

**Meeting Minutes**  
**State College Borough Council**  
**February 19, 2010**

The State College Borough Council met on Friday, February 19, 2010, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, Room 304, State College, PA. Mr. Filippelli called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm.

Present: Ronald L. Filippelli, President of Council  
Thomas E. Daubert  
Donald M. Hahn  
Theresa D. Lafer  
Silvi Lawrence  
Peter Morris  
Absent: James L. Rosenberger

Also present: Elizabeth A. Goreham, Mayor; Thomas J. Fountaine, Borough Manager; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Manager for Budget and Administration; Thomas S. Kurtz, Assistant Borough Manager for Community Services; Mark Whitfield, Public Works Director; Norma Crater, Accounting Supervisor; Thomas King, Chief of Police; Carl R. Hess, Planning Director; Amy R. Miller, Recording Secretary; Charley DeBow, Parking Manager; members of the media; and other interested observers.

**Public Hour.** There were no comments from the public.

**General Government Employees and Police Pension Plan - Act 44.** David Killick of Conrad Siegel, the actuary to the Borough's pension plans, presented an overview of the Borough's investment performance and Act 44 of 2009. Mr. Killick indicated that the recently enacted legislation provides a voluntary option for reducing the Borough's 2011 pension plan obligation by asset smoothing. He said the asset smoothing option will mitigate the impacts that the 2008 investment losses will have on the 2011 Operating Budget. Council concurred with pursuing asset smoothing.

**2009 Police Pension Compliance Amendment – Act 51.** Mr. Killick noted that Act 51 of 2009 amended the Emergency and Law Enforcement Personnel Death Benefits Act to expand the death benefit paid by the Commonwealth to police officers, fire fighters and other emergency workers who die while performing their duties. As a result, the benefit provided in the Borough's police pension plan is now redundant and should be removed. Council agreed to include this for action on the March 1 meeting agenda.

**Policy on Renaming Public Streets, Buildings, Parks, and Other Facilities.** Council received a policy proposal for renaming requests in response to suggestions to rename the Municipal Building in memory of former Mayor Bill Welch and to rename a street in the Borough after the late Martin Luther King, Jr.

Council agreed the policy should state that residents would be notified and a public hearing be held to receive public input. Council also said requested name changes would require a person to have made major contributions to the community.

Council asked staff for a list of the possible streets eligible for renaming.

Council agreed to take public comment on renaming the Municipal Building the William L. Welch, Jr. Municipal Building at their next meeting.

Council also asked staff to prepare a list of the basis of street names so the public can learn about whom the streets are named after.

**Garner Street Streetlights.** Staff presented Council with a report on whether or not to modify or remove the supplemental pedestrian lighting on Garner Street between Foster Ave and Hamilton Avenue. The report analyzed data for the 5 years prior to the installation of the street lights and the 5 years following

their installation. Additionally, the report included data on reported and officer initiated criminal activity over the same time period for the 300-600 blocks of Locust Lane, which does not have the same type of street lighting. Staff suggests turning off the street lights on Garner Street as a means of testing the effects of permanently removing these lights.

Matthew Smith, 532 College Avenue, representing UPUA, said the UPUA is very much against turning off the Garner Street lights. He added that removal of the lighting goes against the safety and welfare for the students.

Jessica Pellicciotta, 203 E. Fairmount Avenue, representing OCSU, said the student body is opposed to turning off the Garner Street lights because the impact will create negative effects.

Mr. Filippelli noted there was not a Council consensus on this issue.

**Capital Improvement Program Scoring.** Staff asked for Council feedback on the methods of scoring and prioritizing capital project requests. Council agreed to continue the methods unchanged.

**Items of Information.** Council President Filippelli announced the retirement of Centre Daily Times writer, Mike Joseph.

Council agreed to meet on March 8 for a regular meeting and work session because several members of Council will attend the National League of Cities Conference on March 15.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Sharon K. Ergler  
Assistant Borough Secretary