

Council Meeting
October 14, 2014
Chancellor Center

Vice-President of Council Lawrence Auerweck called the regular semi-monthly meeting of Newtown Borough Council to order at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Mr. Auerweck asked those in attendance to join him in a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Councillors Auerweck, Gusty, King, Tara Grunde-McLaughlin and Warren; Mayor Swartz and Solicitor Bolla. Councillor Walker was excused.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Swartz reminded the public today of the 370th birthday of William Penn, the founding father of Newtown.

Newtown Fire Association

Mayor Swartz invited representatives of the Newtown Fire Association forward to present them a proclamation for Fire Prevention Week, which recognized them as one of the best-trained, most responsive and proficient fire associations in Bucks County. It acknowledged their dedication and commitment to the Newtown community to protect its citizens.

He presented the police report for the month of September.

Special Event Reminders

Restaurant Week – October 19-23, 2014 at participating restaurants

Newtown Library 5K Run – October 18, 2014, 8:30 A.M.

Halloween Window Painting, Scarecrow Contest & Pet Parade – October 18, 2014

Halloween Parade – October 25, 2014, 10 A.M.

117th Anniversary of St. Mark's AME Zion Church – October 26, 2014

Amendments to the Agenda

Update on the SEPTA Lot and additions to the Personnel Committee appointments.

Public to be Heard

There was no one who wished to be heard at this time.

Certificates of Appropriateness – Robert King

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Grunde-McLaughlin, and carried unanimously, to follow the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board and direct President of Council to sign the following Certificates of Appropriateness, thereby approving the historical

appropriateness of the application, with final approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.

COA 2014-024-H Residents Paula Raimondo & Elijah Kaufman, 35 N. Lincoln Avenue

The applicants were seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of slate roofing with Slateline shingles and copper. It was noted that the roofing material over the bay window would be turned coated copper, matching the color and style of the connecting twin, and be flat seamed to match the existing roof.

**COA 2014-025-H Resident Judith Abramson, 100 E. Penn Street
COA 2014-026-H Resident Lorraine Pentz, 98 E. Penn Street**

The applicants were seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of a light fixture.

COA 2014-027-H Applicant: Howard Geyer/Boyd Geyer Sign Corp., 9 N. State Street, Rittenhouse Interiors

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a hanging sign for an interior design business to be mounted on the soffit.

COA 2014-028-H Applicant: Howard Geyer/Boyd Geyer Sign Corp., 15-17 N. State Street, Rittenhouse Home

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a hanging sign to be mounted on the soffit for a home furnishings and accessories business.

COA 2014-030-H Applicant: Len Adamusko, 119 S. State Street, State Farm Insurance

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a sign for the State Farm Insurance office.

COA 2014-032-H Residents Sue & Glen Bannon, 204 E. Penn Street

The applicants were seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of a stockade wood fence with a cedar fence, and the installation of a cedar arbor and trellis.

COA 2014-016-H Applicant: Jodi Smith, 139 N. State Street, office building

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for revised plans for various renovations and alterations to the existing structure and an addition. The roof material would be asphalt dimensional shingles; Hardiplank siding would be smooth; downspouts would be smooth round; trim material would be 5/4 x 4" and 1 x 4"; rear porch posts would be square 4 x 4" post, boxed with 1" thick PVC material; the egress stair handrail, spindles and posts would be wood, not PVC; the alcove floor would be mahogany or IPE wood; there would be no shutters, and the plastic shutters would be removed and not replaced.

Since the following application was for a property owned by Councillor Gusty, Mr. King made the motion separately.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Warren, and carried with Councillor Gusty abstaining, to follow the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board and direct President of Council to sign the following Certificate of Appropriateness, thereby approving the historical appropriateness of the application, with final approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.

COA 2014-029-H Applicant: Howard Geyer/Boyd Geyer Sign Corp., 252 S. State Street, offices of Robert J. Blair, PhD and others

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a freestanding directory sign with one slat for Robert J. Blair, PhD and slats for other tenants of the offices in the building.

Presentation of Minutes

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Grunde-McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Gusty, and carried unanimously, to approve the September 3, 2014 Council Work Session minutes.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Grunde-McLaughlin, seconded by Councillor Gusty, and carried unanimously, to approve the September 9, 2014 Council Meeting minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance – Robert Walker, Chris Gusty & Perry Warren

Consolidated Report

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Warren, seconded by Councillor King, and carried unanimously, to accept, subject to audit, the consolidated expenditure report for the month of September 2014 totaling \$140,134.63.

Personnel Committee – Chris Gusty

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Gusty, seconded by Councillor Grunde-McLaughlin, and carried unanimously, to appoint Robert Abrahamson to the *Environmental Advisory Council* for a two-year term through December 31, 2016.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Gusty, seconded by Councillor Warren, and carried unanimously, to appoint Michael Bergey to the *Environmental Advisory Council* for a one-year term through December 31, 2015.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Gusty, seconded by Councillor Warren, and carried unanimously, to appoint Michael Cosack to the *Environmental Advisory Council* for one-year term through December 31, 2015.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Gusty, seconded by Councillor Warren, and carried unanimously, to appoint John Fraher to the *Environmental Advisory Council* for a two-year term through December 31, 2016.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Gusty, seconded by Councillor Grunde-McLaughlin, and carried unanimously to appoint Michael Bergey to the *Traffic and Parking Management Committee*.

Mr. Gusty noted that the Borough received three applications for the *Recreation Board* position, but one applicant lives just outside the Borough and we just received the other application. Another opening on the Board will be coming up at the end of the year and the Council could consider the applicant at that time. The Recreation Board recommended the appointment of Nicole Rodowicz and Mr. Gusty made that motion.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Gusty, seconded by Councillor King, and carried unanimously, to appoint Nicole Rodowicz to the *Recreation Board* for a 5-year term through December 31, 2019.

Traffic Committee – Tara Grunde-McLaughlin

Ms. Grunde-McLaughlin reported that the Traffic Committee discussed the need for walk/pedestrian lights at Lincoln and Washington Avenues, which they felt would help drivers be more aware of pedestrians.

Ms. Grunde-McLaughlin also reported on concerns raised by several shop owners in town that customers are not aware of the municipal parking lot. There will be further discussion on possible signage and other options, with business owners invited to attend the meeting and provide their input.

Solicitor's Report – William J. Bolla

Mr. Bolla reported on a recently received land development application for Buckman Place, which will be reviewed by the Borough Planning Commission and then Council.

Steeple View filed their Conditional Use Application and a date will be set for the hearing.

Old Business

Mr. Gusty reported that the Newtown Library provided stormwater run-off materials to the public during the Market Day event and he thanked them for their assistance in distributing the information, which helps the Borough in meeting its MS4 obligation.

Mr. Gusty noted that the Newtown Rotary Club has raised approximately \$1000 with the sale of bricks for Linton Park. The money raised will provide for the clean up of the SEPTA lot. The goal is to raise \$2500, and by next week, the ability to purchase a brick "online" should be available at newtownrotary.org.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public to be Heard

No one wished to be heard at this time.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Scull
Borough Secretary

ATTENDEES

Ted Schmidt
Julia & Warren Woldorf
Jeff Werner
Jim McAuliffe
Michael Bergey
Will Fabian
Jonathan Mount