

**MINUTES OF THE February 2, 2016
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Nevin Scholl called to order the regularly scheduled meeting of Trappe Borough Council on February 2, 2016 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 would be an Executive Session after the public meeting this evening to discuss legal matters. No vote is expected.

Those present were:

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

Also present:

Mayor Connie Peck
Solicitor David Onorato
Treasurer John Klink
Borough Engineer Ryan Kern
Borough Manager Robert Umstead

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The members of Council reviewed the minutes of December 29, 2015 closeout meeting of Borough Council.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented:

Moved: P. Ronca

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 5-0

T. Liberi & S. Strauss abstained

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the January 4, 2016 re-organization meeting of Borough Council.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: C. Johnson

Approved: 6-0

T. Liberi abstained

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the January 4, 2016 regular meeting of Borough Council.

Motion to approve the minutes a presented:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 6-0

T. Liberi abstained

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

President Scholl called for public comment. There was none.

WISMER SUB-DIVISION: Matthew Wismer was in attendance.

Solicitor Onorato presented Resolution 2016-01 which if adopted would grant preliminary/final approval of the subdivision plan for Mr. Wismer's property into two lots. Lot #1 would front on

Betcher Road and Lot #2 would be the remaining 143+/- acres which now comprises the Northern Star Farm and is located on PA Route 113 or E. Third Ave. The resolution grants six waivers which were requested by Mr. Wismer.

A lengthy discussion ensued. The waiver request for dedication of the land between the existing right- of -way and the ultimate right-of-way is to be deferred for the land adjacent to Route 113 until Borough Council requires this dedication in the future. Waiver A through F are granted as modified. The resolution is to be re-written so that all references to the land adjacent to Route 113/E. Third Ave will be referred to in the resolution as E. Third Avenue.

Motion to approved Resolution 2016-01 upon re-write by Solicitor Onorato:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 7-0

JD Development Company of PA LLC - David Martin owns the development company and through the company owns 114 and 120 Clahor Ave. Mr. Martin resides at 120 Clahor Ave and has recently demolished the residence at 114 Clahor Ave. and is in the process of building a new house at that site. Mr. Martin desires to change the lot line between 114 and 120 Clahor Avenue by removing 50 feet frontage on the private driveway from 114 Clahor Avenue and adding the frontage to 120 Clahor Avenue.

The Montgomery County Planning Commission supports this as a lot line change as opposed to a subdivision. Gilmore & Associates has reviewed the plan and both lots meet the current zoning requirements.

Motion to approve lot line change as presented by David Martin for lots 114 and 120 Clahor Ave:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7-0

STAFF REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report dated February 2, 2016: Check numbers 1197 through 1237 and payroll charges from the Customers Bank General Checking Account in the amount of \$72,794.70.

Treasurer John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2, 2016 for the Customers Bank Escrow Fund: Check numbers 1018 through 1021 in the amount of \$20,166.74.

Treasurer John Klink presented the Treasurer's Report for February 2, 2016 for the Customers Bank Liquid Fuels Fund: direct charges by PECO in the amount of \$2,602.21.

A copy of the Treasurer's Report was provided to all and is available for review at Trappe Borough Hall.

Motion to make payment of invoices included in the February 2, 2016, Treasurer's Report, check numbers 1197 through 1237 and payroll charges from the Customers Bank General Checking Account in the amount of \$72,794.70:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: T. Liberi.

Approved: 7-0

Motion to make payment of invoices included in the February 2, 2016 Treasurer's Report check numbers 1018 through 1021 from the Customers Bank Escrow Fun in the amount of \$20,166.74:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 7-0

Motion to approve electronic payment of the PECO invoices included in the February 2, 2016 Treasurer's Report from Customers Bank Liquid Fuels Account in the amount of \$2,602.21

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

Borough Manager's Report: Robert Umstead presented the Borough Manager's Report

1. Trappe Fire Company requested the installation of a strobe light within the red light at the intersection of W. 5th Ave. and W. Main St. PENN DOT responded that this is not permitted.
2. PNC - The bank continues to send collection notices for the past due fees. They have been ignored.
3. Audit – Styer & Associates has been in contact and will schedule the audit in the near future.
4. Snow Plowing - A meeting will be scheduled with the snow plow company to discuss levels of service.
5. Gilmore & Associates has submitted approvals of Escrow Release #2 and Escrow Release #3 for the Stearly tract construction site. The total of the two releases is \$98,104.17; of this amount \$16,676.36 is due Gilmore & Associates for construction inspection.

Motion to approve Escrow Release No 2 and Escrow Release No. 3 for the Stearly project construction:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: S. Martin

Approved: 7-0

Peck/MacIlwain Trail - It was suggested that Fred Schuetz continue as the Project Coordinator for this project through completion of the trail. Solicitor Onorato confirmed this is permitted. It is the Borough Managers recommendation that Fred Schuetz be appointed as the Project Coordinator for the Peck/MacIlwain Trail with the understanding any and all decisions will be presented to the Borough Manager and through him to Council as necessary.

Motion to approve Fred Schuetz as Project Coordinator for the Peck/MacIlwain Trail with the condition that any and all decisions be presented to the Borough Manager and through him to Borough Council as necessary:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7-0

MS4 - Information concerning Environmentally Conscious vs Safety Needs for the application of deicing chemicals was presented.

Public Works Emergency Notification System - It was determined the Borough Manager and Administrative Assistant should acquire a knowledge of the working of the Notification System and once the operation is learned, a test of the system should be performed.

Mayor's Report - Mayor Peck advised that she sworn-in the officers of Trappe Volunteer Fire Company at a ceremony held Jan 11, 2016.

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

Mr. Kern reported that BIA is now conducting all construction inspections at the Stearly project. Also, the proposed installation of a strobe light in the red light at 5th & Main St. is not permitted by PENN DOT.

Rambo Park - Once BIA receives the scope of the project, they will prepare a design/survey fee for Borough Council to consider.

Solicitor's Report - Solicitor Onorato reported that the draft ordinance to update the Flood Plain Ordinance has been prepared and is ready for advertising. His office will prepare a summary of the ordinance for advertising.

Motion to authorize the advertising of the summary of the Flood Plain Ordinance for consideration at the March 1, 2016 Council meeting:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: S. Strauss

Approved: 7-0

Motion to approve the business reports:

Moved: P. Ronca

Seconded: P. Webster

Approved: 7-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Services: No Report

Communications: Councilmember Pat Webster reported although she has prepared the past four issues of the newsletter; she is now investigating the possibility of a professional writer to edit and prepare the newsletter in the future. One professional has offered to prepare the newsletter for \$125. Ms. Webster emphasized that council members and Borough staff are still encouraged to submit items for each issue. More information will be presented at the next meeting. Ms. Webster presented copies of maps prepared for surrounding municipalities which were prepared at no cost to the Borough. Advertisements would be solicited by the map company to offset the cost of the map. More information on this matter will also be presented at the next Council meeting.

Finance & Streets: No Report

Parks & Open Space: F. Schuetz presented a time line for the Peck/MacIlwain trail. He expects to meet in the near future with representatives of BIA to firm up the schedule.

Planning, Zoning & Ordinance: Two properties were discussed at the Planning Commission meeting. One was the Fugo property near 1st Ave and Clahor Ave. The second property was the Roy Cooper property at 129 Cherry Ave. No decision was required on either presentation.

The Planning Commission continues to need a secretary.

Public Works & CTMA: Council Vice President Cathy Johnson presented the Public Works and CTMA Report. The minutes for both were presented. Copies of the minutes were provided to all members of Council and a copy is available for inspection at Borough Hall.

Traffic & Safety: Councilmember Scott Martin reported a meeting will be convened to discuss the recent snow storm and possible improvements to the communications between the snow plowing company and the Borough's representatives.

Walkable Community: Councilmember Phil Ronca reported on a meeting with Steve Gehringer and Jason VanBuren representing Ursinus College with reference to a possible connection between Oak Road and Hunsberger Woods that would have to traverse a short distance on Ursinus property. The trails beyond Trappe Borough would also be in Collegeville Borough. The Walkable Committee plans to visit the site as soon as weather permits and report at a future meeting of Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Borough needs a second representative appointed to the Central Perkiomen Valley Regional Planning Commission. Councilmember Pat Webster volunteered to serve in this position.

Motion to appoint Councilmember Pat Webster to the CPVRPC for a term ending December 31, 2017:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: P. Ronca

Approved: 7-0

Purchase and Installation of LED Street Lighting - President Scholl presented a "Status Report" of this goal. The goal is to replace all street lights with LED lighting. Plan A: a joint request with Schwenksville for grant from the PA Multimodal Transportation Fund. Estimate cost to Borough \$30,162, with an estimated annual electric savings of \$6,700. PA budget stalemate is holding up grant awards. Plan B-join with 45 municipalities through DVRPC to jointly purchase, install and fund LED Street lighting. Further information from Johnson Controls which was engaged by DVRPC is expected in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS: Council President Scholl called for new business.

Trappe 300 Committee will meet on February 10, 2016.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 10:30 p.m. Council entered into Executive Session to discuss legal issues.

Council reconvened at 11:04 p.m.

Motion to adjourn:

Moved: S. Martin

Seconded: T. Liberi

Approved: 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

**Robert T. Umstead
Borough Secretary**