

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
March 2, 2009

The State College Borough Council met on Monday, March 2, 2009, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, Room 304, State College, PA. Mayor Welch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Bill Welch, Mayor
Elizabeth A. Goreham, President of Council
Ronald L. Filippelli
Donald M. Hahn
Theresa D. Lafer
Silvi Lawrence
Peter Morris
James L. Rosenberger

Also present: Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Borough Manager; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Manager for Budget and Administration; Thomas S. Kurtz, Assistant Manager for Community Services; Michael S. Groff, Finance Director; Carl R. Hess, Planning Director; Herman L. Slaybaugh, Zoning Officer/Planner; Anne Messner, Planning Technician; Mark A. Whitfield, Director of Public Works; Thomas R. King, Chief of Police; Amy Story, Borough Engineer; Cynthia S. Hanscom, Assistant Borough Secretary; members of the media; and other interested observers.

Mr. Welch began with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HOUR: There was no one from the public wishing to speak.

CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Goreham moved and Mr. Filippelli seconded a motion to approve the following consent items. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approve the following appointments to the Centre Region Code Board of Appeals:

Core Board		
Steven C. Balkey	Appointment	December 31, 2011
M. Kevin Parfitt	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Michael J. Siggins	Reappointment	December 31, 2011
Robert Hoffman	Reappointment	December 31, 2011
James P. Thornton, Jr. (alternate)	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Plumbing Board		
Robert Siegenthaler	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Louis A. Berrena, Jr. (alternate)	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Tim Scharf (alternate)	Appointment	December 31, 2011

Mechanical Board		
Louis A. Berrena, Jr.	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Tim Scharf	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Christopher Howe (alternate)	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Electrical Board		
Richard I. Koval	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Louis A. Berrena, Jr. (alternate)	Appointment	December 31, 2011
Property Maintenance Board		
Edward G. Poprik	Appointment	December 31, 2011

- Use of various sidewalks in the Borough for the Habitat for Humanity Walk on Sunday, April 26, 2009, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., conditioned that no police services will be provided for street crossings for the event.
- Use of various sidewalks in the Borough for a PAWS Dog Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, April 18, 2009, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- Use of Allen Street between Beaver and Foster Avenues for the Best of the Best Car Show on Saturday, July 25, 2009, from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m.
- Use of streets in the downtown to conduct the annual Cruise on Saturday, July 25, 2009, from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and waive Section 215 of Chapter XI, Cruising Prohibited, during that time.

ABC REPORTS

Schlow Centre Region Library Board. Tom Hettmansperger and Rich Kalin, the Borough's representatives on the Schlow Centre Region Library Board, presented an update on the work of the Board over the past year. They also presented the annual report for 2008 for the library. Council raised several questions on the budget for personnel, the amount of money received from donations, and the number of Penn State students that use the library. Betsy Allen, Director, was present to address questions raised by Council.

Transportation Commission. As part of the Transportation Commission report, Council considered the following two proposals.

Change in Parking on Calder Way. Council considered an ordinance to allow 5 minute stopping, with flashers, on the south side of Calder Way, just west of Miller Alley.

Mr. Morris moved to enact Ordinance 1926 to amend the Vehicle and Traffic regulations to allow for 5-minute parking in the location noted. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was 7-0-0; the motion passed.

North/South Bikeway. Council continued discussion of establishing a north-south bike route on Sparks Street. Council discussed concerns that there was already a bikeway one block away connecting with the Orchard Park bike path. It was noted that the

existing path had less of an incline than Sparks Street. Council members agreed that it was important to hear from residents on the removal of the on-street parking.

Mr. Rosenberger moved to schedule a public hearing for the removal of parking for a bikeway along Sparks Street. Mr. Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-0-0 vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance for Home Occupations. Council considered an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow dog grooming as a permissible home occupations, with restrictions in the R-1 and R-2 zoning districts.

Mr. Morris moved to enact Ordinance 1927 to allow for dog grooming as a home occupation in the specified zoning districts. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was 5-2-0, with Ms. Goreham and Ms. Lawrence opposed. The motion passed.

Riparian Buffer Ordinance. Council considered an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to modify the Riparian Buffer regulations to include a native planting list.

Mr. Hahn moved to refer the amendment to the Planning agencies for comment and schedule a public hearing for April 6. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

GENERAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Real Estate Registry Amendment. Council considered an amendment to the Borough's Codification of Ordinances to delete the Real Estate Registry Ordinance.

Mr. Rosenberger moved to enact Ordinance 1928 to delete the Real Estate Registry ordinance. Mr. Hahn seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 7-0-0 vote.

OFFICIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor's Report. Mr. Welch commented that he had issued a Proclamation to the Panhellenic leader for Panhellenic day on Monday, March 2, 2009.

Mr. Welch also commented that the "State Patty's Day" event held by some students was nothing more than an alcoholic event and those who took part should be ashamed. The event was geared to consuming large amounts of alcohol and was an embarrassment to the community, fellow students, the University and endangered the lives of those who participated and other lives that they impact.

Staff reported the "State Patty's Day" weekend had the highest number of calls in any weekend in the 2008-2009 school year, exceeding that of the Penn State Homecoming and the weekend of the 8:00 p.m. Illinois football game. There were a number of loud

parties and medical emergency calls. It was noted that the event had a negative impact on the community, specifically with the drain on municipal services.

President's Report. Ms. Goreham announced an executive session to be held following the meeting to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia S. Hanscom
Assistant Borough Secretary