

March 17, 2009 Council Meeting Minutes

The March 17th meeting of the Penn Hills Council was called to order at 7:39 p.m. in Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, Mayor Anthony L. DeLuca presiding.

Approval of Agenda Items

The Mayor announced that Item No. 7.a. Appointments were being deleted from the agenda. There were no other changes to the agenda and it 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: Acting Manager Mohammed Rayan, Solicitor Bonnie Brimmeier, Planning Director Howard Davidson and Deputy Clerk Diane Fitzhenry.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve the Minutes of March 2, 2009, May 5, 2008, April 21, 2008, April 7, 2008 and January 22, 2008 Council Meetings, as presented.

Mr. Underwood 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 March 16, 2009 including Journal Vouchers numbering 1 in the amount of \$33,374.78; C. D. Requisitions numbering 2 in the amount of \$2,420.60 and Master Check Nos. 10512 to 10667 in the amount of \$809,371.00 making a grand total of \$845,166.38.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

Approval of Warrants (Continued)

All checks were approved by a vote of 5 to 0, except Check No. 10559 to Don Kuhn Auto Body, which was approved by a vote of 4 to 0 to 1, Mrs. Kuhn being the abstention.

Resolutions

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2009-029** amending the Five Year Consolidated Plan and Community Development Budget Years 32, 33 and 34.

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. 2009-030** awarding a contract to Ferragonio Distributing Company for Office Supplies for a one-year period.

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

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2009-031** awarding a contract for the maintenance of municipal vehicles to Nick's Auto Repair, Inc., for a period of two (2) years in the amount not to exceed \$90,000.00 per year.

Mrs. Kuhn seconded the motion.

Mr. Sanker questioned what services are covered under this contract and how the Municipality determined the amount to be spent.

Acting Manager Rayan stated that the contract covered routine maintenance, oil changes, state inspections, brakes, etc. He further commented that Nick's is not a body shop so there are no repairs made for accident damage, etc. under this contract. He explained that the contract amount was determined by reviewing the past several years of auto maintenance expenses and applying a percentage increase resulting in the \$90,000 figure.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to **TABLE** Resolution No. 2009-031 as he believes it can be re-bid and the Municipality may receive lower prices for these services.

Mayor DeLuca asked who received the notices to bid and why only 2 vendors actually bid to provide these services.

Resolutions (Continued)

Mr. Underwood elaborated on his concerns on this contract including the manner in which fluid replenishment is conducted and urged Council to re-bid.

Acting Manager Rayan explained that several vendors received the information and only these 2 bidders responded. He could not explain why we received only 2 responses.

Mayor DeLuca asked the Acting Manager to review this matter and make a determination on whether to award at a subsequent meeting or to re-bid the contract.

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

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2009-032** awarding a contract for janitorial services at the William E. Anderson Library of Penn Hills, Lincoln Park Community Center Satellite Library and the Public Works Garage to Quality Services, Inc., at a total cost of \$43,224.00 for two years.

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

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2009-033** awarding a contract for janitorial service at the Penn Hills Municipal Building to Signature building Services, Inc., at a total cost of \$27,300.00 for two years.

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

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2009-034** awarding a two-year contract to Vigliotti Landscape & Construction, Inc., for the cutting of grass at the various municipal locations, in the amount of \$101,928.00.

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

Items for Consideration

Appointments were deleted at the beginning of the agenda.

Introduction of Ordinances, Resolutions, etc.

Council had no legislation to introduce at this time.

REPORTS – Mayor, Council, Manager, etc.

Council had no reports at this time.

DISCUSSION SESSION

1. E-mail Newsletter (D. Fitzhenry)
2. ARRA Funding – Budget (H. Davidson)
3. The Strategic Plan (H. Davidson)
4. The Comprehensive Plan-Housing Element (H. Davidson)
5. NSP Program (H. Davidson)
6. C2Pc Grant Application-Multi Purpose Center (H. Davidson)
7. New Business (A. DeLuca)

8. Public Comment Period (3 minutes per person)

Ms. Christine Miller of the Crescent Hills Civic Association's Litter Committee spoke regarding the state-wide clean-up on April 25. She asked for the Council and the public to get behind this clean-up effort. She also asked if the clean-up can be advertised through our newsletter or our distribution list.

Mr. Don Sanker spoke regarding the earlier discussion on the Strategic Plan. He urged Council to expand the Planning Department's list of priorities for the strategic plan and not limit it to the 5 or 6 initially discussed items. He asked that all items be placed on the list and prioritize them to have a constant list of focus.

Mr. Charles Jamison questioned the use of C.D. funds for the Multi-Purpose Center specifically the use for repairs and remodeling of the playground.

Mr. Jim Getsy spoke in support of the new newsletter and inquired as to whether we are limited on places to put the hardcopies of the newsletter. He stated that he was willing to help find locations that would accept the newsletters for distribution.

Ms. Stacy Rullo of Northwood Realty spoke regarding recent changes in occupancy permit and lien letter procedures. She voiced concerns over any delays the new procedures may cause, as they could adversely affect both buyers and sellers of property and ultimately result in homes remaining vacant or unsold in the community. She also suggested changes regarding earned income tax collections.

Mr. Joseph "Mickey" O'Connor spoke regarding the hazardous material issue raised earlier by the Mayor and suggested that the quantities of these materials are

DISCUSSION SESSION (Continued)

8. Public Comment Period (3 minutes per person) (Continued)

what need to be regulated. Mr. O'Connor stated that other government entities regulate hazardous materials but at very high quantities. He stated that a lot of businesses house these materials, but not at the existing regulated quantities so no one would ever know they have such materials on their premises. He also asked if the audio recordings of the Council Meetings could be streamed over the municipal website. Mr. O'Connor also questioned a letter he received from the School District Tax Office regarding due dates on municipal real estate taxes and questioned who was paying for the additional mailing as a result of the bills being sent without the proper dates posted on them.

Ms. Thelma Regan of Northwood Realty spoke regarding the problem raised over the new procedures for occupancy permit and lien letters as they relate to a specific property that she is attempting to take to a closing. She stated her concerns involve the property at 101 Walpole Drive.

Mr. Sam Douglass who owns a landscaping/nursery business on Frankstown Avenue in the City of Pittsburgh addressed Council about concerns he has with the development of Wal-mart and Lowes in the former East Hills Shopping Center.

Mr. Ed Zullo thanked municipal officials for placing the approved Council minutes on the website. He then discussed recent articles in the newspaper regarding the use of surveillance cameras at fixed locations to assist in deterring and/or investigating crime, etc. He asked for the Municipality to apply for a grant from the District Attorney's Office as some other area communities have done. He also suggested adding a donation button on the website for special contributions by residents and businesses for special project such as the surveillance cameras. He believes the community would support such an effort.

Note: The Mayor announced that Council will hold a brief executive session after the adjournment to discuss personnel issues.

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.

Adjournment (Continued)

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Diane Gionta Fitzhenry
Deputy Municipal Clerk

These minutes approved by Mayor and Council on April 6, 2009.