

**MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2019**

The Downingtown Borough Council met in regular session January 16, 2019 at the Municipal Government Center, 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA. Members present: Vice President Rakoff, Councilors Dague, McGlone, Thomas and Feldman. Also attending were Solicitor O'Keefe and members of Borough staff. Mayor Maxwell and President Gazzerro did not attend.

Vice President Rakoff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He announced the sudden passing of Chief Jim McGowan and asked that we keep his family in our thoughts.

Recognition/Awards – None

Approval of Expenditures for Period Ending December 31, 2018 – Councilor McGlone made a motion to approve the expenditures for the period ending December 31, 2018, Councilor Dague seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Borough Council Minutes (December 19, 2018) – Councilor Dague made a motion to approve the Borough Council minutes of December 19, 2018, Councilor Thomas seconded; motion carried 4-0 (Councilor Feldman abstained).

Citizens to be Heard

Jeff Stevens, 403 Sunset Dr., requested the approved Borough Budget be posted on the Borough's website.

Deferred Business - None

New Business

Administrative Update (Steve Sullins)

- We are looking to upgrade the Borough's website and are researching several vendors. Civic Plus provides website services to many municipalities. We are hoping to upgrade the Borough website in the near future. The cost is quite reasonable, we will have the ability to populate the website internally and will include the budget, events calendar, on-line payments, forms, etc.
- We bid out our electric and gas services every 36 months, this year we received prices for 100% green electric energy bought off of wind, solar and water power off the grid. We will save approximately \$15,000 over 36 months, it is worth the cost of investing in green energy over the current PECO rates.

Councilor Dague made a motion to enter into the contract to purchase green energy for the 36 month period, contingent on review by the Solicitor pertaining to the bid process required for this type of service, Councilor Feldman seconded; motion carried unanimously.

- River Station Zoning in East Caln Twp. – The property next to River Station is currently zoned commercial, Hankin has proposed establishing a Transit Oriented Overlay District. The River Station project was reviewed during the January Planning Commission meeting and they will present all documents to the Planning Commission for final approval in February.
- The Chestnut Street Bridge is scheduled to close on January 28, 2019 for approximately 18 months during construction of a new bridge.

- Woodbine Road Lots 1 & 3 were approved. The apartment complex was a 600 page plan set and the review is complete. They will have the architectural review by the Planning Commission for approval during February. The proposed sewer line from Woodbine Rd. through Bishop Shanahan was approved by DEP.
- DASD/STEM is in the process and they are working on unresolved issues pertaining to stormwater.
- Mr. Sullins reached out to Greg Dodge, Zavino Restaurant, who purchased Milito's property last year to request a status on the restaurant; however, he has been unable to connect with him.
- There have been discussions with the Historic Commission regarding the cannon monument, we want to have the monument design completed this year so the cannon has a permanent location in Downingtown.
- We received the Kardon Park Termination of Sale Agreement, the seven acre lot in East Caln Twp. will not be developed.
- With the potential sale of Dane Décor, we should look closer at conducting a study for a parking garage. There was a discussion to partner with a potential buyer to construct a parking garage in the future.
- We appointed, Beth Rakoff, interim tax collector in November, she submitted our annual report to the County for delinquent taxes of approximately \$53,000 for 2018. We typically have \$90,000-\$100,000 in delinquent taxes submitted for collection every year. Delinquent bills were mailed out and we were able to collect quite a bit of the money which was past due and Beth cleaned up many outstanding issues.
- The cooling tower was delivered and installed, we will have it operational in the spring.
- Reardon Dental's expansion is underway.
- The Lancaster Avenue bridge is currently under design, the bridge lighting and needed temporary easements for the new bridge are in the process. Construction of the new bridge will probably occur within the next three years. DVRPC has approved a traffic study for the roject.

Mayor & Council Updates

Vice President Rakoff announced the January 23, 2019 Borough Council meeting is cancelled, next meeting will be held on February 6, 2019.

Adjournment

Councilor Dague made a motion to adjourn the Borough Council meeting at 7:30 p.m., Councilor McGlone seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


 Millie Byerly
 Assistant Secretary