

A regular meeting of the Borough Council of Quakertown was held July 6, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

The following members and officers were present: President L. James Roberts, Vice President Donald Rosenberger, Council members, Lisa Gaier, Jann Paulovitz, Douglas Propst, Solicitor Charles Fonzone, Manager Scott C. McElree and Asst. Borough Secretary Kris Barndt. (Councilmen David Erwin and Michael Johnson absent).

RESOLVED, That, the Minutes of June 1, 2016 be approved as written. Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

RESOLVED, That, the following check registers be approved for payment:

May 27, 2016	-	\$	93,229.71
June 3, 2016	-		154,964.04
June 10, 2016	-		42,855.19
June 17, 2016	-		626,892.59
June 24, 2016	-		4,106.08
June 29, 2016	-		606,176.40

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilman Propst.

President Roberts stated that he will abstain from voting as purchases were made from the Friendly Book Store.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. President Roberts abstained. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

RESOLVED, That, the Financial Statement, Police Department, Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector reports be received and filed. Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Paulovitz. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

President Roberts asked if there were visitors who wished to express concerns with agenda items. A resident at 613 W. Broad Street stated on Monday night during Community Day the footbridge going into the park from Broad Street was slippery from the rain. A suggestion was to place a Slippery When Wet sign by the bridge. The resident also thanked the Borough for placing a temporary fence along her property for Community Day and also requested a temporary fence placed for the carnival.

President Roberts recessed the Borough Council meeting at 7:39 p.m. and will reconvene at the close of a Public Hearing.

President Roberts called to order a Public Hearing at 7:40 p.m. concerning the Conditional Use of Quakertown Community School District's digital sign request to be installed at 600 Park Avenue. The Borough's solicitor Charles Fonzone will be conducting the hearing. President Roberts stated that Rodney Henry who is present tonight, is Mr. Robert's personal attorney and he will recuse himself from comment and vote if there is anyone present who feels he should recuse himself. There were no comments made.

Present for the hearing were:

Rodney Henry, Esquire residing at 490 Temple Place, was present representing himself and his wife who are opposed of the digital sign request.

Nathan Fox, Esquire for Quakertown Community School District.

Witnesses:

Nancianne Edwards, Assistant Superintendent for Quakertown Community School District.

Kelly Harper, Director of Facilities for Quakertown Community School District.

Michael Preston, Civil Engineer for Liberty Engineering.

President Roberts called the hearing adjourned at 8:57 p.m. (The full transcript is on file.)

President Roberts reconvened the Borough Council meeting at 8:57 p.m.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

President Roberts stated a Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough and Quakertown Community School District would be agreed upon and signed as a condition to Resolution #78-16 if passed tonight.

President Roberts mentioned he has an addendum to proposed Resolution #78-16 regarding the digital sign. If the Resolution passes tonight an adhoc committee would be created including two Borough Council members, the Borough Manager and Doug Wilhelm to draft some of the issues and concerns which were discussed earlier tonight.

Councilwoman Gaier also suggested the word variance be removed from Resolution #78-16 since the School District is requesting a Conditional Use not a variance from Chapter 27.

Councilwoman Gaier stated the Federal Highway Administration conducted a lengthy study on changeable digital signs and the pertinent information indicates there is a split of opinions regarding safety and that they have a mutual effect.

Councilman Propst mentioned the majority of safety concerns discussed tonight do not pertain to the new sign but to the current situation. The new sign would not change the safety issues.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 78-16, Quakertown Community School District's request to install a digital sign, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 78-16

WHEREAS, the Quakertown Community School District, 100 Commerce Drive, Quakertown submitted an application to replace the existing sign at 600 Park Avenue, Tax Map Parcel # 35-007-079 with a changeable electronic sign; and

WHEREAS, plans were approved by the Planning Commission in 2015 and with final approval and recommendation to Council at their June 16, 2016 meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Quakertown Community School District is requesting a Conditional Use from Chapter 27 of the Borough's Codified Ordinances for the following:

Section 505 – Table 5.3 – to permit a height of 11.25 feet (a difference of 5.25 feet) for a permanent free-standing electronic display sign.

Section 503 – Table 5.2 – to permit a sign area of 39.5 square feet (a difference of 19.5 square feet) for a permanent free-standing electronic display sign. Top portion is 17.5 square feet and the lower portion is 22 square feet.

Section 510.B.2.a.b.- to permit a "Changeable Electronic and Graphic Display Sign" in an LR-Low Density Residential District.

Section 510B.2.d.i – permit a "Changeable Electronic and Graphic Display Sign" with a sign area 22 square feet where only 7.7 square feet is permitted (a difference of 14.3 square feet).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the Conditional Use of Parcel 35-007-079 for a changeable electronic sign; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, the Quakertown Community School District agrees to a Memorandum of Understanding between the Borough of Quakertown and the Quakertown Community School District which will address various concerns the Borough has relative to the management of certain aspects of the operation of the proposed electronic sign, as well as other safety issues, and further this agreement will be signed by both parties prior to the installation of the proposed sign.

Motion of Councilwoman Gaier, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

REVENUE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 80-16, establishing a Mission Statement, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 80-16

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to adopt the following Mission Statement.

In compliance with the laws and statutes under the constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Borough of Quakertown is committed to providing an efficient, responsive, dependable and sustainable municipal administration whose purpose is to promote the general well-being of the citizenry of the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Borough Council of the Borough of Quakertown does hereby adopt the Mission Statement.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 81-16, establishing a Vision Statement, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 81-16

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to adopt the following Vision Statement.

As a leading municipality in the Upper Bucks County area, Quakertown has historically maintained an infrastructure and administration which have insured reliable services.

With great planning and foresight, various Borough Councils and administrations provided an electricity distribution system, reliable sources of water and a modern waste water treatment plant.

We will continue the support, both financially and philosophically, of our Police Department as the team strives to perform their duties with the highest levels of effectiveness and professionalism.

In order to compete for increase innovative and diversified investment in our already commercially developed areas, we will commit the necessary funds to acquire plans, programs and grants which will continue to enhance the commercial vitality of the Borough. We will especially seek the revitalization of our aging building inventories.

We will retain and invite manufacturing into our permitted zones, ever conscious of our desire to create job opportunities and wealth for our citizenry. Overall, we seek to assure an enhanced quality of life encompassing both employment and recreation for all of our residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Borough Council of the Borough of Quakertown does hereby adopt the Vision Statement.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

Councilman Rosenberger stated one bid was received acceptable under all conditions for Borough Hall's HVAC except it did not come with a bid bond or certified check. The contractor has offered to perform the entire installation and service before rendering an invoice for payment from the Borough.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 68-16, accepting bid and awarding contract to Schoeller's, Inc. for Borough Hall HVAC, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 68-16
ACCEPT BID AND AWARD CONTRACT

RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, That, the following bid be accepted and contract awarded to Schoeller's Electrical/Mechanical Contractors of Perkasio for Borough Hall's HVAC systems in the amount of \$120,617.00.

The contract is awarded in accordance with bids opened May 16, 2016 provided the Contractor agrees to deferral of invoice and payment until satisfactory completion of the work. The Borough Manager is hereby authorized to execute the said contract on behalf of the Borough of Quakertown.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 77-16, establishing an Auxiliary Police Partnership, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 77-16

WHEREAS, the Borough of Quakertown is interested in establishing an Auxiliary Police Partnership (APP) whose participants will be graduates of the Borough's Citizens Police Academy, which purpose is to assist the regular police force in any emergency or activity deemed necessary as called upon by the Chief of Police; and

WHEREAS, the Auxiliary Police shall receive assignments and duties from the Chief of Police or from his designated subordinates; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Auxiliary Police Partnership is to promote positive police/community relations, develop partners within the community, and to enhance police service to the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown does hereby adopt the concept of an Auxiliary Police Partnership (APP) and also the Auxiliary Police Partnership Policy.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Paulovitz. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 75-16, appointing Ryan Hawke to a permanent Police Officer, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 75-16

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, Ryan Hawke was appointed as a Probationary Officer in the Quakertown Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Ryan Hawke has completed his probationary status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of Quakertown, Pennsylvania, That, effective July 1, 2016, Ryan Hawke is appointed to a permanent officer in the Quakertown Police Department.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

There were no items for action under the Public Utilities Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 79-16, continuing the Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Recycling Program, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 79-16

WHEREAS, the Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Recycling program is among the most popular service that the County of Bucks and other municipalities offer to residents; and

WHEREAS, due to the success of the program, the Bucks County Planning Commission (BCPC) is continuing the program for another four year period with the BCPC and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection committing funds for the continuation of this program and the program also requires a commitment on the part of each municipality in Bucks County to continue to be successful; and

WHEREAS, Quakertown Borough's portion of the household hazardous waste disposal costs would be \$1,166.81 per year for four years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown agrees to participate in the Household Hazardous Waste Collection/Recycling program for another four year period with an annual disposal cost of \$1,166.81 per year and authorizes the Borough Manager to sign the Municipal Commitment Form for years 2017 – 2020.

Motion of Councilwoman Paulovitz, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 76-16, Crossroads Pregnancy Care's request to hold a 5K Walk for Life, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 76-16

WHEREAS, Crossroads Pregnancy Care has applied for a public gathering permit to conduct a "Walk for Life" through Quakertown.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the public gathering permit request of Crossroads Pregnancy Care for their "Walk for Life" through Quakertown beginning and ending in Memorial Park on October 8, 2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. provided they add the Borough as an additional insured on the insurance.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 82-16, Sarah Parvin Foundation's request to use the soccer complex, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 82-16

WHEREAS, a request was received from the Quakertown Soccer Club to use the Quakertown Soccer Complex and rent the bandshell for their Sarah Parvin Soccer Tournament.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of the Sarah Parvin Foundation to use the Quakertown Soccer Complex and to rent the bandshell for their event to be held on July 22 and July 23, 2016, provided they add the Borough as an additional insured on their insurance.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Paulovitz. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

Councilman Propst mentioned Community Day had a great turnout and thanked all the volunteers and Borough personnel.

President Roberts read a resignation letter which will take effect on July 7, 2016 from Councilman Erwin. Councilman Erwin stated it has been a pleasurable learning experience working as part of this organization and wishes nothing but success for the Borough.

President Roberts thanked Mr. Erwin for the service that he has rendered especially with the time spent on the long sewer interceptor project.

Councilwoman Gaier made a motion to accept Councilman Erwin's resignation. A second motion was received by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved. (Councilmen Erwin and Johnson absent).

President Roberts announced this meeting will be adjourned to July 25, 2016 at which time the meeting will reconvene as a Council meeting when a new Councilmember will be chosen to fill Councilman Erwin's remaining unexpired term. The new Council member will be sworn in and

seated at the August 3, 2016 Council meeting. The Work Session will take place immediately following the short Council meeting on July 25, 2016.

President Roberts declared this session of the July 6, 2016 meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN

L. James Roberts, Jr.
President of Council

Attest:

Scott C. McElree
Borough Secretary