

MINUTES TO THE MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

September 2, 2008

The regularly scheduled meeting of Trappe Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Fred Schuetz.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Peck.

Announcement of Executive Session: President Schuetz announced there would be an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

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

Minutes of the Meeting of August 5, 2008: Everyone received a copy of the Minutes for the August 5, 2008 meeting. N. Scholl noted Page 3, bottom line: delete the word "require", C. Johnson noted Page 4, Mayor's Report, a correction to the spelling of the Reverend Herbert Michel's name.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Minutes with the above-noted corrections, second by C. Johnson, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Financial Reports (J. Lowe): Everyone received a copy of Accounts Payable for checks #1080 through #1129.

N. Scholl motioned to approve payment of the bills for the checks as indicated above, second by C. Johnson, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Manager's Report (T. Ryan)

Lt. David Buckley, Pennsylvania State Police – Lt. David Buckley was before Council to discuss matters of concern, including speeding on Borough streets and vandalism. Lt. Buckley presented mappings of vehicle accidents in the

Borough in 2008 to date; the mappings denoted a majority of accidents having occurred on West Main Street. There was discussion regarding accidents, location of traffic enforcement signs, laws pertaining to speeding and enforcement.

Lt. Buckley likewise presented a mapping of reported incidents of theft, burglary and other criminal mischief in the Borough in 2008 to date.

Council thanked Lt. Buckley for his appearance and summaries.

Bid Award – Laurel Drive & Lilac Circle, Reclamation, Curbing, Stormwater and Utility Improvements – Manager T. Ryan stated that bids for the Laurel Drive and Lilac Circle Reclamation Project were opened this afternoon at 2:00 pm. Engineer Doug May, Czop/Specter, noted that the six bids received all exceeded the engineer's estimate. The lowest bid totaled \$423,594.00, of which amount \$203,286.54 was the Borough's portion and \$220,307.51 was the Homeowners Association's share. There is concern the HOA will be unable to fund their portion, as the amount exceeds the \$6,000.00 per unit cap previously approved by the HOA.

Manager T. Ryan noted that should a bid not be awarded at this meeting, or at a Special Meeting of Council in the days to come, the project must be re-bid in 2009. N. Scholl indicated his willingness to schedule a Special Meeting, so to allow the HOA additional time to consider next steps. Representatives of the HOA were agreeable to this suggestion, and T. Ryan will follow-up with the HOA, as needed.

Ordinance No. 405 – Zoning Ordinance Revision – This Ordinance deletes Section 1105, pertaining to the size of parking spaces.

C. Johnson motioned to adopt Ordinance 405, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Ordinance No. 406 – Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance Revisions – This Ordinance amends various sections of the SALDO pertaining to minimum driveway paving widths, parking space dimensions, parking lot aisle widths, and detention basin area enclosures.

N. Scholl motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 406, second by C. Johnson, all ayes. Motion carried 5 - 0.

Perkiomen Township Boundary Agreement – Betcher Road – Manager T. Ryan noted the standing Agreement, executed in 1947, requires the Borough to maintain a portion of Betcher Road since relocated in Perkiomen Township; as such, the arrangement requires the Borough to maintain a greater portion of Betcher Road than is equitable. T. Ryan recommended the Agreement be

terminated, and a new agreement, equitable to both communities, be drafted. N. Scholl indicated a new agreement should be specific as to what is considered maintenance.

N. Scholl motioned for T. Ryan to terminate the standing Agreement, and to work with Perkiomen Township to prepare a new agreement, second by P. Edwards, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Bid Award – Equipment Rental and Snow Removal – Sealed bids were received for the rental of various road equipment, equipment operator services, various materials and snow removal services. T. Ryan recommended Council accept the bid as submitted by B & M Landscaping.

N. Scholl motioned to award the bid submitted by B & M Landscaping, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Heatherview Stormwater Improvements – J. Sartor presented a proposal for the replacement of the storm sewer system at 227 and 237 East Seventh Avenue. The proposal was presented in six phases: topographic survey, engineering design, construction documents, construction stake out, construction contract administration and observation and as-built plan. The proposal totaled \$37,850.00. There was discussion.

P. Edwards motioned to accept the proposal, in its entirety, in the amount of \$37,850.00, second by L. DiPrete; one nay vote by N. Scholl, the remainder of Council all ayes. Motion passed 4 – 1.

Bid Award – Rambo Park Site Improvements – Thirteen bids were received for the Rambo Park Improvement Project. The low bid received was submitted by Environmental Landscaping Services, Inc. in the amount of \$183,394.15. Manager T. Ryan stated he deems the low bidder to be a responsible and qualified bidder.

N. Scholl motioned to award the contract to Environmental Landscaping Services, Inc. in the amount of \$183,894.15, second by C. Johnson, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Rental Inspection Program – Manager T. Ryan requested Council to pursue the establishment of a residential rental inspection program. T. Ryan noted the Borough has adopted the required the building and property maintenance codes, and the proposed program would provide an inspection similar in scope to that of the Use & Occupancy inspection the Borough now requires at the transfer of single-family dwellings.

N. Scholl motioned for T. Ryan to investigate the establishment a residential rental inspection program, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 -0.

Resolution No. 2008-17 – T. Ryan presented a Resolution to execute a grant contract with the Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources, in the amount of \$40,000, for the development Main Street Park.

C. Johnson motioned to adopt Resolution 2008-17, second by P. Edwards, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

National Lands Trust Stewardship Planning – Manager T. Ryan presented a proposal prepared by the National Lands Trust for stewardship planning at Water Works Park, Rambo Park and Main Street Park. The scope of work includes the mapping and documentation of resources and other areas of interest at each park, and the preparation of a plan to maintain and preserve the parks' existing and proposed natural features. The proposal totals \$2,580.

There was discussion regarding services proposed for Water Works Park, in specific that, as the facility is jointly owned by Collegeville Borough and Trappe Borough, Collegeville Borough need approve the work to be done at this park, and agree to share the costs for same. It was decided that Collegeville would be contacted regarding this matter, and if Collegeville did not both approve the work and agree to the cost-sharing, that the proposal be executed so to include only services at Rambo Park and Main Street Park, with said services totaling \$1,710, plus direct expenses.

P. Edwards motioned to approve the agreement conditioned upon the above, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 5 - 0.

L. Diprete motioned to accept the Manager's Report as presented, second by P. Edwards, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Mayor's Report (C. Peck): Everyone received a copy of the Mayor's Report.

Eagle Scout Award – Mayor Peck requested purchase of an Eagle Scout plaque for Andrew Mattiola to be presented September 27, 2008 at St Eleanor's Church.

P. Edwards motioned for approval of the plaque, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Dr. Eric Hans Annual Halloween Party – Dr. Hans has requested use of the Auxiliary Police for Friday, October 31, 2008 for traffic control for this annual event. Dr. Hans has likewise requested use of Borough Hall parking lot.

N. Scholl motioned to approve use of the Auxiliary Police, at the expense of Dr. Hans, and the use Borough Hall parking lot, conditioned upon the receipt of an

indemnification agreement for the use of the parking lot, second by P. Edwards, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Borough Line Road/Upper Providence Stop Sign – The Mayor noted that Upper Providence Township’s removal of a stop sign at the intersection of Borough Line Road and Meadowview Drive is creating confusion for some motorists. Council asked T. Ryan to again contact Upper Providence Township, and to again request that this stop sign be re-installed at this location.

P. Edwards motioned to accept the Mayor’s Report as presented, second by C. Johnson, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

ENGINEER’S REPORT (J. Sartor): Everyone received a copy of the Engineer’s Report.

DiPrinzio Escrow Release #1 – (417 West Main Street) – Developer Andre DiPrinzio requested the release of escrow funds in the amount of \$15,834.68. The Borough Engineer has recommended a release in this amount.

N. Scholl motioned to release escrowed funds in the amount of \$15,834.68, second by L. Diprete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

T. Ryan requested the Developer arrange for an extension of the Letter of Credit.

L. DiPrete motioned to accept the Engineer’s Report, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT (D. Onorato): Everyone received a copy of the Solicitor’s Report. There were no comments or questions.

P. Edwards motioned to accept the Solicitor’s Report as presented, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Nothing noted from the public.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance (N. Scholl): N. Scholl stated he met with representatives of Collegeville Borough and Stonebridge Investment Partnership as to new investment opportunities. N. Scholl indicated Stonebridge offered a little less than what we

are presently earning, and he believes the Borough's finances are doing well, and that there is no need to alter course at this time.

Public Works and Recycling (-) – C. Peck noted that Allied Waste is now accepting plastics #1 through #7 in the single-stream curbside recycling program.

CTMA (N. Scholl) – Nothing further to report.

Property/Streets/Traffic/Safety (P. Edwards) – P. Edwards reviewed discussions had at the August 12, 2008 Streets, Traffic and Safety Committee meeting, which included traffic calming, roadway conditions, street lights and sidewalks, weeds and grass clippings. Also reviewed was a report prepared by Ambulance Chief Brian Pasquale that indicated the number of ambulance calls and that located vehicle accidents for 2008.

Planning/Zoning/Open Space (F. Schuetz): President Schuetz noted the Open Space Committee will re-establish a regular meeting schedule, with meetings to be held on the first Wednesday of each month.

Personnel/Appointments/Ordinances (L. DiPrete): L. DiPrete acknowledged the resignation of auditor Joyce Haas. L. DiPrete noted there are two auditor positions now vacant, for residents so interested.

OLD BUSINESS

None noted.

NEW BUSINESS (T. Ryan):

N. Scholl referenced a recently-published letter to the editor pertaining to the recently-adopted Sewer Use Ordinance that permits entrance onto private property for inspections. He questioned the legality of this language, and asked the Solicitor review this matter.

Resolution 2008-18 – T. Ryan presented a Resolution authorizing the Borough to join with other local government units as a settlor of the Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust for the purpose of purchasing shares of the Trust.

N. Scholl motioned to approve joining the Trust, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Council adjourned the meeting at 9:20 pm to enter into Executive Session. The Secretary exited the meeting at that time.

Council exited Executive Session at 12:02 am. There were no official actions taken during Executive Session.

At 12:03 am motion to adjourn was made by P. Edwards, second by L. DiPrete, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Katona
Secretary