

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 20, 2010

The State College Borough Council met on Monday, December 20, 2010, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, Room 304, State College, PA. Mayor Goreham called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

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

Also present: Terry J. Williams; Borough Solicitor; Thomas J. Fontaine, II, Borough Manager; Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; Beth Johnston, Human Resources Director; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Borough Manager; Thomas King, Chief of Police; Anne Messner, Planner; Mark Whitfield, Director of Public Works; Amy Story, Borough Engineer; Norma Crater, Accounting Supervisor; Charles DeBow, Parking Manager; Michael S. Groff, Finance Director; and interested parties of the media.

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

PUBLIC HOUR – No one was present to speak about items not on the agenda.

ABC REPORTS

Report from the Design Review Board (DRB) - Ms. Boniface, DRB Chair, presented the Design Review Board's 2011 work plan. Ms. Boniface said the DRB requests a voice for the use of public space in the Borough, and asks for other Borough departments to direct projects to the DRB for review. Ms. Boniface noted that a number of projects have occurred on Borough owned properties without any input from the DRB.

Council members inquired which projects the DRB had not had the opportunity to review and comment.

Ms. Boniface said specifically the Beaver Avenue parking garage exterior design. She said the exterior façade of the garage could have been a major design element. Ms. Boniface noted that something much better could have been occurred with additional input from the DRB.

Borough Council members asked Ms. Boniface if the DRB had been involved with the proposed Fraser Centre development. Ms. Boniface said the DRB reviewed the plan for the building; however, they have not been asked to review and comment on the proposed bridge.

Report from the Transportation Commission (TC) - Mr. Whitfield presented the Commission's proposed 2011 work plan, which was adopted by the Commission at their December 15th meeting.

Mr. Whitfield said the TC hopes to present a proposed pedestrian fencing system for the 100 block of South Atherton Street to stop pedestrians from crossing the street mid block in February. He noted the TC would be developing an educational program to accompany the fencing project.

Mr. Whitfield added that Courtney Hayden, the Borough's AmeriCorps Intern, has been working on a Bicycle Ambassador Program to promote bicycle safety and raise awareness for volunteers, provide lights for bicycles, etc.

Council members asked if the Borough has secured permission from PennDOT to install pedestrian crossing placards on Park Avenue at McKee Street. Staff indicated they are not permitted to place placards on one-way streets but we do have approval for placards at McKee Street and East Park Avenue.

Council members expressed concern with one-way pairs; one-way pairs discourage people from coming downtown. Traffic tends to go faster when two lanes of traffic are going in the same direction. Staff replied there are some locations where one-way pairs could eliminate difficult pedestrian crossings and pedestrian/vehicle conflicts.

Council members requested an interim report from the TC before moving forward in their work plan.

CONSENT ITEMS

Mayor Goreham noted a correction on the Resolution #1038 included in the agenda packet. The terms of the Zoning Hearing Board members would end on December 31, 2013 not in 2012 as typed on the Resolution.

Mr. Rosenberger moved to approve the following consent items. Ms. Lawrence seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- The resignation of Rebecca Mills, with regret, from the Centre County Community Foundation Board, effective immediately. Ms. Mills is relocating from State College to Idaho.
- Resolution #1038 reappointing Stanford Lembeck and Lee Lowry to the Zoning Hearing Board, with terms ending on December 31, 2013.
- The appointments or reappointments of the following individuals to the various Authorities, Boards and Commissions:

Authorities Board	James Keiser	Reappointment	December 31, 2015
Board of Health	John Golbeck	Reappointment	December 31, 2015
Water Authority	Rachel Brennan	Reappointment	December 31, 2015
Water Authority	Allen Phillips	Reappointment	December 31, 2015
Historic Resources Comm.	Janet Magner	Reappointment	December 31, 2014
Historic Resources Comm.	Jean Najjar	Reappointment	December 31, 2014
Historic Resources Comm.	Mary Ann Schreck	Reappointment	December 31, 2014
Human Relations Comm.	Michael Eggert	Reappointment	December 31, 2013
Planning Commission	Evan Myers	Reappointment	December 31, 2014
Rental Housing Revocation Appeals Board	Bernard Cantorna	Reappointment	December 31, 2013
Tree Commission	L.J. Bright	Appointment	December 31, 2013
Tree Commission	Ken Tamminga	Reappointment	December 31, 2013
Zoning Hearing Board	Stanford Lembeck	Reappointment	December 31, 2013

Zoning Hearing Board	Lee Lowry	Reappointment	December 31, 2013
Centre Region Parks & Recreation Authority	Donna Conway	Reappointment	December 31, 2015
Centre Region Schlow Memorial Library Board of Trustees	Lynn Myers	Reappointment	December 31, 2013
State College Community Land Trust	Theresa Lafer	Reappointment	December 31, 2013
Centre County Community Foundation	Carmine Prestia, Jr.	Appointment	December 31, 2011

- The minutes for the following meetings held in September, October, and November:

September 13, 2010	Regular Meeting	<i>Page 15</i>
September 17, 2010	Work Session	<i>Page 19</i>
September 20, 2010	Regular Meeting	<i>Page 23</i>
October 4, 2010	Regular Meeting	<i>Page 29</i>
October 11, 2010	Work Session	<i>Page 37</i>
October 15, 2010	Work Session	<i>Page 41</i>
October 18, 2010	Regular Meeting	<i>Page 45</i>
November 1, 2010	Regular Meeting	<i>Page 49</i>
November 8, 2010	Work Session	<i>Page 55</i>
November 15, 2010	Regular Meeting	<i>Page 59</i>
November 19, 2010	Work Session	<i>Page 67</i>

- The 2011 Work Plans for the Tree Commission and Planning Commission.
- The Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$39,420.00, for Project #14-2010, Storm Sewer Replacement Project.

GENERAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

2011 Operating Budget - Mr. Fontaine said the 2011 Operating Budget was presented to Council on November 8, 2010. A public hearing was held on December 6 and no public comment was received.

Ms. Lafer made a motion to approve 2011 Operating Budget. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously in favor of approving Resolution #1039.

2011 Tax Rates including Penalty and Discount – Mr. Daubert made a motion to enact Ordinance #1957 to establish penalty and discount rates for payments of real estate taxes in 2011. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-1 with Mr. Morris voting against the motion because he said he would prefer to see the millage go up so the one-year increase for additional Police Officers and seasonal Public Works staff was not just for one year only. He said he personally opposes funding for one year only.

Centre Region Council of Governments 2011 Budget - Ms. Lafer made a motion to approve the Centre Region Council of Governments 2011 budget. Mr. Filippelli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Property Assessments for the Downtown State College Improvement District – Mr. Rosenberger moved to enact Ordinance #1958 to authorize millage rates for the assessment of properties within

the Neighborhood Improvement District for 2011. Mr. Morris seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Sewer Tapping Fees – Mr. Filippelli made a motion to approve Ordinance #1959 adopting the 2011 sewer tapping fees. Mr. Hahn seconded the motion.

Mr. Cory Miller, Executive Director, of the University Area Joint Authority was present to answer Council's questions. He explained that Pennsylvania has a law for sewer tapping fees and how they must be calculated.

Council members inquired why a 1,500 s.f. home would have to pay the same tapping fee as a 10,000 s.f. home. It adds an additional \$7,000 to the cost of a new home.

Staff reported the tapping fee increase is based upon the construction cost index as reported on an annual basis. The rate is changing from \$30.71 per gallon to \$31.14 per gallon.

After a roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

OFFICIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor's Report –Ms. Goreham said this is the last report of 2010. She said it has been a pleasure working with Council and staff. She wishes everyone a very happy holiday season and she said she hoped to see everyone at First Night.

President's Report – Mr. Filippelli reported that Borough Council will hold an Executive Session after the meeting to discuss real estate.

Staff/Committee Reports

Conflict of Interest Policy – Staff said included in the agenda packet is the Borough's Conflict of Interest Policy. He said although there have been no changes to the policy; staff is required to distribute this to Council and the other ABC's on an annual basis. As part of the Conflict of Interest Policy and Code of Conduct with regard to HUD Programs, the policy needs to be received at a regular meeting of Council. Council members are asked to review the policy so that no conflicts of interest occur within the coming year.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION

There being no further business, Council adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary