

APRIL 4, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The April 4, 2011 Council Meeting was called to order at 7:34 P.M. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Mayor Anthony DeLuca presiding.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Anthony DeLuca called meeting to order. Mayor announced the Agenda will stand as presented. Will you please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council and the audience stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Dr. Kincaid
Mrs. Kuhn – Mayor DeLuca, she could not be here this evening, but we will do a phone vote with her for the first Resolution.
Mr. Palumbo
Mr. Underwood
Mayor DeLuca

Also present were: Manager Rayan, Planning Director Davidson, Finance Director Schrecengost, Controller Futules, Solicitor's Office Sweeney, Gateway Engineer's Minsterman and Manager's Secretary Sorce.

CITIZEN'S TO ADDRESS COUNCIL:

Mayor DeLuca – first up – Mr. Don Sanker – Mr. Mayor, Members of Council, Moe and staff before I get into the recycling let me address the Municipal web-page for just a moment. Senator Arlen Specter is no longer a Senator, the web-page says he is, the web-site says that 309 Collins Drive is the address for our tax collector, I believe that was changed over a year ago to Aster Drive and the web-site says all other tax (singular) are collected by the tax collector, I believe it is taxes (plural). That was just a very preliminary looking at the web-site.

In February of 2011 there were two articles in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette that addressed the issue of Recycling. I am going to quote a little bit from the first article which was written February 12. The Northeast Recycling Council did a study in 2009

that indicated that 3,803 establishments were involved in recycling. Those relying on recycling and those involved in reuse and remanufacturing generated 52,136 jobs and was an annual payroll of \$2.2 billion dollars. In Pennsylvania, we are also bringing in gross receipts of \$20.6 billion dollars. If you consider that each Pennsylvanian generates about 4 and ½ lbs. of waste per day, and that with our previous approaches recycling has remained at approximately 35% is easy to see why recycling has nowhere to go but up. State Government has played a role but now recycling is profitable. In the past few years private sector companies have invested more than \$66 million dollars in Pennsylvania in their recycling facilities, high tech sorting, processing equipment and a variety of reused remanufacturing venues all which produce new jobs. In the February 24th issue of the Post Gazette, there was an article about a greener red and it was about an agreement between Heinz and Coke that are going to be getting to use another type of recycling which is partially residue of sugar cane and the reason is they are not getting enough recycling of plastic to do all that they need to do to make all of these bottles out of plastic. They can't do it. Now, in Penn Hills we happen to have an excellent excellent program for recycling. We will recycle almost everything. As a matter of fact, this paper bag is recyclable, this is the inside of a roll of paper towels, it is recyclable, this is the inside of a roll of toilet paper that is recyclable. As I drive around I find it very difficult to believe that we are recycling at the 35% level. I say that because even those homes which have a red barrel in front of it, I know that they are not recycling everything that can be done. And if we are at 35% what can we do to improve our ratio to 50%? That would be a huge amount of tonnage in a recycling stream. So what do we need to do. Some ideas. We need to inform the public of what recycling does; it is creating jobs, it reduces our dependency on foreign oil, it reduces the land fill tipping fees, and at the end we all save a lot of money. Potentially, keeps our taxes lower. So how do we inform the public? Well just some thoughts that I had. Put articles in the newspaper, an insert into the tax office mailings. They mail out a real estate tax form to everybody, and once a year they mail out an end-of-year wage tax form. Everybody gets them. And so as an inexpensive way it doesn't cost us any money to put an insert into the tax office mailings and whatever ideas anybody else can come up with are greatly appreciated. Now, the second question. I would like to make a comment – most of the major grocery stores are required to recycle all of the cardboard. They have these big compacts at the back of their buildings and they recycle all of the cardboard and the cardboard is put out and they sell it. Depending on the price at the time is the price that they get for the cardboard. My question, why is it that we do not require restaurants, bars and country clubs to recycle. They don't. How do I know? I have asked. None of them are required to recycle. Now, I happen to be a pretty constant customer at Morgan's Restaurant, probably six days out of seven a week and I recycle at least 80% of all the glass and plastic that comes out of Morgan's. Look in the truck of my car and you will see the recyclables for Sunday evening. And

when I go back this evening, I will pick up all the glass that they have emptied and recycle it. Now, why and I have been asked this question by other residents, if I am washing out my tin can or washing out my milk bottle or whatever, and that is just one item, why do we not require the bars, restaurants and the country clubs who are major users of glass, they empty a lot of glass a day, why are they not required to recycle? The evidence is out there, the recycling pays off, it is a huge profitable business and we need to do more in this community which has an excellent excellent program for recycling. My last comment, if I can find my page, on the web-site, this is printed off our web-site – No these items cannot be recycled, put them in your trash collection and one of them says plastic bags. Now, we don't recycle them, I agree. But why does the web-site, why doesn't the web-site say while we do not recycle plastic bags they can be recycled at any giant eagle or other location that recycles plastic bags. Not only the grocery bag the bag that my newspapers comes in everyday, and I get three, the plastic that my laundry comes in can be recycled, lots of plastic can be recycled, but the web-site says no we don't. I think as a municipality, I think as a Community we can do a better job of communicating to the public what indeed can be recycled. Yes I am an avid recycler. I have at least four red containers out every single week filled with recyclables. We can do a better job. Thank you for listening.

Mayor DeLuca - Thank you, Don.

Moe Rayan – We will follow up on all the questions and comments from Mr. Sanker.

Mr. Underwood – Howard, if my memory serves me correctly, maybe it was a couple of years ago we were supposed to talk to the recycle collection and the drivers were to put stickers on the red barrels and I have never seen that happen. What seems to have fallen through the crack here?

Mayor DeLuca – I think that was a legal issue.

Mr. Davidson –no, that was a residential program and we did that. And to answer Mr. Sanker's question we do require restaurants and country clubs to recycle. All businesses have to have a recycle plan. It is enforcements that are the issue, it is not that it is not required; I just want to make sure that people understand that our Ordinances do require that those businesses do have recycling plans. If they do not have a plan and are not operating under that plan they are in violation. Now, what do we do about it is a question for another meeting, another time. The plastic bags on the web-site, I will check those, I am not sure that is good information, it could be that even now our hauler will take the plastic bags along with the papers, bottles and other things

that we do, so that could be just outdated information on our web-page like the first items that he brought up. In regard to his comments about educating, he is absolutely right, we need to educate people we don't in terms of our residential program. Our biggest problem is that we don't have enough percentage of participation. People who have their red cans are not using them properly. We have taken a major step with our new garbage contract; we now have addresses given to us of people not participating. We haven't put it to good use yet but we will so that is just a good piece of information for Council and the list is long and if you drive down the street on a recycling day and see some red cans, some streets you might see 80% participation and another street you might see 30% participation.

Mayor DeLuca – and the people who are not recycling we need to send them a letter.

Howard Davidson – We have all kinds of things, we need to educate the elementary kids, we need to send them letters, we need to put stickers on their cans, and we need to do whatever makes sense in terms in trying to get them to participate because Mr. Sanker is right it is in our own interest, we save money.

Moe Rayan – Mr. Mayor if I could just make a real quick comment. During negotiations, Mr. Sanker with the garbage hauler we did ask them to provide public education to the elementary schools and it is just a matter of scheduling right now and to Mr. Davidson's comment, with regards to the addresses, those addresses are collected by the drivers, it is a long process, it takes a little bit of time and we are just starting to get this information from our hauler based on what we negotiated with them. We just passed their contract in December so actually I was pretty impressed when I heard that they were getting the addresses in to us as we asked them. Generally it takes months to get that.

Don Sanker – regarding Howard's comment, regarding the restaurants. I very specifically asked the owners of restaurants and I have been in at least three or four of them, they are recycling cardboard, I agree, but I went to an event at one of the country clubs and I specifically asked them do you recycle glass and they said no. At the end of the event, I took ten cases of glass out of that country club, what we had used that day. They do not recycle glass; they do in some cases recycle the cardboard. Regarding the elementary schools, I happen to be in a number of the elementary schools on a weekly basis and yes they are recycling paper, I see it outside the doors of the class rooms, so they are beginning to do it. I think it is a great idea to get the elementary school kids involved in recycling. That is where you have to start. Down at the elementary level. Work your way up. I am very happy to hear that we are getting the addresses because

the other day I am driving on Universal Road coming back from Washington School and there was a huge amount of cardboard all wrapped up ready to go, but there was only one issue, it wasn't recycling day. That stuff was going into the landfills. So, I am glad to hear what we are doing, if there is anything that I can help or get other people to help to inform the public to me it is critical for the future. Thank you.

Mayor DeLuca – thanks Don.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve Minutes of March 21, 2011.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

EXPENDITURES

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve the Master Expenditures Summary dated April 4, 2011 – Journal Vouchers 0 – \$0.00 – C.D. Requisitions – 6 - \$215,150.00 – EECBG – 0 - \$0.00 – Checks Numbering 17352 – 17481 - \$784,609.36 - making a grand total of \$999,759.36.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor DeLuca – before we make the next motion for **Resolution No. 2011-005** the motion will be made with these following conditions:

1. Burials shall be conducted with a minimum of 36" of ground cover.
2. Land Conservation Cemeteries LLC shall remain as a for profit business.
3. The owner shall not sell the property to a non-profit organization.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-005** recommending Conditional Use Approval to Peter J. McQuillin for the construction of a cemetery to be located in the vicinity of Kansas and Colorado Streets as described in his application.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-1 vote.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-024** awarding a Contract to Seloc-Nor, Inc., doing business as Cleaning Concepts for Janitorial Services at various Municipal Facilities in the amount of \$76,560.00.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by 4-0 vote.

Mr. Underwood made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-025** awarding a Two Year Contract to Vigliotti Landscaping & Construction, Inc., for the Cutting of Grass at various Municipal Locations in the Total Amount of \$98,659.08.

Mr. Palumbo seconded the motion

Don Sanker – 780 Long Road – Mr. Mayor does this Contract cover all the grass cutting or are there going to be other Contacts awarded at other locations throughout the Municipality?

Mayor DeLuca – this is mostly the parks, graham blvd. ext.

Don Sanker – no I was thinking more of all of the primary municipal locations. We go from snow removal to grass cutting. Both are expensive. Thank you.

Dr. Kincaid – just one comment please. I have commented on this a couple of years ago and I didn't follow through on it and just for our information whoever is working with this particular company I am sure it is a reputable company, I am concerned that they are equal opportunity employees in particular relevant to woman and minorities. I assume they do that but I have learned never to assume so I would just like for the records to show that. Thank you and the Manager could probably follow-up on that better than anyone.

Mayor DeLuca – I believe it is right in the ad Dr. Kincaid.

Dr. Kincaid – many times they say that. Thank you Mayor.

Manager Rayan – I will follow up on that.

There being no further discussion the motion was approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Palumbo made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-026** authorizing the Municipal Manager to execute a Contract and Letter of Credit to facilitate the Installation of a Traffic Signal at the Intersection of Rodi Road and Maple Lane.

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

Don Sanker – 780 Long Road – Authorizing a Letter of Credit, who is paying for this?

Mayor DeLuca – this is a combination of the fund that we got from the County and also the Developer.

Don Sanker – Are any Penn Hill's taxes paying any part of this?

Mayor Deluca – No.

Don Sanker – Thank you.

There being no further discussion, the motion was approved by a 3-1 vote.

APPOINTMENTS

Mayor DeLuca – We have to Re-Appoint four people to the Traffic Safety Committee.

Amadeo Brancati
Richard Grove
Officer Bernard Sestili
Robert Schultze

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the Re-Appointments were approved by a 4-0 vote.

Mayor DeLuca - Now we have to make three new Appointments to the Traffic Safety Committee:

I would like to appoint:

John Gillette
Michael Ross
Alan Odachowski

Dr. Kincaid seconded the motion.

There being no further discussion the Appointments were approved by a 4-0 vote.

REPORTS

Mayor DeLuca – I just have a couple here. First on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 they are having a Spaghetti Dinner at the Laketon Heights United Methodist Church, that is from 5:00 – 8:00 and the funds go to The Teesa Williams Memorial Fund, the victim of a house fire on Azalea Drive. Also we will have a Crime Watch prevention meeting after that. Also, I would like to commend our Penn Hills Police Department and our Penn Hills Fire Departments, EMS and Fire Marshall in cooperating with the fire investigation. We got an e-mail back from Chief Deputy Fire Marshall Donald Rucker saying he just wanted to commend all the Penn Hills Units for their cooperation that helped them with their investigation and so I just want to commend them all.

Dr. Kincaid – I would like to follow-up relevant to commending our Police Department for doing community service, we know what is written on the cars about service but all of Penn Hills was touched by the tragic death of Teesa Williams in the house fire on Azalea a couple of weeks ago and the news media of course did a good job in helping our community to know about it but the day of the memorial service, Saturday, without the help of the Penn Hills Police Department in directing traffic we would have had a big problem on Fransktown Road because there were over 450 people in attendance and the Laketon Heights Church parking lot could not facilitate that many cars and Sergeant Trogler was the main person that came

and took over where I had our volunteers trying to help and as a result we had no problems, no traffic tie –ups , no accidents and certainly I commend the Police Department for their excellent work in that regard. Thank you.

Mayor DeLuca – we will go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor DeLuca entertained motion to adjourn.

Dr. Kincaid made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Underwood seconded the motion

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel

MAUREEN M. SORCE
MANAGER’S SECRETARY

DATE