MINUTES

**FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING HELD JULY 15, 2019**

PRESENT: Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor; Andrew C. Bennett, President; Thomas A. Karet, Harrison S. Lauer, Frederick C. Leech, Ann R. Meyer, James M. Royston, Jay S. Troutman, Councilmembers; A. Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; Gary J. Koehler, Manager; Joy A. Hardt, Treasurer; Jeanine A. Mancuso, Asst. Finance Director; Dana A. Abate, Borough Secretary.

Mr. Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the June 17, 2019 meeting were approved. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bond Issue Update

Richard Meyer was present and reviewed the process and results of the Borough bond issue released last week. He stated that the Borough staff and PNC did a remarkable job getting the bond issue together in a short period of time. Mr. Meyer indicated that he feels that the Borough obtained great rates on the bonds.

CONTRACTS

Sewer Lining

It was moved by Mr. Troutman to award the 2019 sewer lining contract to Insight Pipe Contracting, LLC via CoStars Contract No. 16 at a total cost of $248,473.64. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

VISITORS

Mandy Steele appeared before Council and presented them and staff with a copy of an aerial photo of a portion of the Hardie property from the Allegheny County website pointing out a narrow strip of the property that abuts a resident’s property who is not favorable to public park use. She wanted to make the Borough aware.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The following applications were reviewed by the EAC at its June 10, 2019 meeting:

EAC Application 19-03: Jeremy Shapira & David Gilinsky

11 Fairview Manor

Demolition of an Existing Single-Family Dwelling and Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling

EAC Application 19-04: Jeremy Cohen & Rebecca Witt

409 Fox Chapel Road

Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling

EAC Application 19-05: Jeffrey R. Paul & Christi Tantalo

145 North Drive

Demolition of an Existing Single-Family Dwelling/ Construction of a New Single-Family Dwelling

Mr. Troutman reported that since the home was being razed at 11 Fairview Manor, he asked Mr. Shapira if he would consider donating the plantings from the landscape and items from the interior of the home. Mr. Shapira agreed, and Mr. Troutman stated that most of the plantings and the kitchen and other interior items have been removed. Local garden clubs will benefit from the plantings and items from the interior of the home will go to those in need. Mr. Troutman stated that in the future he will continue to ask EAC applicants to repurpose items before razing the residence. Council thanked Mr. Troutman for his efforts.

Regarding Application No. 19-05, Mr. Troutman reported that upon a site visit following the July EAC meeting between Peggy Jayme and the homeowner, Tree Nos. 5, 6 and 24 will not be removed.

It was moved by Mr. Troutman that Application Nos. 19-03, 19-04 and 19-05 be approved subject to any conditions imposed by the EAC. The motion was duly seconded and passed with Mr. Karet abstaining from voting on Application 19-03 due to Mr. Shapira being family.

FINANCIAL

It was moved by Mr. Troutman to advance $885,000.00 from the Squaw Run Interceptor Fund to the Land Fund to purchase the Hardie property. The advance will be repaid with interest from the Parks Fund as contributions are received. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Computer Software

The Finance Director informed Council of a new computer software program the Borough purchased that will streamline costing of labor contract proposals that can be integrated in the current financial software. The Assistant Finance Director talked about a new module that will be added to our current accounting software to streamline our bill payment and approval process.

Payment of Bills

It was moved by Mr. Troutman that the bills for June 2019 (General Fund Vouchers 24845-24936 - $349,348.63) be approved for payment. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Notice of Taking

Council was informed that O’Hara Township is having difficulty obtaining an easement from Dr. & Mrs. John Moossy, 1600 Powers Run Road, for the sewer line replacement project along Powers Run Road. The Moossys are seeking $10,000 compensation for the easement. The Solicitor reported that the Borough is required to offer “just compensation” before condemning. Mrs. Meyer stated that she feels it is unfair that some property owners have signed easement agreements with no financial benefit while others are offered money to sign if they hold out. The Solicitor stated that the Borough is required by Eminent Domain Code to offer compensation.

Following discussion, it was moved by Mr. Troutman to authorize the Borough Solicitor to make an offer to the Moossy’s based on the Manager’s compensation calculation for the sewer easement and proceed with eminent domain if offer not accepted, said offer not to exceed $1,500. The motion was duly seconded with Mrs. Meyer voting nay because she feels that no compensation should be offered.

Winter Maintenance Agreement – Allegheny County

It was moved by Mr. Karet that the 3-year Maintenance Agreement between the Borough and Allegheny County for Delafield and Fox Chapel Roads be approved. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

At 6:50 PM, Borough Council adjourned into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter. At 7:00 PM, the meeting was reconvened.

It was moved by Mr. Lauer to amend the motion regarding the compensation offer to the Moossys from $1,500 to $750. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mr. Royston to approve the Hill ‘n Dale agreement and authorize the Borough Manager to sign. The motion was duly seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

DANA A. ABATE

Borough Secretary