

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

**MINUTES
OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: April 10, 2017

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

Present: Council Members Consolmagno, Dixon, Gibbons, Hannan, Harrison, McLean and Moury

Absent: Council Members Colella and O'Brien

Also Present: Mayor Jack Allen; Judith L. Miller, Acting Manager; Solicitor Robert L. McTiernan; Chief Timothy O'Connor; Shawn Arbaugh, Director of Community Services; Joseph Villella, Finance Director; Ashley Moore, Municipal Planner

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Flag Ceremony was performed by Boy Scouts Troop 215, Chartered Organization from Bethel Presbyterian Church.

3. Chair Announcement

An Executive Session of Council was conducted on Monday, March 27, 2017, and on Monday, March 13, 2017, to discuss personnel matters and on Monday, April 10, 2017 to discuss personnel matters.

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 that this is National Library Week, an observance sponsored by the Libraries across the country every April as a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's Libraries and Librarians and to promote library use and support. The Library will have guided tours on Wednesday, April 12th at 2:00 p.m. and again on Thursday, April 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. McIntosh said that the Bethel Park Library patrons are the fourth largest group of downloadable eBook users of the 70 plus library locations in Allegheny County.

Programs currently at the Library are The Cloud Explained, Tuesday, April 18th at 10:00 a.m. Registration is required. Homeschool Day will be held on Thursday, April 20th. Art Class will be held at noon for Grades K-4; Science Class at 1:00 p.m. for Grades 2-4 and Astronomy Class at 2:00 p.m. for Grades 2-5.

An Evening with Dr. Debbie Packler will be held on Thursday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Tickets are available at the library or on their website for \$25 each.

The Library will hold its annual Book Sale with Preview Night on Thursday, April 20th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Admission is \$25. The regular Book Sale will take place Friday and Saturday, April 21 and 22 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Bag Sale will take place on Sunday, April 23rd from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m., \$5 per bag.

The Library will be closed on Sunday, April 16th in honor of the Easter holiday and will reopen on Monday, April 17th at 9:00 a.m. Late fees are not charged on days that the Library is closed.

BPTV will host a Designer Bag Bingo event at the Bethel Park Community Center on Friday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Bethel Park Volunteer Scholarship Fund.

For more information on these and the many other programs and services offered by the Library, visit the Library's web site at bethelparklibrary.org. You can also follow the Library on Facebook or Twitter.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief Timothy O'Connor recognized that the members of the Civil Service Commission, Mr. Carl Denson, Mr. Thomas Will and Ms. Terri Capristo, were in attendance. He thanked them for their work in getting the candidate list together and for all their hard work in the hiring of Police Officers. Chief O'Connor also mentioned Police Officer Robert Meussner for his promotion to the rank of Major with the US Army National Guard.

At this time, Chief O'Connor introduced Police Officer David DiToppa. Officer DiToppa was honored for his apprehension of the bank robber at Brentwood Bank on January 25 of this year. Officer DiToppa was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and given a Citation.

Chief O'Connor acknowledged that members of the Police Department staff, Municipal Staff, the Chief's office and the District Magistrate's office were in attendance to honor Officer DiToppa.

Mr. Moury thanked Officer DiToppa on behalf of the residents for protecting us and said we are very proud that you represent us. He said there was another incident recently in South Park where Bethel Park Police apprehended the suspect.

The next Crime Watch meeting will be held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

You can follow the Police Department news on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

6. Fire Chief's Report

Assistant Fire Chief Bob Brown announced safety tips for the spring with a reminder to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon dioxide detectors. He also reminded everyone to be careful where you store your gasoline approved containers for the lawn mower and to check for leaks and deterioration of the container.

He said to be sure to keep pets and small children away from your gas grills and never leave them unattended. Keep grills away from the house, the greater the distance the better.

Assistant Chief Brown gave the fire report for the month of March.

7. Mayor's Report

Mayor Allen thanked the Boy Scouts Troop 215 for performing the flag ceremony and hopes that more troops will come in to continue this ceremony.

Mayor then read and presented a Certificate of Recognition from the Municipality to Bethel Park Police Officer David DiToppa for his dedication to the community and his heroic act in capturing the bank robber at Brentwood Bank in January.

Mayor announced that we are still looking for groups to participate in Spring Clean Up which will be held on Saturday, April 22nd. Anyone interested in taking part in the cleanup can contact Janet Davin at the Municipal Building for a location and more information. Bags, vests and gloves will be provided.

You can still purchase a Military Banner by coming to the Municipal Building for an application. Deadline to purchase a banner has been extended until April 17th.

The Flower Bed Maintenance Project is underway. Any group or individual who would like to participate can contact Janet at the Municipal Building for additional information. Mulch and flowers will be provided by the Municipality.

Mayor then acknowledged the 1996-97 Bethel Park High School Hockey Team on their 20th anniversary of winning the Pennsylvania AAA State High School Hockey Championship on April 12, 1997 by defeating Malvern Prep by a score of

4 - 3. Bethel Park Hockey had a record of 25-0-1 that season. This championship was the first of five state titles won by Bethel Park Hockey.

He then said that the Municipality is still looking for interested volunteers who would like to participate on the Shade Tree Commission. Please send your resume to the Municipal Manager's office.

8. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2017.

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2017. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

9. Public Hearing – Abatement of Nuisance – 4471-4473 Third Street

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of February 27, 2017, Abatement of Nuisance, 4471-4473 Third Street, Bethel Park, PA, Parcel ID No. 317-F-84. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

10. Special Meeting – Abatement of Nuisance – 4471-4473 Third Street

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2017, Abatement of Nuisance, 4471-4473 Third Street, Bethel Park, PA, Parcel ID No. 317-F-84. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

11. Public Hearing – Application No. 2016-0681 – Bethel Park High School Sign, Conditional Use.

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of February 27, 2017, Application No. 2016-0681, Bethel Park High School Sign, Conditional Use. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

12. Public Hearing – Application No. 2016-0851 – Inter-Municipality Transfer of Liquor License – 4599 Library Road

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of February 27, 2017, Application No. 2016-0851 – Inter-Municipality Transfer of Liquor License, Flaherty and O'Hara, c/o Sheetz, Inc. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

13. Public Hearing – Proposed Zoning Ordinance Modification – Medical Marijuana Facilities

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of February 27, 2017, Proposed Zoning Ordinance Modification – Medical Marijuana Facilities. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O’Brien absent.

14. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. Hannan and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #041017 in the amount of \$1,431,994.37. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O’Brien absent.

15. Residents’ Comments (non-agenda items only)

None

16. Citizens’ Comments – General Policy and Finance Items

None

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

17. General Policy and Finance Items

Employment – Police Officer

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to hire Geoffrey Blasko as a Police Officer for the Bethel Park Police Department, in accordance with Chief O’Connor’s correspondence dated April 5, 2017. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O’Brien absent.

Mr. Moury thanked the Civil Service Commission for the time they spend with candidates, which began almost a year ago, and appreciate the time it takes to establish the list Council receives with recommendations for the hiring of new Police officers.

18. Ordinance – Referendum to Amend the Home Rule Charter

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to approve the Ordinance initiation a Referendum to amend the Home Rule Charter to establish: 1) The time of commencement of Council terms; 2) The date for submittal of the Municipal Capital Budget; 3) The date for submittal of the Preliminary Municipal Budget; and 4) The terms under which the Comprehensive Plan shall be reviewed and updated. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O’Brien absent.

Mr. McLean said that he wanted to explain to everyone that the Ordinance that we are adopting is to place on the November ballot several recommendations that came from the Home Rule Charter Study Commission. These are procedural items, such as the time that the Organizational meeting takes place, also the dates

on which Council receives the budget information from the Finance Director to allow more time for review, and finally the time interval in which the Comprehensive Plan is done by the Planning Commission, from 5 years to 10 years. In order for the Home Rule Charter to be amended, it must be adopted by the voters at an election. The purpose of this ordinance is to place these questions on the ballot so voters can vote either in favor of or against the proposed changes.

Mr. Moury said we'll be talking about these changes over the next several months, but this is the start of the process to place the questions on the ballot in November.

19. Ordinance – Solicitor's Permit Ordinance

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mr. Hannan to approve the Ordinance which amends Ordinance 11-12-90B by providing for solicitation time restrictions and no-solicitation provisions. Motion carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

20. Citizen's Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

None

21. Planning and Zoning Items

Resolution - Application No. 2017-0095 – Transfer of Liquor License Agreement, 4607 Library Road

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. McLean to adopt the Resolution approving the request of Manhattan Concepts, LLC, to transfer a liquor license from Rear 3410 William Penn Highway, Pittsburgh, PA 15235 and used at 4607 Library Road, Bethel Park, PA. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

22. Resolution – Gaming Economic Development Fund (GEDF) Grant – Simmons Park Development Project

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Manager of the Municipality of Bethel Park to file a grant application for a Gaming Economic Development Fund grant to fund improvements to Simmons Park. Motion Carried 7 – 0. Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

23. Brightwood Road and South Park Road Intersection Improvements

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to award the Automated Red Light Enforcement Program traffic signal improvement project at the intersection of Brightwood Road and South Park Road for the base bid in the

amount of \$264,506.21 to Traffic Systems and Services. Motion Carried 7 – 0.
Council Members Colella and O'Brien absent.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

24. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

No Items

Mrs. Gibbons said that a presentation was given by the Game Commission on coyotes at the Community Center. This program will be aired on Channel 7. More information on when the airing will be can be accessed on the Bethel Park website by a link to the presentation.

PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

25. Public Works and Maintenance Items

No Items

Mr. Consolmagno asked Mr. Shawn Arbaugh to briefly explain to the Ward 1 residents the crossing signal work being done by the Port Authority.

Mr. Arbaugh said some improvements are being done to Sarah Street, the Lytle Station intersection and Mesta Street crossing. They are adding audible pedestrian alarms, which are required by the Federal Government, adding signage, notification signs, railroad warning signs and Stop on Red signals. Also, restriping of pedestrian walkways will be done.

26. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:07 P.M.


Assistant Manager