

DECEMBER 8, 2015
PROSPECT PARK, PA

The meeting of the Prospect Park Borough Council was held on, December 8, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at Borough Hall. President O'Connell called the meeting to order and led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members present were: Mayor Harris, Mrs. Shallet, Mr. Bradley, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Moore, Mr. Jurek, Mrs. Faison, Mr. Schreiber and Ms. Edwards. Mr. McBlain and Ms. Catania were also present.

MINUTES

President O'Connell entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2015 Council Meeting. Mr. Jurek made the motion, seconded by Mr. Moore. All in favor, motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - MRS. HURST

Mrs. Hurst read the Secretary's Report for the month of November 2015. Total deposits for the General Fund were \$208,339.15; Sewer Fund \$12,151.57 Liquid Fuels \$1.62; Escrow Fund \$0.00; Recycling Fund \$170.00. President O'Connell entertained a motion for approval of the Secretary's Report for November 2015. Mr. Jurek made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Shallet. All in favor, motion carried.

President O'Connell read over the agenda for tonight's meeting.

President O'Connell congratulated all of the Halloween Decorating Contest winners, and introduced Mrs. Faison, who introduced Ms. Edwards to give out the awards.

Ms. Edwards presented the awards to the following winners:

- 1st Precinct- James Rooney- 112 Mackenzie Avenue (not in attendance)
- 2nd Precinct- DJ & Danielle Brosnan- 811 Pennsylvania Avenue (present)
- 3rd Precinct- John & Dorothy Bryan- 926 7th Avenue (not in attendance)
- 4th Precinct- Steven & Ashley Rehn- 814 14th Avenue (present)
- 5th Precinct- Joseph & Sarah O'Donnell- 1622 Norwood Avenue (present)

President O'Connell called for a 5 minute recess.

REPORT OF ENGINEER – MS. CATANIA

Lincoln Avenue Improvements –The contractor has abandoned work due to winter season and perceived conflicts.

Sanitary Sewer Improvements – JCM Contractors will start work the week of December 7, 2015.

Witmer Park Bleachers - Proposal for work has been received.

Moore's Lake Dam - PADEP has not confirmed the ownership of the dam.

Generator - Borough Hall calculations to determine the required size and pressure of the gas line to utilize the generator at full capacity are forthcoming. Work is being completed by our sub-consultant Bonnett Associates.

AQUA - Aqua has completed trench restoration. I would recommend bids be taken in January for this work with notice to proceed to start in April 2016.

CDBG 2016 - Hearing for public comment on potential projects should be held. A List of potential projects has been generated and is submitted for review. Applications are due January 11, 2016

STORM/SANITARY ISSUES:

Summit Avenue –. Concrete restoration (sidewalk and apron on 4 properties) and paving restoration has been completed.

2nd & Pennsylvania Avenue - Received a request from a resident on 2nd Avenue to investigate erosion along his property and drive.

Amosland Road Sanitary - 13th to 16th – Extensive grease has been found in the line. Minor cracks and a small sag have been identified.

The Community Development Block Grant Hearing was held and the Resolution is on the agenda for approval tonight.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR HARRIS

Mayor Harris read the police report for the month of November 2015. Officers responded to 21 motor vehicle accidents. Each accident was investigated and reports filed. Officers responded to 12 domestic situations including violations of protection from abuse orders or other types of domestic. Each complaint was handled by an arrest or referred to the proper agency. Officers responded to 14 fire, burglary or robbery alarms. The Police Department assisted local ambulance and paramedic units on 36 medical emergencies. There were 9 motorist assistance calls, and 7 911 hang-up calls. There were a total of 261 complaints.

The tree lighting ceremony was at Park Square on Thursday, December 3, 2015, rescheduled from the rain out on December 1, 2015. Mayor Harris said it was the best crowd in six years. He thanked the Beautification Committee, the Firehouse for bringing Santa, Jim Cleaner, P & G Catering, Traub's, and the Highway Department.

Mayor Harris also thanked Council for all their hard work on the budget in helping to keep taxes down.

REPORT OF HEALTH AND INSURANCE – MRS. SHALLET

Mrs. Shallet attended the Workplace Safety Committee meeting on Wednesday, November 2, 2015. There were no issues. There was a discussion about cold weather, and icy conditions for the upcoming winter season.

REPORT OF BUILDINGS AND PARKS - MR. BRADLEY

Mr. Bradley said they are working on pricing for plumbing issues at the Firehouse.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR – MR. MCBLAIN

Mr. McBlain read Ordinance No. 1333 - Fixing Real Estate Tax Rate for 2016 at 9.62 mills, Per Capita Tax 2016 at \$10.00, Local Service Tax 2016 at \$52.00 per year, Sewer Rental Tax 2016 at \$7.25 per thousand gallons, Trash Tax 2016 at \$180.00 per household.

President O’Connell entertained a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1333. Mr. Bradley made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Shallet. All in favor, motion carried.

REPORT OF FINANCE – PRESIDENT O’CONNELL

President O’Connell stated that the 2016 Budget is set at \$4,734,861.87. This is an increase of \$54,262.00. The increase is due to Labor Agreements and Professional Services. The Real Estate Millage rate increased to 9.62 from 9.52. All other taxes will remain the same. Recycling helped keep the Trash Tax the same. We should see an increase in the real estate transfer tax next year.

President O’Connell entertained a motion to approve the 2016 Budget. Mr. Bradley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schreiber. All in favor, motion carried. President O’Connell thanked Deb Hurst for her help with the budget.

PAYROLL - All members have a copy of the Payroll Report for November 2015 which totaled \$105,205.42. President O’Connell entertained a motion to approve the payroll for November 2015. Mr. Bradley made the motion, seconded by Mr. Jurek. All in favor, motion carried.

BILLS LIST – All members have a copy of the Bill List for the month of November 2015 to be paid in December 2015 in the amount of \$392,269.10. President O’Connell entertained a motion to approve the Bill List. Mrs. Shallet made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bradley. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: All members have a copy of the Treasurer’s Report for November 2015. Total cash balance General Fund: \$509,772.88; Sewer Fund: \$75,962.06; Highway Fund: \$62,845.04; Escrow Fund: \$245,315.15 Recycling Fund: \$20,895.77 President O’Connell entertained a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Bradley made the motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Mrs. Shallet. All in favor, motion carried.

President O’Connell entertained a motion a motion to purchase 2016 a Ford Explorer from Pacifico Marple Ford Lincoln at the Costars price of \$27,716.00. Mr. Schreiber made the motion seconded by Mrs. Faison. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Moore asked if the price of the new vehicle included lights. President O’Connell stated that it is a Code Enforcement vehicle and will not need lights.

President O’Connell stated that the work on Lincoln Avenue has been suspended for the winter. PECO is replacing gas lines along Lincoln Avenue. President O’Connell thanked the residents for their patience. No handicap ramps have been installed as of yet.

REPORT OF PLANNING AND ZONING - MR. MOORE

Mr. Moore read The Zonings Officers Report for the month of November: 113 Annual Apartment unit inspections; 1 single annual inspection; 11 sale of property inspections; and 44 Zoning & Permit reviews.

Mr. Moore stated that there are 2 Planning Commissions positions open in January. Mr. Moore will make motions at the Reorganization meeting in January.

REPORT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. JUREK

There was normal police and fire activity in the month of November.

REPORT OF LIBRARY AND RECREATION – MRS. FAISON.

Lunch with Santa is scheduled for December 12, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. No senior group is assigned as of yet.

This year's Christmas house decorating contest will be handled by the new Junior Councilperson Shelby Edwards.

The 60+ New Years Luncheon is scheduled for January 16, 2016. Mrs. Faison stated that Shelby Edwards will be involved. Mrs. Faison asked Council to please involve Shelby as much as possible.

REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS - MR. SCHREIBER

Leaves will continue to be picked up for the next two weeks. The Highway Department is prepared for upcoming snow this winter.

Mr. Schreiber made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1844 - 2016 CDBG Applications, seconded by Mr. Moore. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Schreiber made a motion to authorize bids for the Aqua Trench Restoration, seconded by Mr. Jurek. All in favor, motion carried.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON

Ms. Edwards stated that the seniors at Interboro High School raised \$400.00 for students in need.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR A MAXIMUM OF THIRTY MINUTE

Paul Johnson, 1021 Washington Avenue, asked if the Borough uses a traditional accounting system when figuring the budget. President O'Connell explained that the real estate tax is based on the real estate assessment, which is a traditional accounting system. Mr. Johnson asked what the difference between the budget codes for salaries for police patrolmen and salaries for extra men. Mayor Harris explained that the patrolmen are full time officers and extra men are part-time officers. President O'Connell stated that were are currently in negotiations with the FOP, but are bound to pass a budget in December. Mr. Johnson asked why there is an increase on the parking permit budget item. President O'Connell explained that we put it up due to the amount sold and stated that the cost of the parking permits will not go up in 2016. Mr. Johnson asked if

there is a way throughout the year to see the budget. President O'Connell explained he can fill out a right to know form requesting a copy of each months Treasurer's Report.

Phyllis Floyd, 604 14th Avenue, stated that the handicap sidewalk on her corner is in need of repair. Ms. Catania explained that the ADA ramps are required to have no lip.

Mrs. Floyd asked what has been done about the abandoned cars in the Borough. The Mayor stated that 13 cars have been given citations. Mrs. Floyd also asked about procedures for the citations. Chief Engel stated that residents are given 30 to 90 days to comply. If they do not comply then they could be issued a citation up to \$300.00. Mrs. Floyd also asked about two street lights that were reported and that are still out. The electrician will be contacted about the street lights.

Mrs. Floyd asked how payments will be made for the Code Enforcer's vehicle. Mayor Harris explained that it is no different than any other Borough vehicle. It is paid out of the general budget.

Pat Wolf, 814 Summit Avenue, asked about purchasing parking permits. They go on sale the week of December 21, 2015. Chief Engel said that they give residents until about the second week in January before they will start to issuing tickets.

Bob Horn, 220 Lincoln Avenue, asked if there is any word on the Lincoln Avenue bridge. President O'Connell stated there the Borough has heard nothing more about the bridge.

Paul Johnson, 1021 Washington Avenue, thanked Prospect Park Borough for making his first year in town a good one. He feels very welcome. He appreciates all the hard work that the Council does to keep the Borough taxes low.

President O'Connell wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

President O'Connell entertained a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Faison made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bradley. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Attest

Respectfully Submitted

Deborah A. Hurst
Borough Secretary