

MINUTES TO THE MEETING
OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL

November 14, 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 Mayor Connie Peck, President Stu Strauss, Vice President Nevin Scholl, Mark Carrig, Steve Kurcik, and Ken Fulmer. Ed Kane and Matt Watson were excused. Also in attendance were Engineer Doug May, Solicitor Dick Watt, Treasurer John Klink and Manager Chuck Sardo.

President Strauss announced that prior to the regular meeting, there was an executive session regarding legal and personnel matters.

Minutes of the Meeting of October 3, 2006 – Everyone received a copy of the Minutes of October 3, 2006. There were no noted amendments or corrections.

M. Carrig motioned to accept the Minutes as presented, second by K. Fulmer, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Noted by N. Scholl that the October Minutes are to reflect Simone-Collins approved to be the playground planners for the Main Street Park.

Presentation of the Bills – J. Klink

Everyone received a copy of the October Accounts Payable. J. Klink advised there was an original Accounts Payable report generated as of the end of the month that brings everything current to this past weekend; all Council should have a copy of the listing from check 20734 to 20782. There were four additional bills as follows:

Sprint	\$ 37.42
Haines & Associates	\$365.00
C-T Utilities	\$ 27.00
B. Stott (Aux Police)	\$221.77

N. Scholl motioned to approve payment of the bills including the additional bills, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Financial Reports - J. Klink

Everyone received a copy of the Financial Reports. There were no comments or questions.

M. Carrig motioned to accept the Reports as presented, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried.

Manager's Report – C. Sardo (copy of Report on file in Borough office)

Everyone received a copy of the October, 2006 Manager's Report as reviewed by the Manager.

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LED Traffic Signals – Council received a copy of Signal Service’s proposal to switch our current traffic signals to LED. There was discussion regarding the cost (\$12,000) to change the red and green only, the longevity of the bulb vs. LED (LED would last 7-10 years eliminating service calls to change a bulb), and the energy cost effectiveness of electricity of the LED in the long run. Copy of proposal to go to John Klink for his evaluation of cost savings and return to Council with his findings; John noted that our bills for traffic signal lighting per year total \$5300 and with the savings indicated would be substantial, \$4,000 per year with a reduction of 75%-80%. A truer all over picture would be for John to look at the number of lights; evaluate the electrical cost savings and report back to Council for further consideration.

Borough Hall Playground Equipment – C. Sardo introduced Mr. Glenn Barrie, a certified playground inspector, from Camellian Playscapes. Mr. Barrie was before Council with a proposal to upgrade and incorporate additional equipment for the Tot Lot behind Borough Hall. He recommended working with of some the existing space and some existing playground equipment specifying separate age groups (2 to 5 years and 5 to 12 years), removal/replacement of some other equipment keeping in mind the viability and safety standards. Mr. Barrie’s proposal was in the amount of \$46,495, (\$35,215 and \$11,238 for installation and removal). There was discussion of the costs and type of mulch to be considered in the future. The rendering presented to Council will remain in the meeting room for reference.

M. Carrig motioned to move ahead with the project in the amount of \$46,495.00, second by S. Kurcik, (Motion withdrawn)

There is a concern with regard to drainage on the east side of the building and Council indicated they wanted the Engineer to look at the area. There was discussion, Mark withdrew his above motion in favor of investigating the drainage issue and the proposal will be revisited.

M. Carrig motioned to accept the Manager’s report, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – D. May (Copy of Report on file in Borough office)
Doug reviewed his Report with Council

Hearthstone Valley - no revised plans have been received in time for the next Planning Commission meeting in November.

Carriage Ridge – the Engineer received a request from Andre to clear out the escrow funds. An inspection of the escrow items was completed. He stated that all the items in the escrow had been installed and approved. However, there is concern about other items that should be looked at as far approvals before Council can agree to releasing the 10% and going into the 18-month maintenance period. Specifically, documents are needed that indicate appropriate approvals were obtained as follows: PennDOT Highway Occupancy permit, Montgomery County Conservation approval that the site is stabilized, Fire Marshal, fire hydrant approval, Public Works inspect the utilities and any issues that

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the HOA cannot take care of Public Works can go onto the property and work with the facilities, Deed of Dedication, certification of the lot pins/monuments, as-built drawings certified by the engineer. The above requirements will insure that all the parties involved are in good standing. Andre DiPrinzio needs to satisfy the punch list of November 14th. Silverleaf Farms – Coordinated the concrete testing – no results of the test have been returned as of this date.

Eye Design – A request for release of the remaining funds in Escrow Release #2 in the amount of \$3,594.07 was received. After review by the Engineer, it was his recommendation the funds be released.

M. Carrig motioned to release the funds in Escrow Release #2 in the amount of \$3,594.07, post a maintenance bond in the amount of \$6,200 for an 18-month Bond per the Developer's Agreement, second by K. Fulmer, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

M. Carrig motioned to approve the Engineer's Report, second by S. Kurcik, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – D. Watt (copy on file in Borough office)

One issue not in the report and as a result of the executive session pertains to the proceedings in front of the Labor Relations Board regarding Public Works employees and that they sought representation to unionize. One of the initial proceedings is a conference in front of the judge assigned to this matter and one issue considered by the parties is a Memorandum of Agreement establishing a time table for election. One of the items of the Agreement is the provision that PW employees be considered joint employees of Collegetown and Trappe Borough Public Works that is an unincorporated department established by both Boroughs. The Commonwealth does not recognize a department like Public Works as a formal employer and that is why one of the provisions of the Memorandum establishing the procedures of election cites Collegetown and Trappe jointly as the employer of Public Works. For consideration for formal approval is authorization for the Solicitor in this proceeding to execute this Memorandum saying it is contingent upon Collegetown Borough also executing the same Memorandum of Agreement containing the same terms and schedule.

M. Carrig motioned to authorize the Solicitor to execute the Memorandum of Agreement in order to move the matter forward for an election contingent on Collegetown also executing the Memorandum of Agreement, second by N. Scholl, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Ordinance No. 392 – Verizon Cable Franchise – The Solicitor recommended that the Ordinance be adopted and will be of benefit to the Borough by providing competition of cable services to residents – basically the Agreement grants nonexclusive franchise rights as being in competition with Comcast. This is a 15-year franchise agreement providing a franchise fee of 5% of gross annual revenue, a phase in of the providing of cable service

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to residents and commercial institutions within the Borough provide free cable service to Borough Hall, Public Works, PVSD South Elementary School and Fire Company. There was discussion.

M. Carrig motioned to enter into Agreement with Verizon for cable services in accordance with the Agreement, second by Ken Fulmer, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0

Ordinance No. 391 – Pollutant Discharge – This Ordinance was before Council and appropriately advertised that amends and revises the maximum limits established under Ordinance No. 93-286 for the local industrial pollutant discharge limits applicable to direct and indirect contributors into the wastewater collection and treatment system of LPVRS to maintain compliance with state and federal laws and issued permits. There was discussion.

K. Fulmer motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 391, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 5 - 0.

K. Fulmer motioned to approve the Solicitor's Report, second by N. Scholl, motion carried.

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

The Mayor reviewed her report noting the number of voters that voted and thanked the dedicated workers at the poles for the long day to which they were committed.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Fred Schuetz – Wismer Trail Connection – Fred presented a chronology of efforts to obtain permission to purchase a section of the Wismer property for the trail connection to Hunsburger Woods Park. The presentation was interrupted by President Strauss stating that Mrs. Wismer was adamant in her letter that she would not sell any of the property for the trail. Further, that there was a number of dollars already spent on the trail and further efforts should be directed to other parks in the Borough. There was no further discussion in this matter.

Hamilton Court Resident – there was a question with regard to line striping. Said line striping will be removed as it was a mistake on the contractor's part.

Sam Mancuso, College Woods – Sam expressed concerns regarding the drainage from Main Street entering College Woods, next heavy rain he is to be in contact with either the Manager, Engineer/Inspector or Council person (Mark), take pictures, or video of the drainage problem; an ongoing issue.

CTMA – Fred Schuetz asked what is being done to solve conflicts regarding CTMA and Public Works with Collegeville.

President Strauss stated that two potential conflicts are under review with possible litigation going against the Borough of Collegeville.

1) \$45,000 was given by the State of Pennsylvania that was supposed to be given to Collegeville/Trappe Public Works Department for their reimbursement

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to their Employees Pension Fund. In March 2006 Trappe officials noticed the money was missing and asked Collegetville who handles this Fund and what happened to the missing money. Two months later at the June, 2006 Joint Public Works meeting, Geoff Thompson, Collegetville Borough Manager stated, and it is part of the minutes, that Collegetville in error put the \$45,000 into their Collegetville Police Pension fund, but at the end of the year, Collegetville will give back this money to the Joint Public Works Department where it belongs. Since that meeting Collegetville has changed their minds and decided to keep the money and use it towards their police department. Why should sewer and water rate payers from Trappe and Collegetville pay money towards the Collegetville Police Department. Councilman Nevin Scholl stated we have had numerous meetings with Collegetville to resolve this issue, now it is time for a judge to decide this case.

2) The status of CTMA. By an agreement signed by both Boroughs, this Authority is supposed to be dissolved with services possibly blended into the Public Works. This action will save the rate payers money.

Trappe Borough is looking out for the best interest of the Water and Sewer rate payers of Collegetville and Trappe. CTMA and the Joint Public Works Department are losing \$1,000 a day and dipping into their reserves to survive. When losing money like this you have three options: 1) close down the operations (Trappe will not allow this to happen) 2) have a massive rate increase to cover losses (Trappe will not allow this to happen), 3) cut operating expenses; this is the avenue Trappe will take.

Collegetville brought up the idea of privatizing the Public Works Department at a meeting; Trappe is against this. It is felt that the employees do a good job but expenses must be streamlined.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Waste/Recycling/Streets – N. Scholl

Finance – On the overhead for public input, Nevin reviewed the highlights of the tentative consolidated budget for 2007 covering revenue and expenses. Personnel wages will be discussed in executive session.

A date for the Close out meeting was set for Thursday, December 28 at 7:00 PM. The Secretary was directed to advertise the availability of the budget and date for the Close out meeting.

N. Scholl motioned to approve the date for the Close Out meeting and advertisement of the proposed budget, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Property/Open Space/Traffic – E. Kane

In E. Kane's absence – a proposal in the amount of \$24,570 was presented to Council for approval for demolition of a structure on the Rambo Park site. Council opted to seek another proposal; Sacks is not out of the picture.

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Public Safety – K. Fulmer

Ken reviewed the October, 2006 PSP Report, it should be noted that 27 incidents were reported on the Report filed in the Borough office.

Ordinances/Personnel/Appointments – M. Carrig

Personnel issues to be discussed in executive session following the regular meeting.

Public Works/CTMA – M. Carrig

Planning and Zoning – S. Kurcik

Resolution 2006-09 – The Resolution approving the CPVRPC's application for grant funding and acceptance of the 2007 budget for Trappe's responsibility in the amount of \$5,500.

S. Kurcik motioned to adopt Resolution 2006-09 and approve the Trappe portion of the 2007 budget for CPVRPC, second by M. Carrig, all ayes. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Trappe Days – 2007 – President Strauss

The dates for Trappe Days 2007 are scheduled for September 15, 2007 with a rain date of September 29th, 2006.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Company – Chief Brian Long acknowledged as a result of their quarterly meeting it is the consensus of the Fire Company that they would like a closer working relationship with Council and want to avail themselves in that respect, particularly pursue dialogue with Upper Providence and their part of fire protection in that Township. President Strauss indicated that would come under the Safety Committee and asked for a volunteer to act as liaison to the Fire Company. Council member, Ken Fulmer, volunteered to be in communication with the Fire Company.

At 9:30 PM, council went into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

The Secretary exited the meeting at that time.

Patricia Katona
Secretary