

**BOROUGH OF SEVEN FIELDS
COUNCIL MEETING
September 14, 2015**

Council President Jennifer Sikora called the meeting to order at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers of the Seven Fields Borough Municipal Office at 2200 Garden Drive, Suite 100, Seven Fields, PA 16046.

Council President Sikora began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Council President Jennifer Sikora, Council Vice President Jack Oakley, Council Member Robert Messina, Council Member Dr. Kevin Caridad, Council Member Dr. Trotta, Mayor Victor Giannotta, Borough Manager Thomas B. Smith, Attorney James Manolis, Engineer John Balewski

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Charles Volman – 102 Sycamore Drive – He asked for clarification of the announcement regarding automatic payments of the water bill and the fees associated. David Kruse, Borough Bookkeeper, stated that the ACH debit process remains the same with no fees associated. The new feature available online allowing customers to pay using a debit or credit card does have a fee associated.

Carol Volman – 102 Sycamore Drive – She asked if it is possible to have the grass and goldenrod cut back at the Nature Preserve either late October or early November. Borough Manager Smith indicated that he and Bret Cole, Public Works Supervisor, will coordinate time to look at the area she is referring to later this week.

Diane McCauley – 820 Wellington Drive – She shared an unacceptable experience with the ambulance service out of Cranberry Township in response to a call to 911. It took more than 10 minutes for an ambulance to arrive on a Saturday afternoon to assist her husband with a serious medical condition and she asked Council for direction on how to avoid this in the future. She asked if donating to a particular service would ensure a more timely response. Borough Manager Smith explained that Borough Council has no oversight over the 911 dispatch but would be happy to look into the situation. He asked her to call the office tomorrow to speak with him and provide the specific details of the incident and he will check into the situation with the 911 dispatch office, etc.

John Popojas – 814 Wellington Drive – He asked for the status update on a missing shut-off valve that he brought to the Borough Manager's attention on August 24th as it is still missing. Borough Manager Smith indicated that our Public Works Department looked at the valve and determined it to be a gas valve not a water valve and the gas company has been made aware. Also, at the northeast corner of Castle Creek Drive, near the Howard Hanna office, the crosswalk indicator is not working properly. Borough Manager Smith indicated that we have a contract with Cranberry Township for the maintenance of the signal so he will contact them to make them aware.

Bruce Richards – 220 Cumberland Drive – He thanked Council for their role in setting up the Community Days Celebration. It's a very nice idea. He also asked Council to give serious consideration to keeping the speed plateaus in place throughout the Borough. He reminded Council of the study done several years ago regarding traffic calming along Mars Crider Road and the effectiveness of speed plateaus. He acknowledged that the Cranberry Township Police Department didn't like them and he understands the Evans City/Seven Fields Regional Police Department doesn't like them either. He said what is important to recognize is that speed plateaus are a constant reminder to drivers that they are in a residential area – 24 hours a day – 7 days a week – 365 days a year. Council will not be able to have a police officer at every corner 24 hours a day – 7 days a week – 365 days a year. He asked that as the resurfacing program gets underway that Council give serious consideration to keeping the speed plateaus in place.

APPROVAL OF August 10, 2015 COUNCIL MINUTES

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Vice President Oakley, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council accepted the Minutes of the August 10, 2015 meeting, as submitted.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Giannotta thanked Mr. Richards for his comments regarding the speed plateaus stating that he made a good argument in support of keeping them. He asked that all residents encourage their friends and neighbors to come and present their ideas to Council. He stated that Council is working hard to address the issues of the community. With regards to the police report for August, the police activity is up and the daily operations are going well.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Council President Sikora referred Council Members to the Accounts Payable List dated September 10, 2015. After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Vice President Oakley, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council approved the Accounts Payable List dated September 10, 2015.

Fund Balances as of September 14, 2015

General Fund	\$1,415,122
Capital Reserve	\$ 429
Road Fund	\$ 131,907
Liquid Fuels	\$ 341,355
CD Program	\$ -----
Sinking Fund	\$ 2,961
TOTAL	\$1,891,774

LEGAL ISSUES

Attorney Manolis had no issues for review or discussion but stated that he is prepared to answer any questions regarding the zoning manual update which is to be presented later in the meeting.

PLANNING ISSUES

Engineer Balewski assured Council that the outside temperatures will not be an issue as the road resurfacing program has been delayed. The product will be effective in temperatures as low as 40 degrees.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Resolution 2015-18 – General Municipal Pension State Aid

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Vice President Oakley, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council approved Resolution 2015-18, General Municipal Pension State Aid.

Resolution 2015-19 National Flood Insurance Program

Borough Manager Smith directed Council to place this item on HOLD until March 2016.

Legal Ad – Public Hearing regarding Zoning Manual Amendment

Borough Manager Smith introduced AJ Schwartz from Environmental Planning and Design (EPD) who was in attendance to provide a brief overview of the zoning manual update. Mr. Schwartz reported to Council that the changes are really reflective of the changes the Borough has made over the last 15 years. The update is the process of essentially rolling all amendments into one document. The terminology and definition sections have been cleaned up, a "permitted use" table has been developed, the "conditional uses and standards" have been spelled out, the PEDD encourages mixed use and there were minor administrative adjustments in the processes. The update has really been a lot of general clean-up of the zoning manual. He stated that this should be advertised as a "pending" ordinance which is effective as approval is intended. Should a developer or contractor submit a plan for review prior to the ordinance approval, the "pending" ordinance is applicable.

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Vice President Oakley the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

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RESOLVED: Borough Council approved copies of the "pending" ordinance to be provided to the Borough of Seven Fields Planning Commission and to the Butler County Planning Commission for their review and approval. In addition, Borough Council approved the legal ad indicating a Public Hearing on October 26, 2015.

CASE Backhoe Controls Estimate

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Member Kevin Caridad, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council approved the estimate to upgrade the controls not to exceed \$2,400.

PSAB Public Works Management Class Schedule

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Vice President Oakley, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council approved Bret Cole and Thomas Cordell to attend the PSAB Public Works Management Class to be held here in Cranberry Township.

Cranberry Township Public Library

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Vice President Oakley, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council approved payment of \$14,435 for the 2014 allocation to the Cranberry Township Public Library.

Hanging Basket Bid

After review and upon motion of Council President Sikora and a second by Council Member Caridad, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: Borough Council approved the one-year extension with Quality Gardens to provide the hanging baskets throughout the Borough.

FY2016 Budget

Borough Manager Smith reported that over the next three weeks that he, David Kruse and Elaine Communale will be working on the FY2016 Budget and asked that any items and/or issues anyone has should be sent to him via email.

Council Member Messina requested, for the third time, that the Borough secure bids for a new auditor. Borough Manager Smith acknowledged his request and will secure bids for a new auditor.

2015 Seven Fields Community Days Carnival Dinner & Financial Donations

Borough Manager Smith shared a cost outline prepared by David Kruse for the 2014 & 2015 Community Days Carnival. Manager Smith reported that the overall sales related to the carnival were down this year, dinner tickets, and ride tickets all were down. It is recognized that the weather did not cooperate this year.

Council President Sikora asked that if anyone has ideas about different types of activities, possibly a craft beer garden, or ideas to increase participation for next year to please forward to Borough Manager Smith.

Evans City/Seven Fields Regional Police Department

Borough Manager Smith reported that the Evans City/Seven Fields Regional Police Department will be under-budget this year. The final budget should be available the first or second week in October. The Police Commission will need to decide whether to issue a credit or refund to each municipality.

Council President Sikora moved to adjourn to Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Council Vice President Oakley and the meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

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- MEETING ADJOURNED -



Borough Manager



Council President

October 12, 2015
Date Approved