

MINUTES
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
October 21, 2004

Media Borough Council met in Council Chambers on the above date with the following officials present: Mayor McMahon, President Hagan, Vice-President Robinson, Councilpersons Alyanakian, Krull, Sherwin, Tyson and Whitaker. Also present were Solicitor Middlebrooks, Engineer Mulvena, Borough Manager Smith and Administrative Assistant Godek.

President Hagan called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and led the salute to the flag.

Approval of the Minutes

Vice-President Robinson made a motion to approve the Council meeting minutes of September 16, 2004. Councilperson Whitaker seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Privilege of the Floor

Councilwoman Whitaker motioned to appoint Officer Robert Carroll to the position of Sergeant. Vice-President Robinson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor McMahon led the swearing in ceremony, accompanied by Chief Wusinich and Sergeant Carroll's wife, Lisa. Sergeant Carroll thanked Council and offered gratitude to the service of the two other candidates. Chief Wusinich reported that the competition for the appointment was tight. A panel of three police chiefs tested the candidates stating that the Borough had the best selection of officers statewide.

Ed Gibson, Media Fire Chief provided a number of announcements pertaining to the Fire Department. First, Chief Gibson reminded the public to change the batteries in their smoke detector in accordance with the time change in observance of daylight savings time. Second, Chief Gibson reminded the public to obey the traffic laws when approached by emergency vehicles. He stated that vehicles are to pull to the right and stop. Chief Gibson also reported that the fire department received a grant for a thermal imaging system, obtained federal funding for a new air compressor, purchased two new ambulances, and bought two life support bicycles. Lastly, Chief Gibson stated the need for public support and made a plea for volunteers, especially those who can assist in getting the trucks in and out of the fire station.

President Hagan adjourned the meeting for 15 minutes to congratulate Sergeant Carroll and to tour the two new ambulances. The meeting resumed at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor's Report – Mr. McMahon

Mayor McMahon reported that there were 1,029 complaints in the month of October and no reported burglaries.

Mayor McMahon read Proclamation #2004-10 recognizing Christ Episcopal Church's 150th anniversary. Mayor McMahon then read Proclamation #2004-14 declaring the week of October 23 to 31 as Red Ribbon Week.

Mayor McMahon announced the 45th annual Veterans Day Parade would be held on Thursday, November 11, 2004. The celebration will include welcoming home troops from Iraq, Afghanistan, and other countries of deployment. A flag exchange symbolizing the passing of service from one generation to the next will conclude the event.

Council Committee Reports

Recreation, Code Enforcement & Properties – Mr. Tyson

Councilperson Tyson reported that with inclement weather quickly approaching, the Borough has examined the sidewalk snow/ice removal ordinance and determined that some minor amendments are necessary. Councilperson Tyson motioned to authorize the Borough Solicitor to advertise the sidewalk snow/ice removal amendments. Councilperson Sherwin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety – Ms. Whitaker

Councilperson Whitaker presented some suggestions for safe trick-or-treating and mentioned that pamphlets on the topic are available at the Police Department and Borough Hall.

Councilperson Whitaker announced that Officer Nicole Koban completed her probationary period. Councilperson Whitaker motioned to remove Officer Koban from the probation list and appoint her as a full-time police officer. Councilperson Sherwin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Community Development – Mr. Robinson

Vice-President Robinson motioned to approve the preliminary/final land development application for 448 E. Baltimore Avenue subject to meeting all NDI requests. Councilperson Krull seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-President Robinson motioned to approve the preliminary/final land development application for 125 W. Third Street contingent with the NDI review memo. The applicant is requesting an enlargement of a non-conforming structure that is compliant with setbacks. Councilperson Whitaker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-President Robinson recommended Borough Council not oppose the Zoning Hearing Board application for 7-13 E. Baltimore Avenue, requesting that the NDI review memo be read into the record at the Zoning Hearing Board meeting. The applicant is seeking a variance from setbacks of ten feet to allow for off-street parking. Councilperson Tyson expressed his concern of the tunnel effect that occurs when structures are built too close to Baltimore Pike.

Vice-President Robinson recommended that Borough Council not oppose the Zoning Hearing Board application for 323 W. State Street, requesting an awning on a multi-tenant building.

Vice-President Robinson announced that the Comprehensive Plan Task Force would hold a public meeting on October 28, 2004 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parlor Room of Media Borough Hall. Public input is welcome.

Personnel & Highway – Ms. Hagan

President Hagan announced following the Council meeting this evening Borough Council will adjourn to an executive session to discuss contractual, personnel, and property issues.

President Hagan announced the Fall 2004 leaf collection schedule and reminded residents to refrain from parking on leaf piles to prevent combustion and damage to vehicles.

President Hagan announced snow emergency routes would be in effect this winter. Residents should abide by the posted signs and use common sense when parking in inclement weather and before storms. President Hagan stated that reminder letters would be sent to residents along these routes.

President Hagan stated that the Borough provides a once a year bulk trash pick-up service to residents. Additional collection will be made for a fee of \$20.00 or \$15.00 per appliance. Arrangements can be made by contacting Borough Hall.

Finance, Insurance & MBA – Mr. Sherwin

Councilperson Sherwin read the finance report. The Finance Committee reported checks drawn on the Central Disbursement account for the following funds:

General Fund	363,464.66
Liquid Fuels Fund	<u>17,052.52</u>
Total	380,517.18

Councilperson Sherwin motioned that bills be paid when properly approved for all funds. Councilperson Krull seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilperson Sherwin announced the 2005 budget schedule, reporting that Earned Income Tax legislation presented a concern for the Borough finances, possibly requiring an adjustment to the Borough millage. Councilperson Sherwin stated that as in previous years the Finance Committee would work to establish a balanced budget of Borough revenues and expenditures.

Councilperson Sherwin announced the following MBA events. The 2nd annual Jazz By Night will be held at participating establishments on Saturday, October 23, 2004. In addition, the Media Halloween Parade is also scheduled for Saturday, October 23, 2004.

Recreation, Grants, Recycling & Streetscape – Mrs. Krull

Councilperson Krull made the following Recreation Commission announcements:

- Halloween Extravaganza October 30, 2004 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., at the Borough Community Center.

- Senior Appreciation Luncheon at the Towne House
Sat., Nov. 20, Noon
- Teen Night will resume in January

Councilperson Krull provided an update from the Recreation Board including the following activities: for youth in middle school, Teen Nights will be held on the fourth Friday at the Community Center beginning again in 2005 and Senior Aerobics is returning in November on Wednesday afternoons.

Councilperson Krull announced that on November 10, 2004, at 7:00 p.m. the Recycling and Environmental Advisory Committee are sponsoring a composting seminar. The event will take place in the Parlor Room, at Borough Hall.

Health & Shade Tree Commission – Mr. Alyanakian

Councilperson Alyanakian announced the resignation of Andrea Kovach from the Board of Health and thanked Ms. Kovach for her years of service. Councilperson Alyankian made a motion to advertise a vacancy on the Board of Health.

Councilperson Alyankian introduced Proclamation #2004-15 declaring October 2004 to be Energy Awareness Month. Councilperson Alannkian also noted that Media was the recipient of the Greenest Borough in Pennsylvania award for the solar panel project at the Armory. This is the second time in three years Media has received this award.

Councilperson Alyankian announced that the Environmental Advisory Committee is promoting that the Borough increase its recycling tonnage by 10 to 15 percent for 2005. Councilperson Alyanakian stated that by increasing the amount of recycling the Borough is eligible for additional grant funding.

Councilperson Alyankian stated that he would like the Borough to better utilize the cable access channel, suggesting the airing of public service announcements for both Borough and community events. Councilperson Alyanakian reported the Council expects to implement these plans in the beginning of 2005.

Privilege of the Floor

In response to a question from Vice-President Robinson, Councilperson Alyanakian reported that no additional/final plans have been submitted with respect to the expansion of the Philadelphia Airport that he is aware of.

Councilperson Tyson reported that Nelda Gorman had resigned from the Historic Archives Commission and made a motion to advertise the vacancy.

Kitty McFarland, N. Lemon Street, thanked Council, the Engineer, and Borough Manger for the placement of signs on N. Lemon Street. Ms. McFarland also requested that Council consider additional lighting when creating the 2005 budget.

Paul Cavanaugh, of W. 5th Street, thanked Jim Jeffrey, Code Enforcement Director for his assistance in dealing with outstanding issues pertaining to construction at 5th and Olive Streets.

President Hagan encouraged everyone to vote on November 2, 2004, Election Day.

Adjournment

Vice-President Robinson motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Councilperson Whitaker. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Borough Council exited the Chamber for an executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Smith
Borough Manager/Secretary