

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 1, 2010
7:30 p.m.

The State College Borough Council met on Monday, March 1, 2010, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA. Ms. Goreham called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Present: Elizabeth A. Goreham, Mayor
Ronald Filippelli, President of Council
Tom Daubert
Donald Hahn
Peter Morris
Silvi Lawrence
James Rosenberger

Absent: Theresa Lafer

Also present: Thomas J. Fontaine, Borough Manager; Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Mark Whitfield, Director of Public Works; Thomas R. King, Chief of Police; Carl R. Hess, CDBG/Planning Director; Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Manager for Budget and Finance; Michael S. Groff, Finance Director; Beth Johnston, Human Resources Director; members of the media and other interested observers.

Ms. Goreham began with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HOUR

Earth Hour Proclamation

Mayor Goreham presented Sylvia Miele from the Creation Care Coalition with a proclamation for Earth Hour, which will be held on Saturday, March 27th, from 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Greek Week 2010

Michelle Davis, Greek Week's 2010 Community Relations Chair, informed Council that this year's activities will take place April 17 - 25.

There were no citizens present who wished to address items not on the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Parking Regulations on Stratford and Southgate Drives

Staff received a request from a resident in January to consider changing the parking restrictions on Stratford Court.

Mayor Goreham convened the hearing on the proposed ordinance at 7:45 p.m.

Greg Halpin, 915 Stratford Court and person who made the requested change, said he asks the time to move vehicles be changed to a more convenient time, because residents forget to move their cars.

Robin Homan, a property manager on Southgate Drive, said she opposed the twelve hours people have to move their cars, and the street is not wide enough for two cars to pass.

The hearing was closed at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Filippelli made a motion to enact Ordinance #1945. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion.

Mr. Hahn made a motion to table the motion until next week. There was no second so the motion failed.

The motion to adopt the ordinance passed unanimously.

Receive Public Comment on a Proposal to Rename the Municipal Building the William L. Welch, Jr. Municipal Building

Mayor Goreham opened the public hearing on the proposal to rename the Municipal Building the William L. Welch, Jr. Municipal Building. Staff distributed an alternate resolution, which would rename the building the Bill Welch Municipal Building at the suggestion of the Welch family.

There being no public comment, Mayor Goreham closed the public hearing on this matter.

Mr. Filippelli moved to rename the Municipal Building the Bill Welch Municipal Building. Mr. Hahn seconded the motion.

The Council vote was a tie, 3-3-0, with Mr. Daubert, Ms. Lawrence, and Mr. Rosenberger voting against the motion. The motion failed.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mr. Hahn made a motion to approve the consent items listed below. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Approve the following appointments to the Centre Region Code Board of Appeals retroactive to February 28, 2010 and correct the terms of those appointed last year.

Core Board		
John Deffenbaugh	Reappointment	March 1, 2013
Edward Olsen	Reappointment	March 1, 2013
Property Maintenance Code		
Heidi Nicholas	Reappointment	March 1, 2013
Core Board		
Steven C. Balkey	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
M. Kevin Parfitt	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Michael J. Siggins	Reappointment	March 1, 2012*
Robert Hoffman	Reappointment	March 1, 2012*
James P. Thornton, Jr.	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Plumbing Board		
Robert Siegenthaler	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Louis A. Berrena, Jr. (Alternate)	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Tim Scharf (Alternate)	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Mechanical Board		
Louis A. Berrena, Jr.	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Tim Scharf	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Christopher Howe (Alternate)	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Electrical Board		
Richard I. Koval	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Louis A. Berrena, Jr. (Alternate)	Appointment	March 1, 2012*
Property Maintenance Code		
Edward G. Poprik	Appointment	March 1, 2012*

- Approve the use of West Prospect Avenue between Gill and Barnard Street for the PIAA tennis competition being held by the State College Area School District Athletic Department on March 29, April 23, April 24, and May 4, 2010 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Approve the use of Fraternity Row, between Fairmount and Foster Avenues, for the Greek Week Kick-off on Sunday, April 11, 2010 from 12 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

ABC REPORTS

Report on the Historic Resources Commission (HRC)

Rick Bryant, Chair of the Commission, reviewed the HRC's work the past year.

Mr. Daubert asked the HRC to consider protecting historic churches in the commercial district.

GENERAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

Resolution Approving Asset Smoothing for the General Government Employees and Police Pension Plans - Act 44

Mr. Hahn made a motion to approve Resolutions #1016 and #1017 to implement the 130% asset smoothing method as provided in Act 44 of 2009 for both the General Government Employees and the Police Pension Plans. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff said the Act 51 (Killed in Service) benefit change is pending because we are awaiting additional discussions with the Police Union, but anticipate this will be back on Council's agenda later in this year.

Consider a Funding Option for Art in Public Places

Mr. Rosenberger moved Council designate \$4,842 from the Borough's Centennial Fund for Art in Public Places and authorize the President of Council to appoint an advisory committee to serve until September 30, 2010. Mr. Hahn seconded the motion.

Mr. Morris said this program needs a steady funding stream and suggested a percentage of the local transfer tax. Mr. Morris also said he would like the lifetime of the committee to be flexible.

Mr. Rosenberger moved to amend the motion to extend the lifetime of the committee until the \$4,842 has been spent.

Mr. Morris seconded the amendment.

The amendment passed 5-1-0 with Mr. Hahn voting against it.

Mr. Daubert reminded Council the money came from the Centennial and some should be used to have Carolyn Smith's 1890's photographs reproduced and framed.

The motion passed 4-2-0 with Mr. Daubert and Ms. Lawrence voting no.

Consider a Policy to Establish Guidelines for Naming Public Buildings, Streets, and Other Public Facilities

Mr. Filippelli made a motion to approve the policy with the corrections noted at Council's last meeting. Mr. Morris seconded the motion.

Staff pointed out if this policy is approved, Council will review a proposal made by a member of Council to consider renaming a public street after Mark Luther King, Jr. at the March 8th work session.

Mr. Daubert moved to amend the motion so that the policy states that nothing may be named after a living person or a sitting municipal official. Mr. Hahn seconded the motion. The motion to amend passed unanimously.

Council unanimously approved the amended motion.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Planning Commission's request for clarification on Council's December 21, 2009 memo on the proposed changes to the draft ordinance amendments to replace the current Urban Village Zoning District with the West End Zoning District and Design Guidelines

Staff requested Council to review the Planning Commission's questions and provide staff with clarification. Council went over the list question by question and provided additional information to staff.

Staff informed Council they would set up a joint meeting with the Planning Commission within the next month or so.

OFFICIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor's Report - Ms. Goreham said she attended a Count Centre County celebration with five outstanding young women with the Public Relations Student Association at Penn State who have been working on the census.

President's Report - Mr. Filippelli said Council will hold an Executive Session following this meeting to discuss real estate.

Regional Liaison Reports

Public Safety Committee - Ms. Lawrence said the Committee last met on February 17th to talk to the consultants who are reviewing the Code Administration Program.

Staff/Committee Reports

Mr. Fontaine reviewed the activities that took place during State Patty's Day (February 27th). Chief King distributed data to Council on this past weekend's activities, including all arrests. Staff added that both Code Officials and

Ordinance Enforcement Officers also worked over the weekend addressing issues such as occupancy, litter, etc.

Complete Count Committee -

Staff gave Council an update on the Complete Count Committee.

Sustainability Program Update

Alan Sam, the Borough Sustainability Coordinator 's Arborist, reviewed the Borough's Sustainability Program and provided an update on the Climate Protection Progress Report.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary