

## **OFFICIAL MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2016**

The Regular Meeting of February 16, 2016 of Council for the Borough of Kennett Square was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Monroe Nute Room of the Kennett Fire Company No. 1, 301 Dalmatian Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania with President Danilo P. Maffei in the Chair.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: *President Danilo P. Maffei  
Vice President Geoffrey R. Bosley  
Councilmember Wayne Braffman  
Councilmember Ethan Cramer  
Councilmember Douglas Doerfler  
Councilmember James Mallon  
Councilmember LaToya M. Myers  
Mayor Matthew W. Fetick*

Absent: *Manager Joseph C. Scalise  
Jr. Council Person Meliton Gomez*

### **SWEARING IN of TWO (2) POLICE OFFICERS MARK C. TODD and GEORGE A. CARLSON**

The Mayor gave a brief history of the Entry Level Testing process conducted by the Civil Service Commission that began back in 2013.

Chief Edward Zunino introduced the two (2) new full time Police Officers, Mark C. Todd and George A. Carlson.

The Mayor swore in the both Police Officers as members of the Kennett Square Police Department.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Alan Summers, 133 Magnolia Street, asked for help for future snow emergency events. He stated that he has lived here for 13 years and commended the Borough on their excellent services however he expressed his disappointment with the snow removal during the recent blizzard. Both he and his wife are unable to shovel snow due to health reasons and he asked Council to budget additional money in the Emergency Fund to help with snow removal. He suggested that outside contractors be hired if the volume of snow is more than our employees can handle. Mr. Summers added that he is willing to pay additional taxes to help fund the account.

John Thomas, 406 South Broad Street, applauded what Mr. Summers said. He stated that people like him are worried about not being able to shovel their sidewalks however he is not in favor of raising taxes. Mr. Thomas stated they we are a great town but we are not growing; we should be expanding our business district down to Mill Road and to the YMCA. He added that we need to think about our whole town when bringing in new businesses so that everyone can afford to shop in the downtown.

Charla Watson, 523 Magnolia Street, stated that the residents on the lower end of Magnolia paid someone to clear the snow to the curb. We have money budgeted for snow but she does not think it was spent appropriately. Ms. Watson questioned why the Planning Commission entertains people that do not have any concrete plans stating that she was insulted when she attended a recent Planning Commission meeting and the plans that were presented for the old NVF site were not finished.

Ken Edwards, 410 Meredith Street, concurred with Ms. Watson's comments that George Beer's plans were not up to date; they did not even include the Magnolia Place Development. He expressed his concern about the two (2) large mounds of dirt at the property and the drainage from the property.

Charles Godfrey, 200 North Lincoln Street, stated that after he finished digging paths from the sidewalk to the street during the recent blizzard, the Public Works snow plow would then push the snow back over the sidewalk. He expressed concerns about residents that have medical issues and are unable to shovel snow and also those that need to use the handicap ramp at his intersection which was covered with snow. Mr. Godfrey also expressed concern that the snow plows take chunks out of the curbs.

Tony Talamonti, 584 East Cypress Street, made a comment that nine (9) vehicles remained parked on East Cypress Street throughout the recent snowstorm and questioned why these vehicles were not forcibly removed. He also expressed concern about the older members of our community who are unable to shovel snow from their sidewalks but they can't afford to pay someone else to do it. Mr. Talamonti said we need to figure out a way to have snow cleared from residential sidewalks for those who are physically disabled.

## **REPORTS**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Vice President Bosley reported the highlights from the Finance Committee's January, 2016 meeting:

- Made a plan of what they want to get accomplished this year.
- They are considering holding multiple public presentations on different finance topics throughout the year
- Reviewed the Borough's Bulk Water Sales Policy.
- Working on a policy to lend money via the Revolving Loan Grant.
- Instead of replacing the parking meters, they discussed a new technology using our current parking meters that would be at virtually no cost.

**MANAGER**

On behalf of the Manager, President Maffei reported the following items currently being worked on by the Manager:

- Parking Payment Upgrades.
- Floodplain Management.
- Truck Traffic on State Street.
- Park Land.
- PECO Green Region Grant.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Edward Zunino reported that the amount of offenses were down for the month of January, 2016:

- Actual Offenses – 27.
- Criminal Arrests – 9.
- DUI Arrests –4.

**FIRE COMPANY**

Fire Chief Christopher Plumley reported the following calls for the month of January, 2016:

- EMS Calls – 96 total with 44 being in the Borough and 36 in Kennett Township.
- Fire Calls – 38 total.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

On behalf of the Manager, President Maffei reported the following activity of the Public Works Department for the month of January, 2016:

- Snow removal, January 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Removed pumps from the Cypress Street Pump Station eight (8) times due to clogs.
- Removed the holiday decorations.
- Sold truck no. 18 for \$24,600 through MuniBid.com.
- Delivered notices to residences and businesses along West Cypress Street regarding the proper care of the new sidewalks.
- Addressed several issues with the elevator in the Parking Garage.
- Flushed sewer lines at three (3) separate locations for backups/suspected backups.
- Monitored the water temperature at the Walnut Street Well for DEP 4-Log Rule Application.

**CONSENT ITEMS****MINUTES of JANUARY 19, 2016****MINUTES of FEBRUARY 1, 2016**

President Maffei presented the minutes from January 19, 2016 and February 1, 2016 for approval.

**It was moved by Councilmember Mallon and seconded by Councilmember Braffman to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**BILLS**

President Maffei presented the bills to be paid on February 16, 2016 and the bills that were paid since the last meeting.

**It was moved by Councilmember Doerfler and seconded by Vice President Bosley to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PRESENTATION****BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD TASK FORCE**

Jeannine Speirs, Chester County Planning Commission, gave a presentation of the work that was done by the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force in Phase One of the project and the plans for Phase Two. She noted that the actual total acreage with regards to the battle is 35,000 which also includes the Borough, and East Marlborough, Kennett and New Garden Townships. She advised that previously two (2) members of the Borough's Historical Commission attended the Task Force meetings but that is no longer the case since the Commission has disbanded. On behalf of the Chester County Planning Commission, Ms. Speirs asked Council to consider appointing two (2) Borough representatives to volunteer on the Task Force.

After answering questions from Council, Ms. Speirs entertained questions from the public.

John Thomas, 406 South Broad Street, stated that he is interested in serving on the Task Force.

**BOARDS and COMMISSIONS****APPOINTMENT to CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

President Maffei presented the following appointment to the Boards and Commissions:

- Civil Service Commission – Regular Member  
Juan Carlos Navarro, 311 Meredith Street

Borough Secretary Karen Scherer advised that the Commission consists of a total of six (6) members – three regular members (3) and three (3) alternates. In January 2016, George Plumley resigned as a regular member from the Commission and Council needs to fill that vacancy. Mr. Navarro is the first alternate and is willing to serve as a regular member. He will fulfill the remainder of the regular member term which expires January 1, 2019. With this appointment, that leaves two (2) vacancies, both alternate members.

**It was moved by Councilmember Cramer and seconded by Vice President Bosley to appoint Mr. Navarro as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

President Maffei gave an overview of the duties of the Civil Service Commission and encouraged anyone interested in serving on the Commission to submit a letter of interest and resume to the Borough Manager.

## **SWEARING IN REGULAR MEMBER of CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**

The Mayor swore in Juan Carlos Navarro as a regular member of the Civil Service Commission.

## **TWINNING ARRANGEMENT MOROLEÓN, GUANAJUATO, MEXICO**

The Mayor advised that he has been contacted by the government officials of Moroleón, Guanajuato, Mexico, asking if the Borough of Kennett Square would consider a "Twinning Arrangement" to form a Sister City Affiliation.

The Secretary advised that Council is not considering the agreement tonight but voting on their support of the "Twinning Arrangement". The Sister City Affiliation Agreement will be considered and executed during a public meeting of Borough Council and the officials of Moroleón. The public meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. and will be held at Borough Hall.

Councilmember Cramer introduced his neighbor Teno Zurita, 712 South Garfield Street.

Mr. Zurita stated that he lived five (5) miles away from Moroleón prior to moving to Kennett Square. He expressed his support of this arrangement and noted that many Hispanic Borough residents are from Moroleón or this area of Mexico.

**It was moved by Councilmember Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Braffman to approve moving forward with the "Twinning Arrangement" as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-5  
PROVIDERS of EMERGENCY SERVICES**

President Maffei presented the resolution, as required by the Chester County Department of Emergency Services, identifying the methods and agencies chosen to fulfill the public safety needs of the Borough of Kennett Square as follows:

- Fire Protection – Kennett Fire Company No. 1.
- Ambulance Service – Kennett Fire Company No. 1.
- Rescue Service – Kennett Fire Company No. 1.
- Police Protection – Kennett Square Police Department.
- Contact Person – Borough Manager.

**It was moved by Councilmember Mallon and seconded by Councilmember Doerfler to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

The resolution was assigned No. 2016-5.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-6  
ADOPTION of CHESTER COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

President Maffei presented the resolution for the adoption of Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

President Maffei advised that is done on a five (5) year cycle with each municipality formally adopting the plan by resolution. Without the resolution being submitted to FEMA, the Borough will not be eligible to receive hazard mitigation grant money.

**It was moved by Councilmember Myers and seconded by Councilmember Doerfler to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

The resolution was assigned No. 2016-6.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2016-7  
SUPPORT of MAP GRANT APPLICATION – KENNETT TOWNSHIP**

President Maffei presented the resolution expressing the Borough's support of MAP Grant Application by Kennett Township.

President Maffei advised that Kennett Township has a consultant to develop an Active Transportation Plan to make the Kennett Area walker and biker friendly. The Borough's contribution would be in-kind services only in cooperation with the study. The Borough is being offered two (2) seats on the Steering Committee.

**It was moved by Councilmember Braffman and seconded by Councilmember Myers to adopt the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

The resolution was assigned No. 2016-7.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION – NO ACTION 120 EAST STATE STREET**

President Maffei stated that it is not appropriate at this time to set a public hearing to consider an Economic Development Liquor License Application due to the lack of prior information and details.

William Shehwen, on behalf of his client, Michael Scali, gave a brief presentation to Council. Mr. Scali is under a contract to purchase the building located at 120 East State and needs Council support to apply for an Economic Development Liquor License. Mr. Shehwen advised that the license is specific to this building and Mr. Scali; it cannot be transferred to another place or person.

President Maffei stated that Council is not opposed however they need additional information and details well in advance of a meeting.

Councilmember Mallon stated that he is uncomfortable making a decision at this time.

Mr. Swehen advised that he will be in contact with the Manager to move forward.

## **DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AD HOC COMMITTEE**

On behalf of the Public Communication Ad Hoc Committee, Councilmember Braffman gave a report on ways to improve communications with the public. He presented six (6) recommendations consisting of the following:

- Pre-meeting dropbox available to the public.
- Provide a summary for each board/commission along with job descriptions for the member's.
- Finance Committee to scheduled quarterly public discussion. On key topics.
- Sharing of Financial information on the website such as quarterly reports, ledgers.
- Ad Hoc Public Communication Committee to reach out to Latino leaders to identify what initiatives would be useful in generating greater involvement in Borough affairs.
- Establish a pathway for evaluating concrete, actionable proposals from residents for improving Borough operations.

A couple of suggestions/recommendations were made by Council. The Committee will take them into consideration as they move forward.

**PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Maffei announced the following vacancies on the Borough's Board and Commissions:

- Civil Service Commission – Two (2) Alternates.
- Landfill Authority – One (1).
- Property Maintenance Appeals Board – One (1).
- Shade Tree Commission – One (1).
- Zoning Hearing Board – One (1) Alternate.

He also noted that there are two (2) vacancies for Borough residents to serve on the Brandywine Battlefield Task Force.

Any interested Borough residents willing to serve should send a letter of interest and resume to the Borough Manager.

**COUNCIL, MANAGER and MAYOR COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor announced that he will host a Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the lower level of the Genesis HealthCare building, 101 East State Street.

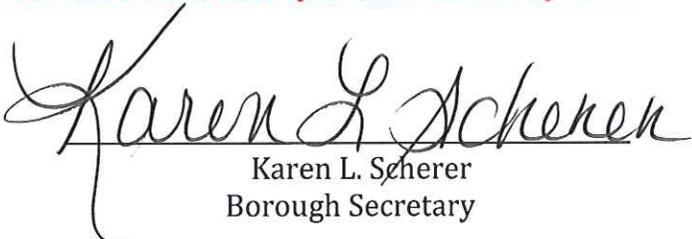
The Mayor advised that the snow removal concerns shared this evening will be placed on the agenda for the next Public Safety Committee meeting.

In response to Mr. Talamonti's concern about the vehicles that were not removed from East Cypress Street during the blizzard, the Mayor reported that it was an oversight of the night shift. He advised that a tow company was called however they refused to remove the vehicles due to the high snow accumulation.

Councilmember Cramer advised that he attended the Library Board meeting this evening and noted that the Board approved to retain a strategic consultant. He encouraged the public to attend these meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Councilmember Mallon and seconded by Councilmember Myers to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.



Karen L. Scherer  
Borough Secretary