

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

**MINUTES
OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: March 13, 2017

Time: 7:30 P.M.

Location: Municipal Building

1. Roll Call

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

Absent: Council President Moury

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

In the absence of Council President Moury, Vice President Hannan presided as President.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Chair Announcement

An Executive Session of Council was conducted on Monday, February 27, 2017, and on Monday, March 13, 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 began by announcing services and classes. Patron Printing Services are available to everyone. You can print documents from your device. A GPS locator will tell you where the PrinterOn locations are. Your print job will be sent to that location. If you chose to use the library printer at a cost of 15 cents per page, the documents will immediately be available at the Circulation desk.

AARP Tax Aide continues at the Municipal Building on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., through April 11, 2017. This service is for low to middle income individuals with special attention to those over age 60. There are no appointments, it is first come, first served, and you must bring last year's tax return and documents related to your 2016 tax return.

Digital Comics and Graphic Novels will take place on Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. This class will introduce you to a vast e-library of thousands of titles free to access with your library card. Learn hoopla, OverDrive and new Comics Plus.

Fundraising was discussed. Ms. McIntosh said that the recent American Girl Tea Party, which was held on March 12th at the Community Center, was a success. She thanked the staff for their help.

Evening of Messages with a physic will be held at the Community Center on April 27, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 each.

Ms. McIntosh said that Library delays and closings are reported on the local TV stations, WTAE, KDKA and WPXI.

She also reminded everyone that late fees are not charged on days that the Library is closed.

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 O'Connor announced that the Bethel Park Police vs. Pittsburgh Steelers Basketball game will be held on Friday, March 31st at the Bethel Park High School gymnasium. The concession stand will be open and the Historical Society will sponsor a silent auction. Admission is free. Gates open at 6:00 p.m.

Chief Timothy O'Connor recognized two officers for obtaining their advanced degrees. Detective Lance Mattes received a Master's Degree from California University of Pennsylvania and Officer Sean Gorman received a Master's Degree from Penn State. Chief presented each of them with a Certificate of Achievement from the Police Department.

At this time, Chief O'Connor introduced Andy Amrhein of the Merit Award Foundation and three Bethel Park Police Officers that are the recipients of the Annual Bethel Park Police Meritorious Awards. The first place award went to Officer Colby Grubich. Second place award went to Officer Keith Jones. Third place award went to Sergeant David Arnold. The awards include a framed recognition, a monetary gift as well as a gift certificate from Buggy Bath.

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

6. Fire Chief's Report

Assistant Fire Chief Brown said the fire company responded recently to a calls for smell of natural gas. He said that the smells were actually sewer odor from a floor drain. He suggested that you occasionally pour water in your floor drains to eliminate the sewer odor that typically causes this odor.

He then reminded residents that when we change the clocks, we should always remember to replace the batteries in smoke and CO detectors. This could help save lives.

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

7. Judge Ron Arnoni

Judge Arnoni, District Magistrate for Bethel Park and Upper St, Clair, gave a financial report and statistics for the District Court for the fiscal year. He said he would like to do this presentation on an annual basis. All numbers across the board have increased by ten percent. This district court encompasses approximately 60,000 people. The office was audited and it came back perfect.

He said that he and his staff are hopeful to have an agreement in place for a new office in the next two weeks. He thanked Council for the extension on the current lease for his office at the Municipal Building.

Judge Arnoni said that his office has a community service platform. He makes presentations within his district, at the high school and middle school and speaks about drugs and alcohol awareness, and to senior citizens on identity theft and fraud.

He commended the police department for being proactive and keeping up with the high numbers accidents, traffic and traffic control. There is a great deal of distracted driving due to texting and driving. He urges everyone not to text and drive or use your devices when operating your car. The penalties are very high.

Mr. Harrison said Judge Arnoni has a great reputation for helping people and guiding them in the right direction.

Mr. O'Brien thanked the Judge for coming and said that his lease will remain in effect until November 30th.

8. Mayor's Report

Mayor Allen spoke about the Adopt a Flower Bed campaign. He said we have ten beds along Brightwood and all but two or three of them are spoken for. If anyone

wants to adopt a bed, the supplies such as mulch and flowers will be provided by the Municipality.

He announced that Spring Clean Up day is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd. You can call Janet Davin at the Municipal Building for more information before April 14. There are two of these events each year, but if you have an organization that would like to help in between, they can pick up supplies from the Municipality.

Mayor was happy to announce that Bethel Park was again named a Banner Community for the fourth year in a row. Allegheny County will hold a Press Event and Certificate Ceremony of Recognition on Friday, March 31, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. at the Courthouse.

Mayor announced that the Municipality is seeking residents to apply for a position on the Shade Tree Commission, a voluntary board appointed by Municipal Council. This commission is being formed to provide monitoring, maintenance, and reestablishment of the Suburban Canopy in Bethel Park. Established and maintained trees have been proven to not only benefit native wildlife, storm water mitigation, and the urban heat island effect, but also to improve property values. The Commission will hold quarterly meeting, will be responsible for advising Council over the preservation, planting, removal, and inventory of public trees on public property or in a public right of way. Additional responsibilities include reviewing and assisting with solicitation of grants and contributions for volunteer tree planting events. Commission members should simply be excited about helping their community, but knowledge regarding botany or the environment would also be beneficial. Applications will be accepted at the office of the Acting Manager Judith Miller until March 22, 2017.

9. Approval of Minutes

Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2017.

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 13, 2017. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

10. Bills and Payrolls

Motion by Mr. McLean and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to approve the Bills and Payrolls for the Municipality per Bill List #031317 in the amount of \$838,886.79. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

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

None

GENERAL POLICY AND FINANCE

12. General Policy and Finance Items

No Items

Mr. Harrison acknowledged two young Scouts from Troop 215 in attendance at the Council Meeting. He encouraged them to stick to the program, continue on and work hard to achieve the level of Eagle Scout as this service and knowledge will serve them well for the rest of their lives.

PLANNING AND ZONING ITEMS

13. Citizen's Comments – Planning and Zoning Items

None

14. Planning and Zoning Items

Application No. 2016-0681 – Bethel Park High School Sign, Conditional Use, 309 Church Road

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to approve Application No. 2016-0681 – Bethel Park High School Sign, Conditional Use, 309 Church Road. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

15. Resolution – Application No. 2016-0851 -Transfer of Liquor License Agreement, 4599 Library Road (Sheetz)

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the resolution approving the request of Sheetz, Inc., for the Transfer of Liquor License R-10466 from the Borough of Rankin, to be used at facilities located at 4599 Library Road, Bethel Park, PA. Motion Carried 7 – 1. Dissenting vote was by Mr. Colella. Council Member Moury absent.

Mr. Harrison said:

“At the Public Hearing, there were citizens here who spoke to the problem of the noise that’s generated by people sort of partying in the parking lot there and Mr. O’Brien pointed out that Sheetz, at another location, had employed a guard to control that type activity and it was turned over to the Police Chief to look into it and see what we could do to help the citizens with controlling that type of service. So I would just like to ask the Chief to report on what’s happened since then.”

Chief O’Connor said:

“Mr. Harrison, I’ve been in contact with Mr. Mark Kozar, he is the attorney who is representing Sheetz on this issue. We asked for two things. We asked that Sheetz post No Loitering signs around the property. Mr. Kozar has informed me

that Sheetz has agreed to that. To that point, they will post the No Loitering signs. We also asked them to consider having on-site security guards. We gave Sheetz a list of our calls to their property in 2016. There were 77 calls that we responded to down there of various nature. They are reviewing that right now and they will make a determination later whether they will actually hire security guards or not.”

Mr. Harrison said:

“Let me ask the question, those No Loitering signs, are we able to cite people if they disrespect that type of posting?”

Chief O’Connor said:

“Yes. If it’s posted, we’ll be able to cite them and we would also need someone from Sheetz management on the property, if we went to a hearing, that would have to appear as a victim and say, yes, these people did not belong on the property. It would be helpful to have those signs, though.”

Mr. Harrison said:

“Okay, thank you very much.”

Stan Wolowski, Attorney for Flaherty and O’Hara said:

“I’m Stan Wolowski. I’m from Flaherty and O’Hara. I’m Mr. Kozar’s colleague. He couldn’t make it here tonight so he asked me. Just once again emphasis Sheetz does realize the issues, with the No Loitering signs and the request they have security guards up there Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights and would address some of the concerns because I think we told Chief we’re definitely going to put the No Loitering signs up. We understand, once those No Loitering signs come up then we can call the Police. The Police can then get involved and we will cooperate and work here. And also Sheetz internal security is seriously considering and reviewing your request for security guards on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. That’s something that they are, as I said, seriously considering. I just wanted to come here to show you that Sheetz understands your concerns and wanted to tell you, yes, we definitely want to work with you and the Chief so that things there are safe and that the neighbors are not disturbed in any way.”

16. Resolution – New Traffic Signal – Brightwood Road and South Park Road Intersection

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the resolution authorizing the appropriate Municipal officials to submit an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Automated Red Light Enforcement Program for the new traffic signal located at the intersection of Brightwood Road and South Park Road. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

17. Resolution – Grant Acceptance – Municipal Building Renovation (Police Firing Range)

Motion by Mr. Dixon and seconded by Mr. Colella to adopt the resolution authorizing the accepting of grant funds through the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County Gaming Economic Development Fund grant and executing of the necessary contract documents for the Municipal Building Renovation Project. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE ITEMS

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

None

19. Health, Safety and Welfare Items

Resolution – Disposition of Records

Motion by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Mrs. Gibbons to adopt the resolution for the disposition of public safety records, in accordance with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Society regulations. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

Mr. O'Brien said that for the month of March, flags of the Irish Brigade and two Civil War Battle Flags are currently on display at the Veterans' Memorial Plaza.

Mr. O'Brien said that Mr. William Spagnol is not here tonight. He retired. He said Bill is a wonderful man and great friend. A man of impeccable character and a hometown boy, born in Bethel Park. Mr. O'Brien spoke of Bill's dad who was a veteran who was at the Battle of the Bulge and a brave American. He said he found Bill to be humble, intelligent, patient, honest and fair, a very respectful man. He had an eye to detail, to duty, honor and country and he may have gotten that from his parents. Bill enjoyed serving and helping the people of Bethel Park. He always looked for a way to help people with a fairness to all within the laws of the Municipality. He never wavered from that principal. He said he learned so much from Bill over twenty-six years on Council and is very grateful for his help and is proud to call him a friend. Bill helped through good times and bad, through great accomplishments and lean patches, always using the same skills he brought to the table every day in his thirty years with Bethel Park. Mr. O'Brien thanked him for thirty years of wonderful service and wished him good health, happiness and joy.

PUBLIC WORKS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

20. Citizens' Comments – Public Works and Maintenance Items

None

21. Public Works and Maintenance Items

2017 Road Program

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. McLean to award the 2017 Road Program Contract to Mele & Mele & Sons, Inc., for the low bid amount of \$1,904,057.53, in accordance with the Community Services Director's correspondence dated March 10, 2017. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

22. 2017 Crack Sealing Contract

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. O'Brien to award the 2017 Crack Sealing Contract to Matcon Diamond, Inc., for the low bid amount of \$61,950.00 in accordance with the Community Services Director's correspondence dated March 10, 2017. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

23. Cherry Street Storm Sewer Replacement Project – Phase II

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. McLean to accept the bid award by SHACOG to the low bidder, Independent Enterprises, Inc., for \$43,449.50 for the Cherry Street Storm Sewer Replacement Project – Phase II, in accordance with the Community Services Director's correspondence dated February 27, 2017. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

24. Industrial Park Storm Water Management Proposal

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. McLean to approve the Storm Water Management Study proposal from Gateway Engineers in the amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, in accordance with the Community Services Director's correspondence dated March 9, 2017. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

25. Allegheny County Memorandum of Understanding

Motion by Mrs. Gibbons and seconded by Mr. McLean to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Allegheny County Conservation District to formalize our interactions with respect to MS4 programs, as well as related programs, in accordance with the Community Services Director's correspondence dated March 9, 2017. Motion Carried 8 – 0. Council Member Moury absent.

Mr. Consolmagno thanked Mr. Bob McCormick for arranging a Community Gathering on Saturday, March 4, 2017. Bob is President of the Community Coalition and he arranged the gathering for the Ward 1 residents. He said it was a nice turn out and appreciated everyone coming out and assessing some of the concerns in Ward 1. Mr. Consolmagno thanked Council President Moury and Community Services Director Shawn Arbaugh for attending to help answer questions from the residents of Ward 1 and open up government to the people.

26. Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn at 8:21 P.M.


Acting Manager