

REGULAR MEETING

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MALVERN BOROUGH
1 East First Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355

February 20, 2024
7:30 PM

PRESIDING: President Phillips

INVOCATION: Mayor Uzman via ZOOM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Council President Phillips
Council Vice President Bones
Council Member Finkbiner
Council Member Frederick
Council Member Niemiec
Council Member Riccetti
Council Member Warner via ZOOM
Zeyn B. Uzman, Mayor

ABSENT:

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council President Phillips asked in accordance with Resolution No. 840 if any member of the audience was recording the meeting. Mr. Hugo Schmitt and Mr. Richard Breuer recorded the meeting.

Council President Phillips requested as a courtesy, if you are participating via ZOOM, please turn on your camera while speaking.

Council President Phillips requested for the Community to check out the Borough's website calendar regularly for all up and coming events located throughout the Borough.

Council President Phillips requested for the Community to come join the Environmental Advisory Council and CRC Watersheds to help restore native habitat on Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 9AM to 11:30AM at Quann Park. All are invited to participate.

Council President Phillips announced Assistant Manager Badman obtained a \$5,000 grant which was obtained through the Borough's Insurance Liability Provider to install a handicap accessibility ramp located in front of the main entrance of Borough Hall.

Council President Phillips announced that Borough Council met in an Executive Session this evening to discuss personnel matters.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Vice President Bones, seconded by Council Member Niemiec, carried by a vote of 7-0, to approve the agenda for the Tuesday, February 20, 2024 meeting as presented.

3. PEGGY GUSZ CRIME VICTIM CENTER AWARD – CORPORAL STEPHEN WALKER

Mayor Uzman introduced Ms. Kristine Zachanelli, CEO of the Crime Victim Center to present the Peggy Gusz Crime Victim Center Award to Corporal Stephen Walker.

A Crime Victim Center Advocate nominated Corporal Walker after she worked with him and was present during an interview that Corporal Walker conducted on a victim of a sexual assault. The advocate stated Corporal Walker showed compassion, concern, patience and professionalism.

4. MINUTES & REPORTS

a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Vice President Bones, seconded by Council Member Riccetti, and carried by a vote of 7-0, to approve the regular meeting minutes from Tuesday, February 6, 2024 as presented.

b. APPROVAL OF REPORTS

A motion was made by Council Member Frederick, seconded by Council Vice President Bones, and carried by a vote of 7-0, to approve the Treasurer's Report, the Sub-Committee Reports for Finance and Administration, Public Safety, and Public Works, the Chief of Police Report, the Code Enforcement Department Reports, the Superintendent of Public Works Report, the Assistant Manager's Report, and the Manager's Report for the month of January 2024, as submitted.

c. BOROUGH COUNCIL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Finance & Administration and Public Safety Sub-Committee(s) have not met since the last Borough Council meeting.

The Public Works Sub-Committee met on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 and discussed the following items:

- Parking Issue on Miner Street and Valley View Road
- 2024 Paving Program
- Malvern Post Office
- Old Lincoln Highway Project
- Jennings Lane Pipe Repair
- North Warren Avenue Project
- Randolph Woods Nature Preserve Project
- Paoli Battlefield & Malvern Prep Trail Connection
- Sanitary Sewer Ejector Stations located at Monument Avenue
- Everett's Alley
- Borough Hall ADA Handicap Walkway; and
- Sanitary Sewer Evaluation

5. SPECIAL BUSINESS

a. RESOLUTION No. 856 PROPOSING TO AUTHORIZE A GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION FOR INSTALLATION OF A TRAIL CONNECTION BETWEEN MALVERN PREPARATORY SCHOOL & PAOLI BATTLEFIELD

The Chester County Commissioners have established a grant program to be utilized by municipalities in Chester County. The grant funding may be used for the improvement or acquisition of municipal recreation. Malvern Borough is proposing a connecting trail between Malvern Preparatory School and the Paoli Battlefield.

The Borough Engineer presented the proposed plans this evening. The grant application is due by no later than Thursday, February 29, 2024.

Borough Council discussed ADA requirements to obtain grant funding, if an archeologist would need to be obtained, the 50% grant match, the history of the proposed project, and the overall cost of the proposed project.

Mr. Danny Fruchter commented on the foundations placements and gave a history of the former house located at the property. He further commented that the path will access the preserved area, further educating the public, and the wall that surrounds the grave site came from the house potentially.

Mrs. Jennifer Chomko commented on tax payer dollars and inquired why the trail is being proposed to be built.

Borough Council explained that the proposed trail project is a condition of a Subdivision and Land Development application approval. The trail is in the best intentions to serve the public and is consistent with the Borough's Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Carroll Sinquett commented on clearing the proposed trail as would be done if sidewalks were installed.

Mr. John Buckley commented on street lights and proposed a bridge be built to address traveling by foot on Warren Avenue.

A motion was made by Council Member Niemiec, seconded by Council Vice President Bones, and carried by a vote of 7-0, to authorize Resolution No. 856 as presented.

b. OLD LINCOLN HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

The Borough Engineer reviewed the option to reconstruct the roadway with Borough Council and recommended rejection of the current bids received.

A motion was made by Council Vice President Bones, seconded by Council Member Riccetti, and carried by a vote of 7-0, to reject the bids received for Old Lincoln Highway improvement infrastructure project.

c. SPRING ON KING EVENT SPONSORED BY THE MALVERN PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (MBPA)

The MBPA is hosting the “SPRING ON KING” event on Saturday, May 4, 2024 and is requesting approval to have alcoholic drinks available for purchase in the municipal lot adjacent to Wolfe's Brass. The providers will be Dressler Estate Cider, Locust Lane Beer, and Anthony's Restaurant. Additionally, Borough Council will be discussing how to address the Malvern Borough Police detail associated with this event.

Mr. John Buckley inquired who will be paying for the Police Detail for the event.

Borough Council clarified that the MBPA will be paying for the event.

Police Chief Marcelli reminded the MBPA to make sure to obtain their PA liquor control board licenses and forward to the Borough accordingly.

A motion was made by Council Vice President Bones, seconded by Council Member Frederick, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to authorize the MBPA, Dressler Estate Cider, Locust Lane Beer, and Anthony's Restaurant to utilize the municipal lot for a beer/ wine garden, adjacent to Wolfe's Brass, and Burke Park, for the “SPRING ON KING” event scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2024, pursuant to the Borough Solicitor's conditions and approval by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board.

d. DISCUSSION OF OPENING THE SUB COMMITTEE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

Borough Council discussed opening the Sub-Committee meetings to the public.

Borough Solicitor Yaw discussed the outline of the meetings and recommended that not more than five (5) members be on each Sub-Committee, consisting of three (3) elected officials, and two (2) staff members. He requested that each Sub-Committee set their meeting schedule for the remainder of Year 2024.

Borough Council is in agreement with this approach and plans to open the Sub-Committee meetings to the public in the near future.

Mr. John Buckley commented on the time commitment.

Mrs. Cathy Raymond commented on the composition of the meetings.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. ZONING HEARING BOARD

Council President Phillips announced there are no new applications before the Zoning Hearing Board.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING RELEASE FOR MALVERN KING STREET REVITALIZATION, INC (MKSR, INC.)

Ms. Christy Campoli explained that the Main Street Revitalization Task Force presented their findings to Borough Council at the October 17, 2023 Borough Council meeting. Borough Council authorized the Borough Solicitor to assist with the creation of the non-profit organization that is currently requesting the remaining funds, MKSR, Inc. The funds will support a Main Street Manager position as outlined in the October 17, 2023 presentation to Borough Council totaling \$82,050.

The mission of MKSR, Inc. is to lead the revitalization of Malvern's Main Street into a vibrant, thriving hub of community life. Through strategic collaboration with local businesses, residents, and the borough, we are dedicated to revitalizing the core of our town. By preserving our historical heritage and fostering a welcoming atmosphere, we aim to create a dynamic destination for commerce, culture, and connection that will inspire both residents and visitors to embrace the essence of Malvern.

Council Member Frederick explained that the funds being released are the remaining funds for the revitalization effort that were designated by the ARPA Task Force.

A motion was made by Council Member Finkbiner, seconded by Council Member Riccetti, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to authorize the release of \$82,050 of the American Rescue Plan Act funding to MKSR, Inc. as presented.

8. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs. Jennifer Chomko commented on the trash contract and the professional development consultant the Borough Manager has regular appointments with.

Council President Phillips called Mrs. Jennifer Chomko out of order. She was escorted out of the meeting by Police Chief Marcelli.

Mrs. Cathy Raymond inquired as to the monthly cost of the professional development consultant.

Borough Manager Loomis explained there is a \$500 monthly fee.

Ms. Ann Bestany requested and commented that there be more constant contact notifications regarding when there are issues with the trash.

Mr. John Buckley commented on the Borough's trash service provider and how bulk trash is managed.

Mr. Danny Fruchter commended Borough Council for providing professional development opportunities to the Borough employees. He asked Police Chief Marcelli if the Police Department receives regular training opportunities.

Police Chief Marcelli confirmed that the Police Department received regular training opportunities.

9. ADJOURNMENT

All business having been discussed, a motion was made by Council Vice President Bones, seconded by Council Member Niemiec, and carried by a vote of 6-0, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany M. Loomis
Borough Manager/Secretary