

East Stroudsburg Borough, February 17, 2009

A regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg Borough Council was held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday February 17, 2009. The following members were in attendance: Victor Brozusky, Roger DeLarco, Ed Henning, William Reese, Donald Repsher and Sonia Wolbert. Also attending were: Mayor Armand M. Martinelli; Manager James S. Phillips; Solicitor David J. Williamson of Scanlon; Lewis & Williamson, Engineering Representative Samuel D'Alessandro of R.K.R. Hess Associates, Inc.; ESU Student Ambassador Ashley Puderbach; Lieutenant Brian Kimmins of the Stroud Area Regional Police Department; press representatives from the Pocono Record and TV 13; and several residents in the audience.

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. DeLarco called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Karen Barwick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of February 3, 2009 Regular Council Meeting

Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held February 3, 2009 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Stroud Area Regional Police Department Report

Lieutenant Brian Kimmins asked if there were any questions concerning the monthly report that had been submitted to Council previously? Lt. Kimmins noted that the Department has increased the number of traffic contacts made. Also the Department has located an animal rescue group (Camp Papillion) to take stray dogs after the recent closing of the PA SPCA facility. Mr. DeLarco asked about the reported recent robberies that occurred in East Stroudsburg? Lt. Kimmins said two robberies were reported Sunday evening both near Analomink St. One occurred near the intersection of Kistler St. and one closer to Shirley Futch Plaza.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

None

Discussion on Parking Restrictions for Sopher Street

Karen Barwick of 140 Sopher St. said she is not in favor of permitting 24 hour parking on Sopher St. The road is not very wide and it would be difficult to back out of a driveway if cars are parked all the time. If the parking requirements are changed she is concerned that it will change the neighborhood.

Mary DeNora of 68 N. Green St. said she was told when they bought their property that they could park at the J.M. Hill School parking lot. However, then they started receiving tickets for parking there.

Mr. Phillips said that he has had three residents stop by the Municipal office to comment on the parking situation on Sopher St. A resident from 146 Sopher St. said if the Borough permits night parking, college students will park there all the time and he thinks that parking should be left as is. Another resident said the south-side of the street wasn't plowed all the way to the curb all winter because of cars parked there. They also questioned why did the property owner at the corner of Green & Sopher Streets buy the property without off street parking when they knew they had so many cars? Another resident from 142 Sopher St. said "we have had a nice quiet street with the parking restrictions since we've been here in 1956. Don't change the parking". Finally, a resident couple at 161 Sopher St. also stopped in to say that they feel the parking should remain the way it is.

Mr. Phillips said he has also received several email responses to the letter that went out to residents on the street. Jody Strunk of 151 Sopher St. feels that allowing parking all the time will end up creating a “mess” on the street and asked that Council not change the parking restrictions. Yvonne and Frantz Volcy of 159 Sopher St. said they would be pleased to see the proposed change in parking restrictions since occasionally they have guests from out-of-town and it is difficult for them to find parking spaces near their home for parking over night. Tom & Vickie LaBar of 155 Sopher St. said that they are concerned that unlimited overnight parking would not be an improvement over the current situation which allows for better security since the streets are clear at night.

Karen Barwick noted that when she bought her house 17 years ago it did not have a driveway, and she put her own driveway in for off street parking.

Mary DeNora said the times have changed and people now have more cars per family. Mrs. DeNora also asked about possibly extending the permit parking zone to Sopher St.? Mr. Phillips noted that permit parking was created to address the issue of students from the university parking on residential streets adjacent to the ESU campus. Permit parking is still subject to the regular parking restrictions in place, so that would not address her issue for the need for overnight parking.

Mr. DeLarco noted that much of the Borough’s housing stock was developed before everyone had their own cars.

Discussion on Parking Restrictions for East Broad Street

Ryan Meissner of 217 East Broad St. said he has a construction truck and trailer and his wife’s truck that he must park on the street. He has no other place to park his vehicles if parking restrictions are established on East Broad St.

Gerald Ludwig of 210 East Broad St. said East Broad St. is fairly wide and there has not been a parking problem in the past. Mr. Ludwig said the resident across the street has tried to tell his daughter that she could not park her vehicle in front of his house. Also, Mr. Ludwig said he feels that alternate side parking would create more problems than it would benefit.

Mr. Phillips said Richard Kane of 213 East Broad St. had submitted a note saying that he believes parking restrictions should be extended further up East Broad St. He says the lack of any parking restriction creates a hazardous condition for home owners trying to pull out of their driveways onto the Borough’s street. As a secondary option Mr. Kane says that alternate side parking might be an improvement.

Sonya Cole of 288 Marguerite St. said they own the house below Mr. Kane and Mr. Kane has refused to allow their tenants to use the alley between his property and theirs for access for parking off the street. Also some years ago Mr. Kane erected a garage without a permit on that alley. Mr. Williamson said the Codes Officer could check out the issue of a permit for the garage that was constructed. Mr. DeLarco noted that the Borough does not own or maintain any alleys or paper streets; residents may have private rights for use of an alley, but that would be a civil matter between property owners. Mrs. Cole said she does not think that alternate side parking will help the situation because people still need to park their cars at night.

With no further comments, Mr. DeLarco said that Council presumably is not planning on taking any action at this point concerning changes in parking restrictions on either Sopher St. or East Broad St.

Action on Bids Received February 3, 2009 for Purchase of Chemicals

Mr. Phillips noted that Council has received a copy of the bid tabulation for purchase of various chemicals for the water filtration plant, sewage treatment plant, and Dansbury Park swimming pool. Mr. Phillips reviewed the low bidders for each item and recommended award of contracts to the vendors who submitted the low bids in each case. Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Reese to award contracts to Univar USA,

Inc., Coyne Chemical Co. Inc., Main Pool & Chemical Co. Inc., and JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc. as per their low bid proposals. The motion carried unanimously. Contracts are as follows:

Univar U.S.A., Inc.

Item 1 Chlorine (150 lb. cylinders) – for Water Plant	
(2009-2010) Est. 7,500 lbs. @ \$58.88/CWT (-4.28%) =	\$4,410.00
(2010-2011) Est. 7,500 lbs. @ \$58.88/CWT (+0.00%) =	\$4,410.00
(2011-2012) Est. 7,500 lbs. @ \$62.80/CWT (+6.66%) =	<u>\$4,710.00</u>
Subtotal	\$13,530.00
Item 3 Zinc Phosphate (50 lb. bags) – for Water Plant	
(2009-2010) Est. 4,000 lbs. @ \$198.50/CWT (+240%) =	\$7,940.00
(2010-2011) Est. 4,000 lbs. @ \$198.50/CWT (+5.04%) =	\$8,340.00
(2011-2012) Est. 4,000 lbs. @ \$224.00/CWT (+12.8%)	<u>NO</u>
Subtotal	\$16,280.00
Item 4 Activated Carbon (40 lb. bags) – for Water Plant	
(2009-2010) Est. 12,000 lbs. @ \$89.40/CWT (+61.1%) =	\$10,728.00
(2010-2011) Est. 12,000 lbs. @ \$93.75/CWT (+4.86%) =	\$11,250.00
(2011-2012) Est. 12,000 lbs. @ \$101.40/CWT (+7.84%)	<u>NO</u>
Subtotal	\$21,978.00
Item 8 Aqua Mag blended Phosphate – CP 723L (30 gal. drums) – for Water Wells	
(2009-2010) Est.180 gals.=2052 lbs.@ \$110.35/CWT(+91.4%)=\$	2,264.40
(2010-2011) Est.180 gals.=2052 lbs.@ \$116.37/CWT(+5.46%)=\$	2,388.00
(2011-2012) Est.180 gals.=2052 lbs.@ \$125.73/CWT(+8.04%)=	<u>NO</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$ 4,652.40</u>
TOTALS	\$56,440.40

JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc.

Item 2 Chlorine (1 ton cylinders) – for Sewer Plant	
(2009-2010) Est. 12,000 lbs. @ \$37.50/CWT (-11.7%) =	\$ 4,500.00
(2010-2011) Est. 12,000 lbs. @ \$37.50/CWT (+ 0.0%) =	\$ 4,500.00
(2011-2012) Est. 12,000 lbs. @ \$37.50/CWT (+ 0.0%) =	<u>\$ 4,500.00</u>
TOTALS	\$13,500.00

Coyne Chemical Co.

Item 9 Polyaluminum Chloride CES PAC1 900S (bulk delivery) – for Water Plant	
(2009-2010) Est.10,600 gals.=109,604 lbs.@ \$39.25/CWT (+3.67%)=\$	43,019.57
(2010-2011) Est.10,600 gals.=109,604 lbs.@ \$40.50/CWT (+3.18%)=\$	44,389.62*
(2011-2012) Est.10,600 gals.=109,604 lbs.@ \$41.80/CWT (+3.21%)=\$	<u>45,814.47*</u>
Subtotal	\$43,019.57
TOTALS	\$43,019.57

Main Pool & Chemical Co.

Item 5 Sodium Hypochlorite (bulk delivery) – for Swimming Pool	
(2009-2010) Est.6,000 gals.=60,000 lbs.@ \$14.90/CWT(+10.61%)=\$	8,940.00
(2010-2011)	NO BIDS
(2011-2012)	NO BIDS
Subtotal	\$ 8,940.00
Item 6 Sodium Hypochlorite (15 gal. containers) – for Water Wells	
(2009-2010)Est.1,500 gals.=15,000 lbs.@ \$29.00/CWT(+72.4%)=	\$ 4,350.00
(2010-2011)	\$29.00/CWT**
(2011-2012)	\$29.00/CWT**
Subtotal	\$ 4,350.00
Item 7 Sodium Hydroxide (Liquid Caustic Soda (bulk delivery) – for Water Plant	
(2009-2010)Est.3,200 gals.=40,960 lbs. @ \$32.90/CWT(+62.5%)=	\$13,475.84
(2010-2011)	\$32.90/CWT **
(2011-2012)	\$32.90/CWT **
Subtotal	<u>\$13,475.84</u>
TOTALS	\$26,765.84

* Bid prices for second and third years of contract may be exercised only upon mutual consent between the Borough and Coyne Chemical Co.

** Vendor only submitted pricing for first year of contract but stated they will only increase pricing if the manufacturer increases pricing and will provide documentation of same

Readdressing Project – Street Addresses to be Changed

Mr. Phillips reviewed a list of street names and street addresses that are recommended to be changed as developed by the consultant for the county wide readdressing project. These are street names that are duplicate or similar sounding, or street numbers that do not make logical sense as to their numbering relative to the recommended system.

Mrs. Wolbert commented that there are more changes i.e. more addresses to be changed, then she had realized. Karen Barwick suggested that Council may want to have Kim Borger from the County Planning Commission staff come out to go over the proposed changes with the Borough.

Ordinance No. 1219 Amending Chapter 73 of East Stroudsburg Borough Code Establishing Building Fees and Authorizing Amendments Thereto by Resolution

Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to adopt proposed Ordinance No. 1219 as advertised. The motion carried unanimously.

Report and Action on Bids Received February 6, 2009 for Timber from Borough Property

Mr. Phillips reviewed the tabulation of five (5) proposals that were received in response to the request for proposals that was administered for the Borough by Rod Jones of Northeast Timber Services. The high bid received is from Deschaine Forestry, Inc. in the amount of \$39,075. Mr. Phillips said Mr. Jones has indicated that this is a decent price for the timber to be harvested. After discussion, Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to award the contract for timber from a portion of the Borough's watershed property located south of the reservoir to Deschaine Forestry, Inc. as recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions Authorizing Submittal of Loan Applications to PennVest

Mr. D'Alessandro reviewed two (2) applications which his staff has put together for the Borough to PennVest for low interest financing for water/sewer projects for the Borough. Mr. D'Alessandro said PennVest has almost \$400 million available for this funding round and they are relaxing some of the normal project requirements in order to encourage projects that are ready for construction. This is all in anticipation of the state receiving funds under the Federal Economic Stimulus Bill. This funding source is in addition to the over \$800 million in grants that are available through the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Authority. The Borough has submitted six (6) grant applications under that H2O program. The PennVest applications are for projects that ordinarily would be low priority and not eligible for grant funding. Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to approve proposed Resolution No. 15-2009 authorizing submittal of PennVest application in the amount of \$1,245,000 for Wastewater System Improvements. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to approve proposed Resolution No. 16-2009 authorizing submittal of PennVest application in the amount of \$1,214,000 for Water Distribution System Improvements. The motion carried unanimously.

Reschedule Public Hearing on Community Development Needs of the Borough

Mr. Brozusky made a motion seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to reschedule the public hearing on community development and housing needs of the Borough that may be addressed by use of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to March 3, 2009 beginning at 7:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – New Business

Sonia Cole of 288 Marguerite St. complained about the raised crosswalks installed by East Stroudsburg University on Smith St., particularly the one by the ESU Alumni Center building. Mrs. Cole said she can't drive her small Austin Healy car over this raised crosswalk without bottoming out her car.

Correspondence

Mr. Phillips reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:

1. Application information from the Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities (PLCM) on the Annual High School Senior Essay Scholarship Contest. Mayor Martinelli said he would try to get information on this contest to the High School Guidance Counselors.
2. A letter from the Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA) concerning 2009 Year Membership for the Borough.
3. A letter from the Middle Smithfield Township Board of Supervisors requesting a meeting for continued discussions on possible expansion of the SARPD to Middle Smithfield Township.
4. A letter from the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority (BCRA) concerning its PennVest applications for constructing improvement for the Veterans Bridge Emergency Interconnection line and the Stokes Avenue Emergency Interconnection replacement.
5. A letter from Stroudsburg Borough Council noting that they have also approved utilizing R.K.R. Hess Associates Inc. to continue the joint landfill sites monitoring work for 2009 year.
6. A letter from John Calahan, Mayor of Bethlehem and President of PLCM regarding a proposal in Governor Rendell's 2008-2009 State Budget which would allow an optional 1% county sales tax to be levied with the proceeds to be distributed to the municipalities.

Reports

Mr. D'Alessandro reviewed his written engineer's report previously submitted to Council. Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky directing the Manager to send letters to our State Representatives requesting their support for the Borough's grant and loan applications recently submitted to the state. The motion carried unanimously.

Ashley Puderbach said she had put out an email requesting students at ESU to participate in the Adopt-A-Street program and already she has received several replies. Also she has learned that ESU is proposing to increase fines for parking violations on campus and they may institute a parking fee for on campus parking beginning with this fall semester.

Mr. Reese asked about the status of the street light that still is not working at the intersections of Courtland, Washington and Day Streets?

Mayor Martinelli noted that Council had previously discussed increasing parking fines and he recommends that Council take up this issue soon.

Mrs. Wolbert asked Mr. Phillips if signs could be made and installed to recognize the groups that have participated in the Adopt-A-Street program?

Mr. Brozusky reported that in response to Mrs. Wolbert's request for volunteer projects that he would like to spearhead efforts to create more access points to the Brodhead Creek.

Mr. Repsher reported that several boulders along the Zacharias Pond parking area need to be reset because someone has moved them to gain access for driving a vehicle onto the field.

Mr. Brozusky suggested that the Recycling Committee may want to consider reopening the recycling drop-off yard at least one day per week so that local businesses and commercial establishments could bring stuff to the recycling center, since they do not have the availability of curbside pickup.

Mr. DeLarco inquired about the status of installing parking meters on Smith St. in front of the ESU field house? Also he said the parking meter needs to be removed on Normal St. that is located too close to one of the new raised crosswalks installed by ESU. Mr. DeLarco also suggested that as part of the readdressing project that he would like to see the "Dansbury" name utilized if needed for a new street name. Mr. DeLarco noted that he has received several calls from residents requesting that the Recycling Center be re-opened soon. Finally, Mr. DeLarco noted that the Zoning Ordinance Review Committee (ZORC) will be meeting tomorrow and Mr. DeLarco is still in favor of adopting student housing regulations similar to what Haverford Township utilizes.

Mr. Phillips reported that PennDOT is still proceeding, if ever so slowly, with work on the proposed I80 Exit 308 realignment project. Mr. Phillips said the next Pocono Mountains Council of Governments (COG) meeting will be held at Stroudsburg Borough next Monday February 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Finally, Mr. Phillips noted that as already mentioned by Mr. Reese, the Recycling Committee will be meeting Thursday February 19th at 11:00 p.m. and will be discussing the possible re-opening of the recycling drop-off yard.

List of Bills

Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to approve the list of bills payable and to ratify expenditures and payroll made through February 17, 2009 as submitted. The motion carried with Mrs. Wolbert abstaining.

Executive Session

Mr. Henning made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to adjourn into executive session at 9:15 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

At 9:40 p.m. Council members reassembled in the meeting room and Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to reconvene the public meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Williamson said the executive session had been held to discuss one (1) real estate matter and two (2) litigation matters.

Adjournment

With no further business Mr. Reese made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to adjourn the meeting at 9:41 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

James S. Phillips, Secretary