

October 6, 2008 Council Meeting Minutes

The October 6th meeting of the Penn Hills Council was called to order at 7:37 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, Mayor Anthony L. DeLuca presiding.

Approval of Agenda Items

The Mayor announced that Item 8.c. Appointments, were being deleted from the agenda. There were no other changes and the agenda was approved as amended.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council and the audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Roll was called and the following members of Council responded:

Present: Mrs. Kuhn
Mr. Palumbo
Mr. Underwood
Mayor DeLuca
Dr. Kincaid

Also present were: Manager Van Horne, Solicitor Brimmeier, Gateway Engineer Minsterman, Controller Sciulli, Finance Director Schrecengost, Planning Director Davidson and Deputy Clerk Fitzhenry.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2008 -2013 Capital Program

No members of the audience spoke on this matter.

Planning Director Davidson stated that the Planning Commission received little input on this subject.

Dr. Kincaid asked how many hearings are required.

Planning Director Davidson stated the process starts with a hearing before the Planning Commission, correspondence is obtained from various departments regarding capital requests and Council is required to hold a public hearing and then adopt the program at a subsequent meeting. This program is a guideline for the adoption of the Capital Budget. He feels the biggest issue this year will be a street paving program and storm sewer repairs.

Public Hearing (Continued)

Planning Director Davidson stated that a request for a truck to be used by the Senior Center was received at the Planning Commission from Jim Carnahan, as well as, funding for the Jefferson Manor Food Pantry. Mr. Davidson stated that representatives from the McKinley Center attended the Planning Commission Hearing and expressed their thanks for continued support of their programs. He feels that requests will be forthcoming from Reverend Hunt for the youth employment program and Mrs. Davis for additional building improvements at the Lincoln Park Community Center. Planning Director Davidson commented that there are several projects that are clearly on a wish list and would not be considered unless outside funding became available. Those projects include the bikeway and riverfront park development, etc. He commented that substantial discussion took place regarding the fire departments and the need for an aerial truck.

Dr. Kincaid asked general questions on sidewalks.

Planning Director Davidson responded to the question. He highlighted several areas of the community that could benefit from sidewalks and areas that sidewalks have been provided through various funding sources.

Mrs. Kuhn questioned funding received for the Jefferson Heights Bridge and for the Jefferson Road Dog Park.

Planning Director Davidson responded to the questions regarding funding for the two projects, etc.

Mr. Underwood commented that trucks were at the dog park earlier today completing work.

Manager Van Horne stated that most of Phase I work has been completed. He stated that the roadway needs to be improved.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 19, 2008 Council Meeting and the September 15, 2008 Council Meeting as presented.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

EXPENDITURES
Approval of Warrants

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve the Master Expenditure Summary dated October 6, 2008 including Journal Vouchers numbering 1 in the amount of \$991,791.00; C.D. Requisitions numbering 30 in the amount of \$195,961.33; Master Check Nos. 8839 to 9059 in the amount of \$1,348,745.82; and Wire Transfers Nos. 98 to 100 in the amount of \$60,873.24 for a total master of \$1,409,619.06; making a grand total of \$2,597,371.39.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Mrs. Kuhn commented that she has asked the administration to check on the level of insurance that would be provided on our bank accounts in light of the news about the banking industry in general. She stated that our investments are insured for the full amount and not just the \$100,000 provided by the FCIC. She then questioned Check No. 9004 to Fedele Insurance and hopes that current replacement costs will be provided to the carrier in a timely manner in the future. She questioned Check No. 9024 to Patricia McGrail as it lacked the specifics of the work she performed.

Solicitor Brimmeier commented that Attorney McGrail services were related to the Whiteford Case.

Mrs. Kuhn then questioned Check No. 8918 to One Communications. She is hopeful that the administration is monitoring our phone costs and that a cost savings is truly realized by the change in phone service.

Manager Van Horne stated the bills are being monitored regularly and all of the glitches that have occurred as a result of the phone company change-over are being worked out.

Mrs. Kuhn questioned Check No. 9038 to Penn State University for supervisory training. She wanted to ensure the budget amounts have not been over-expended, etc.

Dr. Kincaid questioned Check 8888 for street lights.

Mayor DeLuca remarked that the costs are for street light service and he urged residents to report outages on street lights.

Resolutions

Roll was called and the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2008-055** amending Resolution No. 2008-026 incorporating various traffic and parking regulations in accordance with recommendations from the Traffic Safety Committee.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

Mr. Donald Sanker questioned the different types of parking signs that are in use in the community. He asked what the distance is from sign to sign, or here to corner, etc.

Deputy Clerk Fitzhenry tried to explain the use of the signage and the language in various ordinances. She asked if he had a particular location in question.

Mr. Sanker stated the problem he is discussing is along Quail Drive.

Deputy Clerk Fitzhenry stated she would forward the concern to the appropriate department. She stated the Public Works Department is very diligent about replacing signs.

Mr. Joseph "Mickey" O'Connor asked if we can enforce signage along state or county roadways.

Deputy Clerk Fitzhenry stated that signs are authorized by Penn Dot and our Police Department enforces the signs.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2008-056** amending the Five-year Consolidated Plan and Community Development Budget Year 34.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Resolutions

Mrs. Kuhn made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2008-057** awarding a contract to Morow's Masonry & Restoration, Inc., for the Multi-purpose Center concrete pads and fencing project in an amount of \$33,675.00.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2008-058** awarding a contract to Merit Electrical Group, Inc., for the Multi-Purpose Center lighting and electrical upgrade project in the amount of \$32,824.00.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Items for Consideration

Rejection of Bids – Plum Creek Plant Gas Line

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to reject bids for the Plum Creek Plant Gas Line.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion and it was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Authorize Sale of Obsolete Equipment and Vehicles

Mr. Underwood made a motion to authorize the sale of obsolete equipment and vehicles.

Mrs. Kuhn seconded the motion.

Dr. Kincaid asked if a list of equipment will be made available and what the advertising plans are for such a sale.

Manager Van Horne stated that advertising is required and will be done in the newspapers, as well as on the Municipal Website, etc. He stated that each department is preparing a list of equipment and vehicles that will be available for sale.

Mrs. Kuhn expressed interest in returning to the practice of two sales a year, especially where vehicles are concerned. She would like to see the vehicles removed from the insurance policy and sold as quickly as possible.

Authorize Sale of Obsolete Equipment and Vehicles (Continued)

Mr. Underwood commented that a van is sitting at Universal Park along with other vehicles. He stated the vehicle has not appeared on any of his vehicle reports, etc.

Deputy Clerk Fitzhenry commented that the van was just taken to Universal Park by Rosedale Fire Department. The van was originally obtained for the police department from Peoples Gas, it was transferred to Rosedale and now it is available for the obsolete sale.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

Appointments

Appointments were deleted at beginning of the agenda.

Introductions of Ordinances, Resolutions, etc.

Council had no legislation to introduce at this time.

REPORTS – Mayor, Council , Manager, etc.

Mrs. Kuhn reported that she met with the Clergy Association regarding the needs of the Fire Service. She stated that 15 churches were represented at the meeting and they are very concerned about these fire issues. She asked if the brochure can be changed to a landscape format. Mrs. Kuhn mentioned that the Penn Hills Clean-up Day will be October 18th and she commented that Crescent Hills Civic Association has been very helpful in organizing groups to assist in the clean up efforts. She acknowledged the Penn Hills Key Club for their work recently at Crescent Hills Park and throughout the community. Mrs. Kuhn reported that Officer Lynch is our new Crime Prevention Officer.

Mr. Underwood reported that he is one of the delegates for the Three River Wet Weather Project and briefly spoke about his attendance at the meetings.

Gateway Engineer Minsterman gave a brief statement about projects being conducted including ALCOSAN'S flow monitoring, etc.

REPORTS (Continued)

Dr. Kincaid reported on his participation in the Turtle Creek COG meetings regarding joint purchases and inter-municipal cooperation. He then commended the police department on their patrols from Beulah Road to Graham Boulevard particularly in light of recent motor vehicle accidents in the area of McCutcheon Lane. He voiced concerns about the number of pedestrians walking along the roads without sidewalks.

Terry Van Horne spoke regarding TVCOG meeting with managers on various areas of concerns including road salt, joint use of machinery, etc. He has been in contact with the new director and has been attending the manager's meetings. He is glad to see Council participating on the board.

Deputy Clerk Fitzhenry commented that the brochures regarding the fire service and the clean-up are posted on our website and she urged residents to sign-up for email distributions on the municipal website.

Mayor DeLuca stated the Penn Hills Fire Departments will hold a Memorial Service this Sunday at 1:00 p.m. at Rolling Hills Baptist Church on Gernert Drive. He urged the public to attend and to be cognizant of the wonderful work done on a volunteer basis by our firefighters.

Mr. Underwood thanked several residents for bringing their youth to the meeting. He feels being involved at a young age promotes involvement as they get older.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion to adjourn and it was approved by a vote of 5 to 0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Diane Gionta Fitzhenry
Deputy Municipal Clerk

These minutes approved by Mayor and Council on March 2, 2009.