

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
Work Session
March 20, 2009

The State College Borough Council met in a work session on Friday, March 20, 2009, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA. Ms. Goreham called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

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

Planning Commission members present: Evan Myers, Charles Gable, Anne Bolser and Ron Madrid.

Also present: Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Borough Manager; Carl R. Hess, Planning Director; Thomas S. Kurtz, Assistant Borough Manager for Community Services; Norma Crater, Accounting Supervisor; Amy R. Miller, Recording Secretary; Michael Groff; Finance Director; Beth A. Johnston, Human Resource Director; Herman Slaybaugh, Zoning Officer; and Anne Messner, Planning Technician; members of the media; and other interested observers.

Public Hour. There were no comments from citizens.

West Gate Centre Presentation. Leroy D. Kline, Jr., President and CEO of Delta Development Group introduced Karen Dickinson, Senior Associate at Delta Development Group; and Robert Poole, President of Pool Anderson Construction. He presented an overview of the proposed Westgate Centre planned in the West End neighborhood. The Centre's mixed-use plan includes an Intermodal Transit Facility, a parking structure, workforce housing, office and commercial space.

Council discussed several issues regarding the proposed Westgate Centre which included infrastructure and construction costs, parking management, workforce housing, building heights and construction timeframe.

Mary Marino, 720 Sparks Street, said she was concerned with an increase in cars and busses if the Westgate Centre is completed; she added that there is no need for additional retail space downtown.

Planning Commission members Anne Bolser and Evan Myers also shared their comments on the Westgate Centre.

Monthly Budget Report. Staff presented an overview of the February 2009 Monthly Budget Report.

Capital Improvement Program Update. Staff provided a status report on the projects in the 2009-2013 Capital Improvement Program and the review schedule for the 2010-2014 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Staff also explained the new project review scoring to be implemented by staff.

Council asked staff to move the CIP public hearing to an earlier date.

Severance Policy. Council requested this discussion be postponed to the next work session.

Items of Information. Staff announced that the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council will hold their Greek Week activities the first week of April and Council is asked to judge a food eating contest on April 5. Council members Jim Rosenberger, Peter Morris and Theresa Lafer agreed to participate.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel matters at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cynthia S. Hanscom
Assistant Borough Secretary