

PARKESBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
April 20, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President David Jones.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by all present.

Council members present were: David Jones, Charles Persch, Thomas Curtin, Kathleen Rick, Melinda Keen and Kenneth Knickerbocker. Also present were Mayor, John P. Hagan, II, Borough Manager, L. James Thomas, Secretary, Wendy A. Keegan and Police Chief Brian Sheller. Council Member Virginia Miller was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: After adding authorization to sign agreement for overflow parking for Community Market and changes to the health care benefit package to New Business, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Charles Persch and seconded by Kenneth Knickerbocker. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: After adding an addendum regarding the Finance Committee Report, a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2009 Regular Meeting was made by Kenneth Knickerbocker and seconded by Charles Persch. All in favor.

TREASURER’S REPORT—Wendy A. Keegan

A complete copy of the March, 2009 Treasurer’s Report is on file in the Borough Hall. A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report was made by Charles Persch and seconded by Kathleen Rick. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: A Motion to approve the bills submitted was made by Charles Persch and seconded by Thomas Curtin. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only):

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

ENGINEER’S REPORT—Mendi Lowe

A complete copy of the Engineer’s Report is on file in the Borough Hall.

MANAGER’S REPORT—L. James Thomas

- Met with Heritage Builders, Parke Mansion Partners, ARRO Consulting and PennDOT to discuss highway occupancy permits;
- A construction inspection firm must be chosen for the State Street Bridge Project. A motion to authorize the Streets/Property Committee to act as the

selection committee for a construction inspection firm was made by Thomas Curtin and seconded by Charles Persch. All in favor;

- Five pension firms have been interviewed and a report will be given to the Finance Committee;
- ARRO is in the process of reviewing the 537 Plan for Pennsylvania American Water Company. The Borough will receive a report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT—Chief Brian Sheller

A complete copy of the Police Chief's Report is on file in the Borough Hall. Beverly Ely of West Street thanked Chief Sheller for the wonderful job the department did regarding the problems near her house; Mr. Jones stated that it was not a random act and that the Borough will maintain safety for the residents; Mr. Jones also thanked Chief Sheller and the Police Association for working with the Borough on the financial challenges.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

A complete copy of the Public Works Report is on file in the Borough Hall. An e-mail list is being developed to help keep residents informed of Borough news.

ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT—ARRO Consulting-Mendi Lowe

A complete copy of the Zoning Officer's Report is on file in the Borough Hall.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT—Raymond Stackhouse

A complete copy of the Fire Chief's Report is on file in the Borough Hall.

MAYOR'S REPORT—John P. Hagan, II

No report.

PABA—Eric Jameson

No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A motion to authorize the Council President and Borough Manager to sign the contract with Chester County for the Community Revitalization Program Grant with the understanding that if the funds are not available the project can be moved to 2010 was made by Charles Persch and seconded by Melinda Keen. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Jones discussed the changes to the health care benefit package; the changes will save over \$66,000 per year and will take effect June 1st; a motion to authorize the Council President and Borough Manager to go

forward to make the changes to the health care benefit package was made by Charles Persch and seconded by Kathleen Rick. Mr. Curtin abstained from the vote due to the fact that he works for Blue Cross/Blue Shield. All other members vote in favor. The motion passed.

- Mr. Jones gave an update on the Borough's financial situation. A meeting has been scheduled with Commissioner Cozzone; Representative Houghton's Chief of Staff has dedicated 30% of his time to work with the Borough; an audit by DCED has been scheduled for the 28th and 29th who will make recommendations; made changes in employee health care benefits; will be meeting with Fulton Bank to discuss restructuring debt; meeting with Doug Rauck who assisted in the building financing to discuss refinancing; looking at selling Borough owned properties; Mr. Jones wanted to stress that property taxes should not be raised; looking at option to raise earned income taxes; will probably need to take out a TAN; Tom Curtin suggested using the funds from the PLIGT account;
- A motion to sign a Release and Indemnification Agreement for overflow parking at Grand Sport Auto during the Community Market was made by Thomas Curtin and seconded by Melinda Keen; All in favor. Mr. Curtin will be acting as market manager until a volunteer can be found.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Gerry Treadway of Strasburg Avenue thanked Council for removing the plastic from the park; Mr. Treadway also suggested updating the Borough's website.
- Dennis Schwandt on behalf of the Parkesburg Library reminded everyone of the book sale and book signing at the Borough Hall on April 25th; Mr. Schwandt also extended an invitation to Council for a ceremony recognizing staff and volunteers on May 12th

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business, a motion was made by Charles Persch and seconded by Melinda Keen adjourn the meeting 8:25 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy A. Keegan
Borough Secretary