

**MINUTES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 7, 2017**

The Downingtown Borough Council met in regular session June 7, 2017 at the Municipal Government Center, 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA. Members present: President Gazzerro, Vice President Rakoff, Councilors Dague, Thomas and Feldman. Also attending were Mayor Maxwell, Solicitor Thompson and members of Borough staff. Councilor McGlone notified President Gazzerro she would not be attending.

President Gazzerro called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Recognition/Awards** – None

**Approval of Expenditures (Period Ending May 31, 2017)** – Vice President Rakoff made a motion to approve the expenditures for the period ending May 31, 2017, Councilor Thomas seconded; motion carried 3-1 (Councilor Feldman opposed).

**Approval of Borough Council Minutes (May 17, 2017)** – Councilor Thomas made a motion to approve the minutes of May 17, 2017; Vice President Rakoff seconded; motion carried 3-0 (Vice President Rakoff abstained, he did not attend the meeting).

**Citizens to be Heard** – Velma Warren, 147 E. Lancaster Ave., commented on the parking at her building adjacent to Armor Alley. Solicitor Thompson reported the deed Ms. Warren has to her property stipulates a right of access to her property from Armor Alley, there is a door on the side; therefore, the Borough has not impeded that access. Solicitor Thompson stated he advised Borough Council not to comment on their position regarding Armor Alley accessibility, pending possible legal action by Ms. Warren.

Ms. Warren also commented on not receive any interest in the rental of her store front property from attendees at the Fine Arts Festival.

President Gazzerro requested a motion to recess into Executive Session. Councilor Feldman made a motion to recess into Executive Session, Councilor Dague seconded; motion carried unanimously.

President Gazzerro called the meeting back to order, he stated the purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss legal issues. Solicitor Thompson advised Borough Council not to comment further or answer any questions.

Regina Evans, Founder “Cure4Cam” Childhood Cancer Foundation, requested Council approval to place signs within the Borough for an upcoming fundraising race, scheduled on July 11 at the Chester Valley Trail in Exton. Mr. Yuhas reported he would coordinate with Ms. Evans with acceptable locations to place the signs. Vice President Rakoff made a motion to approve the placement of the signs, Councilor Dague seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Georgio Malle, 149 E. Lancaster Ave., stated his comments pertaining to the DMSA pay station revenues during a prior meeting were not included in the minutes.<sup>1</sup> He also commented the DMSA Fine Arts Festival (May 27 & 28) impeded on parking for business patrons due to vendors being located in the East Lancaster Avenue Borough lot. He also commented on the signage regarding no parking, stopping or standing behind the Lord’s Pantry and enforcement.

Steve Plaucher, DMSA, commented on the Fine Arts Festival and other community events stating their intent is to promote the various businesses, not to negatively impact the business owners.

**Deferred Business**

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Ordinance 2017-02 Amending Compensation Dates for Mayor and Borough Council - Deferred

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Malle’s comments were included in the April 5, 2017 Borough Council minutes approved May 3, 2017.

## **New Business**

Ordinance 2017-03 Amending Chapter 256 Subdivision & Land Development – Vice President Rakoff made a motion to advertise with the intent to adopt Ordinance 2017-03, Councilor Thomas seconded. Mr. Yuhas reported the Chester County Planning Commission worked closely with the Borough's Planning Commission regarding their recommendations and this ordinance only amends the sections related to bicycles and pedestrians. After discussion, motion carried unanimously.

Kerr Park Basketball & Tennis Courts – Mr. Sullins reported the Borough is pursuing partnering with DASH for a fourth basketball court. DASH will finance the construction of an additional court and the Borough will discount their rental fees for an agreed upon term. The two tennis courts located in the back are not utilized, we plan to remove them, resurface the two front courts. The new basketball court will be constructed for use beginning 2018.

Resolution 2017-05 Authorizing Mass Mutual Transactions – Councilor Thomas made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-05, Vice President Rakoff seconded; motion carried unanimously.

## **Mayor & Council Updates**

Councilor Dague reported a meeting was held at West Whiteland Twp. regarding the Chester Valley Trail Extension Project, additional information and brief video are available at <http://chescoplanning.org/transportation/cvte.cfm>.

Councilor Dague reported he attended the PennDOT Rt. 30 Improvements Project meeting at Downingtown Middle School. Residents voiced concerns about the possible scenarios and the impact on the Borough and surrounding municipalities.

Councilor Feldman reported residents may access Rt. 30 Reconstruction & Improvement Projects documents online. Details are accessible at [www.US30-Chesco.com](http://www.US30-Chesco.com), select Eastern Project.

The Mac & Cheese Cookoff, sponsored by the Thorndale-Downingtown Rotary Club, was a huge success. Proceeds were donated to various local charities.

President Gazzerro announced the next Borough Council meeting will be held on July 5.  
*(Note: During the summer, Borough Council will conduct one meeting each month. Meetings will be held on July 5 and August 2.)*

## **Adjournment**

Vice President Rakoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m., Councilor Dague seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Millie Byerly  
Assistant Secretary