

**MINUTES OF THE February 7, 2017
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Nevin Scholl called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of Trappe Borough Council February 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Trappe Borough Hall, 525 West Main Street, Trappe, Pennsylvania. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Connie Peck.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council President Scholl announced there will be an Executive Session after the public meeting this evening to discuss legal matters. A vote is not expected after the Executive Session.

Those present were:

President Nevin Scholl
Vice President Cathy Johnson
Tammy Liberi
Scott Martin
Phil Ronca
Stu Strauss
Pat Webster

Also Present

Mayor Connie Peck
Solicitor Dave Onorato
Treasurer John Klink
Engineer Paul Schmoll
Borough Manager Robert Umstead

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the January 3, 2017 regular meeting of Borough Council. The minutes were accepted as presented.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 6 - 0

S. Martin abstained, not in attendance

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS: NONE

Conditional Use Hearing – PPG Stearly LLC - 120 W. Main Street

The Proof of Publication for this hearing was submitted as exhibit B-1. The transcript of the previous hearings on October 4, 2016 and November 1, 2016 were submitted as Exhibits B-2. The applicant Mr. Goldthrop was represented by John J. Iannozzi, Esq. The applicant presented exhibits A-1, a Conditional Use Application and A-2 the revised plans for the property at 1st Avenue and W. Main Street.

Mr. Goldthrop proposes to construct 8 twin homes on the lot (4 buildings with two homes each), four of the homes would front on Main Street and 4 would front on a private driveway with access from First Avenue. The homes fronting on Main Street would exceed the height requirement of the V-C Village Commercial District for which an application has been submitted to the Zoning Hearing Board. The fronts of the homes fronting on Main Street would be constructed with brick fronts, the sides and rears with siding. The homes would have a garage on the ground level and living areas on the second and third floors.

A question and answer period followed.

The Hearing was closed at 7:28 pm.

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:28 pm to discuss a legal matter concerning the hearing.

Council reconvened at 7:37 pm

Motion to approve the Conditional Use of eight twin homes, four fronting on Main Street and four on a private street, the private street to remain in the name of the homeowners association and not dedicated to the Borough, the four homes fronting on Main Street to be constructed with brick fronts, subject to the approval of the Zoning Hearing Board concerning the height variance:

Moved: P. Webster

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 5 – 2

S. Strauss and N. Scholl voted “No”.

STAFF REPORTS:

Engineer’s Report - The written Engineer’s Report from Paul Schmoll, representing Barry Isett Associates (BIA) was presented to all to review. A copy of the report is available at Borough Hall.

Betcher Road Mill & Overlay Project – Eight bids were received by Perkiomen Township for this project. The low bidder is Reid Paving Contractors. The Borough’s share of the project is \$58,396.11. Perkiomen Township’s engineer recommended approval of the bid.

Motion to approve Reid Paving Contractors bid for the Borough’s share of Betcher Road Mill & Overlay in the amount of \$58,396.11 (total project cost \$224,538.53 as recommended by SSM, Perkiomen Township Engineer):

Moved P. Webster

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7 – 0

Prior to the above project being completed, storm pipes and an inlet replacement are needed on the Borough’s portion of Betcher Road as a result of videotaping of the storm sewer lines previously. BIA has secured three written estimates to complete the project. The low estimate amounting to \$16,610 is from Floyd G. Hersh.

Motion to authorize necessary repairs to the storm sewer lines and inlet on Betcher Road in accordance with the engineer’s recommendations in the amount of the \$16,610 quote from Floyd G. Hersh:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 7 – 0

At Borough Council’s request the Recommended Roadway Priority by Year Ranking Report was revised by BIA. After further review of the report a number of roadways were moved up on the time schedule and a number of roadways were moved down. This was reviewed by Council.

Motion to accept the revised Recommended Roadway Priority by Year Ranking Summary Table as presented by BIA:

Motion: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 7 - 0

A Check List for Roadway Construction Projects was presented for the Clahor Avenue Paving Rehabilitation Project. The check list indicated the advertisement for the project would be published on March 3, 2017 with bid opening scheduled for March 30, 2017.

The Borough will co-sponsor an Electronic Recycling Day with 5 other municipalities. The date scheduled for this year is May 13, 2017 and the cost will be \$416.70.

Motion to approve participation in the Electronic Recycling Day and payment of the fee in the amount of \$416.70 to Skippack Township for the event scheduled for May 13, 2017:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7 – 0

Montgomery County Voter Services requested the use of Borough Hall on May 16, 2017 for the Primary Election and November 7, 2017 for the General Election.

Motion to approve the use of Borough Hall on May 16, 2017 and November 7, 2017 by Voter Services for Election Days:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7 – 0

A letter was received from Perkiomen Township advising the Township was not interested in participation in the installation of a crosswalk on Betcher Road in the vicinity of Nicholas Lane nor in the project labelled as Walkability Improvement Project.

Motion to have Barry Isett Assoc. investigate the ability to install a sidewalk on Betcher Road from the vicinity of Nicholas Lane to Bonnie Lane:

Moved: P. Ronca

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7 – 0

MS4: A fact sheet “Facts about Groundwater” was distributed to all.

Mayor’s Report - Mayor Peck presented her report. She swore in Officers² of Trappe Fire Co.; officiated at a marriage of Trappe residents; attended Trappe 300 Kick-Off Celebration on January 28, 2017; announced future events for Trappe 300 to be February 8, 2017 and February 11, 2017. A copy of the report was distributed to all of Council.

Solicitor’s Report – Solicitor Onorato conducted the Conditional Use Hearing at the beginning of the meeting.

Motion to approve the business reports:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 7 - 0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Services: No Report

Communications: A “Thank You” letter was sent to Gorski Engineering for hosting the Trappe 300 Kick-Off party. Facebook is receiving several “hits” reported over 1,000.

Finance & Streets: N. Scholl reported he met with a representative from RLGIT concerning various investment opportunities now available to municipalities due to the passage of Act 10 by the PA legislature. At this time, N. Scholl did not feel the new investment opportunities were for Trappe.

Parks & Open Space: S. Strauss to work with F. Schuetz on the design of the pergola for Rambo Park Trail entrance. A report is expected at the March 7 meeting.

Planning, Zoning & Ordinance: Borough Planning Commission meeting Feb. 21, 2017.

Regional Planning Commission - It is expected additional information will be forthcoming concerning the dispensing of medical marijuana from the County Planning Commission.

Public Works & CTMA: The minutes for the December 20, 2016 meetings were presented. It was reported by C. Johnson that CTMA is working on a water line construction contract for Route 113 and it is expected this will be completed by mid-July. PennDOT is then expected to repave Rt. 113. The water line installation will continue on Betcher Road from Rt. 113 to near Nicholas Lane to connect with an existing water line.

Traffic & Safety: Reports of the Trappe Fire Co. and the Trappe Fire Co Ambulance were presented. Copies of both reports are available at Borough Hall for inspection.

Walkable Community: See Borough Manager's report – letter from Perkiomen Twp.

Trappe 300 Celebration: The coming events of the Trappe 300 Celebration were presented for February and March.

Proposals for sign locations, at the Main Street Park and on Richard Holcombe's property at 11 W. Main St. were received from Hetrick Gardens. The proposal for the Main St. Park location is quoted at \$4,980.

Technology Platform: P. Ronca indicated the new web site is up and running. All Councilpersons, the Mayor and Borough Hall Staff have new email addresses. These new addresses MUST be used for all Borough Business.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: President Scholl advised in Governor Wolf's budget message recently delivered, he suggested a \$25 per person charge for any municipality using the PA State Police as their primary police protection. Based on the approximate population of Trappe, this could equate to approximately \$85,000 and would double the Borough's real estate tax rate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:16 p.m. Council entered into Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened at 10:27 p.m.

Motion to authorize BIA to stake out and provide a legal description and drawing for the parcel of land at the end of Oak Road designated at "Reserved":

Moved: P. Ronca

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7 - 0

Adjournment - There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 p.m.

Moved: T. Liberi

Seconded P. Ronca

Approved: 7 - 0

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert T. Umstead". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

**Robert T. Umstead
Borough Secretary**