

Special Council Meeting
September 29, 2021
Via Zoom at 7:00pm

Ms. Miller started the meeting at 7:06pm stating that Council just finished the 6:30pm executive meeting. No action was taken. Tonight's meeting is a follow up to the Emergency September meeting and will follow an abbreviated agenda.

Roll call: Darren Rash, Lee Ann Miller, Chris Melville, Sarah Knickerbocker, Brett Forcine and Mayor Joe Giunta.

Also present: Borough Manager Anne Klepfer; Borough Secretary-Treasurer Gail Phillips, Borough Solicitor Wendy McKenna, and Borough Engineer David Leh.

Solicitor's Report:

Univest Property was discussed in the executive session and two Council members will view the Univest building. Council will make the decision at the October 14, 2021 meeting.

Centennial Street Drainage Easement – Post Office Property. The Borough, solicitor and engineer will work with the property owner for the work that needs to be done and an easement agreement.

Letter of credit – Authorization to advertise Ordinance for October 14th adoption – Mrs. Klepfer was asked by Council at last month's meeting for additional quotes for short term financing for the flood restoration. Ms. McKenna advised that it was going to have to go through Local Government Unit Debit Act approval through DCED (Department of Community and Economic Development) and directed Mrs. Klepfer to contact Doug Raush who was our bond council previously. Victory bank submitted a revised proposal, Ambler Savings is sending a revised term sheet. Doug says Ambler's interest rate is the lowest, but the loan is for only 16 years. Univest is offering a 25-year loan with a conversion at the end of the 12 months. The first 12 months are interest only payments. Univest interest rate is a little higher but a longer amortization period. Both need to be revised for a credit limit not to exceed \$800,000. **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Chris Melville will Chris stating that there are no prepayment penalties and authorize bond council and Anne to choose a bank proposal for a 25-year amortization period with the lowest interest rate and to advertise the necessary Ordinance to accept the loan for the October 14, 2021, meeting adoption. All in favor. **Motion carried 5-0.**

No other legal matters from the Solicitor.

Business Matters

Library has been reserved and advertised for Planning Commission and Borough Council Meetings October – December. Next Borough Council meeting is October 14th at 7pm at 290 Second Street auditorium.

IDA FLOOD RESPONSE – Emergency Management Coordinator Update/Report -

Anne, Dave, and Chris have been attending some training. We also recruited Barry Isett's office to assist us.

Chris Melville – A report was put in the shared meeting folder, and I will continue to update so it is all inclusive. On September 10th FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) issued the Disaster Declaration which is bringing individual assistance to individuals. The County is up to \$6 million in funding. Dave along with myself attended training through the Delaware River Basin. Dave and I

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identified some programs for Centennial Street for the whole culvert replacement and repair. Applications are due in early November.

Waiting on FEMA for Public Assistance.

Next Steps: We have the plans from the renovations that we just completed in November. We have the written specifications and we need a meeting of the Property Committee to review what changes we want to make. Sarah submitted her resignation from the Property Committee to make room for Lee Ann.

Discussion, Anne would like to use Rich Kapusta for professional assistance modifying the plans and specifications. Anne has also asked Barry Isett's office for help in the process. They will get back to her. A process is needed and someone for finalizing bid specifications and making changes. Chris agrees, we take the plans as they were and the base bid should be to replace what was lost in kind unless there were things pointed out that need to be changed. If changes need to be made, they will be discussed at the property committee meeting. **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Darren Rash to authorize the property committee to work with Rich Kapusta's office on an all a carte basis. All in favor. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Sarah Knickerbocker resigned from the property Committee.

Mrs. Klepfer also is looking to council for a time frame for completing the renovations to include in the bid specifications. It was also suggested to have an elevator clause included in the bid for materials. EDS will do an estimated cost for the renovations of Borough Hall.

Committee Reports:

Park volunteers cleaned and sanitized the benches, tables, and playground equipment in Meadow Park.

We have a POD so that we can clean the file cabinets etc. To store in the POD. Cleaning sessions will be scheduled.

Thank you to Limerick Township and Public Works Department for plating the sink hole for us to improve the safety of the conditions.

Public Comments – Tom Laconis, with the two-day notice going out for help cleaning the park, notices should be made more public.

Tax collecting – People had absolutely no idea that Borough Hall was closed and sustained damage despite posts on Facebook, A notice on the Borough Website and E-newsletters being sent out announcing the closure and damage.

Mr. Rash asked if the Authority has provided any report to the Borough about the flooding and asked that they be invited to the next Borough Council Meeting to give a report. No report has been submitted. Mr. Rash will email Mike Sullivan.

Adjournment: Sarah Knickerbocker made the **motion**, **second** Darren Rash to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Next Meeting is October 14, 2021, at the library, 290 Second Street at 7:00pm