

OFFICIAL MINUTES APRIL 7, 2020

The Regular Meeting of April 7, 2020 of Council for the Borough of Kennett Square was called to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing with President Mercomes in the Chair.

ROLL CALL

Present: *President Brenda Mercomes*
Councilmember Ethan L. Cramer
Councilmember J. Douglas Doerfler
Councilmember Rosa Moore
Councilmember LaToya Myers
Councilmember Peter L. Waterkotte
Councilmember Mayra Zavala

Mayor Matthew W. Fetick
Borough Manager Joseph C. Scalise

ADOPTION of AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Waterkotte to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Councilmember Doerfler.

It was move by Councilmember Cramer to amend the agenda by ratifying the Mayor's emergency declaration for the Borough; seconded by Councilmember Myers.

The motion carried unanimously.

President Mercomes called for the vote to approve the agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doug Hayes, 611 Magnolia Court, thanked the Borough for all they are doing and noted that residents seem to be taking the virus very seriously. He also feels that residents are helping local restaurants by ordering take-out and are doing the right thing.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSIDER APPROVAL of MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT and RESOLUTION

Chief Holdsworth explained that as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, he and Mayor Fetick recognize the health impact that this may take on our first responders and the ability to maintain our vital public safety structure. He noted that over the past few weeks, he has been communicating and continues to have tele-conference briefings, two-three times per week, with all of the full-time law enforcement agencies located in Southern Chester County. As a result of those briefings, a Mutual Aid Agreement has now been created between the Kennett Square Borough, Kennett Township, Southern Chester County Regional and Oxford Borough police departments. Chief Holdsworth shared that this agreement will ensure that we are able to deliver the essential public safety services to all of our municipalities and police agencies during this pandemic event. He noted that both he and Mayor Fetick support this agreement and our solicitor has reviewed and approved the agreement and resolution.

It was moved by Councilmember Cramer to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement and adopt the Resolution; seconded by Councilmember Zavala.

Councilmember Cramer thanked Chief Holdsworth and all the first responders for their service.

Councilmember Waterkotte asked Chief Holdsworth if his department, and the Fire Department have enough masks.

Chief Holdsworth shared that he has submitted weekly requests to the County for masks and supplies and have received them, noting that for now they are equipped, but he is concerned how long his supply will last and noted the same for the Fire Department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dough Hayes commented that we have to do everything we can do support our first responders and is in full support of the agreement.

Luis Tovar, ACOLA Chair, asked for more insight into the Mutual Aid Agreement.

Chief Holdsworth explained that under the Mutual Aid Agreement, any request would have to come from the Chief of Police of the municipality and explain that they are unable to meet their needs for whatever emergency situation they have to manage and request the help of the partners in the agreement.

President Mercomes called for the vote.

The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER RATIFYING the MAYOR'S EMERGENCY DECLARATION

Mayor Fetick explained that the first emergency declaration was issued on March 23rd, 2020 and the second on March 26th when the County provided language that would allow the declaration to stay in place until modified or revoked by Borough Council. He noted that although the Borough is covered under

the State and Federal emergency declarations, our own declaration allows specific guidance for the administration to make emergency purchases.

It was moved by Councilmember Waterkotte to approve the Mayor's Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the Borough as it is stated on March 26th; seconded by Councilmember Cramer.

It was moved by Councilmember Cramer to amend the motion to "Ratify" the Mayor's Declaration of Disaster Emergency for the Borough as it is stated on March 26th; seconded by Councilmember Myers.

Councilmember Cramer noted that the Emergency Declaration will continue until it is rescinded by declaration from the Mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

President Mercomes called for the vote on the amended motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

President Mercomes called for the vote on the motion.

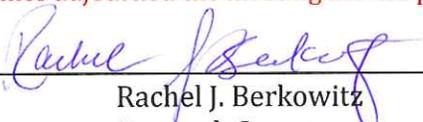
The motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL, MANAGER and MAYOR COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Doerfler shared that during this meeting he contacted coworkers at Genesis and Ginger will connect with Chief Holdsworth to provide more masks for the Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Mercomes adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Rachel J. Berkowitz
Borough Secretary