from Section 303(B)(5)(a) requiring residential road a right-of-way of 50 feet to allow cart way to remain at 24 feet

Motion to grant: J. Durrell, second C. Johnson, all ayes.

Motion to passed 7 – 0

4. A waiver from Section 305(D) requiring driveway stopping area of 20 feet to allow grades of 6.05%.

Motion to grant: C. Johnson, second J. Durrell, all ayes.

Motion to passed 7 – 0

5. A waiver from Section 305(E)(2) prohibiting angle or perpendicular parking along curbs of streets that would allow 15 parking spaces adjacent to Jacob Way

Motion to grant: C. Johnson, second by J. Durrell, all ayes.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

6. A waiver from Section 310(L)(5) and (6) requiring detention basin slope no steeper than 5:1(ext) and 5:1(int) to allow all slope banks 3:1.

Motion to grant: J. Durrell, second C. Johnson, all ayes.

Motion to passed 7 – 0.

7. A waiver from section 318(B) requiring all contours and elevations shown on plans based upon the Sanitary Sewer System Datum so as to allow elevation datum based on NGVD 1988.

This waiver requires a letter from Joe Hastings, Director, CTMA/PW of his concurrence/confirmation/approval.

Motion to grant with condition: J. Durrell, second C. Johnson, all ayes.

Motion carried 7 – 0.

8. A waiver from Section 402(1) requiring that existing and proposed features within 400 feet of land being developed to be shown on the Plan.

Motion to grant: C. Johnson, second J. Durrell, all ayes.

Motion to passed 7 – 0

9. A waiver from Section 320 allowing the planting of trees as on sheets 15 and 16 of the Plan.

Motion to grant S. Kurcik, second K. Fulmer, all ayes.

Motion passed 7 – 0.

Resolution – Stearly/Longview – the application of Longview Development, L.P for preliminary/final land development approval for the Stearly Tract located at Main Street and West First Avenue (the residential portion) was before Council for final approval. The Resolution was reviewed by the Solicitor; there were comments regarding a possible car count and line striping a portion of Main Street.

J. Durrell motioned to approve and adopt the Resolution as presented, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

CTMA Term Extension—After a study of CTMA terms, one term needs to be extended for one year.

Council unanimously approved the extension of a one year term for N. Scholl.

Laurel Drive Survey – N. Scholl suggested a survey and CAD work be scheduled for Laurel Drive. The approximate cost for the work would be \$4,560 for the CAD and \$9,942 for the survey work.

N. Scholl motioned to approved work for a survey and CAD work on the Laurel Drive roadway restoration in the amount of more or less \$15,000, second by C. Johnson, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

With no other business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM. The Secretary exited the meeting at this time.

Council convened into Executive Session regarding personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Katona
Secretary