

MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2022

The Downingtown Borough Council met in regular session on October 5, 2022 at the Municipal Government Center, 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA. Members present: President Rakoff, Vice President Plaughner, Councilors Horstmann, Ferris and Helm. Also attending were Mayor Dague, Solicitor O'Keefe and members of Borough staff. Councilor Howard did not attend.

Solicitor O'Keefe announced the purpose of the Executive Session this evening was to discuss real estate.

Amend Agenda – President Rakoff asked for a motion to amend the agenda. Councilor Horstmann made a motion to amend the agenda to add Comprehensive Plan Rewrite as item f) of New Business. Councilor Ferris seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Recognition/Awards - None

Approval of Expenditures for period ending September 30, 2022 – Councilor Horstmann made a motion to approve the expenditures for the period ending September 30, 2022, Councilor Ferris seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Borough Council Minutes September 7, 2022 – Vice President Plaughner made a motion to approve the minutes of September 7, 2022, Councilor Helm seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Citizens to be Heard - None

Deferred Business

Ordinance 2022-03 Planning Commission Amendment (alternates) – Councilor Horstmann made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-03, Vice President Plaughner seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2022-04 Woodbine Road Speed Limit – Councilor Helm made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-04, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Vacating Portion of Buchanan Alley (Public Hearing) – President Rakoff announced the opening of the public hearing. Solicitor O'Keefe provided an overview of the hearing process, reviewed the petition submitted by St. Anthony's and presented the Borough's exhibits into the record. The applicant was sworn in and provided his testimony.

Solicitor O'Keefe asked if there were any additional comments from Borough Council or residents in attendance. After questions and additional comments the hearing and record were closed.

Note: A transcript of the public hearing will be available for review at the Borough Administration office.

Ordinance 2022-05 Vacating Portion of Buchan Alley – Vice President Plaughner made a motion to advertise with the intent to adopt Ordinance 2022-05, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Downingtown Library Update (Lauren Smyth) – Ms. Smyth provided an update on the the increased library memberships and usage of the library. She asked Borough Council to consider increasing the Borough's annual contribution by \$7,000 to assist in providing continued programs, services and adjustments in employee wages. She

thanked the Borough for the support of in kind services as well. Ms. Smyth announced future fundraising events including the annual book sale and D-town Brew Down, additional information can be found at www.downtownlibrary.org.

Historic Commission (Appointment) – Councilor Ferris made a motion to appoint Joe Bird as a member of the Historic Commission, Councilor Helm seconded; motion carried unanimously.

305 W. Pennsylvania Ave. (Front yard fence) – Councilor Helm made a motion to approve the installation of a front yard fence at 305 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Comprehensive Plan Rewrite – The Planning Commission advertised a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a consultant to handle the Borough's Comprehensive Plan Rewrite. Two candidates were interviewed, the Planning Commission recommends Michael Baker, the consultant to complete the Comprehensive Plan Rewrite. A proposal was received and reviewed for a two year contract at a cost of \$122,154. The Borough also received a Vision Partnership Program (VPP) grant in the amount of \$45,000. The Planning Commission is requesting Borough Council approval for the Comprehensive Plan Rewrite to award the two year contract to Michael Baker at a cost of \$122,154. Vice President Plaughter made a motion to award the two year contract to Michael Baker at a cost of \$122,154 for the Comprehensive Plan Rewrite, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

For the Good of the Order

Councilor Horstmann thanked Jack Law and Public Works department for installing the new crosswalk signs.


Vice President Plaughter thanked everyone who supported Fall Fest and reported there will be a flag raising ceremony on Veteran's Day, November 11.

Mayor Dague announced the upcoming library fund raisers, the book sale and D-town Brew Down.

Adjournment

Councilor Horstmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m., Councilor Ferris seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Millie Byerly
Assistant Borough Secretary