

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

July 11, 2006

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

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

Roll call by the Secretary: Those present were President Stu Strauss, Vice President Nevin Scholl, Mark Carrig, and Steve Kurcik. Those excused were Paul Greco, Matt Watson and Ed Kane. Also in attendance were Engineer Jack Seber, Solicitor Bob Kerns, Treasurer John Klink and Manager Chuck Sardo.

Minutes of the Meeting of June 6, 2006 – There were no noted amendments or corrections to the Minutes of June 6, 2006.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Minutes as presented, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Presentation of the Bills – J. Klink

Everyone received a copy of the June Accounts Payable. There were additional bill as follows:

CTMA	\$ 698.15
Berkheimer Associates	\$1,045.09
Bateman Landscaping	\$1,150.00

N. Scholl motioned to pay the bills including the additional bills, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Financial Reports – J. Klink

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

N. Scholl motioned to approve the Financial Reports, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

MANAGER'S REPORT – C. Sardo (copy on file in Borough office)

Everyone previously received a copy of the Manager's Report.

Williams Way – From Main Street to Hamilton Court needs repair work. The Engineer inspected this portion of the roadway and reported back with an estimate for resurfacing, overlay, line striping, inlet repair and 17 handicap ramps, a total of \$185,938.00.

N. Scholl motioned to prepare the bid package for repairs to Williams Way as presented by the Borough Manager, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Open Space Grant Funding – Before making application for grant funding to Montgomery County Open Space Board, there are two Resolutions that have to be advertised ten days prior to the Resolutions being adopted at our next meeting, August 1, 2006. One Resolution is for Rambo Park and the second is for the Wismer Tract.

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S. Kurcik motioned to advertise the Resolution for Rambo Park, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Manager's Report, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

At this time, President Strauss introduced Mr. Jack Seber of Czop/Specter who will be the principal engineer for the Borough. At the last meeting, Council appointed the engineering firm of Czop/Specter as the Borough's engineer.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – J. Seber (copy on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the Engineer's Report.

Carriage Ridge Estates – Escrow Releases

Escrow Release No. 19 – in the amount of \$31,016.83 for topsoil, inlets, pavers wearing course, curbing was approved for release by the Engineer.

Escrow Release No. 20 – in the amount of \$900 for line striping was approved for release by the Engineer.

M. Carrig motioned to approve the above amounts for Escrow Releases No. 19 and 20, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

M. Carrig motioned to approve the Engineer's Report, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – B. Kerns (copy on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the Solicitor's Report. There were no further questions or comments for the Solicitor.

N. Scholl motioned to accept the Solicitor's Report, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT – C. Peck (copy on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the Mayor's Report. Mayor Peck reviewed her Report.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Shawn Skelly, Bentley Manor – Was before Council with regard to the inspection done on July 6, 2006 and the four (4) punch list items that remain to be completed before entering the maintenance period. Shawn was advised to be in touch with the Borough Engineer.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Strauss noted a change with regard to the Public Safety and Streets Committee. The Streets section of the Committees will be bumped to the Finance, Waste Recycling Committee, Chairman N. Scholl. Public Safety will remain with P. Greco.

**Finance/Waste Recycling/Streets** – N. Scholl

Nothing further to report.

**Property/Open Space/Traffic** – E. Kane

In E. Kane's absence, S. Kurcik acknowledged a letter from Montgomery County advising of DCNR funding in the amount of \$200,000. A Resolution acknowledging that the Borough is going to make application for funding in the amount of \$163,600 for Rambo Park. Approval is needed to advertise the Resolution 10 days prior to the August 1, 2006 council meeting. There was discussion and clarification by F. Schuetz, Chairman of the Planning Commission.

The other item was in regard to the Wismer Tract – President Strauss opened the meeting to anyone that would like to comment. No further action at this time.

Catherine Rapp, 75 Oak Road – was before Council to express her concerns with a proposed walking trail that would be located behind her property.

Beverly Sapid, 49 Oak Road – was before Council to express concerns about the trail in terms of safety, security and privacy. A list of specific questions was presented by concerned citizens; President Straus stated that responses to their specific questions will be researched and sent to them.

**Public Safety** – P. Greco

In Paul's absence it was noted that everyone received a copy of the June, 2006 Pennsylvania State Police Report.

**Personnel and Appointments** – M. Carrig

**CTMA** – Mark called for a motion to fill the CTMA vacancy created by the resignation of Ernie Schmitt.

N. Scholl motioned to appoint M. Carrig to fill the vacancy for the balance of E. Schmitt's previous term to end 12/31/07, second by S. Kercik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

It was discovered that N. Scholl was nominated twice for a term on CTMA and President Strauss should have been appointed to that position. There is a need to appoint and reaffirm President Strauss to that position for a five year term

M. Carrig motioned to correct the previous duplicate appointment, appoint and reaffirm President Strauss as a member of CTMA, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Works** – M. Watson's and President Strauss' terms as members of Public Works were up as of December 31, 2005; they were not reappointed. Council entertained a motion for a replacement and President Strauss as a member of Public Works Committee.

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N. Scholl motioned to appoint M. Carrig to that position for a two year period as of January 1, 2006, President Strauss as a member of the Committee, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

**Zoning Hearing Board Alternate** – A third alternate is permitted to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board.

M. Carrig motioned to appoint Shawn Skelly as the third alternate, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0. Shawn Skelly was in the audience and agreed to accept the position.

**Signal Service Contract** – The two year Signal Service Contract is ready to be renewed and the proposal presented.

M. Carrig motioned to accept the new two year contract, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 4 – 0.

**Public Works/CTMA** – M. Carrig

Mark acknowledged the resignation of Ernie Schmitt from CTMA because he is not a resident of either Collegeville or Trappe and therefore he could not serve as a representative on CTMA.

**State Aid Allocation** - a letter was received from Charles Garner, Esq. regarding the allocation of state aid (approximately \$45,000) as related to both Collegeville and Trappe Boroughs. There is money due Public Works that dates back three years and the Attorney Garner felt the funds should be distributed immediately as opposed to waiting until the end of 2006. N. Scholl elaborated on the circumstances. Money coming from the State to Collegeville never made it back to Public Works or the Municipal Authority. Collegeville was asked to investigate and discovered it was a mistake, all the money was being used, in 05 and 04 and a portion of it in 03, to fund the police department pensions. That mistake is being corrected. The money is being refunded and credited to Public Works; they will in turn give their portion to the Municipal Authority. In the future, the credits that come from the State will be allocated to Public Works using the same method that the State gives the money to Collegeville.

**Planning and Zoning** – S. Kurcik

Steve advised that it is the recommendation of the Planning Commission to maintain the Village Commercial district and extend R-3 zoning from Heritage Park to replace the R-2 zoning within the Stearly tract. There was no further discussion in this regard at this time.

On another matter, N. Scholl asked the Mayor how it came about that she met with the PVSD and the purpose of the meeting. She indicated there was no meeting but rather general discussion with expression of concerns for the building. President Strauss stated this policy must be abided to whether it is a council member, commission member or another individual: all negotiations or discussions regarding potential property negotiations must go through Trappe Borough Manager unless Council authorized differently.

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Regional Traffic Study – there was discussion regarding a regional traffic study for intersections at Schwenksville (Rt 29) – Rt 113 and Rt 29 and Rt 113 and Main Street in Trappe. To participate would cost the Borough \$2100. There will be future discussion.  
Trappe Days – a reminder that Trappe Days will be September 16<sup>th</sup> with the rain date of September 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Committee will welcome anyone wanting to help out.

OLD BUSINESS

McCauley Conditional Use Decision – Jim McCauley was before Council for final approval of his conditional use – Council expressed no concerns and Mr. McCauley will proceed with his permitting process.

NEW BUSINESS

Stearly Property – Mark Clemm, Esq. – Mr. Clemm was before Council to present a proposal for consideration for the development of the Stearly property at First Avenue and Main Street. Council was presented with an aerial sheet of the property and surrounding properties. There was discussion with regard to zoning variances, ingress/egress, open space, sidewalks, parking lots and a traffic study which will have to be reviewed by the Engineer, Solicitor and the Planning Commission to see how the plan complies with our zoning ordinances. There will be further review.

The request for consideration of the R3-Age restricted area was withdrawn at this time because of a parking issue.

At 9:10 PM Council concluded the regularly scheduled meeting and had an Executive Session.

The Executive Session concluded at 10:08 PM and Council reconvened.

M. Carrig motioned to pay Gilmore and Associates what the borough Manager and Solicitor agreed is fair, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 4 - 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Katona  
Secretary