

August 20, 2018
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of Doylestown Borough Council commenced in Council Chambers, with the following members present: Council President Jack O'Brien, Vice President Noni West, and Council Members Ben Bell, Don Berk, Tim Brennan, Joe Flood, Joe Frederick, Sue Gordon, and Wendy Margolis. Also present were Mayor Ron Strouse, Junior Councilperson Josie Hall, Borough Solicitor Jordan Yeager, Borough Engineer Jim Dougherty, Borough Manager John Davis, Central Bucks Regional Police Department Police Chief Karl Knott, Planning/Public Works Director/Deputy Borough Manager Phil Ehlinger, Director of Building & Zoning Karyn Hyland, and Finance Director Caroline Brinker. Water Director Chris Norris was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. **Proclamation Declaring September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.** Joan Doyle and Cathy Hoot joined Mayor Strouse on the floor. The Mayor said that for the last 10 years, Doylestown has been proud to join in a national effort to spread awareness of the importance of early detection and awareness of the risk factors in the fight against Ovarian Cancer. He said that with the leadership of Joan Doyle, Cathy Hoot, and a host of our community volunteers, we have Turned the Town Teal with teal colored ribbons for the month of September. Mayor Strouse said financial support and volunteer efforts of the Doylestown Rotary have been instrumental in ensuring the success of this effort this year, and in the past. He said our community is committed to the challenges of fighting cancer in all its forms, and this awareness campaign can contribute to saving lives.

The Mayor declared September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. He called upon all residents, organizations, and health care providers to raise awareness of ovarian cancer, as well as all cancers, and the importance of early detection, to help those in our community live longer, healthier lives.

Ms. Doyle thanked Council and the Mayor. She said Gail Linenberg, President of Doylestown Rotary, was unable to be present due to a committee meeting, but she asked Ms. Doyle to relay a message to Council for her:

One of Rotary's areas of focus in the world is education and they support the mission to educate the community about the symptoms of ovarian cancer. We applaud your efforts and pledge our support in both funding and volunteers to get the message heard. Thank you Turn the Towns Teal. Best regards. Gail Linenberg.

Ms. Doyle acknowledged Cathy Hoot, "who has been my left and right hand, and pretty much my head for many years." She said she began this 10 years ago and Ms. Hoot has been by her side on Starbucks' porch. Ms. Doyle said Ms. Hoot is a wizard at how to efficiently cut spools of ribbon into 400 ribbons, which are then tied around the historic lampposts in town. She said they will be doing this again on September 1, at 9:30 a.m., and she invited everyone on Council and in the community to join them. She said Ms. West will be the guest speaker. Ms. Doyle said they

appreciate the support of Council and the Mayor for this very important thing. She said they will again be honoring survivors and those in treatment of ovarian cancer as they did last year. She noted that Messrs. Berk, Brennan, and Flood and Ms. West have come out, and she invited all to attend. She again thanked Council and the Mayor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. O'Brien called for a motion to approve the **July 16, 2018 Council Meeting minutes**. (Margolis-Gordon) The vote was called and the minutes were unanimously approved.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Strouse commented on the vitality of Discover Doylestown. He said last Friday night, CBS 3 was in Doylestown to broadcast the news from the balcony above Starbucks from 5-6:30, and then they broadcasted the late news from the County Theater. He noted they interviewed a host of people and organizations from town. The Mayor explained that they broadcast from a different city every Friday during the summer and Doylestown was the smallest of the cities with the biggest persona and it was a wonderful opportunity and event.

Next, Mayor Strouse stated that Discover Doylestown will hold a press briefing on Thursday in conjunction with the Mercer Museum to roll out the plans for the Arts Festival in September. He said this year, it is morphing into Arts Week with events earlier in the week, besides Saturday and Sunday, and of course Sunday involves the bicycle event. The Mayor said the Arts Fest is going to be larger this year with a beer garden down on Donaldson Street, with food provided from Empanada Mama. Mayor Strouse said it should be an exciting weekend.

PUBLIC SAFETY - Ms. Gordon

1. **Consideration of Ordinance No. 2018-10, Amending Fines for Certain Parking Violations.** Ms. Gordon stated that In 2017, Council amended Chapter 15 of the Code of Ordinances in order to consolidate Borough parking fines into a single section. She said that during the consolidation process, several parking fines were incorrectly listed. She said Ordinance No. 2018-10, which was properly advertised, corrects the following fines: 1) parking limited to 15 minutes in certain locations; 2) parking prohibited at all times in certain locations; 3) stopping, standing, or parking prohibited in certain locations at certain times; 4) parking and stopping in private parking lots prohibited without owner's consent; and, 5) parking prohibited for streetsweeping. Ms. Gordon said the Committee is recommending that Council adopt Ordinance No. 2018-10, and if Council wished to follow the recommendation, it could do so by motion. (Gordon-West) With no comments from Council, Staff, or the public, the vote was called. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

2. **Doylestown Fire Co. No. 1 Report**, which indicated that there were 20 incidents requiring their response last month.

PUBLIC WORKS AND ADMINISTRATION - Mr. Frederick

Mr. Frederick said he had no report and he then asked Mr. Ehlinger for the Public Works Department report. Mr. Ehlinger stated that the monthly Work Order Report and the Fleet Services

Report were provided. He next provided a visual aid and described the rescue of an 11-year-old boy's boat on August 12, 2018, that was stranded on the fountain at Chapman Pond.

Mr. Ehlinger then reported that the Public Works Department repaired a major water main break on Hillcrest Drive on August 6, they've been trying to finish up their paving season which the rain has not been a help, they finished Ashland north and sections of Church with one more section of Church hopefully to be paved by the end of this week, they are continuing with water repairs - today there were two crews out repairing simultaneous water leaks, road paving, pothole patching of which there are plenty, as well as constructing two new speed tables and the reconstruction of several others.

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS - Mr. Berk

Mr. Berk reported the committee met, but he had no report. He commented that he is looking forward to the big weekend coming up with the Arts Festival and bike race. Mr. Berk added that the Arts Festival has also expanded into other locations, such as Stacks Co., 52 East Oakland, which is showing paintings, including 12 of his own, Zen Den has some paintings, and several other business owners around town are showing the arts. He thought this was terrific.

ZONING AND PLANNING - Mr. Brennan

1. **Consideration of Ordinance No. 2018-11, Creating Chapter 9 Controlling Grading, Site Disturbance, and Tree Protection.** Mr. Brennan stated that this ordinance, which has been properly advertised, regulates grading, site disturbance, and tree protection. He said the ordinance requires a grading permit and site plan for projects which propose disturbance within the drip line of trees, projects which propose more than 500 square feet of disturbance, building additions, or new construction. He said the Committee recommends that Council adopt Ordinance 2018-11, and if Council wished to follow the recommendation, it could do so by motion. (Brennan-Gordon). With no comments from Council, Staff, or the public, the vote was called. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

2. **Consideration of Resolution No. 2018-10, Adopting the "Borough of Doylestown – 2018 Fee Schedule".** Mr. Brennan said that this resolution adopts the revised Fee Schedule for 2018, which includes a fee for grading permits in accordance with Ordinance 2018-11. He said the Committee is recommending that Council adopt the resolution, and if council wished to follow the recommendation, it could do so by motion. (Brennan-Margolis). With no comments from Council, Staff, or the public, the vote was called. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

3. **Letter to Buckingham Township Regarding Proposed Alterations to Swamp Road and Old Easton Road Intersection.** Mr. Brennan stated that the draft letter to Buckingham Township opposes proposed alterations to the Swamp Road and Old Easton Road intersection. He said Buckingham Township received an application to construct a new Wawa convenience store and gas station at 717 North Easton Road. He said the plan also calls for a new connector road between Easton Road and Old Easton Road. Mr. Brennan said that a consequence of the proposed connector road could be removal of the traffic signal at Swamp Road and Old Easton Road, as well as restricted left and through movements from Old Easton. [The Wawa site plan and intersection schematic were provided.]

Mr. Brennan said the Committee recommends that Council authorize the Borough Manager to send the letter to Buckingham Township, and if Council wished to follow the recommendation, it could do so by motion. (Brennan-Gordon).

Mr. Brennan suggested that we try to send a copy of this letter to PennDOT so it ends up in a PennDOT file somewhere just so that it's on their radar. Mr. Davis replied that staff members from the four affected municipalities will actually be meeting with PennDOT here next week to talk about this. He said he can hand them the letter at that meeting.

Mr. Flood commented that as the letter makes clear, we are not opposed to everything and we're not trying to tell Buckingham what to do, we're just safeguarding the public safety of our residents. He said it was pretty apparent from all of the meetings held on this that our residential neighborhood in the Chapman and Mercer area wasn't even looked at as part of the impact that would happen there if that light is taken out. Mr. Flood said all of his colleagues, he was safe in saying, agree that there is a solution for that intersection, we just don't like this particular one.

Mr. O'Brien read the letter into the record:

August 21, 2018

Buckingham Township Supervisors
c/o Dana Cozza, Township Manager
Buckingham Township
P.O. Box 413
4613 Hughesian Drive
Buckingham, PA 18912

Dear Dana:

Doylestown Borough would like to notify you that we oppose the traffic signal removal and movement restrictions proposed at the intersection of Swamp and Old Easton Roads. This intersection reconfiguration was included in the Bucks County Planning Commission's 2016 Cross Keys Area Study and is now incorporated as a component of Provco Pineville's proposed Wawa and connector road.

While we do not oppose the site improvements or connector road, we maintain, as we did in 2016, that the proposed collateral alterations to the Swamp and Old Easton intersection should be reevaluated. In addition to inconveniencing residents, the turning restrictions will have an economic impact on local businesses and a secondary traffic impact on other nearby intersections. Further, the proposed changes to the intersection are in direct conflict with multi-modal transportation goals shared by all affected municipalities, PennDOT, and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission.

We ask that you take these concerns into consideration in your discussions with the applicant.

Sincerely,

John H. Davis
Doylestown Borough Manager

c: The Honorable Marguerite Quinn, State Representative – District Office
The Honorable Charles T. McIlhinney, Jr., State Senator – Doylestown Office
Doylestown Township Supervisors c/o Stephanie Mason, Township Manager
Plumstead Township Supervisors c/o Carolyn McCreary, Township Manager

Mr. Davis then noted that this plan is on the Buckingham Township Supervisors' agenda on Wednesday night. He said he spoke with the Buckingham Township Manager and he understands that this particular intersection is not part of those discussions. He said the Supervisors will be discussing a preliminary land development plan, a lot line change, and maybe one other aspect. Mr. Davis said the Buckingham Township Supervisors are aware of not only the position of the Borough, but also from experience, the position of many of our residents. He said they wanted to assure us that although this intersection will be addressed as part of the project at some point through PennDOT, what is happening on Wednesday night is not directly related to this intersection.

Mr. Flood added that many of residents made a point of showing up to every meeting since 2016 about this proposal.

With no further comments from Council, Staff, or the public, the vote was called. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

4. **Zoning Hearing Board Report.** Mr. Brennan said he would defer to Ms. Hyland for this report. Ms. Hyland reported that the Board met on August 15, 2018 and heard the application of Provco Pineville Doylestown, L.P., 425 South Main Street, which requested a special exception to permit self-service gasoline pumps on the property. She said the application for the special exception was approved.

5. **Historic & Architectural Review Board (HARB) Report.** Mr. Brennan said that at their regular monthly meeting, the HARB recommended the issuance of Certificates of Appropriateness for the following applications: Sign Applications: 1) 70 West Oakland Avenue, West Oakland Professional Building, to place two panels for a new business sign for Bee, Bergvall & Co. , 2) 96 West State Street, 96 Nine West State Street, for a new sign for State Street Steak & Seafood, conditional that the internal lighting is approved by the Zoning Hearing Board, and 3) 1 West Court Street, Rod Eastburn, for Lilly's Gourmet , Brew Bar and Catering, existing lighting will remain as is; and, Building Applications: 1) 35 Bridge Street, Rachele Daniels, to remove and replace the roof with GAF Timberline HD shingles, 2) 187 East Court Street, William and Laurie Schutt, for a greenhouse/conservatory addition to the rear of the house – the proposed garage was tabled.

Mr. Brennan said the Committee recommends that Council approve the applications in accordance with HARB's recommendations, and if Council wished to follow the Committee's recommendation, it could do by motion. (Brennan-Frederick) With no comments from Council, Staff, or the public, the vote was called. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Code Enforcement Monthly Activity Report.** Mr. Brennan reported there were 70 residential and two non-residential use and occupancy inspections, 27 complaints were investigated, six building inspection, one recycling inspections, one sidewalk/paving inspections, no sidewalk/snow inspections, four litter enforcement, no graffiti, 14 fire company issues, and five tree removal permits/issues.

7. **Building Inspection Monthly Report.** Mr. Brennan reported there were 168 total permits and a total cost of permit fees of \$41,851.92.

ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION - Ms. Margolis

Ms. Margolis reported that the Committee met, but she had no report. She commented that she attended a Bike & Hike meeting regarding the extension for Turk Road and Pebble Hill Road in the Green Street area, which was a joint meeting with the Township and others from the Borough. Ms. Margolis said this was the first of many discussions about how it may be possible to extend the bike and hike trail in that area. She said there are a lot of complications, but it was a good meeting and a lot of people participated.

WATER UTILITY - Mr. Flood

Mr. Flood stated that the Committee did not meet, but will be meeting in September to begin budget discussions. In Mr. Norris' absence, Mr. Flood then gave the monthly Water Department Report, with visual aids, as follows: there were four water service repairs, 45 water meter repairs, 20 final readings, 17 house calls, 14 well house repairs, 11 SCADA System Alarms, 5 emergency shutoffs, one non-payment shutoff, one bulk chemical delivery, and one power outage. Mr. Flood then asked Mr. Ehlinger to narrate the photos provided. Mr. Ehlinger said the first photo depicted a lead water service replacement at 47 Hillside Avenue, where they removed the lead water service and installed new copper water service – it's SOP for them to replace them when they come across those. Next was 38 Woodbridge Drive, in Lantern Hill, where a water service repair was performed. He said that one was somewhat disheartening as it's one of the newest neighborhoods, and when you have to start repairing water services in a new neighborhood, you can only imagine what they face in the rest of town. Last was a water service repair at 270-271 Paine Street, where it was leaking at the main.

Mr. Ehlinger added that at Hillcrest Circle, there was a gas line running right through the middle of their water trench that PECO did not mark. He said if it not for the expertise of our backhoe operator who literally saw something yellow in dirt and stopped. Mr. Ehlinger said they started hand digging and found a big gas service right through the middle. He said that could have ended very differently and our displeasure has been expressed to PECO directly about it. Mr. Ehlinger said this is something our crews face all the time when digging into the great unknown streets of Doylestown. He pointed out that our crews do this on top of everything else they do, so we really have a "jack of all trades. We have a good crew."

FINANCE/PENSION - Ms. West

Ms. West stated the Committee met where they performed a first half budget review. She said everyone should be glad that we are on target to meet our budget.

Ms. West then asked Ms. Brinker for the monthly finance report. Ms. Brinker reported that the total of all funds expended was \$1,105,563.86. Motion to approve the Finance Report. (West-Margolis) With no comments from Council, Staff, or the public, the vote was called. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL - Mr. O'Brien: No report.

PROFESSIONALS' REPORTS

Engineer's Report - Mr. Dougherty: No report.

Solicitor's Report - Mr. Yeager: No report.

Central Bucks Regional Police Department (CBRPD) Activities Report. Police Chief Knott stated the Police Activity Report was provided, showing that last month, there were 1211 incidents in the Borough, 149 of which were traffic stops. He said they are constantly trying to slow down everyone coming through the Borough, which is a daunting task to say the least. The Chief said 44 tickets were written and 105 warnings were given, a big majority of which was on South Main Street where they've really been concentrating on trying slowing the speeds going out of town, not coming in. Chief Knott said they have spent \$2,919,618.90 and are at 53.87% of their yearly budget.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:27 p.m., Mr. Berk moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Margolis. The vote was called and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Davis
Borough Manager

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