

MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2023

The Downingtown Borough Council met in regular session on February 1, 2023 at the Municipal Government Center, 4 West Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown, PA. Members present: President Rakoff, Vice-President Plaughner, Councilors Howard, Horstmann, Ferris and Helm. Also attending were Mayor Dague, Solicitor O'Keefe and members of Borough Staff.

Executive Session:

Borough Council met in Executive Session January 17 and January 25 to discuss personnel and met this evening to discuss personnel and real estate.

Approval of Expenditures (Period Ending January 31, 2023):

Councilor Ferris made a motion to approve the expenditures for the period ending January 31, 2023, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Borough Council Minutes (January 4, 2023):

Councilor Howard made a motion to approve the minutes of January 4, 2023, Vice-President Plaughner seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Addendum:

Vice-President Plaughner made a motion to add the 126 Wallace Avenue architectural bid under New Business, Councilor Ferris seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Howard made a motion to add promotions to the rank of Sergeant for three officers under New Business, Councilor Helm seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Recognition/Awards:

None.

Citizens to be Heard:

Rich Cardelli, 301 Church Street, commented on information he previously provided to Borough Council pertaining to EMS, Borough contributions, expenses and lack of ambulances in the Borough and an informational packet was handed out. He would like feedback from Council.

Luke Stevens, representing taxpayers of Downingtown, Chester County and contractors in the building trades, handed out an informational packet and cards regarding bids and contractors in the Borough regarding taxpayer protection, contractors being licensed, bonded and insured. He will follow up in the future and ask to be put on the agenda.

Deferred Business:

None.

New Business:

Architectural bid out for 126 Wallace Avenue- Councilor Ferris made a motion to put an architectural bid out for 126 Wallace Avenue, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Promotion to rank of Sergeant for officers Geoffrey Burkhardt, Christopher Scavicchio and Brandon Seibert- Councilor Howard made a motion to approve promotions to Sergeant for the three officers, Councilor Helm seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2023-05 Designating Emergency Services Providers for the Borough- Vice-President Plaughner made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-05, Councilor Ferris seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2023-06 Appointment of Debra Lammey as the Alternate Open Records Officer- Councilor Ferris made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-06, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2023-01 Act 167 Stormwater- Advertisement with intent to adopt. Matt Bush gave an update and answered questions by Councilor Helm regarding sizes of buildings, i.e., sheds, etc. Vice-President Plaughner made a motion to approve Ordinance 2023-01 Act 167 Stormwater, Councilor Howard seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Act 537 Hydra Terra Professionals Proposal (Sewer Facilities Plan) –Jack Law spoke about the new rate schedule for 2023. Vice-President Plaughner made a motion to approve Act 537 Hydra Terra Professionals Proposal with the updated 2023 costs, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Hearing Board (McDonald's USA LLC) – Public Notice of Downingtown Zoning Hearing Board on 2/21/23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Government Center, 4 West Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown, PA. McDonald's is proposing to update to a side-by-side drive-thru configuration and relocate the ADA parking facilities and crosswalk to the restaurant.

For the Good of the Order:

Mayor Dague spoke about the recent death of Tyre Nichols and thanked the police department for their work in the community over the years with no racial issues.

Adjournment:

President Rakoff asked for a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss real estate. Councilor Horstmann made a motion, Councilor Ferris seconded; motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Bailey
Brandywine Reporting, Inc.