

MINUTES TO THE MEETING OF
TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

March 4, 2008

President Schuetz called the regularly scheduled Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Peck.

Roll Call by Mayor Peck: Those present were Mayor Connie Peck, President Fred Schuetz, Vice President Matt Watson, Nevin Scholl, Steve Kurcik, Catherine Johnson, Lew DiPrete, and Paul Edwards. Others in attendance were Engineer John Sartor, Solicitor Dave Onorato, Treasurer Joe Lowe and Manager Al Herrmann. Borough Secretary was excused from this meeting.

President Schuetz announced there was an Executive Session pertaining to legal and personnel matters. There were no decisions made as a result of that meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of February 5, 2008

Everyone received a copy of the Minutes. President Schuetz called for amendments and corrections.

Page 6: S. Kurcik CTMA appointment to indicate his vote was an abstention; Steve did not vote for himself.

There was discussion regarding a statement to be included in the Minutes as requested by S. Kurcik at the February, 2008 meeting. The Solicitor advised that such a statement could be permitted as an attachment to the Minutes after review and approval by Council prior to approval of the Minutes at the meeting. Solicitor Onorato further advised that corrections to the record can be made by Council, but not appropriate to add to them.

S. Kurcik motioned to include his statement presented to the Secretary as an attachment to the Minutes, second by N. Scholl, 2 aye votes by S. Kurcik and N. Scholl, the remainder of Council nay votes. Motion failed 5 – 2.

President Schuetz advised that in the future each Council member will have the opportunity to review the Minutes and give input prior to the meeting.

Page 1: L. DiPrete noted he is not Council Vice President and his name should be removed and M. Watson inserted as Vice President.

Page 3: KaBOOM – motion to read: “...authorize the investment of \$7500 for KaBOOM, second by M. Watson, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Minutes with the corrections, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

State Police Lt Dave Buckley was before Council to update the changes in statistics and consider at what is happening in Trappe. President Schuetz thanked Lt. Buckley for his time and update.

Financial Reports – J. Lowe

Everyone received a copy of Accounts Payable as reviewed by Treasurer J. Lowe. There were additional bills as follows:

All Cleaning Services & More	\$ 400.00
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There was discussion regarding the Gilmore and Associates and B & M Landscaping billings.

N. Scholl motioned to pay the bills subject to review of the Gilmore and Associates billing by the Finance Committee and B&M Landscaping as reviewed by the Property/Street/Traffic and Safety Committee, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

C. Johnson noted that the summation of the billing was not available this month as usually available.

MANAGER’S REPORT – A. Herrmann

Everyone received a copy of the Manager’s Report

Allied Waste Bids – A. Herrmann advised the contract will be ready in time for the next meeting representing an approximate 4% increase.

M. Watson motioned to accept the Manager’s Report as presented, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – J. Sartor (copy of Report on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the Engineer’s Report. John asked if there were questions.

C. Johnson inquired regarding Item 6 (DeMutis) and Item 9 (Rambo), there were questions regarding the status of the outstanding DeMutis bill and any further review of the project be delayed until the billing is paid – and a question regarding the status of the Carr and Duff billing; final billing not in with paid bills.

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

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – D. Onorato (copy of Report on file in Borough office)

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

Community Music School – Two minor items remain on the maintenance inspection punch list to be performed by the Engineer. The Solicitor’s recommendation was to extend the existing maintenance bond until completion.

The Borough Engineer advised that the development plan requires an as-built plan for the storm basin.

Richard Czop Property at 167 West Main Street – There was discussion regarding the driveway expansion either on their property or with permission of the Speaker’s House

onto their property. Howard Lownes, Planning Commission Chairman, stated that at the last Planning Commission meeting Mr. Czop advised that the drive way will be on Czop's property.

Council unanimously approved the Solicitor's Report.

MAYOR'S REPORT – C. Peck

Connie read two letters of invitation: one from the Perkiomen Valley School District regarding Flip the Switch Day; another was an invitation to participate in a Fire Company Fund Raiser, March 10, 2008 at 11:30 to 1:00 PM; Allison Weiss of the Speaker's House regarding the dedication of a Memorial Plaque in honor of John T. Bubeck on April 12, 2008, the service will begin at 10:00 AM.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Stu Strauss – Stu was before Council inquiring as to whether Council has the authority to require Accellant to make changes. The Solicitor responded that only the Federal and State government have the authority to establish and enforce TCE regulations.

Sam Mancuso – Mr. Mancuso made comments about the TCE problem. Talked about a resolution or ordinance. The Solicitor advised Council can make a resolution. An ordinance would be questionable and challengeable by the industries. Sam will e-mail the information on the TCE issue and the Manager will be in touch with Jeff Farina (Accellant) for an update meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance – N. Scholl

Main Street Park – N. Scholl asked when we can expect to get reimbursement. President Schuetz advised that Simone/Collins is providing response to DCNR comments and including operation and maintenance cost estimates in final plan. Draft plan will be presented for review before printing and Council approval.

Trash Contract – The trash contract will be put out for bid. Various issues were noted for consideration: quote for trash to include Christmas tree pick up, recycling, bulk pick up, Collegeville methods, and length of year for the contract. Nevin indicated he anticipated an increase in charges.

U & O Charges – Mention was made with regard to getting another proposal. No charge on the billing as of now.

Townhouses of Laurel – Nevin indicated the Borough is in a position to talk with the residents within the next month to determine how homeowners want to proceed.

Public Works – M. Watson

Solicitor Onorato reviewed the Amendment to the Public Works Bylaws. The Amendment eliminates the requirement for a paid treasurer that is not a member of either Borough Council. The Amendment has been approved by Collegeville Borough.

C. Johnson motioned to approve the amendment to the Bylaws, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Recycling Grant – Payment of \$3700 received. Resident S. Strauss suggested providing two cans for recycling; Mayor Peck to check on expanding recycling.

CTMA – N. Scholl mentioned Collegeville and Trappe Council members to meet and evaluate the Regional Sewer Authority increase in charges of \$210,000. Meeting to be set up for this month. We will be hearing more regarding a sewer increase and Public Works increase in water rates.

Property/Streets/Safety – P. Edwards

Pennsylvania State Police Report and Fire Company Reports (copy on file in Borough office). Paul reviewed both reports. There was discussion regarding the 911 calls.

Property – there was discussion regarding the Perkiomen Valley School District Task Force that will meet the fourth Tuesday of each month. There will be a Facilities sub-Committee meeting Wednesday, March 12, 2008. Committee includes facilities, Trappe Building and Perkiomen Valley South will be discussed by the Facilities sub-Committee. Trappe residents show interest in attending.

Planning/Zoning/Open Space – M. Watson

Rambo Park/Pongras Subdivision – The Planning Commission recommended approval of the plan as submitted. Engineer John Sartor had questions regarding verification of Czop/Specter land calculations. Additionally, questions with regard to the fence line changes, if any, along the Pongras property, and deed description for entire Park.

Manager to work with the Solicitor to respond to comments. No action taken or needed.

Planning Commission – Chairman Howard Lownes gave a list of goals in his 2007 Annual Report and monthly report.

S. Kurcik inquired with regard to the status of the environmental study on the DeMutis property and a possible leak from the Exxon Station that was being considered. No action at this time.

Regional Planning Commission – S. Kurcik said a study being presented Monday, 7:00 at Collegeville Borough Hall; Council and Planning Commission invited to attend.

KaBoom Grant – The KaBoom Outreach in the amount of \$40,000 for playground equipment at Water Works Park has been approved. Design Day has been designated for March 11, 2008 at Trinity United Church of Christ in Collegeville and a Design Day planned for 15/20 kids to submit drawings, ideas. Parents will review kids' drawings, pick features to include in playground. Collegeville has indicated they are receptive to financial support for the project.

Personnel/Appointments/Ordinances – L. DiPrete

Assistant Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Mike Italia requested the appointment of Bill Wilfong as the Assistant Fire Marshal and Bill to receive \$65.00 per month for his services.

L. DiPrete motioned to appoint Bill Wilfong to the position of Assistant Fire Marshal with payment of \$65 per month, second by M. Watson, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Sal Capizzi Resignation – A letter of resignation was submitted to Council from his position as building inspector.

Insurance Coverage – Questions pertaining to the insurance coverage to be addressed and should be presented to the Borough Manager for comment and review by the Personnel Committee.

Borough Manager Position - Eight resumes were received for the position and the field has been narrowed to two. There will be an Executive Session for interviews on March 6, 2008.

L. DiPrete thanked A. Herrmann for his service to our community.

OLD BUSINESS

Lot 42 Detention Basin – Strauss Property

Solicitor Onorato prepared and presented a Resolution with regard to Mr. Strauss' detention basin and asked for any comments to the Resolution as presented.

A. Herrmann indicated that the crown vetch will be done now. The landowner is aware of the contents of the Resolution. The Manager to get quotations to plant vetch and repair cracks.

M. Watson motioned to adopt the Resolution as presented, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

S. Kurcik recommended not allowing a basin on private property in the future. Property owner should not have ownership of a basin. It should be Homeowner's Association responsibility.

PECO Credit – N. Scholl feels that the credit from PECO in the amount of \$1900 is less than what the vendor indicated and that perhaps we were shorted two months credit. The savings was predicted by the vendor for the LED traffic light changeover installation.

NEW BUSINESS

Montgomery County Lands Trust – A. Herrmann received a letter from Montgomery County Lands Trust asking that the Borough become a member of the Trust and for a contribution of \$250.00.

M. Watson motioned to approve the contribution of \$250, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

With no other business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM on motion of S. Kurcik, second by M. Watson, all ayes. Motion carried 7 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Katona