

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 14, 2011
7:30 p.m.

The State College Borough Council met on Monday, February 14, 2011, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA. Ms. Goreham called the meeting to order at 9:12 p.m.

Present: Elizabeth Goreham, Mayor
Ronald Filippelli, Council President
Thomas Daubert
Donald Hahn
Theresa Lafer
Silvi Lawrence
Peter Morris
James Rosenberger

Also present: Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Borough Manager; Thomas R. King, Chief of Police; Carl R. Hess, Planning Director; Mark A. Whitfield, Director of Public Works; Amy J. Story, Borough Engineer; Michael S. Groff, Finance Director; Charles DeBow, Parking Manager; Anne Messner, Planner/Zoning Officer; Ben Pugh, UPUA Representative; Sheila Carl, Recording Secretary.

Public Hour – No one spoke during the public hour.

Consent Items – On a motion by Mr. Morris and a second by Mr. Hahn, Council voted unanimously to approve the following consent items.

- Accept the resignation of Mary Jo Rose, with regret, from the Historic Resources Commission, effective immediately.
- Approve a resolution for the destruction of records in the Department of Ordinance Enforcement and Public Health, Administration, and Tax Office.
- Use of various streets and Sunset Park for PSU's College of Education's Cycle Thon on Sunday, April 17, 2011, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Use of the Municipal Building lobby for Smart Start Centre County's Children's art display and reception on Monday, April 4, 2011, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Approve the proposed contract extension with Link Computer Corporation for two additional months, through March 31, 2011, at a cost of \$10,800 for on-site IT professional technical support services.
- Use of various streets for the Penn State Nittany Cycling Classic Race on Easter Sunday, April 24, 2011, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

GENERAL POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

GASB Statement No. 54 Fund Balance Resolution. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No. 54 "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions" which creates new fund balance classifications for governmental financial statements for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2010. The new fund balance classifications are based upon a hierarchy which reflects the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the purposes for which those funds may be spent, as follows:

Nonspendable - inherently not spendable or not in a spendable form

Restricted – limitation on use imposed by party external to the government

Committed – limitation on use imposed by formal action of the governing body
Assigned – limitation on use due to intended purpose, rather than formal action
Unassigned – spendable amounts not included in preceding classifications

In the case of the “Assigned” fund balance classification, GASB Statement No. 54 enables the governing body, as a practical matter, to delegate authority to a subordinate official to make assignments of fund balance for intended purposes, not otherwise requiring formal action of the governing body. Such authority must be delegated through formal action of the governing body. A resolution has been prepared for adoption by Council which delegates this authority to the Borough Manager. The Borough’s independent auditors, Maher Duessel, have reviewed the resolution and confirmed that it conforms to the provisions of GASB Statement No. 54. This item was previously reviewed at Council’s January 21 work session.

Staff recommended that Council approve the attached resolution establishing GASB Statement No. 54, which delegates authority to the Borough Manager.

On a motion by Mr. Rosenberger and a second by Ms. Lafer, Council voted unanimously to approve the resolution establishing GASB Statement No. 54.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Zoning Ordinance Amendment that revises Shared Parking Provisions. The Planning Commission is recommending a revision to the shared parking provisions of the State College Zoning Code. This Zoning Ordinance amendment proposes to revise the existing shared parking provisions (Section 2407) in three ways: (1) the applicability section is rewritten to make clearer who is eligible to use shared parking. (2) Wording on the location provision and other standards is tied together better. (3) The prohibition against having a driveway serving a shared lot located on a local street is eliminated. Council received this amendment on January 10, 2011.

Council held a public hearing on the proposed ordinance on February 7 and there were no public comments. Following the hearing, Council asked that this item be returned to a work session for additional discussion and it was discussed during the work session earlier this evening. The public notice of Council’s intent to enact the amendment was previously published for February 14th. Council may proceed to enact the amendment this evening, or it may defer the enactment to a future meeting. If any modifications are made to the ordinance, it must be returned to the Planning Commission for additional review and comment. An alternative procedure would be for Council to approve the amendment at this meeting and ask the Planning Commission to address technical amendments to ensure that the R2 zones are adequately protected.

Council requested further action be postponed until the first meeting in March.

OFFICIAL REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor’s Report - The Mayor stated her office hours at the HUB.

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

Regional Liaison Reports

Ms. Lawrence reported on the Public Safety Committee meeting in which they discussed fire safety. Ms. Lawrence warned that majority of house fires start in the kitchen and stated the importance of knowing how to use a fire extinguisher.

Mr. Rosenberger stated the Parks Capital will be meeting on Wednesday, February 16 at noon.

Mr. Hahn said the COG Finance Committee met that morning. The Committee indicated they are in favor of the twenty-five year finance arrangement for regional parks. They also discussed the frequency for when the COG formula should be reset.

Mr. Morris reported the Public Services & Environment Committee meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

Ms. Lafer stated the MPO had a meeting to discuss memberships because another community, Marion Township, requested membership.

Staff/Committee Reports

The Department of Ordinance Enforcement and Public Health 4th Quarter and Year End Report was provided to Council. Mr. Fountaine noted the property at 328 East Foster Avenue had its rental housing permit suspended for 6 months and the property is currently for sale.

Student Representative Report

Ben Pugh stated Penn State UPUA is preparing for 2011 elections. He also reminded Council that THON would be taking place this weekend at the Bryce Jordan Center and encouraged Council to attend and show their support.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary

Prepared by: Sheila Carl