ATGLEN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BUSINESS MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016

President Charles Palmer Jr. called the meeting of the Atglen Borough Council to order on Monday, July 11, 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

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER'S REPORT

Bryan Umble reviewed the Water and Sewer report and responded to questions. He spoke about the water leak detection program, the monitoring of Well # 4 for nitrate levels, and the recent motor failure at one of the West End pumps. A new motor is on order. Recommendations will be forthcoming regarding infrastructure enhancements for nitrate removal at Well # 4 and pumps at the West End Station. Mr. Umble said the painting of curbs, street lines, and the 25 mile per hour speed limit is underway.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gail Murphy, Valley Avenue, said she is doing follow-up from the June 22 Planning Commission meeting. She has concerns about the proposed Atglen Valley development and the need for a zoning overlay. She said the Planning Commission should have been consulted prior to the March 7 zoning overlay motion. Ms. Murphy said Borough services will be impacted. She said a real estate tax increase may be a consequence of this development. Ms. Murphy expressed concerns about leadership and transparency. President Palmer said the Borough Council can revisit the March 7 motion.

Dirk Hagen, Norwood Street, spoke about the Atglen Valley proposal providing background information.

John Mickel, the President of the Octorara Soccer Club, spoke on improving the turf at the Atglen Park. The Club is suggesting digging up the field and working with the Borough on drainage. The estimate they received was $ 3,000. The Club made an offer to pay for the improvement. There was a discussion since it is a Borough owned parcel if the Club would be upset if in the future the Borough alters the use of the park or sells the parcel. Ms. McGrath said the uses for the Atglen Park will be reviewed when the Comprehensive Plan gets updated.

John Mickel, Newport Circle, volunteered to serve on the Park and Recreation Commission.

COUNCIL ACTION ITEM

Appointment to Planning Commission, Resolution # 540-16 – A motion was made by McGrath/Chapman to appoint Michael Honan, Philips Drive, to the Planning Commission, term expiration date of December 31, 2017. All members were in agreement.

Years 2017 to 2020 Chester County Regional Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program – Ms. Andrews stated the County program expires at the end of the year. The County is working on the request for proposal and needs to know if Atglen will continue to participate. The cost, the number of events, the event locations, the materials accepted, and the number of Atglen residents that utilized the services was discussed. A motion was made by Hahn/Kurtzhals to participate in the County HHW program with the condition the Borough staff regularly advertises the events. The vote was as follows: Yes – Hahn, Kurtzhals, Palmer, Chapman; No – McGrath. The motion carried 4 to 1.

June 6 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

Comprehensive Plan – Ms. Andrews reported the County is drafting the agreement and hopes to have it to the Borough by the August 1 meeting. The Borough will have to review and act on the agreement.

Park and Recreation Commission and Zoning Hearing Board Vacancies – There are vacancies. Two residents have expressed an interest in the Park and Rec Commission. One resident volunteered to serve on the Zoning Hearing Board. Since the advertisement was recently posted in the July newsletter it was agreed to wait until the August meeting.

Planning Commission Update - Mr. Chapman spoke on the topic of Atglen Valley discussed at the June 22 Planning Commission meeting. The question pertaining to spot zoning needs to be resolved. The Borough Solicitor is reviewing this issue.

Mr. Chapman stated he does not favor a zoning overlay.

President Palmer read aloud the June 28 email from the environmental consultant hired by Brian Campbell. The consultant stated a road crossing to Route 372 from Atglen Valley through the Borough owned Valley Avenue parcel would be prohibitive due to the Exceptional Value wetlands protection designation.

OctoREM, Council Liaison-Geoff Burkhart spoke on the need of the local Emergency Management Coordinators to work together. OctoREM is working on the by-laws and will be reaching out to the municipalities for their support. It was agreed for now to have all interested Council attend the OctoREM meetings. The next meeting is July 13.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Caren Andrews announced FEMA has revised the County Floodplain Map. Atglen will have to update the Flood Hazard Chapter of the Zoning Code. We are waiting for feedback on the changes.

Ms. Andrews said Applewood, Chetty Development has submitted a revised stormwater management plan. The Solicitor is reviewing the plan to determine if it has an impact on the conditional approval and the State Permit Extension Act.

Ms. Andrews read aloud her report and responded to questions. She is working on the draft revision to the Personnel Manual and Request for Proposal for engineering services for MS4.

VISITORS COMMENTS

Dirk Hagen asked for a clarification about the final IRS subsidy on the 2010 Loan. Ms. Andrews said the refinancing included terminating the subsidy. The savings takes into account the elimination of the subsidy. The net impact of the savings is approximately $ 300,000 over the lifetime of the debt.

Dr. Hagen asked when the exterior finishes will be made to the property at 302 Valley Avenue. Also, he asked if the sign can be removed. Ms. Andrews said the property is being scheduled for a rental inspection. The exterior finishes will be discussed with the owner. The sign was reviewed by the previous Zoning Officer. Ms. Andrews will have Mr. Campbell revisit the sign.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON'S COMMENTS

Courtney Burkhardt spoke on the Sports and Music Summer Camps. She worked with the Community Day Community and Arts Department on developing the graphics for the t-shirt. Ms. Burkhardt shared with Council the design images.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS – There were no comments.

President Palmer called for a motion to adjourn. Kurtzhals/Hahn made the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Caren D Andrews
Borough Manager/Secretary