

A regular meeting of the Borough Council of Quakertown was held February 1, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

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

Naomi Naylor, Director of Quakertown Alive! and Lynda Ulrich, Events Chairperson presented a \$700.00 check, proceeds from the Autumn Alive Event, to the the Borough's K-9 Unit. Councilman Johnson thanked Quakertown Alive! and stated the K-9 Unit could not stay functional without these types of donations. Officer Houseknecht and his partner Fury were also present. Councilman Johnson mentioned last week the Borough lost K-9 Jynx, who was recently retired.

RESOLVED, That, the Minutes of January 4, 2017 and the minutes from the continued meeting on January 23, 2017 be approved as written. Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilwoman Paulovitz. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

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

January 6, 2017	-	\$	604,210.65
January 6, 2017	-		1,214.42
January 13, 2017	-		48,267.52
January 20, 2017	-		856,609.04
January 26, 2017	-		684,735.09
January 27, 2017	-		10,451.46

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

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

Visitors:

The majority of the visitors were attending the meeting concerning a letter which was sent to them from the Borough regarding their sanitary sewer lateral which had failed inspection. Several residents in attendance were:

Thomas Mitchell, 705 W. Broad Street
Michael Siatkowski, 909 W. Broad Street
Justin Secreto, 715 W. Broad Street
Wilbur Aikey, 731 W. Broad Street
John Healey, 927 W. Broad Street

Stephen Biddle, 130 S. Main Street, indicated he would like to speak regarding the downtown pedestrian plan.

Manager McElree briefed the audience concerning the reason why their laterals were tested.

The Department of Environmental Protection is the agency which sees the Borough is abiding by regulations set for our wastewater treatment plant. Manager McElree explained the Borough's infrastructure is old and the wastewater plant is being overloaded by excessive stormwater and rainwater. The majority of sanitary sewer laterals are made of clay which were installed around the year 1925 or earlier and clay pipe is not made to last this long. The Borough and DEP have a corrective action plan to make sure the environment is safe and to save on extra treatment costs which affects every parcel owner in the Borough.

Manager McElree stated the Borough will work with the residents and will extend the 100 day dead line within reason. He suggested having several neighbors schedule their lateral replacements together to help lower the cost.

Manager McElree recommended holding a meeting with the residents in the near future for further questions and concerns and to share specific information and pictures on their lateral inspection. He also advised the residents to bring estimates they receive for their replacements. Contractors are welcome to attend the meeting. Thomas Mitchell, resident on Broad Street will be the contact person between the Borough and residents.

Councilwoman Gaier indicated Mr. Mitchell could speak at this time. Mr. Mitchell expressed his and his neighbor's financial concern, the dead line to comply, proof of their pipe damage, and a request to perhaps increase the \$500.00 reimbursement.

A question was asked if a resident can do the replacement on their own. Manager McElree answered yes if they are capable of doing so.

President Roberts called a five minute recess.

PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following amended Resolution 20-17, Monument Operational Agreement for future digital monument sign, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 20-17

WHEREAS, a Monument Operational Agreement has been prepared with Quakertown Outdoor, LLC for the future digital monument sign to be installed at the location of the intersection of Routes 309 and 313; and

WHEREAS, the Monument Operational Agreement will set the rules and regulations to operate the sign and also set understanding regarding maintenance, repair and upkeep.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown authorizes the Borough Manager to execute the agreement as presented with the Quakertown Outdoor, LLC.

Motion of Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 23-17, approving SEPTA Freight Station lease, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 23-17

WHEREAS, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown wishes to accept the Septa Freight Station lease referred to as the Lease Agreement By And Between Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority and the Borough of Quakertown.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown accepts the Lease Agreement with SEPTA for the Freight Station and authorizes the Borough Manager to execute said agreement on behalf of the Borough.

Motion of Councilman Roth, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

REVENUE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 10-17, application for Bucks Preservationists, LP for location at 312 W. Broad Street, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 10-17

WHEREAS, a request was received by Daniel Soliday a/k/a Bucks Preservationists, LP, to approve his Borough of Quakertown LERTA Request Application for reconstruction of first floor commercial office space located at 312 West Broad Street, parcel number 35-008-224; and

WHEREAS, the property and project would qualify as a mixed use and qualifies for the 10 year LERTA program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, grants approval of the Borough of Quakertown LERTA Request Application to Daniel Soliday of Bucks Preservationist, LP.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 9-17, application for Bucks Preservationists, LP, for location at 115 E. Broad Street, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 9-17

WHEREAS, a request was received by Daniel Soliday a/k/a Bucks Preservationists, LP, to approve his Borough of Quakertown LERTA Request Application for reconstruction of the former Moose building located at 115 E. Broad Street, parcel numbers 35-008-463 and 35-008-464 into three commercial retail/service units; and

WHEREAS, the property and project would qualify as a mixed use and qualifies for the 10 year LERTA program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, grants approval of the Borough of Quakertown LERTA Request Application to Daniel Soliday of Bucks Preservationist, LP.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 15-17, John Rivers Memorial VFW Post 11322, request for annual funding, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 15-17

WHEREAS, a request for financial support was received from John Rivers Memorial VFW Post 11322.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Borough Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the VFW's request to contribute \$500.00 for the year 2017, to be used towards their rent expenses.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 17-17, appointing Borough auditor, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 17-17

RESOLVED, That, the Borough Council of Quakertown, Pennsylvania, appoints the firm of Hutchinson, Gillahan & Freeh of Quakertown, Pennsylvania, to perform the 2016 annual audits of the Borough financial statements at the proposed fee of \$24,800; \$3,300 if a single audit is required and \$95.00 per hour of additional services and the audit of the Quakertown Area Industrial & Commercial Development Authority at the proposed fee of \$1,500 and \$95.00 per hour of additional services as detailed in the Hutchinson, Gillahan & Freeh engagement letters dated October 31, 2016.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 19-17, accepting and awarding bids of auctioned vehicles be adopted:

RESOLUTION 19-17

RESOLVED, by the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, That, the following bids for sale of vehicles be accepted and awarded to:

David Aungst of Bethlehem, PA for:

2000 Chevrolet Truck @ \$5,200.00

1994 Ford Truck@ \$3,000.00

The contracts are awarded in accordance with bids opened January 13, 2017. The Borough Manager is hereby authorized to execute the said contracts 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.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 18-17, Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce funding, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 18-17

WHEREAS, the Borough of Quakertown wishes to disburse \$10,000 as the Borough's 2016 allotted contribution to the Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown, grants the release of funds of \$10,000 to the Upper Bucks Chamber of Commerce.

Motion of Councilman Rosenberger, seconded by Councilwoman Paulovitz. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

Councilman Rosenberger stated Traffic Design & Planning was approved several months ago to do a parking study for the downtown parking changes, specifically the Branch Street angled parking and additional parallel parking. PennDot is now requiring pedestrian controls at the intersections of 3rd Street & Broad Street, 4th Street and Broad Street and Front Street and Broad Street and is requiring a study on pedestrian crossings.

Councilman Rosenberger indicated Stephen Biddle could speak at this time. Mr. Biddle stated he would like the Borough to consider including the planner for the Highlands Trail for feedback and to aid with bicycles and traffic off and on the sidewalks before the study goes to PennDot. Mr. Biddle recommends the pedestrian study to include the intersection at Broad and Branch Streets, Broad and Front Streets and at the railroad tracks since the Borough is encouraging pedestrian commerce from the antique district to down town.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 21-17, downtown pedestrian plan update, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 21-17

WHEREAS, an engineering proposal has been received regarding a revision to the initial downtown traffic design from Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. dated January 23, 2017, to include pedestrian traffic controls, with an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00; and

WHEREAS, this proposal indicates a scope of work comprised of updated analyses relating to the establishment of back-in angle parking along Branch Street which will be forwarded to PennDOT for their concurrence, revised traffic signal permit plans to include countdown pedestrian signal indications, modify the traffic signal timings to include separate timing plans to accommodate the traffic flow during peak conditions and where necessary increase vehicular signal heads from 8 inch to 12 inches and also includes a complete pavement marking plan and a probable construction cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of Quakertown Borough does hereby accept the proposal from Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. dated January 23, 2017 and hereby authorizes the Borough Manager to execute the said proposal 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.

HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 8-17, Safe Digging Month proclamation, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 8-17

WHEREAS, the month of April 2017 is recognized as "Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month" across our Commonwealth, an initiative supported by Pennsylvania 811, a utility notification information center celebrating its 45th year of continuous service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the service annually receives more than 800,000 notification requests and transmits more than six (6) million notifications, providing protection to utility companies, their employees, customers, and the general public; and

WHEREAS, we are thankful for the service provided by Pennsylvania 811 and encourage all residents, engineers, designers, excavators and homeowners to Dial 8-1-1 at least three business days in advance of an excavation project such as planting a tree, installing a mailbox post, building a deck or swimming pool or replacing a driveway.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Quakertown Borough does hereby proclaim April 2017 as "Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month" in Quakertown Borough.

Motion of Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 16-17, purchase of police vehicle cameras, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 16-17

WHEREAS, several Police vehicle cameras are not working correctly and have been out of service for several months creating a liability gap and an officer safety issue; and

WHEREAS, the lack of cooperation and customer service with the Borough's current camera company, Panasonic has driven the Borough to pursue other companies and wishes to change providers to "Watch Guard"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to replace twelve camera systems with a cost of \$82,700.00 which includes software licensing, system installations, set up and a five year warranty package.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown approves the purchase of twelve Police vehicle cameras from the provider "Watch Guard" at an approximate cost of \$82,700.00.

Motion of Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 24-17, authorization to start hiring process for two Police Officer positions, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 24-17

RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown directs the Borough Manager to proceed with testing and the selection process for two Police Officers.

Motion of Councilman Johnson, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

Councilman Johnson mentioned the Borough lost Jynx, K-9 officer last week.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Gaier stated that there are not any items for action under the Public Utilities Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Paulovitz stated that there are not any items for action under the Public Utilities Committee.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 7-17, YMCA's request for use of the bandshell, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 7-17

WHEREAS, a request was received from the YMCA to use the bandshell for their Food Truck event on June 9, 2017 and to waive the fee.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of the YMCA to use the bandshell for their event on June 9, 2017 from 5:00 to 9:30 p.m. and also to waive the fee provided they add the Borough as an additional insured on the insurance.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 11-17, Quakertown Alive!'s request to hold an Arts Alive Festival, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 11-17

WHEREAS, a request was received from Quakertown Alive! to hold their Arts Alive Street Festival on May 20, 2017 (rain date of May 21, 2017) from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the use of the bandshell and to close Broad Street from Fourth Street to Hellertown Avenue including 3rd Street, Branch Street to Juniper Street and Front Street from Juniper Street to Broad Street from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of Quakertown Alive! to use the bandshell, waive the fee, and close portions of West Broad Street for their Arts Alive Street Festival provided approval is received from PennDOT to close Broad Street and 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.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 12-17, Quakertown Alive!'s request to hold an Arts Alive Festival, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 12-17

WHEREAS, a request was received from Quakertown Alive! to hold their Autumn Alive Festival on October 21, 2017 (rain date October 28, 2017) from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., the use of the bandshell and to close Broad Street from Fourth Street to Hellertown Avenue including 3rd Street, Branch Street to Juniper Street and Front Street from Juniper Street to Broad Street from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of Quakertown Alive! to hold their Autumn Alive Festival on October 21, 2017, for use of the bandshell and waiving of the fee, and to close Broad Street provided approval is received from PennDOT and they add the Borough as an additional insured on their insurance.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 14-17, setting the date for the Tree Lighting Ceremony, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 14-17

WHEREAS, a tree-lighting ceremony will be held on Friday, December 1, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, it is felt, in the interest of safety, that portions of Broad Street from Fourth Street to Front Street and Branch Street should be closed during the ceremony.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, Council approves the closing of the above streets during the tree-lighting ceremony for the time needed to accommodate the ceremony provided the Borough is added 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.

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 22-17, Quakertown Alive!'s request to hold a Brewfest, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 22-17

WHEREAS, a request was received from Quakertown Alive! to hold their Brewfest on August 19, 2017 at the Park at 4th from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm; and

WHEREAS, Quakertown Alive! is requesting use of the park restrooms, concession stand and amphitheater; and

WHEREAS, Quakertown Alive! is requesting permission to allow smoking and drinking of alcohol at the Park at 4th for the Brewfest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the Borough of Quakertown grants the request of Quakertown Alive! to hold a Brewfest at the Park at 4th on August 19, 2017 with access to the restrooms, concession stand and amphitheater provided they add the Borough as an additional insured on their insurance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Council further directs the Zoning Officer to issue the required permits allowing smoking, which the Clean Act allows for this type of use, and drinking of alcohol in a designated area of the park during the Brewfest.

Motion of Councilman Propst, seconded by Councilwoman Gaier. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

Manager McElree announced the Borough booked a large concert at the amphitheater for Thursday, August 24, 2017 including Herman's Hermits with Peter Noone and Gary Puckett and The Union Gap Band. Manager McElree is anticipating the show to be a great success.

President Roberts declared the meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN

L. James Roberts, Jr.
President of Council

Attest:

Scott C. McElree
Borough Secretary