

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 5, 2021
MEETING OF TRAPPE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Council President Cathy Johnson called to order the regular meeting of Trappe Borough Council, held at the Borough Hall at 525 W. Main Street, on October 5, 2021 at 7:00 PM and led the pledge of allegiance.

Those Present Were:

President Cathy Johnson
Dave Davis
Tom Lauterio
Mallory Perlin
Stu Strauss
Pat Webster
Mayor Matthew Wismer

Also Present:

Manager Marcus Dolny
Solicitor David Onorato
Treasurer John Klink
Borough Engineer Ryan Kern

Absent: Vice President Scott Martin

Visitors: Michelle and Greg Whitman, Michael Rose, Fred Schuetz, Bob Greenwood, and Brian Long

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The members of Council reviewed the minutes of the September 7, 2021 regular meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes with corrections:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 6-0

PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCES #465 & #466 – Fire Marshall

D. Onorato opened the public hearing for Ordinance #465 & #466 at 7:03PM which was advertised in The Pottstown Mercury on September 29, 2021. The Ordinance relates to the appointment, qualifications, and compensation of the Fire Marshall and the ability to enter into an inter-municipal agreement to provide such services. After an overview of the Ordinance was given, the hearing was open for Council or public comment.

B. Greenwood stressed this would benefit the Fire Department, and Community as a whole helping provide a more unified service.

M. Dolny stated this would be for as needed services and allow for a program to be put in place to establish and continue regarding commercial fire inspections.

Motion to close the public hearing for Ordinance #465 & #466 at 7:11 PM:

Moved: P. Webster

Seconded: T. Lauterio

Approved: 6-0

PUBLIC FORUM/AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

F. Schuetz addressed council regarding the erosion and sediment controls in place for the Bringhurst development. M. Dolny noted that professional staff have addressed observed deficiencies and worked with the contractor to correct them.

B. Greenwood thanked M. Dolny for his assistance in arranging the use of the Bringhurst property and buildings for fire training.

M. Rose revisited council regarding his concerns regarding stormwater on his property which he believes is the sole fault of Eye Design. Borough Engineer R. Kern and Manager M. Dolny have reviewed the claims. To their finding the basin located on eye designs property is working as built and intended. There also is evidence of a natural swale running through the Rose property, prior to any Eye Design expansion and to the best of our review still in existence. M. Dolny said it is clear that the lower corner of the Rose property is a collection point for storm water which he feels comes from three sources, M. Rose's property, Eye Design's boarder, and 5th Avenue Roadway. The Borough, through their MS4 Program, is willing to look to install mitigation methods to help control and dissipate stormwater. If M. Rose wishes to pursue any other action against his neighbor he will need to do so on his on recourse.

M. Whitman and G. Whitman asked to address council regarding development for the Fugo Property off of Clahor Avenue. They are concerned that once developed storm water will affect their property. M. Dolny noted that no official plans have been submitted for review at this time. The expected initial discussion will take place on October 19, 2021 at the planning commission meeting. M. Wismer agrees that development is affecting the storm water management. D. Onorato reviewed the process for review and urged them to speak with planning. M. Dolny stated that residents may voice their concerns but if an applicant meets all requirements for development the Borough cannot prohibit just because they wish too, there must be cause. D. Davis and S. Strauss stated that a harder look and consideration must be taken into account when considering fee in lieu of for replacing trees.

M. Whitman also asked about the state of vegetation growth on the road side of Clahor Avenue. Her claim is that the vegetation is impeding traffic and a safety issue. M. Dolny has reviewed and contacted the property owner, to his review there was no issue traversing the road by vehicle, and vegetation was not creating a road hazard. Without that being present M. Dolny did not feel there was legal backing to pursue further action again the owners of the undeveloped property. The only immediate remediation effort would be for council to exercise their right to work within in Right-of-Way and authorize for Public Works to clear the area.

Motion to instruct public works to clear the area opening up the bridge on Clahor Avenue:

Moved: D. Davis

Seconded: S. Strauss

Approved: 6-0

STAFF REPORTS:

Borough Engineer: A copy of the written report is on file at the Borough Office.

803 W. Main Street was presented at the September Planning Commission meeting. We are awaiting review and recommendations from the County.

Drainage swale – East Seventh Avenue: M. Dolny reported that CTMA is working to help alleviate the draining issues, but a more permanent fix will be needed in the future.

Future MS4 Projects – M. Dolny meet with members of the professional staff to discuss the next round of MS4/BMP projects, recommendations will be included with the budget preparation.

The Borough will host a Trunk or Treat at Water Works Park on October 30, 2021 from 5 to 7 PM. M. Perlin will represent the Borough’s Treat Stop.

M. Dolny announced that he will be securing snow plow bids for the 2021/2022 season.

M. Dolny is working with Barry Isett on an educational flyer regarding maintaining and operations storm water basins for property owners. This will be available for distribution and included in a winter newsletter. Council members with submission suggestions for the newsletter should have them to the office by the end of October.

The permit report for September was provided.

Solicitor’s Report:

Ordinance #465 – Providing for the appointment of a Fire Marshall & Qualifications and Compensation.

Motion to approve:

Moved: P. Webster

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 6-0

Ordinance #466 – Adopting an Intermunicipal Agreement with Upper Providence Township for the shared service of the Fire Marshall:

Motion to approve:

Moved: P. Webster

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 6-0

Motion to accept staff reports:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 6-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Traffic and Safety:

Trappe Fire Company has secured an \$80,000 grant, with the help of State Representative Joe Ciresi, for the purchase of air packs. They are requesting the balance of the purchase price be paid out of the Borough Fire Funds.

Motion to approve the difference of the cost of the Air Packs totaling \$56,613.00:

Moved: S. Strauss

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 6-0

Regional Sewer: No Report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Entered into executive Session at 9:25 PM

Reconvened the General Session at 10:08 PM

Gavel was turned over to S. Strauss

Motion to Approve the Employment Agreement of Joe Hastings as presented:

Moved: C. Johnson

Seconded: M. Perlin

Approved: 6-0

Council adjourned the meeting at 10:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marcus V. Dolny