

CHALFONT BOROUGH COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2011

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In the absence of Council President, Rob Cleland, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President John Abbott with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Mayor Becker, John Abbott, Tracey Bowen, Darrell Card, Abi Corson, John Engel, Marilyn Jacobson, Eileen McDonald, Melissa Shafer, Dean Ibrahim, Dan Jenkins, and Pat DiGangi were present.

Announcements

- The meeting will be recorded.

Changes, Additions, Deletions to Agenda

None

Public Comment on Agenda Items

None

Consent Agenda

Tracey Bowen made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the November 8, 2011 Council Meeting, with disbursements from the general fund of \$135,405.61 for the month of November. The motion was seconded by Eileen McDonald and carried unanimously. The financial report will be filed for audit.

Special Items

1. **Tracey Bowen and Jon Engel made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-13 honoring Eileen McDonald for her service on Borough Council. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and carried unanimously.** Mayor Becker presented the signed resolution to Ms. McDonald and thanked her for her service.
2. **Eileen McDonald made a motion to accept Michael Kelly's resignation from the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and carried unanimously.**
3. Vice President, John Abbott, read the 2011 President's Message in the absence of Council President, Rob Cleland.

Council Committee Reports

Mayor's Report

Marilyn Becker

- Mayor Becker met with Boy Scout Troop 36 to talk about citizenship.
- Performed three weddings on 11-11-11.
- Met with Dan Jenkins in preparation of the updated Emergency Management Plan.
- Sent thank you letter to Representative Kathy Watson for her contribution of a flag honoring our 110th birthday.
- Thanked Public Works for the great job they did on the holiday decorations.
- Thanked Public Works and the borough staff for their work during the year, the Police Chief and officers for keeping the community safe.

Streets Committee

Marilyn Jacobson

- Ms. Jacobson called attention to a Route 202 progress report in the Council packet.
- Attending a TMA meeting, the new Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation announced an annual \$3.5 billion budget shortfall. The funds available will be primarily used to replace some of the 25,000 decaying bridges in the state.

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- Announced at the Bucks County Boroughs Association meeting, the state legislature passed a change in bid levels (the first change since 1966). Phone bids can be for projects between \$10,000 and \$18,500. Any job estimated to be over \$18,500 must be put out to bid. A cost of living increase was included.
- Also discussed were the Fair Housing requirements and their impact on zoning in municipalities applying for DCED grant funding. Borough zoning changes may be necessary in the future to apply for these grants.

5K

Marilyn Jacobson

- The 2012 5k will be held on Saturday, June 9. There will be no 10k.

Parks Committee

Eileen McDonald

- Thanks to Mike Lesniak, a Central Bucks teacher and author, for reading at story time this month.
- Special thanks to Kathy Albert for her help with story time, and to the office staff, public works, police, and Borough Council for their help and support during her term in office.

Business Committee

Tracey Bowen

- The Borough received a \$70,000 grant to be used to formulate a business plan for redevelopment of the business corridor, which will be an important step in applying for further grant funding.
- Tracey will follow up with Mars Fishcare to schedule a date for Council to tour their facility.

Staff Reports

Written reports from the Borough Engineer, Borough Solicitor, Police, Public Works, Zoning Officer, EMS, and Fire Company were included in Council's packet.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Marilyn Jacobson made a motion to approve Ordinance 399-A defining Hospital Use within the zoning ordinance. Seconded by Tracey Bowen, the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.**
2. **Eileen McDonald made a motion to approve Ordinance 401 accepting dedication of parcel 7-6-214, containing .0511 acres, for use as an access way to lands owned by Chalfont Borough now known as Twin Streams Park. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and approved unanimously by roll call vote.**
3. **Tracey Bowen made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-14 setting guidelines to be followed in the event of an emergency. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and approved by unanimously.**
4. **John Engel made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-15 adopting the Bucks County 2011 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson. Dan Jenkins explained that by adopting this plan Chalfont will be able to apply for disaster relief funding. The motion was approved unanimously.**
5. **Marilyn Jacobson made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-16 establishing fund balance policies as required by the Government Accounting Standards Board Statement 54. The motion was**

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seconded by John Engel and approved unanimously.

6. Marilyn Jacobson made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-17 requesting an Alternative & Clean Energy Program Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority in the amount equal to 10% of the estimated \$1,357,296 in construction costs for the Chalfont Borough Police and Public Works Building Project and designating signatories to execute all documents. The motion was seconded by John Engel. Marilyn Jacobson thanked Kathy Watson for writing a letter of support for this grant and Melissa Shafer for finalizing the grant application during maternity leave. **The motion was approved unanimously.**
7. Tracey Bowen made a motion to approve and authorize advertisement of the 2012 meeting calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and approved unanimously.
8. Marilyn Jacobson made a motion to appoint John Engel to the EMS Board for a term to expire December 31, 2014. The motion was seconded by Tracey Bowen and approved unanimously. Marilyn Jacobson thanked John Engel for providing continued service to the borough in serving on the EMS board since its inception. On behalf of the EMS Board of Directors, John Engel thanked Chalfont Council for its support.
9. John Engel made a motion to forward the LED street light selection to the Chalfont HARB and the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission for review. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and approved unanimously.
10. Eileen McDonald made a motion to authorize application to the Bucks County Conservation District for TreeVitalize Grant. The motion was seconded by John Engel and approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Melissa Shafer personally thanked Eileen McDonald for her help and service to the Borough. Upcoming meetings were announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next Ordinance number: 402
Next Resolution number: 2012-01

Respectfully Submitted,



Barbara Qualteria
Borough Secretary