

OFFICIAL MINUTES JULY 16, 2018

The Regular Meeting of July 16, 2018, of Council for the Borough of Kennett Square was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Monroe Nute Room of the Kennett Fire Company No. 1, 301 Dalmatian Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania with President LaToya M. Myers in the Chair.

ROLL CALL

Present: *President LaToya M. Myers*
Vice President Ethan L. Cramer
Councilmember Wayne Braffman
Councilmember J. Douglas Doerfler
Councilmember James Mallon
Councilmember Brenda Mercomes
Councilmember Peter L. Waterkotte

Mayor Matthew W. Fetick
Borough Manager Joseph C. Scalise

ADOPTION of AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember Doerfler and seconded by Councilmember Waterkotte to approve the agenda.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Mercomes to remove Item #6, Trail Easement Agreement from the agenda. Motion as amended carried unanimously.

SWEARING IN of TWO (2) FULL TIME POLICE OFFICERS FRANCIS E. TOTH CHRISTOPHER K. PARRISH

The Mayor gave a brief history of the Entry Level Testing Process conducted by the Civil Service Commission which began in 2017.

Chief William Holdsworth introduced and gave a brief background on the following two (2) new full time Police Officers:

- Francis E. Toth.
- Christopher K. Parrish.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Thomas, 406 South Broad Street, referred to the comments made by Council at the end of the last meeting and stated he will not retract anything he has said. He feels small laws are broken first and then bigger ones are broken the longer you serve on Council. Mr. Thomas stated he cares about this Borough and that's why he attends so many meeting. He shared his belief that not everything Council is doing is up to snuff.

Charla Watson, 523 Magnolia Street, commented that breaking laws is one thing; breaking ethical laws is another and are more damaging. She would like to see the following things happen - place the temporary farmers market under a roof, bring a grocery store to town as well as senior and handicap housing, add a visitor's center and social services so residents don't have to travel to Coatesville or West Chester. Ms. Watson shared her opinion that there are too many places that serve alcohol in this town. She would also like moratoriums in place so we don't overtax our school system, bring in small businesses that offer competitive hourly wages, and reduce the size of the Historic District. Ms. Watson expressed her disappointment that a new Police and Borough complex has not been built by now. In addition, Ms. Watson would like the Codes Enforcement Officer and Director of Public Works to attend the Council meetings because they are the experts.

Ken Edwards, 412 Meredith Street, commented that if the NVF property is being considered as the site for the new Borough Hall, then we need to find out if the EPA has deemed the property safe. The people who allowed the contamination to occur on the property should be held responsible.

CONSENT ITEMS

President Myers announced that the following Consent Items are deemed approved if there are no objections.

- Minutes of July 2, 2018.
- Bills that were paid since the last Council meeting.
- Special Event Application – Marshall Street Neighbors Party, August 4th.

There were no objections.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S

There was no report from the President.

FIRE COMPANY

There was not report from the Fire Company.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief William Holdsworth submitted a written report which was included in the Council packet. He highlighted his report with the following activities in June which involved the participation of the Police Department:

- Victory Block Party.
- Kennett High School Graduation.
- Juneteenth Celebration.

The Chief noted that Investigator Ken Beam spent time with the Boy Scouts as the Department continues to integrate into the community and reiterated how important drug enforcement is to the Department.

PUBLIC SAFETY and INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

The Mayor reported the following:

- Since 2013, the upgrade to the fire pump in the northern section of town has been on the committee's list of items to address. The pump meets the bare minimum guidelines however, there is not enough water pressure at the street for fire sprinkler systems and in the downtown; buildings that require sprinklers must have their own fire pump installed. There is a potential for a collaborating effort – in lieu of businesses installing their own pumps, they would pay a higher tapping fee to the Borough which would go towards funding the upgrade of the fire pump.
- Police Officer Todd has completed training to become a Certified Truck Inspector. The department hopes to conduct truck details two (2) weeks per month.
- The design is in place for the North Union Gateway and work is still being done for PennDOT approval.
- The committee has taken on the role of addressing parking issues. The first and most important is the need for a comprehensive parking study. The Borough Manager is compiling information for the RFP to conduct the study and the committee hopes to present RFP's to Council in September. For now, applicants looking for relief for 10 or less parking spaces will come through the committee before going to Council.

The Mayor concluded his report by thanking Council for their commitment to the Police Department and stated the force is fully staffed for the first time in seven (7) to eight (8) years. He also thanked the members of the Civil Service Commission.

ADVISORY COMMISSION on LATINO AFFAIRS (ACOLA)

Luis Tovar, Chair of ACOLA, submitted a written report which was included in the Council packet. He highlighted his report by including two (2) success stories – people stepped up to help a Kennett student who was severely injured in an accident and a family of

the Kennett School District took him in; a private group raised \$5,000 to assist families/individuals needing assistance

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Katherine Spick, Vice Chair of the Civil Service Commission highlighted her report with the following for 2017-2018:

- Members include Stephanie Everett, Chair, Katherine Sprick, Vice Chair, Geoffrey Bosley, Secretary and Sally Braffman, Alternate.
- It was an active year for the Commission which involved testing for both Corporal and Entry Level.
- At the end of the testing, two (2) current Police Officers were promoted to Corporal and two (2) Entry Level Police Officers were hired.
- After the new hires, four (4) applicants remain on the Eligibility List.
- The Commission is working with Chief Holdsworth to incorporate the two-part application into a single document in attempt to reduce the overall timeframe of Entry Level Testing by approximately four (4) weeks.

PRESENTATION of the 2017 AUDIT

Don Pierce of Maillie, LLP gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Borough's audit for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2017. The "clean opinion" audit was conducted in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards.

Mr. Pierce thanked management and staff for their cooperation and assistance with the preparation of the audit and then entertained questions from Council.

RELIEF from PARKING REQUIREMENTS 420 WEST CYPRESS STREET

Robert Norris, owner of 420 West Cypress Street, gave a background of his current project and presented his request from the parking requirements for eight (8) parking spaces. As part of the request he will pay the Borough the In-lieu of Providing Parking Fee of \$470 for a total of \$3,760. He advised that he appeared in front of the Public Safety and Infrastructure Committee and the Planning Commission.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Doerfler to grant the relief of eight (8) parking spaces as requested.

The Mayor briefed Council on Mr. Norris' presentation to the Public Safety and Infrastructure Committee and advised the Committee supports granting the parking waiver.

Councilmember Braffman questioned who will remember how many parking spaces we have waived and where are they located.

Vice President Cramer advised that there needs to be a revision of the parking policy and in fact Mr. Norris also suggested we charge annually for the In-lieu of Providing Parking Fee.

Myra Miller, member of the Planning Commission, advised it was the general feeling of the Commission to grant the parking waiver. If Council does not grant relief, then the business can't open. A concern raised at the Commission's meeting was regarding people going to the restaurant that may park in the Wawa parking lot.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John Thomas commented the building looks good. He said it should be written down where the available parking spaces are located so they cannot be given to another property because Council can't keep giving the waivers for the same spaces. He expressed concern that turning into and out of the Wawa parking lot from Garfield Street could be difficult due to parked vehicles.

Charla Watson stated you can't earmark parking spaces on public streets for businesses. She said there is no parking left on Garfield Street because citizens use this for their visitors' parking. Ms. Watson told Council they are doing a dis-service to the citizens with parking waivers.

The motion carried unanimously.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT with GILMORE ASSOCIATES TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE SET ASIDE (TASA) GRANT

The Borough Manager advised we were approved for the grant connecting bicycle and pedestrian facilities between Pennock and Nixon Parks via South and Walnut Streets. Part of this project is to install sidewalks along North Walnut Street as well as other improvements. As part of the grant the Borough would pay for the engineering costs up front which need to be completed by late 2020. The grant would pay for 100% of the construction costs up to the awarded amount of \$915,000. The current price for the engineering is \$174,850 by Gilmore and Associates. The impact to this year's budget is approximately \$26,000. This was reviewed by the Finance Committee at their last meeting.

It was moved by Vice President Cramer and seconded by Councilmember Waterkotte to approve the agreement as presented.

Vice President Cramer said a project like this is a key to the quality of life and it's a crucial area to get pedestrians to the park from Walnut Street safely.

Councilmember Waterkotte shared his thoughts that a town that is walkable and bikable can alleviate the need for parking waivers and we could be there in 10 years.

Councilmember Braffman advised the Finance Committee proposed an alternative by taking Route 82 off of the route but it was denied. The Finance Committee realized we had over \$150,000 in our capital budget for these very same improvements so we are really just shifting the capital expenses to soft costs. The Finance Committee is comfortable with the numbers and their ability to find the funding over the next three (3) years.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

Motion carried unanimously.

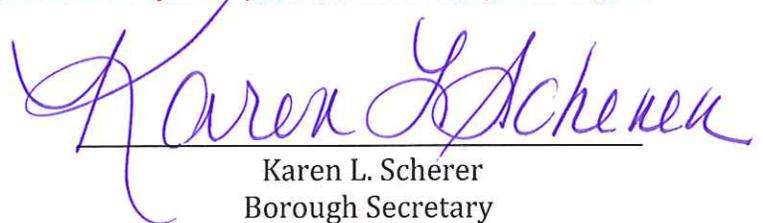
COUNCIL, MANAGER and MAYOR COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the interest of transparency, Councilmember Braffman advised he met with Mike Bontrager on July 9th and they did not discuss any of Mr. Bontrager's projects – past, present or future.

In the interest of our wonderful town, Councilmember Waterkotte reported Kennett Square was recently featured in a national magazine, AFAR, as one of the new seven (7) sweetest small towns, defined by having a population of 16,000 or fewer, in the U.S. to visit this summer. Quoted in the article, *"Main Street so darn picturesque, Norman Rockwell couldn't have painted it any prettier"*.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Myers adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.



Karen L. Scherer
Borough Secretary