

East Stroudsburg Borough, March 1, 2011

A regular meeting of the East Stroudsburg Borough Council was held at the Municipal Building on Tuesday, March 1, 2011. The following members were in attendance: Victor Brozusky; Ed Henning; William Reese; Donald Repsher and Sonia Wolbert. Roger DeLarco was absent. Also attending were: Mayor Armand M. Martinelli; Manager James S. Phillips; Solicitor David J. Williamson of Scanlon Lewis & Williamson; Engineering Representative Samuel D'Alessandro of R.K.R. Hess Associates, Inc.; ESU Student Ambassador Nick Tetro; and several residents in the audience.

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Reese called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Sonya Cole led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of February 15, 2011 Regular Council Meeting

Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting held February 15, 2011 as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments – Agenda Items

Lydia Robbins & Tom Calemno were present on behalf of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) representing employees at Pocono Medical Center. Ms. Robbins said the union has been attempting to negotiate a new contract with Pocono Medical Center, but the hospital doesn't seem interested in listening to the union representatives. Employees at the hospital recently voted for a closed shop. However, PMC won't recognize that vote. No one wants a strike at the hospital but there does not seem to be any viable alternative. Mr. Reese stated that he was a union member for thirty-five (35) years and thanked Ms. Robbins and Mr. Calemno for bringing this matter to the attention of the public. Mr. Williamson said Council members can certainly support the union representation issue individually, but it is probably not appropriate for Council to take a position on what is in effect a private labor matter. Clare O'Brien asked what is the union representing employees at the hospital? Mr. Calemno replied the Service Employees International Union or SEIU.

Report on Proposals/Qualifications (RFQ's) Received 02/28/11 for Energy Savings Performance Contracts

Mr. Phillips reported that proposals were received from the following firms: Johnson Controls, Inc.; Honeywell Building Solutions; and McClure Co., (a subsidiary of PPL Energy). Mr. Phillips said the responses are extensive and the Committee members will need to take time to review the submittals from the three firms. Mr. Reese asked what is the anticipated time frame for making a decision? Mr. Phillips replied hopefully the Committee can review the proposals and make a recommendation within a month.

Request for Handicapped parking Sign at 450 Normal Street

Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mr. Henning to approve the request for a handicapped parking sign for an eligible resident at 450 Normal St. The motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amending Off-Street Parking Requirements

Mr. Phillips said the draft ordinance that Council now has incorporates the new provisions for parking space size and aisle widths requested by Pocono Medical Center for their proposed parking garage for employee parking on East Brown St. Mr. Henning said if we are permitting smaller parking spaces in parking structures, why not also permit smaller spaces in all parking lots? Mayor Martinelli stated that the Borough wants

to see the University construct a parking garage so we had not agreed to reduce the size of parking spaces in parking lots as requested by the University. Mr. Henning also questioned whether it is necessary to require additional parking spaces be added to account for snow removal? He said six percent additional seems excessive. Mr. D'Alessandro said the ordinance doesn't require the applicant to add additional parking area, but they do have to have an approved plan or method for snow removal. Mr. Phillips said he had received an email from Keith Snidtker from Pocono Medical Center which relays several comments from the Parking Consultant utilized by the hospital in coming up with the proposed parking space and aisle sizes for a parking structure. One comment is that if surface parking is associated with or attached to a parking structure, then the parking space sizes should be the same for that surface parking as for the parking structure. Also, they are suggesting that Section b should be clarified to state that if the angle of the proposed parking is between the angles listed in the ordinance, then the minimal aisle width may be proportional; or possibly it should then refer to the angle that is listed that is higher.

Mrs. Wolbert questioned whether the definition of "continuous" lands in Section 4 would include any lands not within the Borough? Mr. D'Alessandro said the Borough through its ordinances only has control over properties located within the Borough. Mr. Williamson said if a development plan is proposed in the Borough and in an adjoining Township, then the total plan would have to meet the parking requirements of both municipalities. Mayor Martinelli said he thought that we were proposing that any project would be required to provide all needed parking within 400 ft of that new facility? He feels this ordinance will not accomplish the purpose of encouraging the University to build a parking garage, as long as they can still utilize parking lots on the out-skirts of campus. Mr. Henning stated that he does not believe that the Borough can force the University to build a parking garage.

Mr. Phillips suggested that if Council still needs to discuss and workout language concerning the off-street parking requirements as it primarily affects the University, that Council may want to separate out the provisions for parking stall and aisle widths as proposed by Pocono Medical Center. Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to separate out the provisions in Section 6 of the proposed ordinance amending (Section 157-65 E) for parking structures as a separate ordinance so that those provisions can be sent to the County and Borough Planning Commission for review and comment. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Wolbert asked if any new development plan would require a recount of all existing parking spaces on campus? Mr. D'Alessandro said yes, they would be required to provide a count of existing parking spaces but must also take into account the existing uses of such property and parking. Mr. Williamson said the issue is where does Council want to see parking developed on the ESU campus? Mr. Brozusky said we don't want to have them pave over all the existing open space. Mr. Henning said if the Borough permits smaller parking spaces that will require less land use for parking.

Public Comments – New Business

None

Correspondence

Mr. Phillips reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:

1. Information from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) Bureau of Waterways Engineering concerning the 12th Annual Flood Protection Workshop at State College, PA April 5-7, 2011.
2. A letter from Chad Martinez of 49 Gold St. Mr. Martinez is interested in furthering recycling efforts in the community.
3. A letter from the Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority concerning plans for updating the Monroe County Waste Plan.
4. A letter from PA DEP stating that Twin Boroughs Recycling has been approved for a 2008 Year Performance Grant in the amount of \$154,366.

5. A copy of the 2010 Annual Report for the Stroud Region Open Space & Recreation Commission (SROSRC).
6. A letter from PA DEP reporting that an Air Quality Report has been issued to Pocono Medical Center.
7. Information from the Pennsylvania League of Cities & Municipalities (PLCM) announcing the Annual High School Senior Essay Scholarship Contest.
8. A letter from PLCM announcing the Northeast District meeting to be held at Nanticoke on Monday April 4, 2011.
9. A letter from Patricia Cameron, of 20 North Green St. expressing interest in serving on the Borough Shade Tree Commission

Reports

Mr. D'Alessandro reviewed his written engineer's report previously submitted to Council. Mr. D'Alessandro discussed the response from PA DEP in regard to reduced monitoring frequency at the two former joint municipal landfill sites. Mr. D'Alessandro said DEP has agreed to reduce monitoring; although this year they want some new sampling from private well sites located near the former landfill site in Stroud Township.

Nick Tetro, ESU Student Ambassador said he has lined up several additional student groups who are interested in adopting streets in the Borough for litter pick-up.

Mr. Williamson noted that proposed cuts in the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program will severely affect the Redevelopment Authority of Monroe County, and may result in staff cuts.

Mrs. Wolbert announced that Friends of SROSRC will be holding the 2nd Annual Greenway Soiree' April 21, 2011 at Glenbrook Golf Club.

Mr. Phillips reported that last week he filled online a grant application with PennDOT for funds to complete the downtown streetscape project under the Transportation Enhancements Program. Mr. Phillips said he received today a proposal from Traffic Planning & Design Inc. (TPD) for conducting a traffic signal feasibility study for the East Brown St., Smith St. intersection which is being impacted by the new student housing under construction on the East Stroudsburg University Campus. Finally Mr. Phillips reported that the Borough's water well #2 is out of operation and the well pump will have to be pulled; and may need to be replaced.

List of Bills

Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wolbert to approve the list of bills payable and to ratify expenditure and payroll made through March 1, 2011, as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Henning to adjourn into executive session at 8:35 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

At 9:05 p.m. Council members reassembled in the meeting room and Mr. Brozusky made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to reconvene the public meeting. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Williamson said the executive session was held to discuss two real estate matters and one personnel matter.

Request for Authorization to Attend PA DEP Flood Protection Work Shop

Mr. Repsher made a motion, seconded by Mr. Henning to authorize the Maintenance Foreman and Manager to attend the PA DEP Flood Protection Workshop to be held at State College and Lockhaven, PA, April 5-7, 2011. The motion carried by a vote of 4 to 1 with Mr. Brozusky voting no.

Assessment Appeal for 66 -68 Analomink Street Property

Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to authorize settlement of the assessment appeal by the Borough for the property owned by the Borough, based on the proposed figures negotiated by Thomas McKeown on behalf of the Borough. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

With no further business Mrs. Wolbert made a motion, seconded by Mr. Repsher to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

James S. Phillips, Secretary