

ATGLEN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BUSINESS MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2016

President Charles Palmer Jr. called the meeting of the Atglen Borough Council to order on Monday, August 1, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Borough Hall. The following members were present:

Charles Palmer Jr. Denim Kurtzhals Carol McGrath
James Chapman Brian Hahn Mayor Brian Wenzka

ANTHONY CAMPBELL, CODE OFFICIAL AND ZONING OFFICER

Mr. Campbell did a brief introduction. He is working on rental inspections and property maintenance. He has streamlined the permit process with a new form, revised fees, and a flexible work schedule to encourage telephone calls and on-site visits.

John Walters, Norwood Street, discussed a future deck project. Mr. Campbell said a building permit and stormwater permit are required.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kristin Walters, Norwood Street, thanked the Borough for the Veteran banners.

Caren Andrews summarized the involvement of members of the community in designing the banners, fundraising, and mapping out the locations for the new banners. Twenty five Veteran banners and two new Welcome to Atglen banners are being hung.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEM

Appointment to Zoning Hearing Board, Resolution # 541-16 – A motion was made by McGrath/Kurtzhals to appoint Nancy Pelet, Zion Hill Road, to the Zoning Hearing Board, term expiration date of February 1, 2017. All members were in agreement.

July 11, 2016 Council minutes, Treasurer’s report, Bills of Approval, Department and Advisory Reports - Motion to approve made by Palmer/Hahn. All members were in agreement.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ITEMS

Atglen Park, Octorara Soccer Club Request - The Octorara Soccer Club requested to fund improvements to the portion of the soccer field that was previously a baseball infield. They will remove the top layer of sand and grass and replace it with topsoil and grass at a cost of \$ 1800. The field will be closed for the Fall season. Per the July 28, 2016 email from John Mickel, Octorara Soccer Club President, to Caren Andrews they understand the donation gives the Club no rights to the parcel Ms. Andrews said the Borough Engineer will review and approve the stormwater plans. McGrath/Hahn made a motion to accept the Club's offer to improve the field subject to there being no cost to the Borough. The motion passed 5 to 0.

Park and Recreation Commission Vacancies – There are vacancies. Two residents have expressed an interest in the Park and Rec Commission. Five are needed. No action was taken.

Planning Commission Update - Mr. Chapman spoke on the topic of Atglen Valley discussed at the July 27 Planning Commission meeting. They are waiting to hear back from the Borough Solicitor on the spot zoning question. President Palmer said let's table all discussions on Atglen Valley until the spot zoning question gets resolved.

Farming, Valley Avenue Borough Property, West End – The understanding with the farmer expires in August 2017. The Borough will let the farmer finish the 2017 season. Council is interested in pursuing another lease. Ms. Andrews will speak to the Solicitor to get an understanding of the process.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Ms. Andrews announced due to Labor Day the September meeting is moved to September 12. She reported the County is still working on the contract language for the Comprehensive Plan grant.

Ms. Andrews discussed the past practice of the preparation of the budget. Council said to follow that process for the Year 2017 season.

Ms. Andrews discussed a potential funding source from the State for the Well # 4 Nitrate Removal System. She suggested adding a generator and security features. The local match is 15%. Council is interested. She will report back at the next meeting.

Ms. Andrews read aloud her report and responded to questions.

President Palmer asked Mr. Campbell to discuss the freestanding sign concern brought to Council's attention at last month's meeting. Mr. Campbell said the sign is grandfathered.

VISITORS COMMENTS

Gail Murphy, Valley Avenue, said she liked the Veteran banners and inquired about the PP & L attachments. She questioned why the Borough would not pursue funding the Nitrate Removal System through the County CRP grant program.

Lloyd Murphy, Valley Avenue, said to give the farmer plenty of notice on the Valley Avenue parcel. He suggested the pricing be based on the lease agreement with the farmer who farms the Water parcel on Church Road.

John Walters, Norwood Street, said the lawyers should have this figured out for Atglen Valley if it is or is not spot zoning.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Wenzka announced Summers and Zims is a title sponsor for Community Day. At the last library meeting the Library Board voted to pursue moving to the former market space on Main Street. The Chester County Library Board needs to grant their approval. If granted construction and use plans will be presented to the Code and Zoning Officer. The Library Board understands the improvements and use must meet Borough Codes.

Ms. McGrath asked if the Library was fiscally solvent. Mayor Wenzka said yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Carol McGrath asked if Atglen Borough can stay out of the Keystone Valley services study. Ms. Andrews said she stressed to the study's consultant that we are satisfied with the current service provider, Christiana Fire Company.

President Palmer read aloud the advertisement for the Christiana Fire Company softball tournament and the sale of Barnstormers baseball tickets.

Denim Kurtzhals thanked Gail Murphy, the previous Borough Manager, and Caren Andrews, the current Borough Manager, for their efforts in maintaining a well-kept and attractive community. He thanked Chief Finrock and his officers for keeping the community safe.

Dirk Hagen, Norwood Street, spoke on the potential Library move. He asked if the parking lot will be addressed. The answer was yes, by the Borough Engineer.

President Palmer called for a motion to adjourn. McGrath/Kurtzhals made the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Caren D Andrews
Borough Manager/Secretary