

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

**MINUTES
OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: May 11, 2015

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Members Colella, Dixon, Gibbons, Hannan, Harrison, McLean, Moury and O'Brien

Absent: Council Member Pape

Also Present: Mayor Jack Allen; William J. Spagnol, Manager; Judith L. Miller, Assistant Manager; Irv Firman, Solicitor's Office; Gerard Duke, Director of Community Services, Chief Timothy O'Connor; Joseph VILLELLA, Finance Director; Jean Statler, Municipal/Environmental Engineer Ashley Moore, Municipal Planner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

Executive Session of Council was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 to discuss Police Personnel issues.

Reports of Officials

4. Library Director's Report

Library Director, Christine McIntosh, stated that the Bethel Park Public Library provides services to inform, inspire and enrich the community.

Ms. McIntosh announced upcoming programs. Let's Talk Medical Ethics will take place on Tuesday, May 12th at 7:00 p.m. This program is in conjunction with the annual One Book One Community Program.

On Tuesday, May 19th at 7:00 p.m., a documentary screening of Under the Umbrella Tree, Uganda, Plight of Children will be presented.

On Wednesday, May 27th at 7:00 p.m., Guest Speaker Candice Buchanan, Photo Archivist, will present a program called Identification and Analysis of Old Photographs 1840's – 1940's. She will discuss basic skills to identify photos at home.

On Wednesday May 13, May 20 and May 27, a three part Introduction to Drawing class will take place at 11:30 a.m. with former Pittsburgh Public School's Art Teacher Steve Korpa, who is legally blind and suffers from Macular Degeneration.

The Summer Reading programs begin the first week of June for all age groups.

She announced Bethel Park Community Night at Consol Energy Park. The Washington Wild Things will take on the Frontiers, on Saturday, June 20th at 7:05 p.m. Fifty percent of ticket sales will go to the Library and Recreation Department. Ticket order forms are available at the Recreation office or the Library.

The Library will be closed on Sunday, May 24 and on Monday, May 25 in honor of Memorial Day. The Library will be closed on Sundays throughout the summer through Labor Day.

Ms. McIntosh thanked Susan Dolinar and the Public Works Department for their assistance with the recent book sale. The Library made \$2,500 from the sale and all left over books were donated to Goodwill.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief O'Connor said with upcoming summer picnics, graduation parties and the proms, he urges everyone to not drink and drive when attending these events.

He announced that this is Police Memorial Week. This week was set aside in 1962 by President Kennedy to honor fallen police officers. Friday, May 15th is Police Memorial Day and a brief wreath laying ceremony will take place at noon at the Fallen Officers' Memorial outside the Municipal Building Police entrance. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The next Crime Watch Meeting will be held on Monday, June 1, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. at the Community Center. In addition to the usual format, a guest speaker will be present from the Center for Victims of Violent Crimes to talk about violence and domestic violence. All are urged to attend.

6. Fire Chief's Report

Chief David Gerber gave the fire report for the month of April. Chief Gerber then announced that the Annual Donation request letters have been mailed out. He reminded the community that the donations received aid the fire company with items such as fire trucks, gear and equipment. A new truck and new air packs will be needed in the next few years. Tax monies provided to the fire company go

towards the new building on Brightwood Road and the maintenance of the existing buildings on Clifton Road and Milford Drive.

Chief made mention that there has been conflicting information regarding volunteer fire companies on the news lately and he clarified by stating that Bethel Park has excellent response times. Additionally, the Bethel Park Volunteer Firemen must receive 200 hours of training. Firefighters can attend the fire academy and training that is offered through SHACOG. If anyone has questions regarding fire training, they are urged to contact him.

He said the Fire Company currently has 75 members, of which only 45 are active. Anyone who is interested in becoming a firefighter can contact him or stop by at the Clifton Station. Information is available on their website at www.bethelparkvfc.net

Chief Gerber reported that footers are being poured at the new building site on Brightwood Road. Steel will begin to be erected in July.

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor Allen introduced the newly hired Municipal Planner, Ms. Ashley Moore.

Mayor announced that the Bethel Park Farmers' Market began last week at its new location at St. Thomas More Church upper parking lot. The Farmers' Market takes place every Tuesday from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. from May until September 29, 2015.

Mayor Allen said that the Public Works Department is currently installing the Military Banners along Route 88 and South Park Road. There are 60 new banners this year.

Mayor Allen then introduced Pauletta Beehler of the Cable TV Board. Ms. Beehler displayed the Weber Gas Grill which is their current fundraiser. The grill was donated by Evey Hardware. Tickets are \$1 each and can be purchased at Evey Hardware, the Bethel Park Public Library, the Municipal Reception Desk or at the BPTV Station. The drawing for the grill will take place at the June 8, 2015 Regular Council Meeting. Ms. Beehler said the fundraiser will benefit the Scholarship Fund, in conjunction with the Community Foundation, where scholarship money is available for eligible high school graduates or adults that are community volunteers who would like to further their education. Ms. Beehler said that the Designer Bag Bingo held on May 8th at the Community Center was a success. They sold 118 tickets for the event and made approximately \$3,000. She said they will have other fundraisers coming up this year in order to reach their target amount of \$10,000.

Mayor Allen asked members of Tri Community South Emergency Medical Service to join him. Phil Vargo introduced members of the staff who were present. Mayor read a proclamation for the EMS staff for EMS Week. The theme this year is "EMS: Dedicated for Life". EMS week is from May 17

through May 23. Mr. Vargo said they were recently notified that Tri Community South EMS received the American Heart Association 2015 Mission Life Line Performance Achievement Award.

John Bower said that the EMS Staff has started a campaign on Distracted Driving which is an epidemic in this country. If any group or organization would like them to attend their meeting to present this program, please contact EMS for more information. This program will be presented to students at Bethel Park Schools.

Mr. Harrison said that for the people that rely on the services provided by EMS, as he has been in that position quite a few times, they do a professional, efficient, kind job and we couldn't ask for more. He said he appreciates them and thanks them.

Mayor Allen introduced Charli Donaldson, a second grader at St. Gabriel School and a resident of Bethel Park. She is an excellent student, a Girl Scout and enjoys playing ice hockey for SHAHA. In talking with her, she would tell you about her two dogs, or her latest camping trip with her family, but unless you asked, she would never bring up her success in the pageant world. In August of 2014, Charli was crowned your National American Miss Pennsylvania Princess. She competed against 118 girls in Harrisburg in formal wear presentation, interview and on stage personal introduction to achieve this accomplishment. She progressed to the national pageant in Disneyland over Thanksgiving week and was First Runner Up as well as Fourth Runner Up in the spokes model competition. National American Miss prides itself on community service. Charli has worked with the Bethel Park Library to hold a card drive for Meals on Wheels and is currently holding a card drive to benefit Operation Troop Appreciation. Her community service success has given her the opportunity to meet her local political leaders and even take a trip to Washington D.C. She was also recently appointed by the Miss United States Organization the honor of representing Pennsylvania as Little Miss Pennsylvania United States. Charli tries each day to "touch the heart of the world, and make it smile." Charli currently works with OTA, Operation Troop Appreciation, where they send cards with care packages overseas. At this time, Charli spoke about her mission is to make people smile more. She worked with Meals on Wheels, Race for the Cure and Fallen Officers Remembered

Charli is currently teaming with Mayor Allen and the American Legion with flag placement on the cemetery graves for Memorial Day. Mayor Allen recognized Charli for all the good that she is doing for the community.

8. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2015.

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2015. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

9. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #051115 in the amount of \$988,548.69. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

10. Residents' Comments (non-agenda items only)

Mr. Carl Denson, 2615 Santa Barbara Drive, said he is currently the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission and a resident of Bethel Park for 74 years. He said that he wanted to thank Municipal Council and Mayor for the respect and support that he has received during his service to Bethel Park over the years. He was present on behalf of the Alma Gilliam family and the late Armon Gilliam. A commemorative bronze placard in memory of Mr. Gilliam is in the process of being installed at the basketball court at Miners' Memorial Park in Coverdale. Mr. Denson expressed his gratitude for Council's willingness to install this placard on behalf of Mr. Gilliam, and to further give thanks to John Pape who is the Councilman in Ward 1, and to Paul Henney, Funeral Director. Mr. Pape's recommendation to install this placard helped make it a reality. Mr. Henney contributed by giving his time and donated the finest for it. Mr. Denson said thank you for all the help to make this a reality.

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

11. General Policy and Finance Items

None

Mr. McLean noted that the Home Rule Charter Study Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Everyone is welcome to attend.

12. Citizens' Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

None

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

13. Planning and Zoning Items

Application No. 2015-0087 – Cool Springs Major Subdivision, Baptist Road, Ward 5.

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Hannan to approve Application No. 2015-0087, Cool Spring Major Subdivision, Baptist Road, Ward 5, in accordance with the Municipal Engineer's correspondence dated May 6, 2015. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

14. Resolution – GEDF Grant application – Community Parks Upgrade Project

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the resolution accepting the GEDF Community Parks Upgrade Project Grant. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

15. Ordinance – Amending Zoning Ordinance Defining and Allowing Housing for Seniors.

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to approve the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance modifying the regulations to define and permit housing for seniors as permitted use in the R-4 District and as a conditional use in the C-4 Zoning District, in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated May 7, 2015. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Mr. McLean abstained. Council Member Pape absent.

Mr. Moury asked Mr. Duke to comment on this motion and subsequently the next few items to provide an idea of what Council will be voting on this evening.

Mr. Duke said:

“This item is an application that was filed by a landowner who was seeking to have a definition defined within the zoning code which would specifically have a definition for housing specific for those 55 and older in an apartment type complex. The applicant asked for the use to be permitted in the R-4 and then subsequently R-5 zoning district as a permitted use and then they asked for it to be used as a conditional use for a C-4 office commercial district. The Planning Commission reviewed it and developed and worked with the applicant and the code that is in front of you right now would enact that change in their for the ordinance. The other items, if you want me to talk about them also? We have three other items that are related to another change to the zoning ordinance and that is regarding two cellular towers and antennas. The Council, understanding there has been some changes to the cellular tower industry and also the communication industry since our last ordinance was put together ten years, twelve years ago, now everybody has cell phones and the whole industry has changed where they want to be closer to residents and communities so that for the industry has changed. Council hired Cohen Law Group to work with the Planning Commission to come up with modifications to the codes to basically take it in advance of the changes that are going to be happening with additional towers located within our community to account for that and also to try and work it so that if a tower is going it, they blend in better rather than sticking out. The first item that is going to be under that is actually the ordinances involved with making those changes. The second item is a resolution with establishes where, on what streets it will be permitted as being mainly along the main roads within the right-of-ways and then the third thing is actually setting the fees, the establishment of collecting fees for the permits and also for an annual on going basis of those antennas located within the right-of-ways.”

Mr. McLean said that he wanted to note for the record that he will be abstaining from voting on the Ordinance amending the zoning ordinance for housing for seniors due to the fact that his law firm, his employer, is providing legal services for the proponent of the ordinance.

Mr. Dixon said this is to create special housing allowances for seniors in Bethel Park.

16. Ordinance – Amending Zoning Ordinance with Revisions for Wire Based Communication Facilities and Non-Tower Wireless Communication Facilities

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the amendment to the Zoning Ordinance that modify provisions related to tower based wireless and non-tower wireless communication facilities, in accordance with the Municipal Planner's correspondence dated May 7, 2015. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

17. Resolution – Collection of Fees for Wireless Communication Facilities

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the resolution authorizing the enacting and collection of fees related to the location, placement, construction and maintenance of tower based and non-tower based wireless communication facilities. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

18. Resolution – Map for Identifying Municipal Roadway Classification Network for Wireless Communication Facilities.

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to adopt the resolution accepting a map identifying the Municipal roadway classification network to be used to identify the permitted locations of tower based and non-tower based wireless communication facilities. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

19. Citizens' Comments – Health, Safety and Welfare Items

None

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

20. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

Resolution – Disposition of Records

Motion by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mr. Hannan to adopt the Resolution for the Disposition of public safety records, in accordance with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Society regulation. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Pape absent.

Mr. O'Brien said that at this time he would like to commend Municipal Staff, the Police and Public Works Departments with respect to request for services. Some requests are very involved, some are basic or mundane. Mr. O'Brien has been observing and said in his opinion, this group of people on the Municipal staff treats every service request with utmost importance and respect to our people and he commends them for that. He said if you sit up there and work with the Municipality long enough, many interesting subjects, items, interesting ideas, interesting thoughts and interesting questions come along. He said in watching the staff, every one of them treats these requests with great respect and he is impressed and wants to thank them.

He also stated that this month the flags on the Memorial Plaza are in honor of the Merchant Marines' Birthday. He said that it seems fitting since we recently lost one of our founding members of the Veterans' Memorial Committee, Bill Hoza. Mr. Hoza was a Merchant Marine veteran. He said Bill would be proud and we will miss him.

Mr. O'Brien announced that the Memorial Day Ceremony will take place on Monday, May 25th at 7:50 a.m. This year's guest speaker is our new Police Chief and U.S. Army Veteran Timothy O'Connor. Immediately following the ceremony, at 9:00 a.m., the parade will begin, followed by the service at the cemetery. He urged everyone to come out to honor our veterans on this beautiful day.

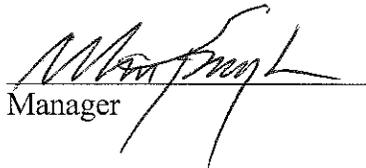
PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

21. Public Works and Maintenance Items

None

22. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:25 P.M.


Manager