

PRESIDING: Henry H. Briggs, President

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

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

COUNCIL RECESSED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS TWO LEGAL MATTERS

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?

There was no public comment.

3. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. Zoning Hearing Board Application –51 Crest Avenue – the Manager reported that the applicant is seeking relief from the following: a) height restriction on an accessory structure, and, (b) with respect to the construction of the accessory building further forward than the principal building. The applicant is also seeking a special exception regarding the proposal to extend or enlarge the use of the existing nonconformity and the enlargement of nonconforming structures.

This is a long-standing nonconformity in a residential district. The applicant seeks to build a larger addition on the house, take down the existing garage, the garage would be a work area and living space and build a new, larger 1500 sq ft garage on the other side of the driveway. They would be extending a nonconforming use and would need a special exception to do that.

Council directed the Borough attorney to attend the hearing and ask if they would be extending the use of the garage in order to store stones or put names on the headstones. It was understood that they wanted to put their equipment and trucks in the garage, but the question is what do they do with their trucks now. Council directed the attorney to request that a variance not be granted except within the context of the residential area. Council does not want to see an increase in the business use and it should be expressed to the Zoning Hearing Board that the Comprehensive Plan does not recommend having one inch more of business in this area.

Someone from Council should attend the hearing with the attorney.

- b. Announce Bids for 1979 Ford F-350 Utility Body Bucket Truck – sealed bids will be accepted for a 1979 Ford F-350 Utility Body Bucket Truck until Tuesday, August 21, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.

c. Chelsea Brooke Subdivision/Land Development Plan-Longford Ave. – John Smirga, P.E., presented the Subdivision/Land Development Plan for Chelsea Brooke, Longford Avenue & Bridge Street, to Council.

Mr. Smirga explained that the applicant would be dedicating 25 feet of the property to Longford Avenue to increase the width of Longford Avenue. They would also be requesting one waiver to have a driveway five feet from the property line. They will have a five-foot grass strip between the property lines to the property line down the middle. The Planning Commission wants to make sure all cars drive out forward onto Bridge Street and Longford Avenue. The waiver would allow 2 ½ feet more room for the turnaround. The Planning Commission agreed that the extra five feet (two driveways) does make sense.

Council questioned whether the applicant would consider extending the sidewalk to the top of Longford just below High Street and Mr. Smirga said they would be happy to put the sidewalk in with their labor and the Borough's checkbook. It was suggested that the additional cost could be realized by putting in more concrete and less brick pavers. It was agreed that they would get a price and negotiate.

The question was asked if Borough Council could give Final Approval at the same time Preliminary Approval was given. The Manager explained that under the new SALDO, it would require two separate approvals, but she would check into it and get back to them.

Cecilia Oswald, 119 Longford Avenue, reported that she and her husband like the plans that were submitted and they support the waiver.

Judy and Bob Moses, 12 High Street, stated that they were in agreement with the plans.

Chris Lynch, 115 Longford Avenue, stated that he was in agreement with the plans.

Mr. Moses stated that his only concern with the entire process is when they are coming out of their driveways, there should be stop signs on Longford and Bridge.

Council President Briggs explained the difficulty in meeting traffic warrants for the placement of stop signs.

Mr. Smirga, on behalf of the applicant, stated that if Borough Council decides they want a "New Traffic Pattern" sign, the applicant will pay for it.

d. W. First Ave. & Wayne Ave. Paving Project – the Manager reported that the paving contract for W. First Ave. and Wayne Ave. was bid differently than in past years. Under the old contracts, we bid for equipment rental and we purchased blacktop under the state contract. Our Public Works employees would have been on-site for the number of days it took to mill and pave the road. In addition, they would have swept the road, run the street sweeper, placed the tack coat and sealed all the joints. For this job, it would have cost the Borough approximately \$57,860 (plus the work by our Public Works employees for 7-8 days).

Under the new contract, our Public Works employees did none of the work and the job was bid at \$45,431.64. Because we bid the job, we were not obligated to purchase the blacktop under the state contract and were able to obtain a better grade of blacktop. Our Public Works employees were freed-up to complete other projects in the Borough.

e. Fee-in-lieu of Parking – the Planning Commission discussed this fee and has recommended that Borough Council adopt a \$5,000 fee for parking per space and also recommends that there be an option for installment payments.

After some discussion, it was suggested that the Planning Commission provide a sense of what other communities do; i.e., Media, Wayne, New Hope, West Chester.

4. 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.)

Council President Briggs asked Council to consider putting something on the website that would alert a homeowner that if Verizon removes the copper wire during a FiOS installation and the homeowner wants the copper wire back, Verizon is obligated to put it back. He also suggested that something be distributed to each new homeowner in the Borough at the time the property transfers.

Both Council Members Smith and Edge voted “no”. Council Member Crawford stated that if Council President Briggs just re-stated the law, he would not need Council’s approval.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra L. Kelley
Secretary/Manager