

Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, December 17, 2012

The State College Borough Council met in a regular meeting on Monday, December 17, 2012, in the State College Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA. Mayor Goreham called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Present: Elizabeth A. Goreham, Mayor
Donald M. Hahn, President of Council
Thomas E. Daubert
Catherine G. Dauler
Ronald L. Filippelli
Sarah Klinetob
Peter Morris
James L. Rosenberger

Also present: Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Thomas J. Fountaine, Borough Manager; Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; Carl R. Hess, Planning Director; Mark A. Whitfield, Director of Public Works; Courtney Hayden, Communications & Grants Coordinator; Norma Crater, Manager of Financial Services; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Manager; Beth A. Johnston, Human Resources Director; Kevin Kassab, Supervisor of Inspections; Anne Messner, Zoning Officer/Planner; George Arnold, Executive Director of the Downtown State College Improvement District; Dolores Taricani, DSCID Board Chair; James Steff, Executive Director of the Centre Region Council of Governments; Walter Schneider, Director of Centre Region Code Administration; Charles DeBow, Parking Manager; and members of the media and interested PSU journalism students.

Mayor Goreham said our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of those killed last week in Portland, Oregon and at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

Mr. Morris said he spoke about the shootings at the Aurora, California, movie theatre in the past. He said there are too many to speak about in the last week. The shootings in Newtown, CT, were twenty 1st graders who were killed by multiple wounds from semi-automatic weapons. There were many who risked their lives to protect these innocent children. Mr. Morris said the first thing we need to do is control guns. We must work to get military weapons out of the hands of civilians. He said crazy people without guns cannot kill twenty 1st graders. Mr. Morris said yes, there is a 2nd Amendment that allows an individual to bear arms; however, a person has the right to feel safe in shopping malls, movie theatres, schools, park and everywhere else. He quoted New York Times Reporter Nicholas Kristoff who said "look at the contract between heroic teachers who stand up to a gunman and politicians who won't stand up to the NRA."

Mr. Morris said he heard the President speak and he mentioned some actions towards gun control. He said he is hoping to see those things happen. He said he considered the President's speech to be a good sign. He added that Television Commentator, Bob Costas, made very good remarks about gun control and he was verbally punished for it. Mr. Morris said Mayor Goreham is a member of an active organization "Mayors against Illegal Guns" and these kinds of activities give him hope.

Consent Items

Mr. Rosenberger made a motion to approve the following consent items. Ms. Dauler seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Approve a resolution reappointing Rosalie Bloom-Brooks as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board, with a term ending on December 31, 2015.

- Appoint or reappoint the following individuals to various Authorities, Boards and Commissions:

| Name of ABC | Person's Name | Appointment or Reappointment | Date of Expiration |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Board of Health | Linda Greenly-Finch | Appointment | December 31, 2014 |
| Board of Health | Kristen Hansen | Appointment | December 31, 2017 |
| Civil Service Commission | Mark H. Bergstrom | Appointment | December 31, 2018 |
| CDBG Citizens' Advisory Committee | Shelton Alexander | Reappointment | December 31, 2016 |
| CDBG Citizens' Advisory Committee | Selden Smith | Reappointment | December 31, 2016 |
| CDBG Citizens' Advisory Committee | Mary Dunkel | Appointment | December 31, 2016 |
| CDBG Citizens' Advisory Committee | Rebecca Misangyi | Appointment | December 31, 2016 |
| CDBG Citizens' Advisory Committee | Marcia Patterson | Reappointment | December 31, 2016 |
| Design Review Board | Kirk Dimond | Appointment | December 31, 2016 |
| Historic Resources Commission | Eric White | Appointment | December 31, 2016 |
| Historic Resources Commission | Katsuhiko Muramoto | Reappointment | December 31, 2016 |
| Historic Resources Commission | Christopher Jones | Reappointment | December 31, 2016 |
| Human Relations Commission | Andrew Daniloff | Appointment | December 31, 2015 |
| Planning Commission | Erin Murtha | Appointment | December 31, 2016 |
| Rental Housing Revocation Appeals Board | Larry Miles | Reappointment | December 31, 2015 |
| Rental Housing Revocation Appeals Board Alternate | David McClelland | Reappointment | December 31, 2015 |
| Tree Commission | Henry Gerhold | Reappointment | December 31, 2015 |
| Water Authority | Albert Jarrett | Reappointment | December 31, 2017 |
| State College Community Land Trust | Polly Dunn | Appointment | December 31, 2015 |
| Airport Authority | Joseph C. Groshel | Appointment | December 31, 2015 |
| Centre County Housing & Land Trust | Carl Hess | Reappointment | December 31, 2015 |

- Approve the 2013 Work Plans for the Design Review Board, Historic Resources, Planning, Transportation, and Tree Commissions. These work plans were previously distributed to Council and were reviewed at Council's December 10, 2012 work session.

2013 Budget

Mr. Filippelli made a motion approve Resolution #1078 to adopt the 2013 State College Operating Budget. Mr. Daubert seconded the motion.

Mr. Morris offered an amendment, which was to add an additional \$7,500 for additional support for the Mayor. This would allow the Mayor to have access to 10 hours per week, as needed, for staff support. Ms. Klinetob seconded the amendment. The amendment passed unanimously. The original motion to approve Resolution #1078 passed unanimously.

Real Estate Tax Rates for 2013 and Establishing the Penalty and Discount Rates for the Payment of Real Estate Taxes

Mr. Hahn made a motion to enact Ordinance #2008 establishing the Real Estate millage rates for 2013. Mr. Filippelli seconded the motion, which passed unanimously after a roll call vote.

2013 Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) Budget

Mr. Filippelli made a motion to approve the COG Budget in the amount of \$21,995,356 and appropriate \$1,456,249 as the Borough's share to support it. Mr. Morris seconded the motion, which passed unanimously without any discussion.

An Ordinance Authorizing Property Assessment for the Downtown State College Improvement District

Mr. Rosenberger made a motion to enact Ordinance #2009 to establish the amount and method for assessing properties within the Neighborhood Improvement District for the year 2013. Ms. Dauler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Sponsor a Renewal Application for the Youth Aid Panel Program

Mr. Rosenberger made a motion that Council approve the submission of the renewal application for the Youth Aid Panel Program on behalf of the Center for Alternatives in Community Justice. Ms. Klinetob seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resolution Honoring the 2012 Penn State Football Team

Mr. Hahn made a motion to adopt a resolution recognizing the 2012 Penn State Football Team for their successful season and accomplishments, both on and off the field, but offered two changes. The first was to change the fourth Whereas to the following: "WHEREAS, in addition to the unprecedented handicaps, the Nittany Lion football team also labored under the stigma of the inhumane crimes against children perpetrated by a former assistant coach, who was ultimately convicted for such misdeeds by a Centre County jury." The second amendment was to change the fifth Whereas to the following: "WHEREAS, the Nittany Lion football team also labored under the additional stigma of the failure of a handful of former university officials at the highest levels of the institution who failed to bring the aforesaid former assistant coach to justice despite allegedly knowing about such misdeeds, for which they are currently facing trial" Mr. Daubert seconded Mr. Hahn's motion.

Mr. Filippelli offered an amendment to the resolution to strike paragraph 5. He felt it was inappropriate to raise the issue of former university officials who failed to bring the aforesaid coach to justice by allegedly knowing about such misdeeds. We should eliminate that. There have been no trials. These people are innocent until there is some resolution to the matter. Mr. Rosenberger seconded the motion.

Mr. Morris said he is opposed to the amendment and the word allegedly is in there. He said by leaving this paragraph in the resolution, Council is not saying anything that is not true. Mr. Hahn said university officials did fail to bring the assistant coach to justice and the dispute is whether they knew about it, which is the reason he put the word "allegedly" in paragraph five. The officials in question are currently facing trial.

Ms. Dauler agreed with Mr. Filippelli but she said she has great issue with most of what is in the resolution.

Council voted on Mr. Filippelli's amendment, which passed 4-3 to strike paragraph five. Those who voted in favor of the motion were Ms. Dauler, Mr. Filippelli, Mr. Rosenberger and Mr. Daubert.

Next, Ms. Dauler made a motion to strike almost everything in the resolution. She said Council should simply congratulate the team on a winning season. Time has passed and people have moved on. On the front page of the New York Times there was an article about State College and what has happened in the last year and how people are feeling. The reporters said people do not want to talk about the details. They prefer to think about the positive efforts being made and about the seniors who are graduating who have stuck with the football program. She said she objects to the recounting of actions by some university officials. Mr. Filippelli seconded Ms. Dauler's motion.

Mr. Morris said while people are talking about moving on, did anyone ask the child victims if they are able to move on. He said he would like to forget it but he cannot. The leaders of the university tried to cover up something like this and for Council to pass a resolution without admitting those things happened

seems useless. Mr. Morris said Council has never passed a resolution congratulating a winning sports team.

Ms. Dauler said she is not saying Council should not do the resolution at all. Since many people do feel the success of the team was positive for the community and under extreme circumstances, this resolution could acknowledge that effort. Ms. Dauler said she is concerned with the number of resolutions Council has passed this year. Council may need to consider scaling back some of that effort and focusing more on policy and taking votes.

Mr. Filippelli said he disagrees with the Freeh Report. He said he spent 35 years at the university and it is far from being run by the football program. The community knows what this resolution is about. He offered a friendly amendment, which would be to start the resolution at "BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of State College congratulates the 2012 Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lion football team for continuing its tradition of student athleticism, as most recently exemplified by its ninety-one (91%) percent graduation success rate for classes entering in the 2005-06 academic year, which is ranked seventh (7th) among Football Bowl subdivision teams and which is twenty-three (23%) percent above the national average among such Football Bowl subdivision team;"

Mr. Hahn said part of this is the adversity that the football team has had to labor against, most of which had been innocent of the misdeeds that were allegedly committed. He said he agreed with Mr. Filippelli about the fiction that the university was run by the football program. This year's football team has been important to the community in terms of moving on. This team deserves a lot of credit for persevering and they deserved to go to a bowl game.

Ms. Dauler's motion failed 2-5 with Ms. Dauler and Mr. Filippelli voting in favor of the amendment.

There being no additional amendments, Council voted 5-2 in favor of the resolution honoring the 2012 Pennsylvania State University Nittany Lion Football Team. Ms. Dauler and Mr. Filippelli voted against the motion.

Mr. Daubert felt it was important to distribute copies of the resolution to the President Erickson, Acting Athletic Director Dave Joyner, Coach O'Brien and to the members of the football team.

Planning and Zoning

Proposed CP-3 Zoning District and Map Change – Mr. Rosenberger made a motion to receive the proposed CP-3 ordinance, schedule it for discussion at an upcoming work session and, to schedule a public hearing in February. Ms. Dauler seconded the motion.

Mr. Daubert said this amendment is difficult to discuss given the information that was provided. He said there is no line-by-line comparison of what is allowed under CP-2 vs. CP-3. Is the proposed CP-3 more or less liberal than the CP-2? Mr. Fountaine said additional information will be provided for the January 14 work session.

The motion to receive, schedule for discussion, and to schedule a public hearing on February 4 passed unanimously.

Regional Issues

Consider the Withdrawal from the Centre Region Code Administration – Mr. Hahn made a motion to have staff draft a letter to the Executive Director of COG, which outlined staff's rationale for the withdrawal and ask for a response within 60 days. Mr. Filippelli seconded the motion.

Ms. Klinetob asked how this request aligns with the deadlines for the Notice to Withdraw.

Mr. Hahn stated the request can go either way if the notice is given. If a notice is given before the end of the year, Council can review the matter and choose to either proceed or not proceed with the withdrawal. Council could decide to not give Notice to Withdrawal. Mr. Hahn stated his motion is intended to be something Council can agree with. Issues with the program need to be addressed. The Borough needs to indicate and reinforce that we do have problems and we are asking for COG and the Code Director to address those concerns.

Mr. Rosenberger said Mr. Hahn's motion is appropriate; however, given the issues of timing of whether or not we withdraw, Council should still pass the proposed ordinance so Council and staff do not waste a year discussing it. He said he recommends Council vote in favor of the ordinance.

Mr. Hahn said there are two options. First, move to amend his motion to add the notice or after we dispose of his motion, a new one can be offered.

Borough Solicitor Williams said it would be appropriate to dispose of Mr. Hahn's motion.

Mr. Rosenberger asked Mr. Hahn to clarify his motion. Was Mr. Hahn's motion intended to substitute staff's motion? Mr. Hahn said there are issues with the Code Office that staff have raised that need to be addressed. He said he is in favor of addressing those issues.

Mr. Filippelli stated perhaps the issues are out of order. Should Council be considering the withdrawal first and consider Mr. Hahn's motion second?

Mr. Hahn said he disagreed. There is a certain belief that if you are voting against the notice, you are voting to essentially whitewash the Code issue. He said his motion is intended to dispel that. We do have issues with the Code program in terms of fragmentation, duplication of services, and we want to improve that. He said he does not support giving notice to withdrawal until Council is sure we are ready for that decision. However, this motion does not preclude the alternative.

Mr. Daubert said he is willing to talk about anything and he said he feels no harm in passing Mr. Hahn's motion. He said there are a number of Code issues that have not been brought up yet and they should be discussed by Council and not a committee of staff.

Mr. Morris said he plans to vote on staff's recommendation for the reason Mr. Hahn gave. He said by voting in favor of the ordinance does not mean he is saying this is the end of the discussion. How he would come down on withdrawing, he does not know. He wants to have a discussion and see if we can settle some of the issues first.

Mr. Hahn's motion for sending a letter to the COG Director passed unanimously.

Mr. Daubert made a motion to consider staff's recommendation to withdraw from the Centre Region Code Agency effective January 1, 2014. Mr. Filippelli seconded the motion.

Mr. Rosenberger said he is an advocate for working together. He said he would be interested in hearing from constituents in the Borough. He noted that staff's recommendation to withdraw is unfortunate in terms of timing, but noted that the timing is a result of the Code Office's new software and timing is of the essence. Council can always reverse its decision but we should keep our options open. By voting to submit a Notice to Withdraw, Council and staff would have a year to plan for the Borough and for our constituents.

Mr. Hahn said the issue before Council is should Council act first and think later or whether Council should think first and act later. Throughout the past year, Council has had an excellent record about giving everyone a fair chance to express their viewpoints and giving ample time for affected parties to prepare their positions and for Council to consider all sides present. He said he personally took great pride in that record. We received the letter from the Neighborhood Coalition in October; however, Council is still waiting for staff to write a response. He said that is why he is personally disappointed that staff is

requesting Council consider its withdrawal from the Centre Region Code Administration effective December 2013, without giving COG or the Code Administration an opportunity to address our grievances. Jim Steff nor Walter Schneider were asked to come before Council until December 10 nor was the Council representative told to raise the possibility before the Public Safety Committee. He said with great outrage, staff did not raise these issues earlier. Mr. Hahn suggested we lower the temperature and legitimate grievances. He added that the Borough has not run its own Code program in forty years nor has Council heard any cost benefits or a timetable for hiring and/or training employees.

Mr. Filippelli pointed out that Council has received a unanimous request from the Neighborhood Coalition to withdrawal from the Centre Region Code Administration. The support from the Neighborhood Associations has never been stronger and this should weigh heavily on Council's decision. He said he did not see that Borough staff and the neighborhood associations were on different sides of this issue. He said he has heard a considerable amount of discontent with the current Code Existing Structures Program. He said he does agree with Mr. Hahn that this is a short notice; however, Council will have a year to consider it. He said he would hope COG's response to the Borough's concerns would give COG the opportunity to sway us from leaving. Mr. Filippelli said he has no problem supporting the ordinance because there have been great concerns from the community.

Mr. Daubert said he could not say it as well as Mr. Filippelli just did. He said over the years, as fraternities have remodeled their houses, the cooperation with the Code Office has been very poor. He said the fraternity advisors were unanimous in their thoughts that the Borough was doing the right thing by considering to withdraw. He said a number of the advisors have commented that they cannot get people at the Code Office to talk to them. A lot of the questions raised to them fall on deaf ears.

Mr. Morris said staff's recommendation is highly rushed and there is no time for a public hearing. He said although the Neighborhood Associations have chimed in with their recommendation, Council has not heard from anyone else. He said he personally does not like to have to decide something of this importance in a tight timeframe. He said there are issues that are not being carefully considered. Mr. Morris commented that relationships are important. He said at some point there is a fair chance the Borough will have to commit to getting out of Codes; however, he does not feel the Borough is at that point yet.

Ms. Klinetob said Council is balancing two different things. The first was the motion to give COG sixty days to evaluate and recommend adjustments. The second is to vote to withdraw. She noted that this involves regional cooperation, which she feels is very important. She said if there are issues to be resolved, Council should work towards those. To withdraw prematurely would cause a rippling affect Council could avoid with a true dialogue and a true course of action.

Ms. Dauler stated the Neighborhood Associations have made it clear how they feel. She said she understands their concerns and she plans to support the vote to go ahead and indicate Council's intent to consider withdrawing from the Code Office. Borough Council, both in the past and now, has been concerned about the quality of life in the Borough, as well as maintaining permanent residents.

Mr. Fontaine acknowledged the timing of all of this and noted the timing is unfortunate; however, the fact is staff became aware of the information and facts related to the implementation of new Code software and the significant financial commitments on behalf of the Borough. This information was not brought to staff's attention until mid to late November. The information was clarified to staff by the various parties after the Thanksgiving holiday. Mr. Fontaine said he agreed that process is important but noted this is not a last minute appeal to Council. The information on the Code software was not available previously. He said he respects Council's decision on this matter. He noted that Council should keep its options open and determine the most appropriate way to respond.

Mr. Williams said if Council votes to enact the ordinance authorizing its intent to withdraw, that notice can be rescinded anytime during 2013.

Mr. Hahn expressed concern about the speed of this recommendation and potential withdrawal. Staff's original timetable was to review and study this and discuss it in May of 2013. He said he is doubtful the Borough could meet this aggressive timetable of review, preparing a budget, hire and train all before the December 31, 2013 deadline. This is something the Borough has not had to do before.

Mr. Fontaine said the Code staff was not effectively communicating the selection of the software chosen and staff was led to believe that the software was compatible with our new MUNIS software. Also, staff was led to believe that the billing systems would work together without staff having to do a number of work a rounds to accomplish that. No budgets were included for interfaces, incompatibilities and the systems were set to move down parallel paths. The Borough was confronted with a couple of issues. First was the penalty to get out of the code software program. Second was the challenge of the Borough and Codes to invest in resources to build parallel and overlapping systems. Lastly, was the process of implementation. None of this information was made known until mid-November.

Mr. Daubert said there were a number of people in the audience who may wish to speak on this issue.

Ms. Donna Queeney, 520 Ridge Avenue, said the College Heights Neighborhood Association would like to see a coordinated effort. She said an example is last week she spoke with a College Heights property owner who has rented to students for many years who was surprised to learn that he/she needed a student-home permit. Another instance was a rental property was occupied by four or five students but there was no student-home permit. A Code inspector was onsite and could have seen that there were five student-occupied bedrooms. Currently, there is no process and no requirement to share that information with the Borough staff. In the 1970's, 70 to 75% of homes in the College Heights Neighborhood were owner-occupied. Today, those figures are reversed with only 25 to 30% that are owner occupied. She asked what this is doing to the Borough's tax base. The Borough needs to get on top of this and regulate these student homes and it cannot be done with the current system. She urged Council to accept staff's recommendation to withdraw from Codes.

Ms. Peg Hambrick, 305 East Hamilton Avenue, asked for a point of clarification. Is Council discussing its intent to withdraw? If Council follows the logic, in two months, you can either rescind the Notice to Withdraw or continue if there is no way to reconcile or correct the problems and/or complaints. She said she has the concern that if Council proceeds with the withdrawal, staff will need the entire twelve months to come up to speed and to provide service. She said although she is a member of the Neighborhood Coalition, she is speaking as an individual. She stated she is an advocate for tightening up the residential permitting process and keeping it cohesive. She said she is concerned that if the system continues as it is, the Borough and COG will inaugurate two systems that will not be compatible. Ms. Hambrick said this does not make her feel comfortable. She said she realizes Council has a lot of perspectives to consider.

Ms. Theresa Lafer, 356 East Foster Avenue, President of the Highlands Neighborhood Association, said she was here to speak on behalf of residents and herself. She said she is proud to be a member of COG. Our COG is a model around the state; however, it falls apart on this issue. The current system does not help to create, update, maintain or verify rental properties except for safety purposes. The Code Office does not do a good job with ordinance enforcement. She said she was never told that she needed a student-rental permit. She said she knows of contractors that have run into severe problems with the Code inspectors. In fact, some of the contractors had had to retrofit after inspections. To accurately and legally support our ordinances, she suggests that the Borough needs to separate this aspect of Code enforcement from COG. She said Council should not punt this down the road to consider later. Ms. Lafer said this subject is nothing new. She said she personally spoke with Jim Steff about this a year - and a half ago. She urged Council to give Notice to Withdraw and begin to discuss how the Borough can make this work. She said the Borough neighborhoods deserve better.

Mr. Ron Madrid, 701 West Beaver Avenue, said that process is important in government and transparency. This process involves dialogue. He said earlier in the year, the Neighborhood Coalition expressed their concerns for the enforcement of Borough ordinances and the rental permit process. He said when the Coalition met with Borough on May 30th, the Coalition articulated their concerns. On October 9th, another report was delivered to Council which recommended the Borough withdraw from

COG. Mr. Hahn acknowledged receipt of the Coalition's letter on October 20th. If Council does not pass its intent to leave COG, the Borough will be wasting resources and money. This request to withdraw should come as no surprise to anyone on Council. The decision to inform COG of the Borough's intent to withdraw is not the end of the line. How many families are you willing to give up who will leave the Borough within the next 24 months. Is one too many? Is losing face going against wasted personnel and resources? Transparency is an important piece of your mandate. Indecision is not the key to flexibility.

Mr. Nick Kerlin, 520 Ridge Avenue, said he too is in favor of withdrawing from the Code agency. The current process is too cumbersome. He said he personally is disappointed this is being put off for 60 days. A lot of people do not know how the system currently works. People often times become frustrated and throw up their hands. Several things fall through the cracks. People are receiving benefits without paying for them, which in turn, is lost revenue to the Borough. The system needs to be easier to use.

Ms. Susan Rogacs, 862 Wheatfield Drive, said the Neighborhood Coalition represents the residents of the Borough. She said putting Codes under the Borough would be more efficient. Residents would only have to go to one resource. Residents would no longer experience unreturned phone calls and misinformation. She said a lot of people do not understand how student rental works, including the Code Office. She said it is very difficult to find out information across two organizations.

Mark Johnston, 1098 Saxton Drive, said he is here to represent the Greentrees Association. He said he personally came into this discussion knowing nothing He said consistency is essential. The bulk of the existing structures, in the Centre Region, are in the Borough. The current communications are not terrific and by adding a new computer system, it will only lead to more confusion between the two entities, which will only undermine the service provided. A single database would make and encourage more owner-occupied housing.

Mr. Jim Steff, Executive Director of the Centre Region Council of Governments, said he was not prepared to comment this evening. He thanked Mr. Fountaine and Mr. Dunlap for meeting with him, along with several COG Committees. He said the Code Office is providing a good level of service and that level of service is targeted around life safety issues, which is the mission of the Code Agency. There has only been one fatality in the Borough and there have been very few large fires. As a result of the lower incidents of fires, rental property owners pay a lower amount of insurance. There have been very few incidents of building problems, collapses, etc. Mr. Steff said what he is hearing is the issue is with rental housing, specifically rental housing that has to do with residential units converted to student dwellings. He said he recognizes the agency's mission is life safety and not residential units, which is a small spectrum of their mission. The Code Agency's inspection may not be the best solution for the Borough. He said he would be happy to work with staff to review a list of concerns and work through those to see if a compromise can be reached.

Ms. Queeney said she has a great deal of respect for Mr. Steff; however, residential properties that are being converted to rental properties are not a small spectrum. The conversions are a major issue in the neighborhoods.

Mr. Daubert said it is not only rental housing that is the problem. Problems have also occurred with renovation projects, which involve an entirely different group of people. Council's decision should not be based strictly on student housing.

Council voted to enact the ordinance and provide its intent to withdrawal from the Code Office. The roll call voted passed 5-2 with Messrs. Hahn and Morris voting against the motion.

Centre Region Comprehensive Plan – Mr. Morris made a motion to receive the proposed Comprehensive Plan and refer it to the State College Planning Commission for review and comment by February 1, 2013. Ms. Dauler seconded the motion.

Mr. Daubert said he had not had a chance to read the entire document but he asked if Council should send the map to the Planning Commission because Council needs to look at the map again.

Mr. Fontaine said staff is recommending Council refer the whole package to the Planning Commission. He said staff will be reviewing the Comprehensive Plan as well. He said staff will provide an update to Council at a meeting in February.

The motion passed unanimously.

Official Reports and Correspondence

Mayor's Report - Mayor Goreham reported that Art in Culture is alive and well in State College. This past Friday evening she attended the open of The Scrooge. The next performance will include the Manager of Harris Township in a leading role.

President's Report – Mr. Hahn reported that Council met in an Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Regional Liaison Reports

Executive Committee – Mr. Morris said the Executive Committee meet and discussed two items. One was the possible intent of the Borough to withdraw, which was an interesting and active discussion. Members of the committee were surprised. Both Mr. Steff and Mr. Schneider were there and Mr. Morris said it was a useful conversation. The second item of business was litigation.

Finance – Mr. Rosenberger said the Finance Committee met last week and approved the COG Budget. Also discussed was the refinancing of the loan for the regional parks.

Human Resources – Mr. Filippelli said the Human Resources Committee did not meet.

Parks Capital – Mr. Daubert said the Parks Capital Committee did not meet and their next meeting will be held on January 10th.

Public Safety – Mr. Hahn said the Public Safety Committee met on December 12 and discussed two matters, emergency responses and the Borough's impending notice to leave the Code Program. He said the Committee expressed a great receptiveness to working with the Borough but expressed its outrage for not having an opportunity to discuss it beforehand.

Public Services – Mr. Morris attended the Public Services Committee where they discussed two items. The first was to discuss the refuse and recycling fees for next year. The second topic was a discussion on a possible standard for a Green Purchasing Policy for COG. This would involve an agreement to encourage everyone to buy green but no specific standards were outlined. Mr. Morris said this topic was put on hold for a year until a study can be done to determine what purchases have been made and to see what extent staff is purchasing green products.

Transportation/MPO – Mr. Daubert said the Transportation Committee met on December 3rd and reviewed the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Plan Program. The next meeting is scheduled for January 7th. The MPO Committee met on November 27 and discussed the Universal Transit Study and the Unified Public Planning Work Program for 2014. Their next meeting will be held on January 22.

Student Representative Report – Ms. Petrulionis was not present for the meeting.

Staff Reports

Conflict of Interest Policy – Mr. Fontaine noted that the Conflict of Interest Policy is distributed annually to all members of the Authorities, Board and Commission.

Report from PennPRIME Services - Mr. Fontaine provided Council with a report from PennPRIME Services and explained the total savings, over a five-year period, was \$247,695.00. He added that this is an excellent program.

Letter from the Mid-State Bed & Breakfast Association – Mr. Fontaine distributed to Council a letter he received from the Mid-State Bed & Breakfast Association regarding football rentals. Mr. Fontaine said Council may recall Tom Kurtz had prepared a report on these types of units. In the letter, Council is being asked to consider a leveling playing field for Bed and Breakfasts vs. those owner occupied properties that homeowners are renting out for football games, Arts Festival, etc. Mr. Fontaine said staff is requesting feedback from Council on whether or not you want to reconsider regulating these kinds of rentals.

Mr. Filippelli said he would like to see it put back on Council's agenda at an upcoming meeting.

There being no additional items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary