

BOROUGH OF JENKINTOWN  
JENKINTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 27, 2006

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CALL TO ORDER:

President Whitney called the February meeting of the Borough Council to order in Council Chambers of Borough Hall at 7:30 p.m. this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Wall led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

President Whitney asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of former Councilman Rob Hudson's Father who had recently passed.

ROLL CALL:

Mr. Clark, Ms. Dobbs, Mr. Golden (7:40), Ms. Goldman, Mr. Madden, Mr. McCabe, Ms. Pancoe, Ms. Wolff, Vice-President Montanaro, and President Whitney (10). Mr. Kilkenny asked to be excused (11). Mr. Davis was absent (12).

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Mayor Gregory Wall, Solicitor Michael Hynes, Police Chief Albert DiValentino, Secretary/Manager Edwin Geissler, and Assistant Manager Meghan Jack.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Madden moved, seconded by Councilman Clark, to approve the minutes of the January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2006 Regular Council Meeting, as presented.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE".

APPROVAL OF PAYROLLS AND INVOICES:

Vice President Montanaro reported the fund expense totals for the various funds for the month of January 2006, as listed in detail in the agenda packet and summarized below:

General Fund (including 2 payrolls)	\$103,181.54
Streetlight Tax Fund	\$ 1,641.77
Fire Tax Fund	\$ 6,854.51
Fire Apparatus/Building Reserve Fund	\$ 190.00
Sewer Fund	\$ 58,733.53
Solid Waste Collection Service	\$ 37,437.04
Highway Aid/Liquid Fuels	\$ 109,730.27
Police Pension Fund	\$ 14,597.72
Non-Uniformed Employees Pension Fund	\$ 1,396.12

Vice-President Montanaro moved, seconded by Councilman McCabe, to approve the payrolls and invoices for the month of January 2006, as listed in the agenda packet.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilman Madden, to entertain comments from the audience.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

Dennis Kline, 701 West Avenue, asked if the resolution of the Planning Commission had anything to do with the certification of blight or if it was merely a recognition of the work they do. President Whitney deferred to the author of the resolution, Ms. Pancoe, who asked Mr. Kline to restate his question. Upon restating, Ms. Pancoe responded that it was simply recognition of their work.

RECONVENE:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilman Madden, to reconvene the Order of Business.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance:

Vice-President Montanaro reported that his minutes were in the agenda packet and that he would entertain any questions or comments.

Public Works:

Councilman McCabe reported that his minutes were in the agenda packet, that there were several items on the agenda and that he would be happy to entertain any questions.

Public Safety:

Councilman Madden reported that the minutes were in the agenda packet and that he would be happy to entertain any questions.

Building, Planning & Zoning

In Councilman Golden's absence, Councilwoman Pancoe reported that the minutes of the meeting were in the agenda packet. Upon arrival, Councilman Golden reported that his minutes were in the agenda packet and that the Committee would like to meet with PADOT to start a dialogue regarding potential projects.

Jenkintown School Board:

Councilwoman Dobbs reported that there is a new First Grade Teacher, Mrs. Goggin, and that the Tech Ed teacher would be retiring at the end of the school year. Ms. Dobbs informed Council that the School Board reported that they received high bids for Phase II of the school project, that the

current teacher contract expires June 30, 2006, and that Mr. Stover has been nominated for teacher of the year.

JCA:

Councilman Dobbs reported that she did not know that she was the liaison, but that she did know that the JCA held a meeting on the Business Improvement District in order to answer the questions of any property owners.

Redevelopment Oversight Committee:

Councilman Golden stated that the Planning Commission approved the Redevelopment Area and has sent the documents on to the Montgomery County Planning Commission for their review and approval.

Parking Sub-Committee:

Councilwoman Goldman reported that the Committee is currently working on the short term parking issues, so that the businesses and residents know that Council is working towards parking solutions. She further stated that the enforcement on the three-hour parking limit has been working well and that the Committee would encourage raising the fines for parking meter violations. The Committee has also spoken with Dr. Giammanco regarding the six spaces that he currently has available for lease. Ms. Goldman also reported that the no parking signs in the 400 Block of Maple and Cedar Streets were taken down and there is currently a 90-day trial for one-way traffic on Cedar Street. In the coming months, the Committee would be looking at permit parking.

Solicitor's Report:

Solicitor Hynes reported that he had received an order from the Abington Zoning Hearing Board stating that the appeal had been denied by a vote of 4-1. Therefore, the Borough has thirty days to appeal, with no action needed at present.

Mayor's Report:

No Report.

Chief's Report:

Chief DiValentino reported that he had placed a traffic study handout in front of each member, informing them that this is the first report to date, but that they will be done on intersections Borough wide. The study and report mimic those done at UCLA. Once a report is generated, the officers will continue to monitor the intersection in order to see the purple area decrease. Councilman McCabe asked how the Department will help the number decrease, to which Chief DiValentino stated that although it is a large part of the pie, it simply means that there was no complete stop. Councilman McCabe asked if all of these violations were ticket worthy, to which the Chief replied that they were not all ticket worthy, but that they were integral in getting the purple and the white equal. Chief DiValentino asked permission to speak out of order, informing Council that another Part-Time Officer has resigned, leaving him with two Part-Time Officers, so he is requesting that Council allow the appointment of another Part-Time Officer before the next Public

Safety Meeting. Mayor Wall stated his opinion that he and Council need to be liberal with appointing Part-Time Officer, as it is not like the old days when Part-Time Officers stayed. Councilman McCabe asked what actions are taken between the Public Safety Meeting and Council Meeting that would be missed if appointed tonight. President Whitney deferred to Solicitor Hynes who stated that an Officer couldn't be hired without an appointment from Council. Chief DiValentino stated that the normal procedure is to propose a Part-Time Officer at the Committee and then comes to Council for a vote. Councilman Golden stated his opinion that this should be part of an Executive Session.

Councilman Golden moved, seconded by Councilman Madden, to table this discussion for an Executive Discussion.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

Chief DiValentino further stated that he met with Ms. Goldman and Ms. Dobbs regarding parking on West Avenue and agrees that the fines should be increased, recommending that the minimum fine go from \$5 to \$10. Councilman Madden stated his opinion that this matter should come before the Public Safety Committee and asked if it could be done on a trial basis, to which Manager Geissler responded that it can go before the Committee, but not be done on a trial basis. Councilwoman Dobbs stated her opinion that the increase in the ticket fines should coincide with the use of the hand-held machine. Manager Geissler stated that he believed that these are matters for the parking workshop.

#### Assistant Manager's Report:

Assistant Manager Jack stated that she has no report at this time, but noted that her name has changed from O'Brien to Jack.

#### Manager's Report:

Manager Geissler stated that the Town Square has received heavy amounts of damage to it and that he would like to install cameras, and is open to suggestions, to which President Whitney stated that video surveillance equipment is useful, but needs to follow all legal procedures. Manager Geissler also stated that there are problems with the flag in the Town Square, but it will be fixed as soon as possible.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

##### LAND DEVELOPMENT 609 SUMMIT AVE:

Councilman Golden moved, seconded by Councilwoman Dobbs, to approve the Land Development Application of Midgard Properties, L.P. for the property at 609 Summit Ave, Jenkintown, plan submitted by David J. Plante last revised 2/13/2006 with the following conditions: 1) Main entrance on Summit Ave to be found level as shown on the architect plan, 2) Installation of all regulatory signs as stated in the Borough Traffic Engineer's review letter, 3) Install a six inch drain line rather than the four inch line shown on the plan, 4) clearly identify the drain field in the parking lot with weight limit signs and markers, and 5) connect all roof drain discharges directly into the storm inlets.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

REVITALIZATION RESOLUTION:

Councilwoman Pancoe moved, seconded by Councilman McCabe, to adopt a resolution in support of the work of the Jenkintown Borough Planning Commission in the revitalization of Jenkintown Borough.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

HIWAY THEATRE ANCHOR BUILDING LOAN AGREEMENT:

Vice-President Montanaro moved, seconded by Councilman Golden, to authorize the proper officers to take the necessary steps to execute the Hiway Theatre Anchor Building Loan Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

PART-TIME POLICE OFFICER:

Councilman Madden moved, seconded by Councilman McCabe, to appoint Christopher Kelly as a Part-Time Police Officer for the Jenkintown Police Department.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

ROAD & SIDEWALK OPENING PERMIT FEES:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Vice-President Montanaro, to adopt Resolution 2006-4 a resolution setting the fees for opening the sidewalk or road after completion of any Borough installed work for a period of two years.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

OPEN SPACE PLANNING GRANT:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilman Golden, to adopt Resolution 2006-3 a resolution of the Borough authorizing the submission of the Jenkintown Borough Open Space Planning Grant.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

PECO ENERGY OPEN SPACE PROGRAM GRANT:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilwoman Dobbs, to adopt Resolution 2006-2 a resolution of the Borough requesting approval of the Green Region: The PECO Energy Open Space Program Grant Application for the Jenkintown Borough Open Space Plan.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

TRAFFIC SIGNAL INTERCONNECT & UPGRADE:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilman Madden, to adopt Resolution 2006-5 a resolution of the Borough to the County of Montgomery and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania agreeing to apply for funding to interconnect and upgrade the traffic signals along York Road (Route 611) in the Borough of Jenkintown after Montgomery County and PADOT agree to the terms and agreements contained in this resolution.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

STREETLIGHT BUY-BACK PROGRAM:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilman Madden, to authorize the administration, the Borough Solicitor, and the consultant to negotiate a formal contract for the streetlights currently owned and maintained by PECO Energy. Contract to include cost and other necessary agreements for the transfer of ownership.

Councilman Golden questioned whether or not this pertains to the new streetscape lights, to which Manager Geissler replied that the main focus is to ground those streetlights which are currently not grounded.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

STORM WATER PIPE CEDAR ST TO WALNUT ST:

Councilman McCabe moved, seconded by Councilman Madden, to authorize the administration and the Borough Solicitor to take any action needed to obtain permission/approval of the property owners to allow for locating the storm water pipe in the yards of 116 & 118 Walnut St and to enable the engineers to develop plans for the replacement or rehabilitation of the storm water pipe from Cedar St to Walnut St provided an agreement with the property owners cannot be reached by the March Public Works Meeting. This may require the taking of land under the laws of condemnation.

Councilman Golden questioned whether we were truly moving forward with condemnation or if we were using it as a tool to get them to come to a meeting, to which Councilman McCabe stated that it was the latter, as we have been trying to get this ball moving for 15 to 25 years to no avail, leaving us with no other option at this point.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"

APPOINTMENT OF INTERVIEW COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL:

President Whitney appointed Mr. Madden, Ms. Wolff, and Ms. Dobbs to an interview committee of Borough Council to interview and recommend on of the three candidates from the certified Civil Service List for the position of Full Time Police Officer for the Jenkintown Police Department.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilman Madden moved, seconded by Councilman Golden, to recess the Regular Order of Business for an Executive Session regarding litigation.

MOTION CARRIED, all present voting "AYE"