



FOX CHAPEL
BOROUGH

MINUTES
FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 20, 2023

PRESENT: Andrew C. Bennett, Council President; Harrison S. Lauer, Bradley D. Harrison, Sarah Hanna, Frederick C. Leech, Elizabeth Monroe, Councilmembers; Gary J. Koehler, Borough Manager; Michael Stevens, Police Chief; Jeanine A. Mancuso, Treasurer; Larry Kurpakus, Public Works Director; Shawn M. Peterson, Borough Secretary

ALSO PRESENT: Logan Dressman, Bree Murphy Junior Council Members; Austin Henry, EAC Chairperson; Wesley Posvar, Park Commission Chairperson; Jim Pashek, Pashek +MTR; Michael Pohl, Emergency Management Coordinator Deputy; Melinda Guinn, resident; Robert Heister, Amanda Rampone, Eva Malecki, James and Martha Wasik, Woodland Farms Road residents; five other attendees

VIA ZOOM: Walter A. Scott, III, Mayor; A. Bruce Bowden, Solicitor; Nanette Bennett, EAC Member; three other attendees

ABSENT: Thomas Karet, Councilmember

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

MINUTES

Mr. Lauer moved that the December 19, 2022, meeting minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Bennett recognized the efforts of the Fox Chapel Parks Conservancy, especially Marcia Haberman, for their successful Fire and Ice event held on January 28, 2023, at McCahill Park. The event raised approximately \$25,000.

RESIDENT COMMENTS

Melinda Guinn, 107 Haverford Road, discussed that Pennsylvania would recognize Native Species Day (Thursday, May 18, 2023) and asked if the Borough would also recognize this day. She would like to volunteer to organize a Walk and Talk event to discuss native and invasive species and have a tree giveaway sponsored by the 10-Million Trees for PA Program.

Mr. Bennett asked that Ms. Guinn coordinate the event with Wesley Posvar, Chairperson for the Park Commission.

Ms. Guinn also wanted to know if there was a way the Borough could work locally with the residents to address the elimination of invasive species from properties. She asked if a program could be established where if someone recognizes an invasive species on residential property, a postcard could be sent to the resident on how to remove the invasive species from their property safely and why this is important.

Mr. Bennett asked Ms. Guinn to work with Mr. Posvar and the Park Commission. Mr. Posvar suggested that Ms. Guinn coordinates with the Borough Secretary to get information in the spring newsletter regarding this issue.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Resolution No. 681 – Amending the Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations

Chief Stevens summarized the changes made to the Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations from the counsel of Campbell Durrant, P.C. The updated regulations meet current requirements for labor laws and the hiring process.

Ms. Monroe moved to adopt Resolution No. 681, approving certain changes to the Rules and Regulations of the Borough of Fox Chapel Civil Service Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed by a unanimous vote.

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Public Notice for a Patrol Officer Position

Mr. Lauer moved to approve the public notice advertisement for a patrol officer position. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed by a unanimous vote.

Administration of a Written Examination for a Patrol Officer Position

Ms. Hanna moved to designate Police Consulting Services as the administrator of the written examination for the patrol officer position. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed by a unanimous vote.

Alternate Delegate

Mr. Bennett moved to appoint Frederick C. Leech as the alternate delegate of the Civil Service Commission as recommended by the Civil Service Commission. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed by a unanimous vote.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Austin Henry, the Chairperson for the EAC, summarized Environmental Disturbance Application 23-03 for the Pittsburgh Field Club as submitted by PVE for constructing a pickleball facility. From a stormwater perspective, Mr. Henry stated this is an advantage for the Borough as the design will reduce the impervious surface by 1,300 feet, and installing a well-designed stormwater detention facility will control the runoff. Mr. Henry also stated the Club is removing three trees (2 deciduous and one evergreen) and replanting seventeen trees (1 deciduous and 16 evergreens).

Mr. Lauer moved to approve Environmental Disturbance Application 23-03, Pittsburgh Field Club construction of a pickleball facility, contingent upon the EAC recommendation and the Borough Engineer's approval of the retaining wall design. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed by a unanimous vote.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Red Dot Sights (RDS) for Duty Pistols Policy

Chief Stevens summarized the Red Dot Sights for Duty Pistols Policy and stated the red dot sights improve accuracy for the officers, and from a liability standpoint, having this system is a great advantage. He also noted the policy follows all guidelines for training and the use of the red dot sight.

Mr. Leech moved to adopt the Red Dot Sights (RDS) for Duty Pistols Policy as recommended by Chief Stevens. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. Kurpakus said that the Public Works Department is ahead of schedule on the road program stormwater work for the Borough as the winter has been mild. He is hopeful the Borough will release the Road Paving bid soon, with a possible start in May.

TREASURER REPORT

Ms. Mancuso stated the audit would begin this week and last a week. She also said the Borough received \$25,000 in grant money for the Police body-worn and in-car cameras.

Ratification of Payments – December 2022 & January 2023

Ms. Monroe moved that the payment of bills for December 2022 (General Fund Vouchers 3174 - 3407, \$913,261.49) be ratified. Mr. Leech seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Leech abstaining from the LeechTichman invoices due to a potential conflict of interest.

Ms. Monroe moved that the payment of bills for January 2023 (General Fund Vouchers 3408 - 3527, \$971,809.13) be ratified. Mr. Leech seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Leech abstaining from the LeechTichman invoices due to a potential conflict of interest.

CONTRACT AWARDS

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Mr. Lauer moved to approve the contract for Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation with CIPP Liner – off Fox Chapel Road to Insight Pipe Contracting via CoStar Contract No. 016, at \$304,948.40. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harrison and passed by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the Fuel Contract for the purchase of 87 Octane and B2 Diesel for March 1, 2023, through February 29, 2024, with the option to extend the contract for an additional year to Reed Oil Company. The motion was seconded by Ms. Hanna and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Leech moved to approve Contract No. 23-R02 Roadside Improvements- Guiderail to Green Acres Contracting Co, Inc., in the amount of \$40,075. This motion also includes the add alternate for \$10,700. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lauer and passed by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the contract for a Titan Leaf Pro Plus machine from Golden Equipment Co. for \$93,500 via CoStars Contract No. 025-E22-402. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lauer and passed by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Joint Comprehensive Plan

Jim Pashek of Pashek +MTR summarized the current activities, major findings from public outreach, and what happens next with the Joint Comprehensive Plan.

Resolution No. 683 – Adoption of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Chief Stevens summarized the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for the Borough of Fox Chapel. On behalf of the Borough and Council, Mr. Bennett thanked Michael Pohl and Randy Scott, Emergency Management Coordinator Deputies, and Chief Stevens for their hard work creating the EOP.

Mr. Leech moved to adopt Resolution No. 683, Adoption of the Emergency Operations Plan for the Borough of Fox Chapel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lauer and passed by a unanimous vote.

Renaming a Portion of Woodland Farms Road to Woodland Farms Court

Mr. Lauer moved to adopt the road name change for addresses 200, 210, 211, 220, 227, and 230 Woodland Farms Road to Woodland Farms Court. Mr. Leech seconded the motion. Discussion of the motion ensued.

Chief Stevens and Mr. Koehler summarized the public safety reasons for the need for change.

Residents of Woodland Farms Road attended to discuss their disagreement with the Borough's proposal to change the road's name and house numbers per the National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Standards.

Mr. Bennett asked Mr. Bowden if the Borough is legally exposed if the Borough chooses to take no action on the matter. Mr. Bowden confirmed that the Borough could be liable if an emergency occurred and first responders could not find an address as the Borough is aware of the addressing issues on Woodland Farms Road.

Mr. Bennett stated the Borough Council has a responsibility to the residents regarding safety.

Eva Malecki, 75 Woodland Farms Road, said there should be a way to update the Law Enforcement Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System to give real-time voice directions to first responders. As Ms. Malecki has a background in engineering, Mr. Bennett asked if she would use her experience to see if there is a way to make her suggestion a reality.

Mr. Bennett also asked Mr. Koehler and Chief Stevens to look at the other high-priority roads in the Borough that are recommended to be changed based on public safety to see if these issues are similar to the ones faced with Woodland Farms Road.

Council agreed to table the renaming of 200, 210, 211, 220, 227, and 230 Woodland Farms Road to Woodland Farms Court until the requested information is received and Ms. Malecki has had an opportunity to look into the CAD System.

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Public Works Department Contract

Ms. Monroe moved to approve the Public Works Contract for 2023, 2024, and 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Leech and passed by a unanimous vote. Mr. Bennett thanked Ms. Monroe, Mr. Leech, and Mr. Karet for their efforts on the negotiating team.

Resolution No. 682- Authorizing the Destruction of Certain Borough Records

Mr. Lauer moved to adopt Resolution No. 682, authorizing the destruction of certain Borough records per the Municipal Records Manual. The motion was seconded by Ms. Monroe and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Bennett congratulated the Borough on being designated a 2023 Banner Community.

There being no other business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 PM.

SHAWN MARIE PETERSON
Borough Secretary