

PRESIDING: Council President Briggs

INVOCATION: Gerard J. McGlone, Mayor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. ROLL CALL:
 - Council President Briggs
 - Council Vice President VanSciver
 - Council Member Crawford
 - Council Member Edge - ABSENT
 - Council Member Lynch
 - Council Member Raymond - Late
 - Council Member Smith
 - Mayor McGlone

2. PUBLIC FORUM:

Council President informs all present that copies of the agenda are available at the press desk. This is a Public Session of Council. Should any citizen/taxpayer wish to offer comments on any item on the agenda, now is the time to bring those comments before Council. Are there any citizens/taxpayers who wish to bring before Council any item not on the agenda?

- a. Bruce Shepherd, Hibernia Homes, asked that Council provide him with some direction and help regarding his subdivision on Bridge Street & Longford Avenue. He expressed concern over daily contact from the borough engineer regarding various issues from the engineer, the Shade Tree Commission, or someone else. Following Mr. Shepherd's list of concerns and complaints, he was referred back to the manager and the engineer for resolution. Mr. Shepherd was also informed that the Shade Tree Commission has final say over the shade trees in the borough.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 581 – APPOINTMENT OF CPA FOR THE YEAR 2007 – WILLIAM J. ROSSITER:

A motion was made by Council Vice-President VanSciver, seconded by Council Member Crawford and unanimously carried by a vote of 5-0, to adopt Resolution No. 581, a Resolution appointing William J. Rossiter, Certified Public Accountant, as the independent auditor to audit the financial records of the Borough of Malvern for the year ending December 31, 2007 at a cost of \$8,600.00.

4. RELEASE OF ESCROW FUNDS – HIBERNIA HOMES, OLD LINCOLN HIGHWAY:

A motion was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Lynch and unanimously carried by a vote of 5-0, to approve Escrow Release #1, in the amount of \$28,088.95, for the project located at 146 Old Lincoln Highway, as recommended by the Borough Engineer.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

(Council Member Raymond arrived.)

a. Capital Considerations for 2008-2012 – The Manager asked that Council consider allocating specific years to future capital considerations. Considerations not allocated include: Greenway Trail (from Ruthland Ave. to Paoli Battlefield); Randolph Woods development; Church Street revitalization; Woodland Avenue revitalization and Stormwater Management on First Ave., Highland Ave., Malvern Ave., Church Street and Woodland Ave.

Regarding the Greenway Trail, Council considered whether a portion of the Retreat property should be taken by eminent domain as a greenway trail would be used for the public good. Council also considered if Second Avenue could be used instead of the Retreat property, but Second Avenue stops at Green Street and there is no public right-of-way along the Retreat grounds from Green St. to the Ruthland Avenue site.

Randolph Woods development – the Greenway Trail and Randolph Woods development may be considered in conjunction with one another or passive recreational activities may be considered for Randolph Woods with the addition of a gazebo, bridges over the creek, trails, etc. Residents should be encouraged to use the property and events should be held at the property. Development of this property will benefit the community. It was suggested that we develop a plan and greenway trail. We can then go out and publicize it and generate interest from the community. If we consider condemning a portion of the Retreat property, we must have a plan showing future development.

Tony Dufour, Chairman of the Shade Tree Commission, volunteered to develop a plan, prepare a rendering for development of the property, and provide cost estimates for development of the property.

Church Street and Woodland Ave. revitalization – Dan Daley will be asked to provide estimates to include stormwater run-off. We will also talk to Dan about a complete comprehensive stormwater management system.

b. 2008 Budget – Council Member Smith, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Finance Committee was recommending a ¼ mill increase in real estate taxes and a \$15.00 increase in the minimum sewer rate, increasing the minimum rate from \$75.60 to \$90.60.

It was asked if a five year projection of tax increases was available and the Finance Committee reported that it was not available this evening, but that the projections were available and would be distributed at the next meeting.

Council President Briggs felt very strongly that we should have five year and ten year projections and let the residents know that we will maintain staff salaries and services and not cut expenses in these areas.

A motion was made by Council Member Smith, seconded by Council Member Lynch and carried by a vote of 5-1 to publish the 2008 budget, as proposed, with a ¼ mill increase in real estate taxes and a \$15.00 increase in the minimum sewer rate. Council President Briggs opposed.

c. Ordinance fixing the Tax Rate for the Year 2008 – the Ordinance increasing taxes by ¼ mill will be advertised for adoption at the December 18, 2007 meeting.

d. Ordinance Raising Sewer Rates – A motion was made by Council Member Lynch, seconded by Council Member Raymond and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0, to publish the Ordinance increasing the minimum sewer rate by \$15.00 to \$90.60. The Ordinance will be considered for adoption on December 18, 2007.

e. Employee Gift Certificates – A motion was made by Council Vice-President VanSciver, seconded by Council Member Raymond and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0, to distribute Employee Gift Certificates from a local business, in the amount of \$35.00.

f. The 2008 Meeting Schedule – A motion was made by Council Member Crawford, seconded by Council Member Lynch and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0 to adopt the 2008 Meeting Schedule for Borough Council.

6. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Lynch, seconded by Council Member Crawford and unanimously carried by a vote of 6-0, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Kelley
Secretary/Manager