

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
April 12, 2010

The State College Borough Council met on Monday, April 12, 2010, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, Room 304, State College, PA. Mr. Filippelli called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

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

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

Public Hour. There were no comments from the public.

Reports

State College Borough Water Authority. Emory Enscoe, Chair of the State College Borough Water Authority, reported on the activities of the Authority over the last year.

Max Gill, Manager of the Water Authority, briefed council on the Authority's water conservation efforts. Mr. Gill also noted that the Authority received the PA DEP Treatment Optimization Award.

University Area Joint Authority (UAJA). Cory Miller, Executive Director of the University Area Joint Authority, briefed Council on the activities of the UAJA over the past year.

Ten Proposed Solutions to Curb Excessive Drinking by Perry Babb. In the March 1, 2010 edition of the *Centre Daily Times*, Perry Babb provided "10 Solutions to Excessive Drinking – We have the Power to Curb the Problem." Mr. Babb reviewed his proposal with Council. He said summary offense fines were set in 1972 at \$300 and have not been increased since that time. He said at today's inflation rates, fines would be at \$1500. If fines increased, students may think twice before engaging in disruptive behavior.

Mr. Babb said his key focus was on a campaign around the theme of “Don’t Shame the Name” which would include interviewing victims of irresponsible alcohol use, publishing arrest numbers and creative marketing concentrating on overall human values.

Council members said they supported Mr. Babb’s efforts, but added that the University needs to get behind this proposal. Council agreed that a mandatory freshman course to address civility and behavior standards is an excellent idea.

Peg Hambrick, 305 East Hamilton Avenue, said she distributed Mr. Babb’s article to the Highlands Neighborhood Association. She said the University, students and residents have to be unified.

Central PA Festival of the Arts/First Night Celebration

Festival of the Arts Executive Director Rick Bryant and Board President Sally Kalin provided Council with highlights on this past year’s First Night activities and plans for this year’s Central PA’s Festival of the Arts. Also present was Pam Loesch, Secretary on the Board.

Ms. Kalin explained that an assessment of First Night was conducted regarding attendance, free events and fee for admission performances. The survey determined that about 5,000 people attend First Night. Mr. Bryant added that new performers were most important to attendees; however, the budget only allows for mainly local performers.

Council agreed that new ideas for First Night would be welcomed, especially for residents that attend each year.

General Policy and Administration

2010 ABC Work Programs. Council members asked that the following ABC work programs be placed on the April 19 meeting agenda for vote:

- Design Review Board
- Historic Resources Commission
- Planning Commission
- Tree Commission

Council asked that approval of the Transportation Commission work program be delayed until Rick Hirsch, Chair of the Commission, could attend a meeting to discuss details prior to approval of the Commission’s work program.

Staff Reports

Neighborhood Sustainability Ordinances. Staff provided Council with an update on the status of the Nuisance Gathering, Public Urination and Cost Recovery Ordinances, which are all part of the Neighborhood Sustainability initiative.

Centre County Tax Collection Committee. Staff updated Council on the Centre County Tax Collection Committee's work and said the committee authorized the Executive Committee to negotiate an agreement with the Borough to act as County Tax Collector.

There being no further business, Council adjourned to an executive session to discuss personnel and real estate at 9:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary