

**BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
WORK SESSION
JUNE 21, 2023
7:00 P.M.**

The Downingtown Borough Council met in a work session on June 21, 2023, at the Municipal Government Center, 4 West Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown, PA. Members present: President Rakoff, Vice President Plaugher, Councilors Howard, Horstmann and Ferris. Also attending were Mayor Dague, Solicitor O'Keefe and members of Borough staff. Councilor Helm did not attend.

Executive Session

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

Approval of Borough Council Minutes (June 7, 2023) – Councilor Howard made a motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2023, Councilor Horstmann seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Recognition/Awards - None

Citizens to be Heard - None

Deferred Business – None

New Business

Downingtown Train Station Presentation – PennDOT representatives Angela Watson and Jeff Knueppel provided an overview of the Downingtown Train Station conceptual plan to Borough Council and attendees at the meeting. The project will be completed in phases. Utilities will be relocated, buildings demolished the current bridge will be removed, the pedestrian sidewalks will be expanded and an additional traffic lane will be constructed. The station construction is tentatively scheduled during 2026-2028.

Comprehensive Plan Update/Economic Development (Hannah Clark) – Ms. Clark provided an update on the progress to date, which included meeting with focus groups. The interest shown in participating from the community and business owners has been very encouraging. A survey was developed which will be distributed to attendees at the Good Neighbor Day event on July 4th, as well as, pop up events throughout the summer where surveys will be available.

Proposal for Street Tree Assessment (Brandywine Urban Forest) – Councilor Ferris reported he felt it was important for Council to revisit the proposal and information provided by Michael Dunn during a prior Council meeting. Mr. Dunn's proposal included quotes to complete three specific tasks pertaining to the street trees located along Lancaster Avenue. After discussion, Vice President Plaugher made a motion to proceed with Task I Assess/Analyze and Task II Analyze/Act proposed by Mr. Dunn, at a cost not to exceed \$6,700, Councilor Howard seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2023-02 Amending Ordinance 2004-01 Updating UCC Provisions – Councilor Ferris made a motion to advertise, with the intent to adopt, Ordinance 2023-02, Councilor Howard seconded; motion carried unanimously.

For the Good of the Order

Vice President Plaugher stated we need to continue improving the economic development of our downtown businesses. He also stated he felt Council should consider appointing an Assistant Borough Manager when discussing the 2024 budget.

The St. Joseph's Carnival will be held until June 24 they will be offering amusement rides and fireworks will be held on Saturday night.

The Good Neighbor Day events will be held on July 4th. The schedule of events is available at <https://goodneighborday.com>.

Adjournment

Councilor Horstmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m., motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Millie Byerly
Assistant Borough Secretary