

**MINUTES OF THE September 5, 2017
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Nevin Scholl called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of Trappe Borough Council September 5, 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 regular scheduled meeting to discuss legal matters. A vote is not expected after the Executive Session.

Those present were:

President Nevin Scholl
Vice President Cathy Johnson
Scott Martin
Phil Ronca
Stu Strauss
Pat Webster (arrived at 7:10 pm)
Brett Yeagley

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 August 1, 2017 regular meeting of Borough Council. The minutes were accepted as presented.

Motion to approve the regular meeting minutes as presented:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 6 – 0

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Eileen Johnson representing Perkiomen Valley Library was present. She provided a brochure for the Fall events at the Library and indicated the spring/summer sessions were very well attended.

Mr. Frank Jenkins, 301 Laurel Drive and Mr. & Mrs. Charles Ragusa, 20 Holly Drive were in attendance concerning the restriction of fences in the rear and side yard. Borough Manager R. Umstead explained that for several years the Fee Schedule indicated the maximum height of a fence in the rear and side yards was six (6) feet, however; it was recently determined the ordinance which is the controlling factor states the maximum height for a fence in the Residential Districts is four (4) feet. Both Mr. Jenkins and Mr. & Mrs. Ragusa were advised by the current and previous administration that the six (6) foot height of a fence was permitted. President N. Scholl advised his research into several surrounding communities' ordinances revealed six (6) feet was the normal. A brief discussion ensued. Solicitor Onorato explained the procedures to amend the ordinance, if it was Council's decision to do so.

Motion to authorize Solicitor Onorato to prepare an ordinance to amend Code of Ordinance Section 340.11.E to permit fences in the rear and side yards in residential districts up to a height of six (6) feet for consideration at the November 14, 2017 Council meeting:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7 - 0

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.

A letter was presented recommending approval of Escrow Release No. 8 for Colonel's Place – Mikelen, LLC in the amount of \$14,034.65 as this work has been completed.

Motion to approve Escrow Release No. 8 for Colonel's Place – Mikelen LLC in the amount of \$14,034.65:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: B. Yeagley

**Approved: 6 - 0
S. Martin abstained**

Included in the Engineer's Report was a recommendation to make a partial payment (Application No. 3) in the amount of \$97,328.56 to Floyd Hersh, Inc. for the work completed on the Clahor Avenue project.

Motion to make a partial payment to Floyd Hersh, Inc. in the amount of \$97,328.56:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7 – 0

Clahor Avenue – Due to re-paving of Clahor Avenue Collegeville Borough elected to not have the double yellow line painted down the middle of the roadway in Collegeville Borough. A discussion ensued. It was decided to follow suit and not have the double yellow line painted in Trappe. All other markings are to be installed.

The sketch for installation of the sidewalk at 500 Betcher Road and the legal description of the easement have been completed. Borough Manager will meet with owners for final approval.

Motion to authorize Solicitor Onorato to prepare easement with owners for sidewalk installation at 500 Betcher Road:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7 – 0

The sketch for replacement of the storm sewer at 28 Marian Road and legal description for an easement have been completed. Borough Manager will meet with owners for final approval.

Motion to authorize Solicitor Onorato to prepare easement with owners for storm sewer replacement at 28 Marian Road:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7 – 0

Treasurer's Report: John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2017 with a list of checks, check numbers 1836 through 1870, payroll charges and the Phoenixville Federal Card Service Center direct withdrawal from the Customers Bank General Checking Account and voided check number 1811 (\$22.00) in the amount of \$412,664.27.

Treasurer John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2017 for the Customers Bank Escrow Fund check numbers 1091 and 1092 in the amount of \$3,826.75.

Treasurer John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated August 31, 2017 for the Customers Bank Liquid Fuels Fund direct charges by PECO in the amount of \$2,319.37.

Communications: No Report

Finance & Streets: No Report

Parks & Open Space: S. Strauss reported there are some trees and shrubs in the park that need pruning and some dead trees that need to be removed. Also S. Strauss presented a list of recommendations for improvements/upgrades in both Rambo Park and the Borough Hall grounds. Borough Manager and S. Strauss to meet with landscaper to determine the cost. A discussion ensued concerning the removal of trees in Rambo Park.

Motion to authorize the expenditure of up to \$7,000. for the removal of five (5) dead trees in Rambo Park. At least three bids shall be acquired prior to the authorization of the tree removal.

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 6 - 1
P. Webster: Nay

Planning, Zoning & Ordinance: No Report

Regional Planning Commission: - No Report

Public Works & CTMA: The minutes for the July 25, 2017 meetings were presented. The Interest Income Computation and Cell Site Report dated July 31, 2017, for the Public Works and the Interest Income Computation for CTMA dated July 31, 2017 were presented.

The owners of a number of parcels of land surrounding Waterworks Park will need to be notified of Trappe Borough's acquisition of title to a portion of the current parkland via a "Quiet Title" action. An investigation of our deed by Colledgeville-Trappe Joint Public Works Department brought this title deficiency and needed correction to our attention.

Traffic & Safety: Reports of the Trappe Fire Co. (August 2017) and the Trappe Fire Co Ambulance (July 2017) were presented. Copies of both reports are available at Borough Hall for inspection.

S. Martin reported a "Meet and Greet" meeting with the PA State Police has been set up for September 28, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Trappe Borough Hall.

Walkable Community: P. Ronca reported after a walking review of the terrain and location of a proposed trail from Oak Road to Hunsberger Park, an estimate of probable cost for installation was prepared by BIA. The estimated cost is \$110,000. This may vary depending on some costs which may or may not have to be incurred in Colledgeville.

Trappe 300 Celebration: The base for the sign at the western entrance to the Borough has been completed.

Technology Platform: No Report

OLD BUSINESS: The Comcast Audit is progressing. A listing of homes in Trappe eligible to receive Comcast services was provided to Trappe. This was compared to the tax records by N. Scholl and differences resubmitted to Comcast for verification.

Verizon Audit – no report

NEW BUSINESS: The Trappe 300 Anniversary Committee is looking for a location for posting approximately 120 photos gathered during this year celebration. It was determined that Borough Hall would be an appropriate location. With this in mind; the Administration Services Committee will meet to discuss renovations to the Council meeting room for possible posting of the photos.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 9:45 p.m. Council entered Executive Session to discuss legal matters.

Council reconvened at 10:20 p.m.

Adjournment - There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m.

Moved: B. Yeagley

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7 - 0

Respectfully submitted,



Robert T. Umstead
Borough Secretary