

**EPHRATA BOROUGH COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 14, 2018**

The regular Ephrata Borough Council meeting was called to order by President Susan Rowe at 7:00 PM on February 12, 2018, in the Council Chambers of the Borough Office, 124 South State Street.

Pastor Rocky Hambrick, Grace Point Church of the Nazarene, offered the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance in addition to the President were Vice President Thomas Reinhold, President Pro Tem Melvin Weiler, and Council Members Timothy Barr, Linda Martin, Victor Richard, Gregory Zimmerman, and Mayor Ralph Mowen. Council Member Ricky Ressler was not in attendance.

Also in attendance were Borough Manager D. Robert Thompson, Police Chief William Harvey, Recording Secretary Stephanie Fasnacht, and Borough Solicitor James R. McManus, III, Esq.

The following visitors were present:

The Gregson's, 885 N. Maple St., Ephrata
Rocky Hambrick, 82 Bloomfield Dr., Ephrata
Tim Auker, 542 N. State St., Ephrata
Tina Thompson, 872 Fairview Ave., Ephrata
Kelly Withum, Ephrata Development Organization

PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL POLICE WEEK – MAY 13-19, 2018

Mayor Mowen read a proclamation proclaiming May 13-19, 2018, as National Police Week and Tuesday, May 15, 2018, as Peace Officers Memorial Day in honor of those peace officers who, through their courageous deeds, have lost their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were no comments or remarks from attendees.

It was moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Ms. Martin, and unanimously passed that Borough Council approve the April 2, 2018, Work Session Minutes, and the April 9, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes.

MUNICIPAL MOMENT – SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PAUL MOORE

SRO Moore opened his presentation by thanking Borough Council for their ongoing support and stated he is proud to be able to serve in this role. SRO Moore further advised that his role is broken into three key pieces: (1) Presenter and Trainer; (2) Law Enforcement; and (3) Mentor. SRO Moore provided examples on how he serves in each of those areas.

SRO Moore stated that he conducted Bus Driver Training teaching bus drivers how to respond in various scenarios, i.e., a violent event, an intruder and accidents. SRO Moore advised that all bus drivers/aides and crossing guards are now trained to administer an EpiPen if needed. SRO Moore advised of the following types of training he conducted with school administrators, staff and/or students: Escape, Embrace, Engage monthly training; cyber safety; Life, Ready, Graduate program; sexting and the law. Additionally, SRO Moore advised he has conducted training sessions for parents regarding online safety for their children and what to look out for.

SRO Moore provided an overview of his Law Enforcement role citing such examples as Tips 411, an anonymous source for individuals to provide tips; working with the Lancaster County DA's Office regarding truancy and offering opportunities for both children and their parents to assist to resolve issue(s) as to why the child is not attending school; drug awareness programs, as well as investigating crimes occurring on school property.

SRO Moore stated he also serves as a liaison for other police departments and/or agencies to meet with the children in the district. SRO Moore advised he works with WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital regarding mental health issues, as well as leading crisis teams providing various scenarios to work through in case of a mental health emergency situation.

SRO Moore discussed the safety of the children while they are in school, further relating that evacuation practices are completed as well as age-appropriate scenarios being "played out" to teach the children how to handle different situations. SRO Moore advised that he is currently

looking into the possibility of placing secondary locks on classroom doors as another way for the students to be safer in a possible violent situation. Additionally, SRO Moore advised that the Ephrata Police Department is working with both Akron Police and Northern Lancaster County Regional Police enabling them access to schools within our area. SRO Moore stated that these two police departments would be the first to respond to assist if there would be an emergency situation and by them becoming familiar with the buildings and having access to each of our schools will truly be an asset in assisting the Ephrata Police Department.

After a brief question and answer period, Chief Harvey informed Borough Council that the Lancaster County DA's Office has a tactical team in place to look at every school in the County and he is very proud to advise that Ephrata has been named one of the best as far as how we handle the ongoing training of administrators, staff and students. Chief Harvey advised he is extremely proud of SRO Moore's efforts.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Ms. Withum, Ephrata Development Organization, expressed her excitement with her new role, further stating that Ephrata has a lot of great assets including the many individuals who are eager to help. Ms. Martin welcomed Ms. Withum and expressed her excitement to have her here and is looking forward to things to come.

It was moved by Mr. Reinhold, seconded by Ms. Martin, and unanimously passed that the public comment section of the meeting be closed until the end of tonight's agenda.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

It was moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Mr. Weiler, and unanimously passed to approve Acceptance of Reports consisting of the following documents:

Highway Committee

The Highway Committee met on Monday, April 23, 2018 and discussed the following:

1. The Committee reviewed the results of Bid #18-6 Old Mill Road Improvements and will recommend that Borough Council award the bid to apparent low bidder: New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. from Ephrata, PA in the total bid amount of \$190,915.79 as part of the Consent Agenda at their May 14, 2018 meeting.
2. The Committee reviewed the requests from the Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc. per their letter dated March 26, 2018 to conduct activities associated with the 100th Ephrata Fair from September 23rd through September 29th, 2018. The Committee will recommend that Borough Council conditionally approve the requests subject to Borough receipt of a PennDOT issued Special Events Permit with the Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc. as Applicant as part of the consent agenda at their May 14, 2018 meeting.
3. The Committee reviewed a notification letter dated March 23, 2018 from Richard L. Stauffer, President of Property Investing and Management (PIM) advising the Borough, as a host municipality, that PIM is in the process of submitting an application for grant funding to PennDOT's Multimodal Transportation Fund program to complete transportation improvements associated with PIM's proposed Ephrata Crossing development located in Ephrata Township. No further action required at this time.
4. The Committee heard from a concerned citizen regarding parking on East Franklin Street. The concern is that U.S. Post Office employees are parking their personal vehicles along East Franklin Street preventing residents from parking in front of their homes and at times forcing residents to park a considerable distance from their homes. This occurs 7 days a week during various hours the Post Office maintains operation. The Committee asked staff to send a letter to the Ephrata Postmaster advising of the situation and request that alternate parking be sought for postal employees in existing parking lots such as the Brossman Health Pavilion, Brossman Building Complex parking garage, and the Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot. No further action required at this time.
5. Engineering Project Manager David Burkholder updated the Committee on progress to improve pedestrian visibility at the three mid-block crossings in the CBD. Discussions with Electric Division personnel regarding implementing a broadcast spot light replacing certain existing street lights in the mid-block crossing areas will be researched with alternate lighting suggested along with crosswalk pavement markings replacement and enhancement is expected to provide a cost-effective solution to the problem. No further action at this time.

Municipal Enterprises Committee

The Municipal Enterprises Committee met on April 16, 2018 and discussed the following:

1. Director of Operations, Thomas Natarian reviewed the monthly report from Turning Point Energy (TPE) for the Solar Project. In the past month the focus was upon the PPL application and land development activities. TPE reports that they are in negotiations with a potential EPC contractor. Plans for the Borough owned distribution line are on schedule and the overall project is on schedule. No action is required by the Committee.
2. Borough Manager, D. Robert Thompson updated the Committee on the status of PA House Bill 2030. Although narrowly focused to target only Elwood City, HB 2030 would set a precedent that would be detrimental for all public power providers in Pennsylvania. In spite of efforts to oppose the bill, it was passed by the PA House and will be sent to the Senate. PMEA will be working with lobbyists, AMP, PMEA members, and Ellwood City to oppose the bill when it reaches the Senate. No action is required by the Committee.
3. Mr. Natarian and Mr. Thompson updated the Committee on the UGI Get Gas Project. Staff has met with UGI to review plans for the proposed gas expansion project. UGI intends to install a gas main in Main Street from Pine Street to Queen Street. Staff is working with UGI to define the street restoration process. It is expected that Main Street will be impacted for up to 10 years throughout the build out. UGI has stated that they expect construction to begin in the Summer of 2018 – a schedule that Staff believes is aggressive.
4. Superintendent of Public Works and Water, Paul Swangren reviewed a Stormwater presentation that he has prepared for the Highland Elementary School. Education is an essential element of the Borough's MS4 program. Creating awareness is another element of the MS4 program. In support of the awareness initiative, Mr. Swangren demonstrated one of two interactive "plinko boards" which were designed to reinforce the "Only Rain in the Drain" MS4 slogan and will be displayed at Borough Hall and at other events throughout the Borough in 2018.
5. The Committee discussed a letter to the editor published in the Ephrata Review entitled "Enough is Enough". The article makes several claims regarding the Electric Division that Staff believes are inaccurate. After much discussion, the Committee members took no formal action and will await a future opportunity, in a forum acceptable to the Committee, to respond to the content of the article.

Special Projects Committee

The Special Projects Committee met on April 23, 2018 at 7:30 pm and discussed the following:

1. Borough Manager Thompson reviewed the updated draft ordinance which incorporates the committee's comments from the March 26, 2018 meeting. The committee is satisfied with the updated ordinance and has requested that the ordinance be released to the rest of Council and the Mayor for final comments to be discussed at the May 28, 2018 committee meeting with the expectation of enacting the ordinance at the June 11, 2018 voting session. In addition the staff will prepare a Special Events application form, review it with the Chief of Police and discuss it with the committee at their May 28, 2018 meeting.
2. Borough Manager Thompson reviewed the updated Mobile Food Vendor draft ordinance with the committee. The committee is satisfied with the updated ordinance and has requested that the ordinance be released to the rest of Council and the Mayor for final comments to be discussed at the May 28, 2018 committee meeting with the expectation of enacting the ordinance at the June 11, 2018 voting session.
3. Chairman Zimmerman asked about the whereabouts of the former gateway sign as you enter the Borough on SR 272 from the south. He stated that he would like to see the gateway sign re-erected in time for the 100th anniversary of the Ephrata Fair. He asked if it could be installed in the island at the fork in the road separating SR 272 and S. State Street. Mr. Thompson indicated he would perform research to locate the former sign and determine what needs to be completed in order to re-erect the sign. He will report on his findings at the next committee meeting.

April 2018 General Ledger Report

Ephrata Pioneer Fire Company April 2018 Report

Lincoln Fire Company April 2018 Report

Ephrata Community Ambulance Association April 2018 Report

Ephrata Emergency Management April 2018 Report

Shade Tree Commission April 2018 Meeting Minutes
 Ephrata Development Organization March and April 2018 Meeting Minutes
 Ephrata Alliance April 2018 Meeting Minutes

1st Quarter Financials, Police, Electric Division, Inspection/Codes, Wastewater Treatment Division, Public Works Division, Water Division, Sanitation, Ephrata Public Library, Ephrata Recreation Center

EEDC January 2018 Meeting Minutes
 EPAC Quarterly Report
 Historical Society of the Cocalico Valley Quarterly Report
 Mayor's Revenue Report

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

Consent Agenda

Mr. Reinhold advised the items on tonight's consent agenda have been discussed in detail at their respective committee meetings and were brought forward for additional discussion at last week's Work Session. These items are considered routine in nature and voted upon under one umbrella. These items are not open for discussion unless an individual or Council Member wishes to have the item removed from the consent agenda. If an item is removed it will be handed over to the Committee under which it was originally discussed during the standing committee recommendations.

Highway Committee

1. That Borough Council award Bid No. 18-6 Old Mill Road Improvements to apparent low bidder: New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co., Inc. from Ephrata, PA in the total bid amount of \$190,915.79.
2. That Borough Council conditionally approve the requests from The Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc., per their letter dated March 26, 2018 to conduct activities associated with the 100th annual Ephrata Fair from September 23rd through September 29th, 2018 subject to Borough receipt of a PennDOT issued Special Events Permit with The Ephrata Farmers Day Association, Inc., as Applicant.

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, and unanimously passed to adopt and/or conditionally approve the items listed on the Consent Agenda.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Community Services Committee

It was moved by Ms. Martin, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman, and unanimously passed that Borough Council conditionally approve the request from the Ephrata Area School District to place flags at the Winters Leadership Plaza for Memorial Day per the letter from Josh McCracken, Fulton Elementary School Principal, dated May 14, 2018, subject to the receipt of a certificate of insurance naming the Borough of Ephrata as an additional insured.

APPROVAL OF CHECKS 33628 THROUGH 33979 AND THE ACH REGISTER DATED MAY 1, 2018

It was moved by Mr. Richard, seconded by Mr. Barr, and unanimously passed that Borough Council ratify the payment of bills performed by the staff since the last regular Council meeting in the aggregate amount of \$910,019.24.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

There were no comments or remarks from attendees.

DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Richard requested information from Chief Harvey regarding a police incident that occurred on Sunday, May 13, 2018. Chief Harvey advised he would look into the matter and report his findings to Mr. Richard.

Mr. Reinhold advised there will be a Personnel Committee meeting immediately following this evening's Borough Council meeting.

Mayor Mowen advised that Ephrata Cares will be holding its 1st Annual Recovery Walk this Saturday, May 19, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The walk will be followed by music and family activities at the Thomas Grater Memorial Park.

Chief Harvey advised at the next Public Safety Meeting, the Committee (guests welcome) will be viewing Pioneer Fire Company's newest addition to their fleet.

Mr. Thompson provided an update regarding Ephrata Community Pool's preseason sales. Mr. Thompson advised of the following: Family passes have gone up from 298 in 2017 to 339 in 2018; Adult passes have gone up from 10 in 2017 to 12 in 2018; Preschool passes have gone down from four (4) in 2017 to three (3) 2018; Student passes have gone down from 23 in 2018 to 13 in 2017; and Senior passes have gone up from seven (7) in 2017 to 18 in 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Barr, seconded by Ms. Martin, and unanimously passed that Borough Council adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

D. Robert Thompson, Secretary