BOROUGH OF HATBORO
COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 2015

PRESENT

President Tompkins, Vice President Rich, Councilpersons Forgeng, Hegele & Palmer; Mayor Hawkes; Borough Manager Zollers, Assistant Secretary Hegele, Chief Gardner, Fire Marshal Reading, Solicitor Kearney, Engineer Dougherty & Treasurer Kalnajs.

ABSENT

Councilmen Zygmont and Harbaugh were absent.

CALL TO ORDER

President Tompkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

INVOCATION – Mayor Hawkes asked for everyone to say a prayer for former Councilman Bucky Clark, who was recently admitted to Hospice.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Gardner.

MEETING NOTES – President Tompkins announced that staff is taping this meeting. He stated that there are two opportunities on the agenda for the public to address Council. The first privilege of the floor is for voting agenda items only.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – There were no comments from the public at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Hawkes announced that the Tricentennial Interfaith Service was a success and they are considering having this as an annual event. He stated the next event is the Historic Walking Tour on October 18th.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - President Tompkins stated he had no report for this evening. He did ask everyone to please keep Dr. Clark and his family in their thoughts and prayers.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Treasurer Kalnajs gave the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2015. He noted a balance of $4,194,534.02. Interest earned for the month totaled $360.92 on all accounts.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Solicitor Kearney stated she had no report this evening.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Engineer Dougherty stated he had no report this evening.

MANAGER'S REPORT – Manager Zollers stated Road Paving Project on Moreboro and Warren has started, all residents in the area were notified. He announced that finally after 4 years the demolition of Woodwinds was going to start, the start date is October 19th.

DEPARTMENT SUPERVISORS' REPORT

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT – Chief Gardner stated there were no issues this past weekend with the Pope in town. He stated it was a safe and successful event.

TAX COLLECTIONS REPORT – The Tax Collection Report was submitted to Council in advance of tonight's meeting, and that copies of the report were available.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – The Public Works Report was submitted to Council in advance of tonight's meeting, and that copies of the report were available on the sign in table. Manager Zollers stated the parking kiosks will be installed this week and they will be replacing the money box.

FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – The Fire Marshal Report was submitted to Council in advance of tonight's meeting, and that copies of the report were available on the sign in table. Fire Marshal Reading had nothing further to report.

VOTING ITEMS

Acknowledgement of Reports – Vice President Rich motioned to acknowledge the receipt of the tax collections, public works, fire marshal, treasurer's reports, UMHJSA minutes, motion seconded by Councilman Hegele, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Warrant List, Payment of Bills, Manual Checks and Transfers – Councilman Palmer motioned to approve the warrant list, payment of bills, manual checks and transfers for the month of September 2015, motion seconded by Vice President Rich, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 17th, 2015 Committee/Council Meeting, August 26th Special Council Meeting & September 14th Committee Meeting Minutes – Councilman Palmer motioned to approve the August 17th, August 26th & September 14th meeting minutes, motion seconded by Councilman Hegele, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

FIRE COMPANY EXPENDITURE LIST – Councilman Palmer motioned to approve the Enterprise Fire Company Expenditure List for August 2015 in the amount of $14,977.86, motion seconded by Councilman Hegele, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

FIRE COMPANY CAPITAL EXPENDITURE LIST – Councilman Palmer motioned to approve the August Capital Expenditure List in the amount of $44,670.13, motion seconded by Councilman Hegele all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

EMERGENCY ROOF REPAIR – ENTERPRISE FIRE CO FIRE HOUSE PROJECT – Vice President Rich motioned to approve Emergency Roof repairs to the Fire House, motion seconded by Councilman Palmer, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

President Tompkins stated this work needs to be done to make the addition water tight, so improvements can be done to make the addition code compliant. He stated Council does not have a figure yet, this vote is authorize staff and the professionals to move on this immediately.

SPECIAL UPDATES

President Tompkins stated there will be a budget workshop in November, the finance committee will put dates out when ready.

OLD BUSINESS – There was no old business to come before Council.

NEW BUSINESS – There was no new business to come before Council.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

John Farnen, Elm Street stated 5 years ago a Welcome to Hatboro sign was installed in the Elm Street District, he is requesting an addition to the blank portion of the sign. President Tompkins stated Staff stated where the present sign faces they do not see a benefit to adding any more lettering. Staff is looking for an alternate location. President Tompkins stated he would meet with Mr. Farnen and look at other locations for consideration.

Joe Herman, 48 E. Montgomery Avenue, stated he was coming before Council regarding an ongoing issue with his neighbor feeding raccoons. He stated the Borough staff has been working on the issue but it is getting out of control. Manager Zollers gave Council a synopsis of staff findings/action, he stated the complaint is legitimate and a letter was recently sent to the property owner asking them to stop feeding raccoons. After a discussion concerning the issue, Chief Gardner volunteered to contact the State Game Commission and see if they can assist. Chief Gardner stated the residents may have to pay to have the animals professionally trapped and removed. Manager Zollers stated the staff would continue to monitor the situation and if the neighbor continued to feed the raccoons he would look to cite them in District Court.

Chris Lovrinic, 53 E. Montgomery Avenue stated he had similar complaints as Mr. Herman but additionally wanted to make the Borough aware of other issues, he stated the house has safety issues, there is a wood stove that when used shots embers on his house and car, the front porch is held up by a car jack. He stated he was told the Borough sent letters but he has not seen any action yet and he is worried about his property when the weather cools down and the resident uses his wood stove. Manager Zollers stated Codes has been out there and the resident has been cited in the past. He stated staff always tries for compliance first before court, as then the issue could be further delayed and end up in red tape. He stated Codes issued a final letter approximately one week ago. Councilman Hegele asked if the Board of Health could assist. Manager Zollers stated if it was renter occupied then yes, but since it is owner occupied they cannot assist. Manager Zollers stated staff has only been outside, we have not been given access to the interior. He will stay on top of this and update Council as needed.

ADJOURNMENT

The September 28th, 2015 meeting of Borough Council was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred "Fred" Zollers
Borough Secretary

Transcribed by Assistant Borough Secretary Diane Hegele