



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
January 10th, 2018
7:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: Chairperson J. Conners called the meeting to order.

Attendance:

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson J. Conners, Councilor K. Farrell, Councilor C. Soltysiak, Councilor K. McGlenn and Councilor M. Ashton Young.
- **Committee members absent:**
- **Others present:** President D. Pancoe, Vice President R. Bunker, Borough Manager G. Locke, Mayor A. Dobbs, Engineer K. Hassan, Public Works Foreman K. Riggins, and Police Chief A. DiValentino.

Public Comment: Gary Breen, 405 Florence Avenue, appeared before Council to petition for permit parking on the 400 block of Florence Avenue. Mr. Breen stated that there are only eleven houses on the 400 block of Florence Avenue however Mr. Breen has observed that most of the cars on the street are either parking and going to the train station and leaving for an extended period of time or to the School District.

Chairperson J. Conners noted that he did inform Mr. Breen that there are a lot of requests for permit parking that are brought to the attention of the Committee and Council. Chairperson J. Conners also noted that if the Committee allows permit parking on Florence Avenue all of the cars that currently park there will go to Rodman Avenue, Runnymede Avenue or Greenwood Avenue and it is just a vicious cycle.

Police Chief A. DiValentino asked Mr. Breen about how many houses have off street parking on the 400 block of Florence Avenue. Mr. Breen responded by stating that all but one does have off street parking. Mr. Breen wanted Police Chief A. DiValentino to know that the 100 block of Summit Avenue also has off street parking however they also have permit parking.

Mayor A. Dobbs noticed that there are certain areas around town that have permit parking on off hours, such as the evening hours. This would help with the cars that are parking for an extended period of time. Mr. Breen noted that there are only a few cars that are parked on the block for an extended period of time. Most of the cars that park on Florence Avenue are going to the School District or to the train station and come back at the end of the work day. Mr. Breen stated that he is only asking for permit parking during the day as it is fine at night.

Councilor M. Ashton Young noted that in the past eight years she has lived in Beaver Hill she has noticed that the parking on Florence Avenue has increased, however there is simply not enough room in the teacher's lot for all of the staff to park. Councilor M. Ashton Young believes that the Borough needs to continue to only allow permit parking in the area's where residents have nowhere to park.

Councilor K. Farrell wanted to note that she believes that Summit Avenue's permit parking began before Council received full understanding of the relocation of public cars due to permit parking.

Mr. Breen noted that when he circulated the petition he was told "horror stories" by his neighbors about the lack of consideration while parking such as taking up two spaces or blocking the driveway so the residents had a difficult time getting out. Mr. Breen feels as though the residents on the 400 block of Florence Avenue are currently fed up with the parking situation on Florence Avenue.

Councilor M. Ashton Young asked Police Chief A. DiValentino about how the residents should handle the blocking of driveways. Police Chief A. DiValentino stated that the residents should call stating that their driveway is blocked and then the Police Department will ticket the vehicle for blocking the driveway.

Fire Marshal K. Lynch asked if it was the quantity of parking or quality of parking. Mr. Breen responded that it was more so about the quantity of parking but also quality of parking. Fire Marshall K. Lynch asked if the solution could be that the Borough stripes the street.

Engineer K. Hassan noted that if the Borough stripes the street then the Borough will limit or lose spaces along the street due to the striping along driveways, intersections and hydrants.

Councilor K. McGlenn noted that instead of doing exclusive permit parking, maybe do a limit permit parking so that the sign still acts as a deterrent but there is an option for the public to park on the street as the residents do have a place to park.

Councilor K. McGlenn asked who has trouble parking during the day. Mr. Breen responded by stating that the people who signed the petition, the eleven residents, have trouble during the day. Councilor K. McGlenn asked if it was due to the blocking of the driveways. Mr. Breen responded by stating that it is due to the blocking of the driveways and the taking up of public parking spaces.

Councilor C. Whitney stated that he does not think that more permit parking is the solution. Councilor C. Whitney stated that if the issue is the blocking of the driveways then striping may be the way to go. Councilor C. Whitney also noted that striping the street will also help with the congestion of the parking. Mr. Breen stated that if it is only the neighbors who are allowed to park there, he believes that the neighbors would be much more considerate to the driveways and so forth than the public.

Chairperson J. Conners asked Police Chief A. DiValentino if the Police Department has received any complaints from residents about their driveways being blocked. Police Chief A. DiValentino responded stating that he is not aware of any. Police Chief A. DiValentino also stated that he has not been made aware of any parking issues by the Parking Enforcement Officer.

Councilor K. McGlenn and Councilor M. Ashton Young would like to see the residents reporting the blocking of the driveway to the Police Department so that it can be documented and hopefully deter people from doing it if they know that they will be receiving a ticket. Additionally, Councilor K. McGlenn, Councilor M. Ashton Young and Vice President R. Bunker believe that this isn't a parking permit issue but rather a systemic issue particular to this block and that striping may be the best way to handle it, however would like to continue to look at possible solutions to help remediate this problem.

Councilor C. Soltysiak stated that the Borough should also approach the School District regarding Mr. Breen's concerns as she feels as though they should be made aware of the situation.

Reports

- **Public Works:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Public Works Foreman K. Riggins highlighted that over the month of December Jenkintown has experienced 4 snow storms and have used 3100 gallons of brine and 192 tons of salt. Additionally, the Public Works Department has picked up and delivered the “Bare Root Trees” for the Shade Tree Commission. The Public Works Department has erected the Holiday Tree and Hanukkah Menorah, they also put up holiday decorations (garland, lights, balls, and snowflakes) in Town Square, York Road and the center of town. Public Works Foreman K. Riggins highlighted that he received his CPR Certification and this last certification that was needed to be obtained to receive his Road Scholar designation from PennDOT.

Councilor K. Farrell asked Public Works Foreman K. Riggins how the holiday lights held up this year as they were recently purchased. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that two thirds of the lights that were purchased last year had burned out and were unable to be used this year. The Borough purchased 40 new ones which are guaranteed for three years, are LED lights and equipped with timers so that they will not be on 24/7.

- **Engineers Report:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Engineer K. Hassan wanted to update the Committee on the PA Small Water Grant Sanitary Sewer repair is progressing nicely. Additionally, the midblock crosswalk on the 300 block of Florence Avenue will be designed within the coming weeks. Engineer K. Hassan noted that they have begun discussions with PennDOT regarding the long planters along York Road. Engineer K. Hassan noted that it would cost approximately \$6,000 to complete the plans and submit the permit to PennDOT for approval. Borough Manager G. Locke suggested that the Borough look into applying for the MontCo 2040 Implementation Grant which could help offset the cost of the permit and the planters.
- **Regional Bike Trail Circuit:** Steve Spindler appeared before the committee to present the proposed Tookany Creek Trail, which is located between the Jenkintown-Wyncote Trail Station and Wall Park.

New Business

1. **2018 Paving Project** – Chairperson J. Conners highlighted that the project specifications have been completed and are being sent to PennDOT for approval
2. **2016 CDBG Grant / 2017 CDBG Grant for handicap ramps (16 - 17 \$306K)** - Chairperson J. Conners stated that the project specifications have been completed and sent to County for approval. The two grants have been combined to receive a total funding of \$306,000 and the Borough will be completed approximately 40 ramps.
3. **Sinkhole West Avenue/Maple Street** – Chairperson J. Conners noted that there is a sinkhole next to a Verizon Access box. Verizon has notified their outside Contractor and expect repairs to be made this week. Verizon has completed the repairs and final restoration will be completed once hot asphalt is made.
4. **Replacement of Dump truck 27** – Chairperson J. Conners highlighted that the Borough placed a change order on salt delivery system which will be an additional \$2,000. The truck is now scheduled for a late February delivery.
5. **Florence Avenue drainage issue** – Chairperson J. Conners stated that the plans have been completed to remedy the drainage issue and the Storm pipe has been delivered. Chairperson J. Conners stated that the Borough intends to complete the project during winter months

- 6. 2018 PA Small Water Grant – Submittal due in February 2018** – Chairperson J. Conners stated that this grant will help alleviate the costs for the sanitary sewer repairs on West Avenue #2 drainage basin. Borough Manager G. Locke would like to move a resolution of support to full Council for the 2018 PA Small Water Grant. Councilor J. Conners made a motion, seconded by Councilor K. Farrell, to move the Resolution supporting the 2018 PA Small Water Grant submittal to full Council.

Motion approved unanimously.

- 7. Runnymede Ave / Walnut Street** – Chairperson J. Conners stated that there is a possible tree obstructions at the intersection of Runnymede Avenue and Walnut Street on the 400 block of Runnymede Avenue. Currently there is a tree in front of that sign so motorists cannot see the sign and are stopping in front of the stop bar. The Shade Tree Commission and Engineer have inspected site and the intersection has been PA one called. The Borough is looking into placing an extension on the sign so that people can see it.

Old Business

- 1. 2017 PA Small Water Grant – Sanitary Sewer Repairs York Road and East side of Borough** – Chairperson J. Conners stated that the video and flushing has been completed on the East side of town. Spot lining and repairs have begun on January 8th 2018.
- 2. 100 Block Cedar Street – Flooding Issue** – Chairperson J. Conners highlighted that the Engineers study and recommendations have been made and the Borough is actively seeking grants for funding.
- 3. Aqua Watermain Project on Washington Lane** - Chairperson J. Conners stated that the project postponed and is still currently planning to take place in 2018. Engineer K. Hassan stated that when this project plans to begin the Borough will be sitting down with AQUA to discuss the Washington Lane project, as it will affect the 100 block of Cedar Street flooding issue and possible recommendations to that plan.
- 4. Cheltenham Sanitary Sewer Construction Interceptor A – Update** - Chairperson J. Conners stated that the work is progressing. The Borough has made their first payment of \$200,611 to Cheltenham and an invoice was received for second payment of \$151,118 was received. The Borough will be advertising a request for quotes for financing to during the Administration & Finance Committee meeting. The loan will be paid due to the Sewer Rate Study that the Borough completed few years ago.
- 5. Upcoming Grant Opportunities** – Chairperson J. Conners stated that RCAP Grant for Greenwood Avenue/Washington Lane flooding has been submitted. Additionally, the Borough is looking to submit for funding from the Green Light Go for the Traffic Light at Township Line Road/Washington Lane as well as the TA Set-Aside, former TAP grant, for Streetscape Phase 2 on York Road.
- 6. West and Greenwood Avenue – Concrete / Code Enforcement Update** – Chairperson J. Conners noted that there are only two properties on West Avenue and one property on Greenwood Avenue that must comply with the concrete curb and sidewalk. Both have indicated that they will complete the repairs as the weather allows.

7. Long Narrow Planters on York Road – Discussed during the Engineers Report.

Adjournment: On motion of Councilor K. Farrell, seconded by Councilor C. Soltysiak, the motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.