

Borough of Hatboro

Borough Council Committee Meeting

April 11, 2011

7:00 PM

Council Members Present: Marianne Reyrer, President; Nancy Guenst, Vice President; Patricia Fleming, Aleta Ostrander, Bill Tompkins John Zygmont and Mayor Hawkes.

Absent- Councilman LaSorsa,

Also Present: Bill McCauley, Interim Borough Manager; Jim Gardner, Chief of Police; Fred Zollers, Director of Public Works; Jim Dougherty, Borough Engineer; Dave Sander, Borough Solicitor; and Kyle Guie, Codes Clerk.

Call to Order- President Reyrer called this Committee Meeting to order at 7PM.

Mayor Hawkes presented a resolution proclaiming Friday, April 22 Earth Day in the Borough of Hatboro.

Public Safety

Approval of Fire Company Expenditure List

Motion-Councilwoman Guenst; 2nd-Councilman Zygmont

Motion Passes 7 to 0 to approve Fire Company expenditure list for \$8,863.54

Mr. Tompkins asked if the Fire House expansion expenditures are separate. It was noted that Fire House expansion expenditures are separate.

Feasibility Study for Hatboro Police Station

Gene Grimaldi from the Omnia Group architects presented a proposal to conduct a feasibility study for a new Police Station. The study will examine options for a new facility such as rehabilitating and/or expanding the existing facility, or building a new structure on the existing site or a different location. Mr. Grimaldi stated that the feasibility study is a presentation of ideas so that Council can decide the best approach for the community. The proposed cost for the study is \$8,900.00.

Mr. Tomkins questioned status of the CresaPartners feasibility study and Matt Feeney advised that he had been told by the former Borough Manager to drop this study.

Mr. Zygmont questioned a timeline for the study. Mr. Grimaldi noted that study could be completed in two weeks once approved.

Mrs. Zygmont questioned if the money for the renovation is budgeted.

Issue will be voted on at April 25th Council meeting

Nixel Notification System

Mrs. Ostrander gave a description about the current free Nixel System which provides emergency alerts to residents via electronic communications. Nixel will now be charging for most of its services and the Borough will have to see if it can obtain similar services from other systems at no cost.

Mr. Tompkins asked if a Countywide Nixel System is in place.

Mr. Zygmunt mentioned that the County system is not always reliable.

Updates

Mr. Gowen noted that construction at the Fire House has begun. Trenches have been dug, rebar is in place, and sign has been delivered. Overall work is progressing nicely.

Mrs. Ostrander noted an upcoming rabies clinics in the area.

Mrs. Ostrander noted an upcoming got drugs event hosted by Upper Moreland Township.

Mrs. Ostrander thanked all those involved in the recent Hazmat event.

Mr. Tompkins noted Warminster Road detour. Mr. McCauley will look into Borough approval of Warminster Road detour.

Mrs. Ostrander noted issues during First Friday events. The Chief noted that young people have been loitering at various locations. The Chief is working with the Chamber of Commerce in resolving these issues.

Mayor Hawkes noted that no turn on red signs have been installed on Moreland and York Roads.

Administration

Cresa Partners-Wachovia Bank Building Update

Representatives from CresaPartners presented sales materials that they have been handing out to potential buyers. Other efforts have included reaching out to realtors through electronic communications. Several banks in the area have been contacted. No one has been through the property. No one appeared for the open house or the pre bid meeting. CresaPartners will send a Wachovia Bank Building update to Manager McCauley.

DJ Court – Request from Montgomery County to Postpone Construction

Manager McCauley noted that Montgomery County has requested that the Borough postpone the BID of the DJ Court Fit Out project at least until the Fall. The PA Supreme Court has stated an intention to reduce the number of District Court's by 10%. The County has been advised to defer where possible any new lease and/or relocation activity. Montgomery County would like to buy some time to allow the State to determine their direction, so that the County may better implement any guidance from Harrisburg.

Mrs. Guenst asked about a timeline. Manager McCauley noted that the situation should be more clear by the Fall according to Gregory Honeyman.

The Council agreed by consensus to have the Borough Solicitor contact the County regarding the District Court lease agreement. Council will ratify decision to direct the Solicitor to look into the pending lease at the April 25 meeting.

DEP/EPA

Jose Redmond from EPA and Jonathan Lorio from DEP gave a status report concerning test wells. The geophysical tests have been completed. The next step in the process is the packard test. The normal timeframe for a packard test is 21 days. DEP is overseeing pump and treat system. Construction has been complete since 1994. Vapor intrusion was not tested for then. The Packard test will indentify if vapor is moving. If there is a possibility for vapor intrusion, each house will be tested individually with two samples. One test will be performed during the summer and one during winter. The gas in question is trichloroethylene (TCE), which is a carcinogen. Mr. Redmond will be in contact with Manager McCauley with an updated testing timeline. Mr. Redmond will get information to council regarding individual home test kits.

Mr. Zygmunt asked if residents can do their own test. Mr. Redmond said they could, but it would most likely be cost prohibitive for the average homeowner.

Mr. Henry, 238 Bonair, questioned how long it takes get test results. Mr. Redmond said he would get this information to Mr. McCauley.

MuniBid - Report on Auction Results

Mr. Zollers noted the auction resulted in income to the Borough from the sale of surplus vehicles and equipment of \$9,238.98. A list for the next auction is already being generated.

Chief Gardner noted one police car has been approved and being readied for auction.

Resolution Establishing Certain General Municipal Email, Internet, and Other Electronic Communications

Mrs. Reymer presented the resolution which is an addendum to the personnel manual.

Mr. Tompkins questioned the authority of the Borough Manager to oversee policy and if a Council designee should be included in the policy language.

Solicitor Savona will review and address issues with policy prior to next committee meeting.

Mr. Zygmunt asked it the policy discussion can be put on the agenda for the May committee meeting and voted on at the end of May. Mr. Zygmunt also noted that the policy might cause labor contract issues.

Mr. Tompkins noted issues regarding storing and deleting emails and disclaimers on Hatboro emails.

Ordinance Establishing the Interest Rate on Municipal Claims and Delinquent Accounts

Mr. Sanders mentioned that this is a house keeping matter and a smart thing to do. If an interest rate is not stated then the Borough cannot collect interest.

Mr. Zygmunt questioned Mr. Sanders as to the need to establish an ordinance. Mr. Zygmunt asked if it was feasible to create a variable interest rate.

Mr. Tompkins asked about timeline for advertising.

Council requested that Mr. Sanders advertise the ordinance for consideration at the next Council meeting on April 25, 2011 and to set the stated interest rate at 10%.

Finance and Community Relations

Mrs. Reymer noted that on a few occasions the Borough Manager has requested additional hours.

Mr. Tompkins noted that Council should give flexibility to Manager McCauley's schedule.

Mr. Sanders recommended no less than 4 hours per day and no more than 30 hours per week at the direction of the President of Council with any hours over 25 hours per week.

Action will be taken at next Council meeting.

Ms. Fleming gave an update on the Borough Manager search. The position has been advertised locally and statewide with announcement also sent to the Montgomery, Bucks, and Chester County Consortium of Communities. Fourteen candidates have been determined to have met the minimum job qualifications so far. From the 14, Council will select 5 to interview. Mr. McCauley will provide recommendations for who Keystone Municipal Services, Inc would be willing to recommend for the position.

Ms. Fleming mentioned that a fire board position has become available to fill the remainder of the term which expires December 2011.

Parks, Recreation, and Public Facilities Update

Mrs. Guent provided an update

Little League opening night is Friday April 18th and the fence has been installed in the infield. Mr. Tompkins noted that the flag pole has no flag. Mr. McCauley will contact the T-Mobile to get a flag installed.

Miller Meadow planting is underway thanks to a PECO Green Region Grant and work by the Public Works Department. Scouts are welcome to do projects for the meadow.

Memberships for the pool are now for sale. Resumes are now being accepted for pool positions.

The Summer Fun Festival and Carnival will be May 27th to June 4th. Fireworks are scheduled for Friday, June 3rd.

The Union Library Book and Plant Sale is May 7th.

Mrs. Guent would like to develop a community garden at Eaton Park. Mrs. Guent is looking for input to move this project forward.

Mayor Hawkes mentioned the sponsorship of trees.

Bruce Hart, 175 Earl Lane, commented that he felt fence at ballpark was not completely installed. He was assured that the fence was finished.

Mr. Battis inquired about the new tile in pool. Mrs. Guenst said that this project will begin after the pool season. Mr. Battis also commented on dead trees near the pool. Mr. Zollers will inspect.

Zoning, Planning, and Historic Preservation Update

Mr. Tompkins provided the monthly zoning report

Mr. Tompkins provided an update regarding codification. County and Borough planning commission comments have been submitted. Authorization for advertising should be done at the April 25th, Council meeting. Mr. Fugate will forward comments to Council for review. Advertising costs may be up to \$5,000.

Public Works

Mr. Tompkins

Authorization to Advertise 2011 Road Program

Mr. Dougherty provided input of the BID timeline. Authorization to advertise road program will be ratified at April 25th Council meeting. Crosswalks near Jefferson Avenue will not be disturbed. No hard copies of BID packets will be distributed unless determined to be necessary.

Authorization to Advertise Wachovia Parking Lot

Total estimated construction cost for this project is \$185,570.00. Mr. Tompkins addressed his concerns if the project comes in under budget. Mr. Dougherty gave an update on the Wachovia parking lot project. Grant money expires at the end of the year. The proposed improvements will be on the perimeter of the lot as to not disturb the rest of the parking lot. Lights will be a standard black powder coated parking light.

Authorization to Advertise Public Works Roof Replacement

The estimated cost for this work is approximately \$30,000. The Borough Manager will provide a schedule to Council for the April 25, 2011 meeting.

Community and Economic Development

Mr. Zygmunt had no report

Mr. Hart commented on sewer authority construction on Earl Lane. Concerned that trash trucks will not be able to enter street.

There being no further business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00PM.