

PHOENIXVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

7:00 PM

MINUTES

(Minutes approved by Borough Council on August 13, 2024)

I. Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence

II. Roll Call – Borough Manager

Mr. Ewald, President	Present
Ms. Burckley, Vice President	Present
Mr. Carminito	Excused
Ms. Dugan	Present
Mr. Kirkner	Present
Mr. Moore	Present
Mr. Strenfel	Present
Mr. Weiss	Present
Mayor Urscheler	Present
Mr. Krack, Borough Manager	Present
Ms. Getzfread, Asst. Borough Manager	Present
Chief Marshall, Police Chief	Present
Mr. Denlinger, Solicitor	Present

III. Presentations

A. Swearing in of Officer Hunter Evans

Pastor Dan McDowell, Police Chaplain provided the benediction for tonight's swearing in.

Chief Marshall introduced Officer Hunter Evans and provided a brief biography of his accomplishments.

Mayor Urscheler swore in Officer Evans as a Patrolman with the Phoenixville Police Department.

B. Swearing in of Officer Jeremy Geisler

Chief Marshall introduced Officer Jeremy Geisler and provided a brief biography of his accomplishments.

Mayor Urscheler swore in Officer Geisler as a Patrolman with the Phoenixville Police Department.

IV. Public Participation

Woodley Humphries, resident. She stated she is here in support of the MDM Nature Preserve and is excited to see it move forward.

Kris Keller, resident. She expressed her thanks to the Council and Borough Staff on the refund received for the Juneteenth Celebration and stated there is still a desire to meet with Borough Council to discuss the fee charged to the non-profits and to better understand how fees could be waived for all the non-profit organizations. She is hoping a dialogue will ensure that all events are treated the same and that organizers are all getting the same message and consideration.

Shaina Pratte, resident. She expressed her concerns on the rising cost of fees and the planning efforts of organizations if the fees are going to continue to increase year over year. As the organizer of the Street Art Festival, it is difficult to know what the vendor fees should be so that the Borough fees can be covered every year.

Theodore Beluch, resident. He expressed his concerns on the PAPA basketball league playing outside in the extreme heat. He stated the parents, grandparents and the youth themselves are struggling in the heat and he wants to know what the procedure is to get the league moved into the Recreation Center for their games. The heat is making it unbearable and he hopes PAPA will be able to move into the Recreation Center so they can play in the air conditioning.

V. Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of the June 11, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes.

B. Historical and Architectural Review Board

1. Motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for business signage for 313 Bridge Street as recommended by the HARB in their Action Memo of July 2, 2024.
2. Motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for renovations and hardscaping for 375 Morgan Street as recommended by the HARB in their Action Memo of July 2, 2024.

C. Items from Parks and Recreation Committee.

1. Motion to approve a Temporary Community Event Application for the Greenixville – The Phoenixville Green Earth Festival under the Veterans Memorial Gay Street Bridge and along the French Creek Trail on Saturday, September 14, 2024 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Conditioned

upon receipt of valid Certificate of Insurance naming Borough as Additional Insured.

2. Motion to approve a Temporary Community Event Application for the Oktoberruck Event on Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. 100 Block of Bridge Street between Main Street and Starr Street from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm. Conditioned upon receipt of all fees and valid Certificate of Insurance naming Borough as Additional Insured.
3. Motion to approve a Temporary Community Event Application for the 38th Annual Phoenixville Run 5K and 10K Running Races from Reeves Park to the Schuylkill River Trail on Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 7:00 am to 11:30 am. Second Avenue to be closed between Main Street and Starr Street from 7:00 am to 11:30 am. Conditioned upon receipt of valid Certificate of Insurance naming Borough as Additional Insured.

D. Items from Finance Committee.

1. Motion to approve the 2024 Pre-Paid dated 5/1/2024 - 5/31/2024 in the amount of \$1,136,091.80.
2. Motion to approve the 2024 Pre-Paid Credit Card Statement dated 5/1/2024 - 5/31/2024 in the amount of \$112,465.10.
3. Motion to approve the 2024 Pre-Paid ACH dated 5/31/2024 in the amount of \$420,446.66.
4. Motion to approve Budget Increase 2024-07 from General Fund Balance in the amount of \$28,637.54 to Facilities (Fire Alarm Monitoring) for fire alarm upgrade at Borough Hall.
5. Motion to approve Budget Transfer 2024-02 from Solid Waste (Salary) in the amount of \$7,000.00 to Solid Waste (Dumpster Tipper) for replacement of the trash truck dumpster tipper.
6. Motion to approve the Borough Engineer's proposal for services associated with the removal of the traffic signals at Gay Street and Washington Avenue in the amount of \$6,000.00.

Ms. Burckley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Mr. Weiss.

Motion Approved 7-0.

VI. Communications/Council Participation

Mr. Kirkner stated he has seen the kids out on the lower field at Pat Nattle Field playing soccer in the heat and he would be interested in seeing the Recreation Center be used for the outdoor sports in the hotter month. He stated Mr. Beluch raises a legitimate point.

Ms. Dugan stated that she was hoping Mr. Beluch would stay longer so she could offer some explanation. The Recreation Center is open for use by anyone, however, if a program has the space already rented on the same day, soccer or PAPA Basketball are outside there is no way to move them indoors if the space is already in use. She stated if the gym is open it will be offered to soccer, basketball or any other sport using the fields.

Ms. Burckley stated she did have the pleasure of enjoying the Juneteenth Celebration downtown and while it was a very hot day, it was well attended. She explained she spent the 4th of July with the Borough's Police Department to see them in action during a holiday and experience how a holiday differs from the normal daily police activity.

VII. Mayor's Report

Mayor Urscheler extended his congratulations to Detective Sergeant Pat Mark on his completion of Northwestern University's Police Command School and stated Lieutenant Bryan MacIntyre and Sergeant Kyle Place will be completing the same program in the August timeframe. He thanked the organizers of the Juneteenth event for their hard work on this very important holiday and reported on the Delaware Valley Veg Diner en Vert, to encourage veganism and reducing the impact on the earth through eating. He thanked the Police Department, the Recreation Center and Borough Staff for another successful Fireworks Celebration and stated he has an opportunity to fly with Dr. Greg Velina of Village Optical and Angel Flight East. Dr. Velina volunteers with them and he was able to go along as picked up a baby in Virginia and flew the baby to Pittsburgh to receive open heart surgery. Angel Flight provides no cost flights to families in need of life saving procedures.

VIII. Appointments

- A. Call for Residents interested in being appointed to various Boards and Commissions. Current vacancies exist on the Civil Service Commission, Human Relations Commission, and Tree Advisory Commission.

Mr. Ewald encouraged residents to continue to apply for openings on the various Boards and Commissions and stated openings can be found on the Borough's Website.

IX. New Business

X. Public Hearings

XI. Resolutions/Ordinances

- A. Motion to adopt a Resolution designating the ITTS Committee as the representation for and authorizing the submission of an application for Bird Town Designation.

Mr. Weiss made a Motion to adopt a Resolution designating the ITTS Committee as the representation for and authorizing the submission of an application for Bird Town Designation. Seconded by Ms. Burckley.

On the Question:

Ms. Dugan asked how the idea of applying to be granted the designation of Bird Town was initiated.

Mr. Ewald stated the application for designation requires it be supported by a committee of Borough Council and ITTS seemed the most logical committee.

Mr. Weiss explained he came to ITTS with the idea of applying for Bird Town Designation as a concept and then as we started exploring what it would take to be a Bird Town we found it needed a governing committee and ITTS felt like the right place to go.

Ms. Dugan thanked Mr. Ewald and Mr. Weiss for the explanation.

Motion Approved 7-0.

- B. Motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Dedication of three parcels of land identified as UPI Nos. 15-4-8 (Portion), 15-4-10 (Portion) and 15-4-13.

Ms. Burckley made a Motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the Dedication of three parcels of land identified as UPI Nos. 15-4-8 (Portion), 15-4-10 (Portion) and 15-4-13. Seconded by Mr. Weiss.

Motion Approved 7-0.

XII. Reports of Committees, Boards, and Commissions

- A. Historical and Architectural Review Board – Ms. Dugan
- B. Planning Commission - Mr. Moore
- C. Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee – Mr. Kirkner

Mr. Kirkner stated the Regional Planning Committee is anticipating the great play out of the Wawa- Sheetz war at the intersection of Route 23 and Whitehorse Road, he stated the Exxon station is closing. Wawa is going to start construction there momentarily, and Sheetz has a plan pending before Schuylkill Township and Sheetz is also going to have a district office in the building behind what used to be the Royal Bank Building there. He stated the Planning Commission for the Borough has yet to appoint an alternate for the Regional Planning Committee and he hopes Mr. Moore can address it at the next meeting.

D. Recreation Board – Ms. Dugan

Ms. Dugan reported on the ongoing camps and events including Yoga and live music with the Holts on Wednesday, August 14th from 6pm to 7pm. She stated the following camps are still available, Youth, Yoga and Mindfulness, Camp, Young Rembrandt's Art Camp NFL flag football, Fundamentals of Tennis, Snapology, Chess Wizards, Science Explorers Camp, Skateboarding for both beginners and Skate Club for more experienced people at the Morris Street Park on Wednesdays and at the lot at Main and Bridge on Saturdays. The Women's Fall Volley Ball league registration is now open.

E. Tree Advisory Commission – Mr. Carminito

F. Human Relations Commission – Ms. Burckley

Ms. Burckley reported the Human Relations Commission did appoint a chair and it has been updated on the Borough's Website. The commission has been out in the community a bit, and at the next meeting, the commission will be joined by some officers from the Police Department to develop a relationship and open a dialogue.

XIII. Council Action referred from:

A. Personnel and Public Safety Committee – Ms. Burckley

1. No action to report.

B. Parks and Recreation Committee – Mr. Moore

1. Motion to approve a Temporary Community Event Application for the Bed Races Event on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Third Avenue to be closed between Main Street and Starr Street from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Conditioned upon receipt of all fees and valid Certificate of Insurance naming Borough as Additional Insured. Recommended in Committee 3-0-1.

Mr. Moore made a Motion to approve a Temporary Community Event

Application for the Bed Races Event on Saturday, November 2, 2024 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Third Avenue to be closed between Main Street and Starr Street from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Conditioned upon receipt of all fees and valid Certificate of Insurance naming Borough as Additional Insured. Seconded by Ms. Dugan.

Motion Approved 6-0-1. Ms. Burckley abstained due to conflict of interest.

C. Policy Committee – Mr. Carminito

1. No action to report.

D. Infrastructure/Technology/Transportation/Sustainability Committee – Mr. Weiss

1. No action to report.

E. Finance Committee – Ms. Dugan

1. No action to report.

XIV. Public Participation

Shawn Blickley, Kolb's Dairy in Spring City. He stated he is a candidate running for the 26th District and has been out and about to various meetings and yours is by far one of the best run meetings he's ever been too. He commended the Council, Police Department and Borough Staff for the great rapport between all of you. He stated he has two items he wants to bring to your attention. The first is the discharge of Fireworks on the 4th of July. It's not just a problem in the Borough, but throughout Chester County. He stated he believed it is East Coventry that is looking into a Fireworks Permit with some pretty heavy fines for non - compliance. Recently they had an event where a resident spent \$30,000 on fireworks in a neighborhood, added a pop-up Facebook, come to my event and just about lit their entire development on fire. At the time the police officers and fire department couldn't get in because access was blocked by the number of cars there for the display. Second, there's a bill right now that's been proposed in Harrisburg and it has to do with food processing waste. The area that may be of the biggest impact to Phoenixville is the breweries. The bill will include a section where brewer's grain is considered food processing waste and the legislation that's getting pushed through move that food processing waste or the brewer's grain will require a manure hauler certification. He explained this may become something of a new cost to business and he wanted the Council to be aware in case businesses like Stable 12 came to them with this concern.

XV. Communications/Council Participation

None.

XVI. Staff Reports are in the packets.

- A. Manager
- B. Police
- C. Fire
- D. Planning and Codes
- E. Public Works
- F. Finance
- G. Human Resources
- H. Recreation

XVII. Adjournment

7:47 pm. Ms. Burckley made a Motion to Adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Kirkner.

E. Jean Krack
Borough Manager

Transcribed by: Jennifer Logan
Administrative Assistant
July 2024