

TULLYTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

October 6, 2020

President Nina Chrzanowski called the meeting of the Tullytown Borough Council to order on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., in the Borough municipal building.

Present at the meeting:

Mayor Cutchineal

Councilman Shellenberger

Councilwoman Kettler

Councilwoman Slemmer-via teleconference

Councilman Pirolli

Councilwoman Gahagan-via teleconference

Councilman Servis

Councilwoman Chrzanowski

Also present:

Thomas J. Walsh III, Esquire, Borough Solicitor-via teleconference

Andrew Bunda, Sgt. Police Department

Dan Pasciullo, Fire Marshal/Interim Borough Coordinator

Joe McPadden, Borough Treasurer

Nancy Conner, Borough Secretary

Mr. Walsh advised that Council met in executive session prior to this evening's public meeting to discuss personnel matters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Dillon, attorney for John McGrath and John McGrath were present to discuss his proposed project on the St. Michael's property. Mr. Dillon advised they previously met with Council and Solicitor to discuss transportation overlay district for St. Michael's property. He added that Mr. Walsh has prepared the first draft of the transportation overlay district (TOD) and they will have their engineers review to see if it works for this project.

John McGrath advised that they are very excited about doing this project. He added that the Coronavirus and a few other things held the project up but they are ready to move forward. Mr. McGrath advised this project is a combination of senior housing which are senior apartments and townhouses. He added that each project will have their own clubhouse and amenities. He showed drawings of the project.

Mr. McGrath advised that early on they had an entrance into Lakeside section but deleted that. He added they are fencing the perimeter of the property to make it private.

Ms. Gahagan asked for clarification about the Lakeside entrance being taken out. She asked where the entrance will be. Mr. McGrath advised that the entrance will be on the Levittown Parkway—at the traffic light and by the Bank.

Mrs. Chrzanowski asked if both the apartments and townhouses are both senior living. Mr. McGrath advised the apartments are senior living—townhouses are for any age.

Mr. Pirolli asked if this project will move forward. He commented that there were some stories that McGrath was not going to do anything with this project. Mr. McGrath commented that they are moving forward.

Mr. Dillon commented that they have redone the contract with the Archdiocese so they are able to proceed and ready to go.

Mr. Servis asked if the school will be taken down. Mr. McGrath advised the school will not be taken down. Mr. Dillon commented that right now the school is still open but if the school closes they have the option to obtain that piece of the property as well.

Mrs. Kettler asked the status of soil testing—if that still progressing with that. Mr. McGrath advised it is still progressing. He commented this is his third environmental site—it is probably the least contaminated out of the three of them. He added the two other ones are in Bristol and they built one 18 years ago and they are building one now. Mr. McGrath advised that he feels comfortable with this one—it has been capped and there is a lot of topsoil which is very good. He added there is methane ventilation capping for approximately 15 years and they are working with DEP. Mr. McGrath advised they have to get this to an Act II standard which is a residential standard to be able to build. He added that protects everyone.

Mrs. Kettler commented that she is in favor of the project.

Mayor Cutchineal asked Mr. McGrath what his time frame is. Mr. Dillon advised they have to do something within 18 months with clean up and the Archdiocese unless there is some extension.

Bernadette Hart, 50 Stream Lane, Levittown, gave an update on “Wreaths Across America”. She commented that there is a new committee and funds have gone into the new committee which is “Washington Crossings Wreaths for Veterans”

She advised there will not be an in-person big gathering due to Covid—there will be a virtual ceremony held. More information coming. Date for ceremony December 19th. Holly Kettler asked if they have a website. Mrs. Hart advised there will be a website, facebook page, post office box number, email address etc.

Mrs. Chrzanowski suggested to forward the information to Mrs. Conner so she may post on Borough's website.

Rich Hart, 50 Stream Lane, Levittown, asked when the crack sealing will be done in the Borough. Mr. Pasciullo advised that the Street Department submitted a report to Council advising that the crack sealing program will begin October 13th through October 23rd.

Mr. Hart commented that the Borough is supposed to be saving money through this light purchase and wondering why it hasn't happened as yet. Mrs. Conner advised that the Borough is not holding up this process---everything has been put on hold due to Coronavirus.

COUNCIL MINUTES

September 1, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes--Approval

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2020 Council meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis—for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

MONTHLY BILLS

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$31,731.20, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote on the motion was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

OTHER EXPENSES PAID IN SEPTEMBER, 2020

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the other expenses for September, 2020 in the amount of \$226,879.29, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of Council in favor.

RECONCILIATION STATEMENT

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to approve the reconciliation statement for September, 2020, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

Roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion passed with a unanimous vote of Council in favor.

RESOLUTION #448 TRANSFER OF FUNDS \$1,000,000--CONSIDERATION

Mr. McPadden advised that this is primarily for the property allocation check which should total approximately \$975,000 and he rounded it up the transfer to \$1,000,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to adopt Resolution #448 to transfer funds from the investments to the General Fund in the amount of \$1,000,000, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Chrzanowski advised that Chief Doyle, our emergency management coordinator, is making the recommendation beginning the next meeting, October 20th to go back to virtual Council meetings as we navigate through the flu season. This recommendation is out of an abundance of caution. He added that both Mrs. Conner and he have verified that numerous municipalities in Bucks County are still conducting business virtually. So Mrs. Chrzanowski advised that starting October 20th meeting, Council will be virtual. Council agreed.

Mrs. Conner advised that Chief Doyle received an email from Chip Vandine advising that he will be resigning as crossing guard for the Borough.

Mr. Pirolli accepted Mr. Vandine' s resignation, seconded by Mr. Shellenberger.

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

Mrs. Chrzanowski thanked Chip Vandine for his service.

GENERAL BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING—PROPERTY ALLOCATION ORDINANCE

Mr. Walsh advised this is a public hearing for Council to consider the second and final allocation in the amount of \$1,500. He added the proposed ordinance was properly advertised and comes before Council for public hearing.

The public hearing was opened. There was no comment from the public or Council.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to adopt Ordinance #397, property allocation ordinance for an amount allocated of \$1,500. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

HIRE ASSISTANT BOROUGH SECRETARY

Mrs. Kettler advised that Mrs. Conner will be retiring by the end of the year. She advised that Personnel committee met with many candidates and have recommended to hire Patricia Marks of Levittown.

Mrs. Kettler made a motion to hire Patricia Marks to start Monday October 12th at a rate of pay \$19 per hour at 6 hours per day. Miss Slemmer seconded the motion.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of Council in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING—COMCAST FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Mr. Walsh advised this is a public hearing for consideration of awarding Comcast a renewed cable franchise. He added this has been a long negotiation through the consortium—Tullytown was a member of the consortium going back since 2018. Mr. Walsh advised the attorney for the consortium produced a model franchise and it has been tailored to Tullytown's needs. Mr. Walsh advised this is a 10-year agreement and will replace the existing franchise.

The public hearing was opened. There was no comment from the public or Council.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to adopt Ordinance #398, Comcast Franchise Agreement, seconded by Mrs. Kettler.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

RATIFY WASTE MANAGEMENT EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT

Mr. Walsh explained that on September 23rd the Borough coordinator sent a letter to Waste Management notifying them that the Borough was going to exercise our right to extend the agreement into 2021. Mr. Walsh advised this contract was awarded back in 2016 with a term June 2017 to December 31, 2020 and had two one-year options which were the Borough's options. Mr. Walsh indicated that the notice had to be given before October 1, 2020—the cost \$93,236 for the 2021 year which was confirmed by Waste Management. He added that Council will need to ratify that letter was sent extending the agreement for 2021.

Mr. Pirolli made a motion to ratify Waste Management extension of agreement for 2021 year with a cost for that year of \$93,236. Mrs. Kettler seconded the motion.

Mr. Servis asked if we bid at this time or just exercised the extension period. Mr. Walsh advised that this was awarded four years ago and this was one of the options—it was not rebid.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT TO BUCKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION FOR COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT APPLICATION—CONSIDERATION

Mr. Pasciullo advised we received a request from Evan Stone of the Bucks County Planning Commission to submit a letter of support for their coastal zone management application for grant. He advised we drafted letter and he is asking Council to approve sending the letter of support.

Mr. Servis made a motion to send a letter of support to the Bucks County Planning Commission for coastal zone management application. Mr. Pirolli seconded the motion.

Mr. Shellenberger asked if this had anything to do with opening of the canal at the parkway. Mr. Pasciullo said it does not.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

The motion carried with a unanimous vote of Council in favor.

PROPERTY OWNER'S REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO REMOVE SHADE TREES AND WAIVER

Mrs. Conner advised that property owner, Jay Cee Inc of 294-310 Main Street (apartments) submitted a request for permission to remove shade trees and waive the requirement to plant new trees. She added the owner indicated the trees are ripping down the wires going to the houses. They are asking permission to remove the shade trees and asking for a waiver so they don't have to plant new trees because of this issue.

Mrs. Kettler made a motion to grant permission for Jay Cee Inc to remove the shade trees and approve the waiver for planting new trees. Mr. Pirolli seconded the motion.

The vote of Council was as follows:

Mr. Shellenberger—for

Mrs. Kettler—for

Miss Slemmer—for

Mr. Pirolli—for

Ms. Gahagan—for

Mr. Servis--for

Mrs. Chrzanowski—for

All of Council was in favor of the motion; the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Reports

BOROUGH REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Cutchineal thanked all who participated or attended our annual 9-11 Vigil as well as the senior expo—each was a great success. Many people have asked if we can do another expo which we will try to do after the New Year and depending on the status of the pandemic, we will try to hold the next one at the MacIntosh Regency.

Mayor added that the next Borough events in December will be our annual Christmas tree lighting and our Season of Unity. He indicated that we will closely monitor the pandemic before any final decisions are made on those events.

Mayor Cutchineal also mentioned Election Day is November 3rd. He indicated that if you haven't voted by mail or absentee ballot, the polls will be open at the Borough Municipal building from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. He added that a big turn-out is expected.

Mayor Cutchineal thanked everyone who called, sent emails, etc. wishing him well during his recent hospital stay—he really appreciated them and feeling much better.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Walsh indicated no further report.

INTERIM BOROUGH COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Pasciullo announced the crack sealing program which will be held October 11th through the week of the 18th. The NO PARKING signs will be posted from 7 am to 3 pm during the program and once the street is completed, the daily parking can resume. Mr. Pasciullo advised there will be NO bulk or yard waste pick-ups during that time.

Mr. Pasciullo advised he distributed the Street Department report to Council previously and asked if anyone had questions.

Mr. Pasciullo added that the code enforcement inspector did 13 inspections for the month of September and 17 building permits were issued. Mr. Pasciullo added that the Wal-Mart store is doing major renovations on the interior design of the store.

Mr. Servis mentioned that the Courier Times building that was recently purchased needs the grass cut—he mentioned it looks really bad. Mr. Pasciullo advised the owner will be contacted.

Mr. Pasciullo also mentioned that in August Mark Snyder contacted PennDot about some road problems on Main Street—one of the problems being the bridge over the creek near the Borough building. He added that Penndot repaved the approaches to the bridge on September 9th. He added that PennDot has more to repair on Main Street.

CHIEF'S REPORT

No Report. Chief Doyle emailed report to Council.

FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT

Mr. Pasciullo advised that the fire report was submitted to Council with the agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS COUNCIL BUSINESS

Mr. Pirolli mentioned that the pole at the stop sign is leaning pretty badly. Mr. Pasciullo advised that Chief Doyle made a contact with Verizon and Comcast lines there and also advised PECO and we have had no response as yet.

Mrs. Conner advised that the November Council meeting has been rescheduled to November 10th due to Election Day.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Pirolli to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mrs. Kettler. All of Council was in favor of the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Conner
Borough Secretary