

JANUARY 12, 2016
PROSPECT PARK, PA

The meeting of the Prospect Park Borough Council was held on, January 12, 2016 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 December 8, 2015 CDBG Meeting. Mr. Jurek made the motion, seconded by Mr. Bradley. All in favor motion carried.

President O'Connell entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2015 Council Meeting. Mr. Schreiber 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 December 2015. Total deposits for the General Fund were \$114,157.54; Sewer Fund \$15,961.24 Liquid Fuels \$2,841.65; Escrow Fund \$2528.00; Recycling Fund \$131.50. President O'Connell entertained a motion for approval of the Secretary's Report for December 2015. Mr. Bradley made the motion, seconded by Mr. Jurek. All in favor, motion carried.

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

President O'Connell opened up the floor to public comment regarding the agenda.

Paul Johnson, 1021 Washington Avenue, asked why his appointment to the Planning Commission was disqualified. He has been in the Borough since 2014, and gave his interest in August and filled out the proper paperwork and application. Mr. McBlain explained that he was not disqualified, and that there were other applicants. President O'Connell stated that there were other applicants that have lived in the Borough for a longer time period and Council felt these applicants were better suited. Mr. Johnson voiced his disappointment.

Phyllis Floyd, 604 14th Avenue, stated she was under the impression that there were no other applicants for the Planning Commission. Mrs. Floyd wanted to know what the qualifications for the committee's are, and who picks the applicants. President O'Connell stated that Council makes recommendation, and as you can see on the agenda, Council makes the appointments. Mrs. Floyd wonders why the committees themselves don't make the recommendations. President O'Connell said there were multiple people that applied, and this is what Council agreed to do. Mrs. Floyd asked if it had anything to do with whether you are registered Democrat or Republican. President O'Connell replied "absolutely not". Mr. McBlain stated that it is fair to appoint a resident who has lived in the Borough longer. A resident who has appeared at Council Meetings in 2015 and been involved is commendable, but Mr. Johnson has only lived

in the Borough for a year, whereas the residents appointed, have been living in the Borough for a long time. Mr. McBlain, who does not live in the Borough, recognizes the appointees from their involvement in the Borough. Mr. McBlain understands Mr. Johnson's disappointment.

Mr. McBlain told Mrs. Floyd that he believes it was an unfair question that she asked about the political affiliation of the appointees. Mr. McBlain stated that as an elected official, he is sure that there were many times when Mrs. Floyd voted on individuals that were appointed to public position of authority within the School District when hiring teachers and wonders if she asked for their political affiliation. Mr. McBlain asked Mrs. Floyd that when she served as public official and someone would have posed that question to her, or made that accusation against her, wouldn't she have had a very negative reaction to that charge. Mr. McBlain asked Mrs. Floyd if she ever made a decision on the School Board that was ever based on someone's political affiliation. Mrs. Floyd replied "no". Mr. McBlain stated that was not only an unfair question to Council, but also insulting.

Mayor Harris told Mr. Johnson not to get discouraged. There will be other positions that will come along. Mr. Johnson indicated he will not get discouraged.

REPORT OF ENGINEER – DANIEL ARCHDEACON FOR LISA 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 Field 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 - Bids were taken for restoration in the spring. Four bids were received. Low bid was that of AF Damon and is within budget at \$51,313.00. I would recommend award to AF Damon with notice to proceed in April 2016.

CDBG 2016 - Applications are in progress and are due January 11, 2016.

Annual Maintenance Contracts - Bids were taken and three bids were received. A to U Services was low bid. I would recommend award to A to U Services in the amount of \$34,747.00 for year one.

STORM/SANITARY ISSUES:

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 small sag has been identified. Memo has been forwarded for consideration.

Mr. Moore asked how we are going to resolve the issue with the Moore's Lake Dam. Mr. Archdeacon said he will talk to Ms. Catania, and Mr. McBlain stated that he will also follow up.

President O'Connell asked Mr. Archdeacon to please convey our thoughts and prayers to the Catania family.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR HARRIS

Mayor Harris read the police report for the month of December 2015. Officers responded to 33 motor vehicle accidents. Each accident was investigated and reports filed. Officers responded to 23 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 23 fire, burglary or robbery alarms. The Police Department assisted local ambulance and paramedic units on 27 medical emergencies. There were 7 motorist assistance calls, and 5 911 hang-up calls. There were a total of 289 complaints.

REPORT OF HEALTH AND INSURANCE – MRS. SHALLET

There was a Workplace Safety Committee meeting on Thursday, January 7, 2015. There were no issues. There was a discussion about streets and plows.

Mrs. Shallet will be attending a boot camp for new Council Members.

REPORT OF BUILDINGS AND PARKS - MR. BRADLEY

Mr. Bradley said the Firehouse sump pump and downspout work has been complete.

The Police Station will be painted soon.

REPORT OF SOLICITOR – MR. MCBLAIN

Mr. McBlain had no items to discuss.

Mayor Harris asked if there was any word from the FOP on the agreement. Mr. McBlain said the Agreement was agreed to in principle. They hope to have new contract to present at the February meeting.

REPORT OF FINANCE – PRESIDENT O'CONNELL

PAYROLL - All members have a copy of the Payroll Report for December 2015 which totaled \$149,434.00. President O'Connell entertained a motion to approve the payroll for December 2015. Mr. Bradley made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Shallet. All in favor, motion carried.

BILLS LIST – All members have a copy of the Bill List for the month of December 2015 to be paid in January 2016 in the amount of \$285,080.28. President O'Connell entertained a motion to approve the Bill List. Mr. Jurek made the motion, seconded by Mr. Moore. All in favor, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: All members have a copy of the Treasurer's Report for December 2015. Total cash balance General Fund: \$360,629.76; Sewer Fund: \$76,822.26; Highway Fund: \$63,556.24; Escrow Fund: \$237,224.94 Recycling Fund: \$21,027.27 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 stated that the work on Lincoln Avenue has been suspended for the winter. President O'Connell thanked the residents for their patience. PECO is replacing gas lines along Lincoln Avenue. Concerns were expressed to PECO concerning the gas lines, and we are glad that the work is being done.

REPORT OF PLANNING AND ZONING - MR. MOORE

Mr. Moore read the Zonings Officer's Report for the month of December: 11 Annual Apartment unit inspections; 1 duplex sale of property inspection; 12 sale of property inspections; 22 zoning permit reviews.

Mr. Moore stated that there are 2 applicants that will be sworn in before the January 2016 Planning Commission meeting.

Mr. Moore made a motion to reappoint John Furman to the Planning commission for a term of four years, seconded by Mr. Schreiber. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to reappoint James Cleaver to the Planning commission for a term of four years, seconded by Mr. Schreiber. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to reappoint Kristine Borchert to the Planning commission for a term of three years, seconded by Mr. Schreiber. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to appoint Joseph Magee to the Planning commission for a term of three years, seconded by Mr. Schreiber. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to appoint Brian Mecouch to the Planning commission for a term of two years, seconded by Mr. Schreiber. All in favor, motion carried.

REPORT OF PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. JUREK

Mr. Jurek made a motion to advertise Ordinance No. 1334 - no parking on the East side of the 400 block of Prospect Avenue and authorizes 30 day "no parking this side" signs, seconded by Mrs. Faison. All in favor, motion carried.

There was normal police and fire activity in the month of December 2015.

REPORT OF LIBRARY AND RECREATION – MRS. FAISON.

The Beef & Beverage at the firehouse was very successful. This year's Christmas House Decorating contest winners will be awarded their gift certificates at the February Council Meeting.

The 60+ New Years Luncheon is scheduled for January 16, 2016, from noon to 3:00 p.m.

REPORT OF PUBLIC WORKS - MR. SCHREIBER

Leaf collection is complete for the season. We are prepared for upcoming winter season.

We received our 2013 Recycling Performance Grant check in the amount of \$4,647.00.

Mr. Schreiber made a motion to accept the low bid from A to U services in the amount of \$34,747.00 for one year for the Annual Maintenance Contract, seconded by Mrs. Shallet. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Schreiber made a motion to accept the low bid from A. F. Damon in the amount of \$53,313.00 for the AQUA Street Restoration, seconded by Mr. Jurek. All in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Schreiber made a motion to approve payment #1 in the amount of \$60,705.00 from JMC Contractors for the Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation on Yagle Avenue, seconded by Mr. Jurek. All in favor, motion carried.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON

Ms. Edwards will be announcing the Christmas Decorating Contest winners at the February meeting. There will be a School Board meeting on January 20, 2016.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR A MAXIMUM OF THIRTY MINUTE

Paul Johnson, 1021 Washington Avenue, asked if we are allowed to make changes in the minutes. In the August 11, 2015 minutes, there was a statement from Mr. Johnson with an estimate totaling thousands of dollars. Mr. Johnson stated one thousand dollars. Also, at the November 10, 2015 minutes, there were comments from Mr. Cepis stating that when there is a beautiful tree on a property that he will waive the requirement as far as the sidewalk. Mr. Johnson just wants to make sure if he sells his house that a tree won't be a problem. Mr. McBlain said that the minutes are not a transcript but a summary of the meetings. He feels that the more effective way would be for Mr. Johnson to discuss that issue with Mr. Cepis.

Mr. Johnson also asked about a new resident that was at the November 10, 2015 meeting. Her name is Pat Wolf and she lives at 814 Summit Avenue. She had asked about her parking permit being prorated since she moved here mid-year. Mr. Johnson said he did do some research, and other towns do prorate their parking permits. He asked Council if they could revisit that and make it possible for new residents to have their permits prorated.

Mr. Johnson read a letter he sent to Council on December 14, 2015 regarding the purchase of the borough vehicles and how he believes hybrid vehicles should be considered. He would like some feedback on the letter. President O'Connell said he will consider that request on future purchases.

Phyllis Floyd, 604 14th Avenue, apologized if she stepped out of line in her earlier question about political affiliation. She didn't appreciate the innuendo that when she served on the School Board that she was involved in any political favoritism. Mr. McBlain stated that he was not insinuating that she was involved in political favoritism. He was just pointing out that she would have been

equally offended if she had been asked that same question for the appointments that she voted on.

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 8:14 p.m.

Attest

Respectfully Submitted

Deborah A. Hurst
Borough Secretary