

WORK SESSION
September 2, 2008
7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Council Members Crawford, Edge, Lynch (ABSENT), Raymond, Smith (ABSENT), Vike, VanSciver and Mayor McGlone

2. Council President announces that copies of the Agenda are available at the Press Desk. This is a Work Session of Council and, as such, there is no public forum scheduled; however, citizens/taxpayers are invited to offer comments during the discussion phase of each agenda item.

a. John Buckley, 165 Church Street, thanked the Police Department for the nice job they are doing with a police presence in town.

b. Kristin Thomas, 326 E. Broad Street, stated that she was speaking on behalf of the Malvern Moms Club. The Moms Club has 50 members and 80 children. She stated that she was at the Council meeting to talk to Council about their concerns and requests for the parks regarding safety and playground equipment. At Rubino Park there are signs indicating the equipment is for ages 5 and older. However, children ages 5 and under are using the equipment. The equipment has very high railings and young children can fall off the equipment. At Burke Park there is no fence and the park sits close to a very busy road. It is hard to keep track of kids and hard to keep them contained. There is no equipment appropriate for toddlers in any of our playgrounds. The Moms Club would like to see some climb-on toddler equipment, sandboxes, swings, etc. Ms. Thomas stated that they would like to use the parks more, have them be safe and have appropriate equipment for members of the group.

Council President Van Sciver referred them to the Parks & Recreation Committee and suggested that they do some research and come back to Council with recommendations.

Joe Giandonato, 39 Crest Avenue, reported that at the Paoli Memorial Association park the slide is very low and kids fall to the ground.

Council Member Edge stated that if the Borough makes modifications to the equipment, it opens up the Borough to liability issues. The equipment has age restrictions and if the Borough makes changes, a child could get hurt and the Borough would be liable.

William Mann, 28 Crest Avenue, reported that the railings are high on the equipment in Rubino Park. They could be loosened and brought down some.

Council President Van Sciver stated that we could request information from the equipment manufacturer to see if it is possible to make any modifications.

c. John Rychlak, President, Malvern Fire Company, thanked Council for providing the Fire Company with financial support because it is important and critical to the Fire Company to provide emergency services. Mr. Rychlak invited everyone to their September 11th Memorial Service, to be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Malvern fire station. He stated that they have been doing this every year since 2002 to remember the people from that day and to never forget what happened that day.

d. Carroll Sinquett, Green Street, requested that the street sweeper clean up the stones near the drain at Second Ave. & Green Street that were swept there by the recent storm.

e. Crest Avenue Traffic Calming – Council Member Crawford reported that the Public Safety Committee reviewed the data that had been gathered that included police reports, e-mails from concerned citizens and a report from the traffic engineer regarding the slope and depth and limits to which a hump could be placed on Crest Avenue. An informal survey was taken from some people on Crest Avenue who objected to having a hump placed in front of their driveways. The data gathered indicated that, with the exception of only 1-2 cases, there was no speeding on this road. The real concern seems to be volume and the issue is whether the hump would control volume. A hump is installed to control speeding, not volume. The data did not show speeding. Council is at an impasse with what can be done. We will conduct further studies to determine if the volume warrants other traffic calming ideas.

Joe Giandonato asked if they could see the traffic study information and asked how many times the police sat on the street.

Council President Van Sciver stated that the traffic study information would be available for their review.

Mark Eisenhardt, 421 Monument Avenue and 60 Crest Avenue, reported that there has been a tremendous police presence outside of his home every morning. He reported that at least six people go through the stop sign at Monument and Crest every morning. He feels the Police are focused at where they see the volume of traffic. In the afternoon and after school hours, what happens is those people are looking for other routes that don't have stop signs or traffic signals. The volume of traffic backs up at the traffic light at Warren and King and extends back to Crest Avenue. Motorists then make a right-hand turn onto Crest and go down to Monument. The Police face the other way. The motorists hit the speed hump and the police are looking the other way. Mr. Eisenhardt suggested that the police station themselves on Highland Ave. and they will see the speeders. There are 14 kids on the street. There is a police presence but they aren't in the right spot. The volume problem was caused by what has been done in town with the stop signs. Mr. Eisenhardt stated that Malvern Avenue is another good example because motorists stop at Highland. He stated that something has to be done on Crest Avenue. Motorists are going 45 MPH. Mr. Eisenhardt suggested that he could get a committee together to meet with the traffic engineer or the police force. If money is being spent, he feels it should be spent on something that is going to work.

Council Member Crawford reported that in considering the options and the question of stop signs, a traffic study would have to be conducted and the intersection would have to meet PennDOT warrants for a stop sign. The humps would not solve the problems.

Mr. Mann feels they are sitting on a time bomb now. He feels someone is going to get hurt or killed. Police should be at Highland Ave. between 7:00-8:30 in the morning.

Mr. Eisenhardt stated that when motorists are traveling from King Street towards Monument, there is a lot of speed when they hit the crest of the hill. They cannot see. The

speeds are faster when they are going south on Crest Avenue. The bulk of the children are at Highland and Crest Avenues. He feels the first two weeks of school would be a good test study.

Council President Van Sciver stated that the Borough would look at this street again and conduct more speed studies.

3. Needs Analysis for the Regional Act 537 Plan for the Valley Forge Sewer Authority and Letter to the VFSA – the Manager reported that the Department of Environmental Protection has requested that Borough Council review the Needs Analysis prepared by Dan Daley, Edward B. Walsh & Associates, Inc., for the Valley Forge Sewer Authority Regional Act 537 Plan, and prepare a letter if they are in agreement with the Growth Projection Table.

Council Vice President Raymond asked if the report took into consideration the potential EDU's if they were to adopt the E. King Street development. The Manager responded that it did.

Council Member Vike pointed out that by 2035, the Borough would still not be over their allocation and that the Table includes total build out of both the Malvern Retreat and Malvern Preparatory School properties if those properties were ever to be sold for development.

Council President Van Sciver stated that this was a very interesting Growth Projection Table and felt it encompassed all future development.

A motion was made by Council Member Vike, seconded by Council Vice President Raymond and unanimously carried by a vote of 5-0 to confirm the Malvern Borough Needs Analysis from the Borough Engineer, and to authorize the Borough Manager to send a letter to DEP confirming current and future flow projections.

4. Administrative Code for Home Rule Charter & Shade Tree Commission – the Manager reviewed the questions brought forth at the last Council meeting and the following changes were made to the Administrative Code:

Article III, §25-7. Delete the last sentence “To receive such reimbursement.....”.

Article IV, §25-14 C (7). Change “Codes Appeals Board” to Board of Appeals.

Article IV, §25-14 E (12). Delete

Article V, §25-17 B. Change wording to “Checks or drafts of the Borough must have three signatures. The signatures shall consist of the Borough Manager, the Treasurer and one member of Borough Council.

Article V, §25-19 A (1). Increase Twenty Thousand dollars (\$20,000) to Twenty-Five Thousand dollars (\$25,000).

(2). Change written or telephone price quotations from \$20,000 to \$10,000.

There were no changes to the proposed Shade Tree Commission chapter in the Administrative Code.

5. Letters Received – the Manager brought to the attention of Council three letters that were received:

- (1) From Kathie and Jerry Brown regarding Victorian Christmas
- (2) From Siemens Medical Solutions USA, Inc. regarding possible mass layoffs at their Malvern facility beginning on September 9, 2008, that may number up to 500 employees
- (3) An e-mail from Dan Daley regarding Malvern Prep's pond dredging.

6. W. First Avenue Stormwater – Council President Van Sciver reported that at the August meeting, three residents from W. First Avenue were in attendance regarding stormwater on W. First Avenue. Council President Van Sciver asked that the Supt. of Public Works look at the stormwater basin behind the properties. It was reported that the top of the basin was above the soil line. It was felt the heights were incorrect and the basins may not be located in the correct spots. Mr. Holliday at 112 W. First Avenue expressed a willingness to meet with the Supt. of Public Works to review the situation.

7. Malvern Retreat Entrance – Council President Van Sciver also reported that, at the August meeting, Mr. Sinquett had reported that at the lower gate entrance to the Retreat, the storm basin is all clogged up and needs to be cleaned out. Council Member Edge reported that the pipe goes under Warren Avenue and drains onto Malvern Prep and that the Malvern Prep side is all built up with silt.

8. Permanent Agenda:

Septa Tunnel
Randolph Woods/Greenway Link
Community Center/Recreation
Revitalization Plan/Main Street
Infrastructure Improvements
Traffic Calming
North & South Warren Ave. Sidewalks
Truck Traffic (No. and So. Warren Ave. and PA Ave. Extension to E. W. Twp.)

9. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Council Vice President Raymond, seconded by Council Member Edge and unanimously carried by a vote of 5-0, to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Kelley
Secretary/Manager