

BOROUGH OF HATBORO

Borough Council Meeting

August 22nd, 2011

7:00 PM

Council Members Present: Marianne Reymer, President; Nancy Guenst, Vice President; Patricia Fleming, Vincent LaSorsa, Aleta Ostrander, and Bill Tompkins.

Council Members Absent: John Zygmunt and Mayor Hawkes.

Also Present: Steven Plaugher, Borough Manager; Jim Gardner, Chief of Police; Fred Zollers, Director of Public Works; Mike Savona, Borough Solicitor, Jim Dougherty, Borough Engineer; Joe Reading, Deputy Fire Marshal; and Alex Kalnajs, Treasurer.

Call to Order- The meeting was called to order by President Reymer at 7:00 PM.

Invocation- President Reymer stated there would be a moment of silence observed for the Hatboro Horsham students recently killed in a traffic accident.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Borough Council.

TREASURER’S REPORT- Treasurer Kalnajs presented the Treasurer’s report for the month of July and noted the Borough had received \$505 in interest for the past month.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT – President Reymer stated she had nothing to report tonight.

MAYOR’S REPORT- Mayor Hawkes was absent tonight.

MANAGER’S REPORT- Mr. Plaugher reported on several items this month. The former Wendy’s will be a new diner soon. The Montgomery County Small Business Loan program was unveiled at Borough Hall.

Mr. Plaugher stated that PECO has plans for construction on Jefferson Avenue; this will conflict with the Borough paving schedule. He is continuing to work with PECO and the paving contractor.

Mr. Plaugher stated the there has been progress on the Enterprise Fire Company construction site, the stop work order has been lifted on the truss issue.

Mr. Plaugher stated he attended the Hatboro Borough Authority meeting where \$60,000 was awarded to Elm Street Hatboro for playground equipment in Tanner Park. The Borough will be coordinating with Elm Street on the purchase and installation of the new equipment.

Mr. Plaugher reported he is continuing to work with the Council sub-committee on the 2012 operating and capital budget. Department heads are currently submitting their draft budgets. Mr. Plaugher recently attended a budget seminar at Albright College sponsored by the PSAB.

Mr. Plaughter stated the appraisal for the Wachovia building is underway and should be complete in early September. In addition, Request for Proposals (RFP's) went out to five (5) realtors to market the property.

Mr. Plaughter reported the pool tile bid has been advertised and the bid opening is scheduled for September 6th, 2011.

Mr. Plaughter met recently with PECO Government Affairs Representative Suzanne Ryan to discuss paving concerns on South York Road and Jefferson Avenue.

Mr. Plaughter announced Aqua plans construction on East Montgomery Avenue next month. Detours will be in effect from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM daily. Emergency vehicles and local residents will have access.

Mr. Plaughter reported that Allstate Insurance, 124 S. York Road reported water entered their building last week due to heavy rains. Public Works will camera the storm sewer line to determine if a blockage exists.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT- Chief Gardner reported that the 30 day test period for new traffic signals has concluded and all appears in order. Chief Gardner and Councilman Tompkins explained the pedestrian signal operation process and noted it is imported for pedestrians to use the push buttons. New Yield to Pedestrian signage will be installed. A system test on the computer controlling the signals is scheduled for August 20th and training will follow.

Chief Gardner thanked the Fire Police for all their help at the car show.

Chief Gardner announced that the first test of the fire siren for civil defense (tornado) warning will occur on Saturday, September 3rd.

Chief Gardner also stated that fliers were distributed on Penn Street and the immediate area to use extra septa parking in Station Park.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- Mr. Savona had nothing to report this evening.

MAIN STREET REPORT – Mr. Barth reported that there were 30 new businesses in 2011, and 75 new jobs.

Mr. Barth announced that SCORE will be hosting a free business training seminar tomorrow. SCORE plans to come to the Borough on a monthly basis to meet with businesses requesting assistance. Hatboro Federal has been sponsoring the training and providing the room for the training.

Mr. Barth announced that the Montgomery County Small Business Loan Program will be taking applications from businesses seeking loans.

Mr. Barth thanked Brian Mann from OMNIA Group; they donated floor plan designs of the Wachovia Building to assist in marketing the property.

Mr. Barth announced that vintage car groups have asked about a cruise night in Hatboro and they are going to work on getting restaurants in town to expand their dining hours for the dinner market.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Public Works Report – President Reymer noted 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. There was no additional comment.
2. Code Enforcement Report – President Reymer noted the Code Enforcement Report was submitted to Council in advance of tonight’s meeting, and that copies of the Report were available on the sign-in table. There was no additional comment.
3. Fire Marshal Report – President Reymer noted 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. There was no additional comment.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

There were no comments from any member of the public.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Councilperson Ostrander stated she had one item on the agenda; the confirmation of Borough Manager’s approval of Fire Company Construction Project Change Order No. 4 in the amount of \$2,223.00. Nancy Guenst moved and Councilman Tompkins seconded to approve Change Order No. 4 in the amount of \$2,223.00. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6 – 0.

ADMINISTRATION – President Reymer presented the following items:

July 25th, 2011 Council Meeting Minutes – Vice President Guenst motioned to approve the July 25th, 2011 Council Meeting Minutes with amending EPA – Raymark Superfund Site Report section to read TCE, and Wachovia Parking Area Improvement Phase II Bid Award to read there was a motion to award the base bid, a motion to amend to add alternate A and then a final award of the base bid and Alternate A, second by Councilman LaSorsa. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilperson Ostrander abstaining due to not attending meeting.

August 1st, 2011 Capital Budget Meeting – Vice President Guenst motioned to approve the August 1st, 2011 Capital Budget Meeting Minutes, second by Councilman LaSorsa. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 5-0 with Councilperson Ostrander abstaining due to not attending meeting.

August 8th, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes – Vice President Guenst motioned to approve the August 8th, 2011 Committee Meeting Minutes, second by Councilperson Ostrander. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Public Works Hire Confirmation:

Vice President Guent made a motion to confirm the hiring of Gregory Puceta as a Public Works Laborer. Councilman Tompkins questioned the hiring procedure, does he need to be ratified and or confirmed. President Reymer stated this is a contract issue. Councilman Tompkins asked for Solicitor Savona's opinion. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Ostrander. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

FINANCE & COMMUNITY RELATIONS:

Consider Warrant and Manual Check List:

Councilman LaSorsa moved and Vice President Guent seconded to approve the Warrant and Manual Check List. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Consider Payment of Bills and Transfers:

Councilman Tompkins moved and Vice President Guent seconded to approve the payment of bills and transfers. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

PARKS, RECREATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES:

Chamber of Commerce Fee Waiver Request:

Councilperson Ostrander made a motion to approve the waiver request for Hatboro Haunts at Miller Meadow for the period October 15th through November 6th; this includes set-up and break-down. There was a general discussion if the \$500 park rental fee is per day or a flat fee. The intent of the ordinance is that the fee schedule is a daily fee of \$500. The total park rental fee to the Chamber is \$11,500 (23 days x \$500). Councilman Tompkins amended the motion to waive the daily fee entirety. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Fleming. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Ratify Authorization for Pool Tile Bids:

Councilperson Ostrander made a motion to approve the ratification authorizing the pool tile bids. The motion was seconded by Vice President Guent. On the above motion, all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

ZONING, PLANNING & HISTORIC PRESERVATION:

Councilman Tompkins stated he had nothing for his agenda this evening.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Councilman LaSorsa stated he had nothing for his agenda this evening.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Councilman Zygmunt stated he had nothing for his agenda this evening.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Bruce Hart, Earl Lane, liked the idea of the siren test on 9/3, however he lives too far away if window is closed he cannot hear siren. Chief Gardner stated it is not the intent to be heard inside; it is a supplemental warning for persons outside. Residents should monitor radio and tv, this is not a primary warning system. Mr. Hart asked if the north siren was working. Superintendent Zollers stated yes it is working.

Mrs. Lee Phillips, 204 Wood Street stated her guests this summer visited and loved using the Hatboro Pool.

Theresa Mallory and Joe Beaner (non-residents) they are part of a political action committee requesting support of H.R. Bill 1489 in the U.S. Congress. The bill would separate legitimate commercial banking functions from speculative investment functions. They are requesting Borough Council to pass a resolution to support the bill and forward this to Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz.

The August 22nd, 2011 meeting of Borough Council was adjourned at 7:51 PM.