

BOROUGH OF WEST CONSHOHOCKEN
COUNCIL MEETING
October 8, 2024
7:00 PM

Pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Public Meeting Agenda/Sunshine Act" public notice was provided to the Times Herald Newspaper and posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall as required by law.

CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENTS

Council President wanted to congratulate West Conshohocken Borough on the 150th Anniversary and thanked everyone that contributed and participated. Mr. Blumenthal thanked the first responders on the quick action taken on the sinkhole that occurred on Apple St.

ROLL CALL

Danelle Fournier, Mayor	Present
Stephen Blumenthal, President	Present
Tara Gorney, Vice President	Present
Tori Conicello-Emery	Present
Jeff Ewing	Present
Amelia Gale	Present
Chris Cella	Present
Richard Marr	Present
Douglas Borgerson, Borough Manager	Present
John Iannozzi, Borough Solicitor	Present
Khal Hassan, Borough Engineer	Present
Rich T. O'Brien, Zoning Officer	Present

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Blumenthal asked for approval of the Agenda and with unanimous consent the Agenda was approved

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE AGENDA ITEMS

Walter Gleba, resident, wanted to comment on the data center.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Mr. Blumenthal stated that the bills for this month were a total of \$693,207.21 and asked for a motion to approve the bills.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing
Seconded by: Amelia Gale
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Blumenthal stated that the grand total is \$15,120,141.64 with a negative difference of \$30,355.41, interest earned on investments accounts was \$35,286.13. The pension accounts total \$11,183,354.39 and Pension accounts is not included in the total. No questions or comments were presented. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve the financial report.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing
Seconded by: Chris Cella
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Blumenthal stated that the Consent Agenda includes committee reports, fire and police reports and Mr. Blumenthal indicated that the consent agenda is approved with unanimous consent.

PROFESSIONAL REPORTS

1. Borough Manager Dr. Borgerson stated that a copy of his report is in the packet. The next few weeks will host a series of Borough events, 150th, Halloween parade, fall fest and thanked Fire Company and public works for the 5K and fire prevention. St. Gerts will; be ready for election day and reminder Borough offices are closed on November 5th.
2. Borough Solicitor John Iannozzi had nothing to report this evening
3. Borough Engineer Khal Hassan stated that his report is in the packet and there was nothing to address this evening. Church St project is near completion. Phase IIA for MacKenzie Park. Bids are recommendations will be ready for November 1st. Pennoni provided assistance with the sinkhole on Apple. Mr. Hassan stated that a meeting took place with PennDOT and MLP Ventures with potential traffic concerns

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Council Shall evaluate and take potential action to approve Resolution 2024-19 recognizing the Borough of West Conshohocken Sesquicentennial.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale
Seconded by: Tara Gorney
Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
The motion passes

2. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on Ordinance No. 2024-04, which adds a new chapter to the Borough of West Conshohocken Code entitled "repairs of Motor Vehicles on Public Streets and Sidewalks", which regulates and prohibits the repair of motor vehicles on public streets and sidewalks within the Borough.

Mr. Cella questioned the difference between repairs on vehicles of older vehicles as to this resolution. Councilmember Gale stated that this would only be for vehicles that are being repaired that are affecting traffic.

Borough Solicitor Iannozzi suspending the public meeting into a public hearing and introduced the following exhibits: B-1: Email to Times Herald, B-2 Proof of Publication, B-3 Letter to Law Library B-4 Ord 6-2 legal notice. Mr. Iannozzi asked Council and Public for any questions to which there were none. Mr. Iannozzi closed the public hearing and proceeded to public meeting.

Mr. Blumenthal asked Council for a motion to approve solution 2024-04.

Motioned by: Amelia Gale

Seconded by: Chris Cella

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

The motion passes

3. The Council shall evaluate and take potential action on 237, 239, 303 Moorehead Avenue's Amended Resolution 2024-18.

Mr. Iannozzi stated that this matter was previously approved, and this is an amended resolution for a two- hour firewall separation to a one-hour fire rated wall. Applicant is consolidating these lots and building four townhomes with sprinkler system. This has been reviewed with the Fire Company and Fire Marshall. Applicant is present as well as Rich O'Brien, zoning officer. No questions or comments were made. Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to approve.

Motioned by: Jeff Ewing

Seconded by: Amelia Gale

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Abstention: 1

The motion passes

4. Attorney Edmund J. Campbell's request to discuss amending the Borough of West Conshohocken's Zoning Code to provide for data center uses within the Borough's HI Zoning District

Mr. Iannozzi briefed Council that our zoning code does not include data centers'. Edmund Campbell presented data centers in the HI District. Mr. Iannozzi indicated that concerns would be level of noise, submitting a Conditional Use with noise study. Amelia Gale questioned if West Conshohocken had resources for fire safety. Mr. Campbell responded that data centers have their own internal safety. Councilperson Gorney indicated that she believes there is tremendous noise.

Jeff Ewing asked what other HI districts are in the Borough to which this could related to and the ability to have other data centers. Councilperson Conicello-Emery asked about advancements in the data centers and use standards. Councilperson Gale stated that she prefer staff being the process of drafting an ordinance. Mr. Blumental asked council for a motion to investigate further on this matter to bring to Council.

Motioned by: Tori Conicello-Emery

Seconded by: Tara Gorney

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

The motion passes

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Guy Davis, resident, suggested that there should be further use investigations in the HI District

Dave Frankenfield, resident, congratulated the Borough on the 150th anniversary. Mr. Frankenfield had some concerns on the data centers with the current and generator backup and revenue to the Borough

Walter Gleba, wanted to second Mr. Frankenfield's comment and stated that we should protect our residents. Mr. Gleba also wanted to ask about updates to AirBNB's to which Mr. Blumenthal responded that Council will not be answering at this time and that it is being researched and legal rights. Mr. Gleba provided Council a copy of the Supreme Court decision in the State of Pennsylvania.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Blumenthal asked for a motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm

Motioned by: Amelia Gale

Seconded by: Chris Cella

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

The motion passes

Respectfully Submitted



Cristina Meade
Borough Secretary