

**MINUTES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 15, 2007**

The Media Borough Council met in Council Chambers on the above date with the following officials present: Mayor McMahan, President Daly, Vice-President Hall, Councilpersons Alyanakian, Williamson, Derrickson, Simpson and Tyson. Also present were Borough Manager Smith, Solicitor Scott and Engineer Walton. Treasurer Dimond was absent from the meeting.

President Daly called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and led the salute to the flag and observed a moment of silence for the passing of Trudy Carroll.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Councilman Williamson made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2007 Council Meeting, October 30, 2007 Special Meeting and November 1, 2007 Public Hearing/Special Meeting. Vice-President Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment & Privilege of the Floor**

Zubair Khan, Executive Director of the Media Business Authority, introduced Bill Gross, who chairs the Promotion Committee of the Media Business Authority. Mr. Gross presented a donation check to the Media Police Association, which was graciously accepted by Sergeant Robert Carroll, who explained the charitable work of this organization.

Mr. Gross presented a donation check to the Media-Upper Providence Library, which was accepted by John Kennedy, Library Director. Mr. Kennedy thanked the Media Business Authority and Council for their continued support of the library.

Mr. Gross presented the Blues Foundation with a donation check, which was accepted by Lonnie Shields. Mr. Shields thanked the Promotion Committee and mentioned that the funds will go towards blues artists that are struggling financially.

Mr. Gross presented a donation check to the Media Fire Company. Councilman Tyson graciously accepted the donation on behalf of the fire company.

Mr. Gross presented a donation check to the Litter Task Force. Mayor McMahan and Vice-President Hall accepted the funds on behalf of the task force.

President Daly thanked Mr. Gross for his support of various Media organizations over the years.

Brett Lester of the Media Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) mentioned that Media Borough continues to be a “green” community. Mr. Lester noted that the Borough currently has 7% of its community signed up for SmartPower’s Clean Energy Communities Campaign. As a reminder, Media Borough is in a Clean Energy Competition with Swarthmore Borough. Both Boroughs are trying to be the first to obtain approximately 130 residents to sign up for renewable energy. Swarthmore is currently in the lead. For sign-up information, please visit [www.mediaborough.com](http://www.mediaborough.com). Information can also be obtained in the second floor lobby of Borough Hall.

Brian Taussig-Lux mentioned that the Borough is working hard to maintain its “green” environment status, by continuing to be a leader with the installation of solar panels and encouraging more recycling.

Councilman Alyanakian mentioned the proud fact that Media Borough is considered the “greenest” community in Delaware County. Councilman Alyanakian noted that the Borough requires approximately 107 residents to sign up for Clean Energy by September 2008.

President Daly reminded viewers watching the meeting at home they can e-mail any questions/comments to Borough Council at [questions@mediaborough.com](mailto:questions@mediaborough.com) and they will be addressed during the meeting.

Letitia Jeavons, 216 N. Monroe Street, inquired about election results. President Daly responded that numbers were higher in the Borough than the rest of the county; however, the Borough was still down by approximately 100 voters.

Letitia Jeavons inquired if there was anything Council could do to bring more voters to the polls. Mayor McMahon commented that the Borough does inquire if households have someone who is about to turn 18. President Daly noted that turn out for elections is sometimes light during odd years.

### **Engineer’s Report**

Engineer Walton noted that the approval for the Preliminary/Final Subdivision and Land Development Application of the Lincoln and Vernon Streets development should include the relocation of the PECO pole and proposed public parking location.

Engineer Walton also requested a few hours with Jim Jeffery, Code Enforcement Director, to review actual locations of impervious coverage for the proposed ordinance. Councilman Williamson mentioned that there is some time on this item as the ordinance may not be back before Council until December or January.

### **Mayor’s Report** – Mayor McMahon

President Daly congratulated Mayor McMahon on his 300<sup>th</sup> meeting as an elected official.

President Daly commented that this year’s Veterans Day Parade was one of the best held in the Borough.

Mayor McMahon reported the Police Department received and investigated 942 complaints during the month of October. There were no reported burglaries during the month of October.

Mayor McMahon mentioned that the recent educational World War II film, put together by the Veterans Museum, is geared towards seventh and eighth graders.

The Veterans Museum will host a Pearl Harbor Day event on Friday, December 7, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.

### **Council Committee Reports**

#### **Recreation, Technology, Media Business Authority & Lighting** – Mrs. Simpson

Councilwoman Simpson announced the following for the Recreation Board:

- The Recreation Board advertised a Request for Proposals for a landscape architect/park consultant in response to a \$10,000 grant the Borough has received. This notice appeared in today's newspaper and proposals are due on November 30, 2007.

Councilwoman Simpson announced the following for the Media Business Authority:

- Please visit [www.visitmediapa.com](http://www.visitmediapa.com) to view the full holiday event schedule.
- Friday, November 23, 2007 – Santa's arrival and festival of lights at 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 1, 2007 – Celtic Christmas Celebration from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 5, 2007 – Chanukah Festival of Lights featuring carriage rides, etc.

#### **Code Enforcement, Media Arts Council, Streetscape & Litter Task Force** – Mr. Hall

Vice-President Hall announced the next Media Arts Council Second Saturday event will be held on December 8, 2007 featuring carriage rides, strolling carolers, etc.

Vice-President Hall mentioned that anyone interested in serving on the Litter Task Force should contact him via the Borough's website or through Borough Manager Smith.

#### **Public Properties, Fire Committee, Personnel, Finance & Insurance** – Mr. Daly

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

General Fund	\$ 693,352.03
Recreation Fund	\$ 672.91
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$ 5,330.98
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 8,036.25</u>
Total	\$ 707,392.17

President Daly motioned that bills be paid when properly approved for all funds. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Daly mentioned that Borough Council is required to adopt the preliminary 2008 General Fund, Capital Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund and Recreation Fund Budgets this evening even though the budgets are currently out of balance. Councilman Tyson voiced his concerns that there has not been much discussion by Council on the Borough's \$10,000,000 budget. Councilman Alyanakian expressed similar concerns and noted the Borough faces significant financial hurdles, including unfunded mandates, future capital projects, etc. President Daly mentioned that each Council member receives financial statements on a monthly basis, however, he is disappointed with the fact that a Finance Committee member is voicing comments that the budget is not being addressed by Council. Councilman Alyanakian noted that the Borough should address immediate cash flow concerns. President Daly mentioned a police pension increase for 2008, along with an unfunded liability for two (2) police officers on disability retirement. Borough Manager Smith noted that all appropriate Borough officials are meeting to address budget issues and discuss future needs. With that said, President Daly made a motion to adopt the preliminary 2008 General Fund, Capital Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund and Recreation Fund Budgets. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-2, with Councilmen Tyson and Alyanakian casting the dissenting votes.

President Daly referred to Borough Manager Smith to explain the revised Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the police pension plan. Borough Manager Smith noted that the Borough's actuary made revisions to the MMO for the police pension plan from September. The new number is \$389,444, which is approximately \$76,000 higher than the amount discussed in September and is reflected in the preliminary budget. President Daly made a motion to adopt the revised Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the police Pension plan. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Daly made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise a Request for Proposals for a Tax Anticipation Loan for 2008 with alternatives for \$500,000, \$750,000 and \$1,000,000. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Councilman Tyson inquired when the 2007 tax anticipation loan will be due. Borough Manager Smith noted that the loan is due on December 28, 2007 and that he is confident the funds will be on hand.

President Daly made a motion to authorize the Borough Manager to advertise a Request for Proposal for Alternate Video Taping Services for Council meetings, as Comcast will no longer provide these services free of charge in 2008. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Daly made a motion to ratify the promotion of William Chambers to the Sanitation Laborer position within the Public Works Department. Councilman Derrickson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Community Development** – Mr. Williamson

Councilman Williamson thanked all registered voters for coming out on Election Day.

Councilman Williamson made a motion to approve the Preliminary/Final Subdivision & Land Development Application for Lincoln and Vernon Streets with the conditions of the Planning Commission, Borough Engineer and Code Enforcement Director. This application is for five (5) twins (10 units). Some of the conditions include moving the PECO pole, street trees changed to shingle oak, sidewalk moved to rear, retain most of the trees in the rear, etc. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-2, with President Daly and Councilman Tyson casting the dissenting votes.

Councilman Williamson explained the Preliminary/Final Subdivision & Land Development Application for 531 N. Olive Street and displayed the renderings from Linn Architects. There is no variance required to demolish this former daycare and construct a duplex and single-family dwelling. Councilman Tyson inquired about the zoning district for this property. Councilman Williamson mentioned this is located in an R-2 district. Councilman Tyson inquired if a condominium association will be required for the duplex. Solicitor Scott responded that this is not required for two (2) units. Councilman Williamson made a motion to approve the Preliminary/Final Subdivision & Land Development Application for 531 N. Olive Street. Vice-President Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Williamson explained the Change of Use/Minor Land Development Application for 12 W. State Street. This building was the former Paper Pad, which will now be occupied by Salon Bella Gente. The Planning Commission voted to approve this application with the condition of stormwater management compliance. Councilman Williamson deferred to Engineer Walton on this matter. Engineer Walton noted that while he is not familiar with this particular property, he suggested that the rain water conductors be directed toward planting areas or rain barrels be strategically placed to assist with the runoff of water. Councilman Williamson made a motion to approve the Change of Use/Minor Land Development Application for 12 W. State Street. Vice-President Hall seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice-President Hall inquired about the status of development at 300 E. Baltimore Avenue. Councilman Williamson responded that demolition took place and there is a proposed development for a three (3)-story building to occupy the two and a half (2 ½) blocks with retail on the first floor, office space on the upper floors and a parking garage in the rear. The applicant will seek variances for parking, a pedestrian bridge, etc.

#### **Highway, Recycling, Emergency Management & Police Committee** – Mr. Derrickson

Councilman Derrickson congratulated Bill Chambers on his promotion to the Sanitation Laborer position.

Councilman Derrickson mentioned that recycling within the Borough appears to be going well. There have not been any significant complaints with regard to our current hauler.

Councilman Derrickson reported that an Emergency Management Tabletop Exercise was held on October 30, 2007 with members of the County of Delaware.

Councilman Derrickson made a motion to approve the hiring of four (4) part-time police officers when the individuals have been approved by Police Chief Wusinich. The four (4) individuals are: Maria McKnight, Peter Stzelecki, Ryan Stewart and William Harper. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Derrickson mentioned that Saturday parking enforcement hours will not take place until after January 1, 2008. Councilman Tyson mentioned that he believes it is a bad decision to move forward with Saturday parking enforcement as it may drive shoppers/diners out of the Borough. Councilman Alyanakian noted that an individual voiced concerns at a recent Parking Committee meeting regarding confusion on parking enforcement. Vice-President Hall mentioned that individuals will become more familiar with the use of the digital meters. Councilman Alyanakian believes the issue is with the increased fees, fines and enforcement. President Daly referenced the Parking Committee meetings and their recommendations, which were implemented in 2007. President Daly noted that a parking consultant will be hired in the near future to perform a thorough parking study of the Borough.

**Shade Tree Commission, Homeowners Association (HOA) & Environmental Advisory Council** – Mr. Alyanakian

Councilman Alyanakian made a motion to adopt Resolution #2007-08 regarding the implementation of a Refuse Haulers Policy with the input of the Environmental Advisory Council. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Alyanakian announced the receipt of an additional \$25,000 in funding for the Energy Harvest program to install solar panels at Borough Hall.

Councilman Alyanakian encouraged everyone to visit [www.nbc10.com](http://www.nbc10.com) to check out the “growing green” tab. There is a news report from Terry Ruggles regarding solar panels at the Media Elementary School and Media Theatre.

Councilman Alyanakian thanked voters for coming out on Election Day.

**Health, Historic Preservation & Library** – Mr. Tyson

Councilman Tyson announced that a Historic House Tour will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2007 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tickets are available for purchase at Kenny’s Flowers. Cost of the ticket includes a carriage ride through the Borough.

**Public Comment & Privilege of the Floor**

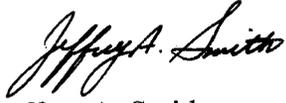
Jane Rowland, E. Second Street, mentioned that she specifically remembers that no parking on Haldeman Street was discussed during meetings that took place years ago regarding new development on this street. Ms. Rowland inquired about who follows up regarding enforcement of parking. Councilman Williamson responded that he was not a member of Council at that time, but that he would look into the parking stipulations of this particular development.

Robert Green, 40 E. Jefferson Street, mentioned that he has noticed a growing trend of former residences, which were converted to offices, being converted back to residences. President Daly mentioned that this is happening all over Media due to the fact that the office demand has lessened and demand for residences has increased.

**Adjournment**

Vice-President Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Smith  
Borough Manager/Secretary