

**MINUTES  
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 21, 2008**

The Media Borough Council met in Council Chambers on the above date with the following officials present: Mayor McMahon, President Daly, Vice-President Hall, Councilpersons Alyanakian, Williamson, Derrickson, Simpson and Cunningham. Also present were Borough Manager Smith, Treasurer Deitch, Solicitor Ewald and Engineer Walton.

President Daly called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. and led the salute to the flag. President Daly observed a moment of silence for renowned architect, George Hay, and for Carl Marshall, former Media Borough employee.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Councilwoman Simpson made a motion to adopt the minutes from the January 17, 2008 Council meeting. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Presentation to Willis Glenn**

Councilman Williamson presented a plaque to Willis Glenn for his 17 years of service on the Zoning Hearing Board. Councilman Williamson introduced Zoning Hearing Board Chairman, Bill Martin. Mr. Martin thanked Mr. Glenn for his many years of service on the Zoning Hearing Board and commented that he has been a great teacher/mentor. Mr. Glenn thanked each Council member, Borough Manager Smith and his wife. Mr. Glenn appreciates everyone's help, assistance and support over the years. Councilman Cunningham noted that Mr. Glenn has over 30 years of great service to the community, first as a Council member and then as a Zoning Hearing Board member.

**Swearing in Part-time Police Officers**

Mayor McMahon led the swearing in of four (4) new part-time police officers: Peter Strzelecki, Ryan Stewart, Maria McKnight and William Harper. All four (4) part-time officers expressed their appreciation to be working for the Media Borough Police Department.

### **Presentation of Police Awards**

Nativity B.V.M. Knights of Columbus presents awards each year to deserving individuals within the Media Police Department. This year's recipients are as follows: Police Dispatcher Kathy Klauder – Employee of the Year Award, Sergeant Matt Egan – Supervisor of the Year Award, and Patrolman Steve Longbottom – John Davidson Memorial Officer of the Year Award. All recipients thanked the Knights of Columbus, Mayor, Borough Council, Chief Wusinich and fellow employees for the honor. Nativity B.V.M. Knights of Columbus presented a Resolution to Chief Wusinich, making him an honorary member of the Knights of Columbus.

President Daly recessed the meeting for two (2) minutes.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

Christine Dick, 113 Pennock Place, thanked Willis Glenn for his years of service to the Zoning Hearing Board.

Christine Dick inquired about the status of a Council retreat with a facilitator that was explored during the January and February Council Workshop meetings. Mayor McMahan replied that not all Council members are on board with the idea of a one (1) day visioning session. Borough Manager Smith noted that the Borough is exploring the feasibility of preparing a survey in lieu of the visioning session and it is anticipated that this item will appear on the March Workshop agenda. Mayor McMahan mentioned that he believes obtaining a facilitator is a good way of compelling Council to come together on Borough matters. Councilman Cunningham does not agree with holding the visioning session and believes Council should take care of basic Borough services.

Fire Chief Ed Gibson mentioned that the Media Fire Company responded to 27 fire calls in January and 153 emergency medical service calls.

Fire Chief Gibson noted that the fire company would like to remind everyone that while driving in their vehicles, they should yield to fire/medical vehicles by pulling over to the far right.

Letitia Jeavons, 216 N. Monroe Street, inquired if next month's Council meeting will be rescheduled due to a religious holiday. Borough Manager Smith noted that the March Council meeting will be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> as scheduled. President Daly believes that Council will have a quorum for this meeting.

### **Engineer's Report**

Councilman Cunningham inquired if there are stormwater drainage problems in the vicinity of State and Church Streets. Engineer Walton responded that there is a stormwater drainage problem in this area and that in order to correct the problem, the inlets may need to be addressed during repaving of these streets.

## **Mayor's Report** – Mayor McMahon

Mayor McMahon reported the Police Department received and investigated 850 complaints during the month of January. There was one (1) reported burglary and that thefts from various offices and a car took place during the month of January. Flyers have been distributed to various offices.

Mayor McMahon read Proclamation #2008-02 recognizing February 15-23, 2008 to be Engineer's Week within the Borough of Media and honoring Kevin Matson, P.E., as the Young Engineer of the Year. Mr. Matson will be in attendance at the March Council meeting to accept the proclamation.

Councilman Cunningham inquired if the Borough is planning to recognize Patrolman Edward Fullmer for his service in Iraq. Mayor McMahon responded that he has something in mind for April, separate from Council.

Councilman Cunningham mentioned the excessive police overtime for January and inquired if there was any plan for the police overtime budget going forward. Mayor McMahon responded that they are working on scheduling full-time and part-time officers for overtime. President Daly mentioned that it was only a couple of years ago when Borough Council put police overtime into the budget so they are able to monitor this item. President Daly mentioned the one (1) festive holiday and one (1) regular holiday during the month. The Police Department is attempting to avoid using police officers to fill in for Dispatchers. Borough Manager Smith will follow-up with the Chief Wusinich to determine if the police overtime in January was an anomaly. Mayor McMahon added that the new part-time police officers have been training with Dispatchers during the month of January. Councilman Derrickson noted that the part-time police officers will fill in where needed according to Chief Wusinich.

Councilman Cunningham mentioned that he noticed the signs placed throughout the Borough, which are intended to slow vehicular traffic, and inquired if their effects are being monitored. Councilman Derrickson responded that the Police Department is following-up on this issue.

## **Council Committee Reports**

### **Shade Tree Commission & Historic Preservation** – Mr. Cunningham

Councilman Cunningham made a motion to appoint Steve Papi to the Historic Archives Commission for a term of five (5) years, which will expire on December 31, 2012. Councilman Alyanakian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cunningham made a motion to appoint Tina Lee Cavanagh DiMonte to fill the unexpired term of Dennis Shields on the Historic Archives Commission, which will expire on December 31, 2009. Councilman Alyanakian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Cunningham announced that Media Borough's Walk of Fame Committee is now accepting nominations for the Walk of Fame, which recognizes deceased Borough residents who had a profound effect on the community in past years. Letters of nomination may be sent to the Media Borough Administrative Office. The deadline is March 13, 2008.

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

Councilwoman Simpson announced the following for the Media Business Authority and Recreation Board:

- The Recreation Board is hosting a “winter blues” party on Saturday, February 23, 2008 from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight.
- A Fitness Expo will take place on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce.
- The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 15, 2008, 11:00 a.m. at Glen Providence Park. This event will be followed by Lunch with the Easter Bunny at the Media Fire House.

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

Vice-President Hall announced Media Arts Council will host a Homegrown Film Festival on Friday and Saturday, February 22 and 23, 2008 at the Delaware County Institute of Science. The Friday night showing will be at 7:00 p.m. and the Saturday night showing at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6.00 for one (1) night or \$10.00 for both nights. Children under 12 will not be permitted.

Vice-President Hall announced America’s First Fair Trade Town Committee is holding a poster contest to promote education and Fair Trade. Sunday, May 11, 2008 is the deadline for submittal. Please visit [www.mediaartscouncil.org](http://www.mediaartscouncil.org) for more information.

Vice-President Hall announced that the next Media Arts Council Second Saturday event will be held on March 8, 2008.

Vice-President Hall noted that a meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the proposed Hotel/Motel Ordinance. Letters to the motel owners and their long-term residents have been distributed.

Vice-President Hall made a motion to accept the revised Flag Flying Policy, which stipulates a \$100.00 fee from the organization to cover the installation and removal of the flags by the Borough’s Highway Department. Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. Councilman Cunningham mentioned that he is against accepting the revised policy as he believes this is a non-governmental policy. Councilman Cunningham congratulated Council on not spending taxpayers’ money on the flags. The motion to accept the revised Flag Flying Policy carried 5-2, with Councilmen Cunningham and Alyanakian casting the dissenting votes.

With regard to the Environmental Advisory Council, Vice-President Hall mentioned that the Borough accepted two (2) grants for the installation of solar panels at the Court House, Youth Center, Borough Hall Police Station and Highway Garage. One (1) grant was from the Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of \$77,000 and the other from the Sustainable Development Fund in the amount of \$25,000. Councilman Cunningham inquired about placing solar panels on the Court House due to the fact that it is not a Borough building. Vice-President Hall responded that this will add to the power grid and that the Court House is paying half and the other half is coming from the State. Councilman Alyanakian added that only two (2) of the four (4) buildings have funding in place.

Vice-President Hall reminded everyone that the Borough is striving to be a Clean Energy Community by 2010. Seven (7) percent of Borough residents are required to sign up for SmartPower in order to be named the Clean Energy Community. The Borough needs 72 more people to sign up by Earth Day in April. Vice-President Hall encourages everyone to sign up.

Vice-President Hall noted that the Media Elementary School Parent Teacher Group is investigating wind power. Further information can be obtained by visiting [www.rtmsd.org](http://www.rtmsd.org).

Vice-President Hall mentioned that the Media-Upper Providence Library has an electric usage monitor that can be signed out in order to determine how much electricity an item in your home is using.

Vice-President Hall reminded everyone that when purchasing new appliances for their home, they should look for the ones that have the energy star.

Councilman Cunningham commented on the trash receptacles placed on Front Street. Borough Manager Smith thanked Michelle Cropper, Borough resident, for the suggestion and Ralph DeRosa, Public Works Director, for installing the receptacles.

Vice-President Hall mentioned the installation of a recycling container on the Media Elementary School playground.

Councilman Alyanakian noted that the Rose Tree Media School District is investigating the feasibility of installing security cameras on the Media Elementary School playground in order to monitor problems with graffiti. Councilman Cunningham inquired about the type of cameras. Councilman Alyanakian responded that the camera type has not been determined as of yet as this is in the early planning stages.

Councilman Alyanakian inquired about the objectives of the Environmental Advisory Council. Vice-President Hall noted a few objectives of the Environmental Advisory Council as follows: SmartPower initiative, water quality throughout the Borough and recycling concerns within the commercial district. Vice-President Hall announced the next household hazardous waste collection will be held on March 29, 2008 at the Marple Transfer Station. Councilman Alyanakian mentioned two (2) more initiatives of the Environmental Advisory Council as follows: reducing the carbon footprint substantially by introducing anti-idling legislation and to compel retail businesses that currently give out plastic bags to take them back as a recycling initiative and/or encourage businesses to use tote bags or sacks. Vice-President Hall mentioned that anti-idling legislation cannot be addressed at the Borough level, but rather state level. Vice-President Hall noted that the Borough is awaiting feedback from the Solicitor regarding the plastic bags. Councilman Alyanakian mentioned that the Borough is not prevented from adopting anti-idling legislation, however, the Solicitor noted that the Borough could be at risk of losing liquid fuels funding if the Borough adopts such an ordinance.

Engineer Walton mentioned that he has been in contact with the Environmental Advisory Council and recently attended a meeting hosted by the CRC Watersheds Association pertaining to the installation of rain gardens.

**Properties, Personnel, Finance & Insurance** – Mr. Daly

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

General Fund	\$ 323,582.71
Recreation Fund	\$ 2,028.15
Liquid Fuels Fund	\$ 0.00
Capital Fund	<u>\$ 21,181.73</u>
Total	\$ 346,792.59

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

President Daly noted that the Strategic Finance Committee did not meet in February due to scheduling conflicts, but will meet on the second Wednesday of March.

President Daly mentioned that the Finance Committee met earlier this evening to go over the 2007 final budget figures. President Daly also mentioned that there is a capital budget in place.

Councilman Cunningham inquired about audit reports for the fire company, library and Media Business Authority. It was determined that audit reports are prepared for the fire company and Media Business Authority and that the library provides the Borough with a financial report.

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

Councilman Williamson mentioned that the conditional approval of the Preliminary Subdivision and Land Development Application for 306 E. Baltimore Avenue has been tabled due to the outcome of the transfer of ownership of Worrall Street to the applicant.

Councilman Williamson mentioned the Zoning Hearing Board Application for 319 N. Edgmont Street for a porch extension. The applicant is seeking a front yard setback. Councilman Williamson mentioned that the Zoning Hearing Board recommends that Council not oppose this application. Councilman Cunningham noted that he is not going to oppose the application, but commented that he believes it does not make sense for the Planning Commission to review such minor applications and would like to see these minor items handled in-house, within the Code Enforcement Department. Councilman Cunningham also noted that he believes the application fees are outrageous and thinks Council should review. Councilman Williamson replied that the Planning Commission wants to review these minor applications—even the sign applications. Councilman Williamson also responded that fees were recently reviewed regarding variance applications and that the Borough does not make any money on these applications.

Councilman Williamson mentioned the Community Development Committee reviewed applicants for the Zoning Hearing Board vacancy and recommended appointing Stacey Benson, 413 E. Lincoln Street, to the Board. Councilman Williamson noted that the Community Development Committee is recommending Ms. Benson due to the following reasons: the Zoning Hearing Board does not have representation from her geographic area, they felt she would be an ideal candidate due to her service on the Rose Tree Media School District Board and the fact that she expressed genuine concern regarding residential neighborhoods within the Borough. Councilman Williamson made a motion to appoint Stacey Benson to the Zoning Hearing Board vacancy for a term of three (3) years, which will expire on December 31, 2010. Vice-President Hall seconded the motion. Councilman Cunningham mentioned that he does not agree with Councilman Williamson's analysis of Ms. Benson's qualifications. Councilman Cunningham noted that Ms. Benson did not have anything to say during hearings regarding the recent development of twin homes on Lincoln/Vernon Streets. Councilman Cunningham mentioned that he believed Tina Mason, W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, was the most qualified of the candidates. There was also discussion surrounding the timeframe that Ms. Benson's letter of interest arrived to the Borough office. Councilman Cunningham moved to table the appointment to the Zoning Hearing Board. Councilman Alyanakian seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Stacey Benson carried 5-2, with Councilmen Cunningham and Alyanakian casting the dissenting votes.

Councilman Cunningham inquired whether or not new straw was placed around the two (2) new single homes on W. Fifth Street for the purpose of water runoff. Engineer Walton noted that the developer was instructed to do so, but the weather has not been suitable to apply the straw. The silt fencing is up and in good shape. Engineer Walton will inspect the area.

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

Councilman Derrickson congratulated the newly sworn in police officers.

Councilman Derrickson reminded everyone to remove their hazardous waste through the household hazardous waste drop off locations. The dates, time and locations throughout the year are posted on the Borough's website.

Councilman Derrickson made a motion to adopt Resolution #2008-01, implementing a Yard Waste Collection Program on the first Wednesday of the month (January through September). Councilman Williamson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Derrickson made a motion to approve the Mass Gathering Permit Application for the Town Talk Newspapers' Spring Super Sunday event on April 20, 2008. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Rich Crowe, Publisher of Press Newspapers of Delaware County, mentioned that the Super Sunday event came about as a way to revitalize the town. There are over 40 businesses that participate. Approximately \$7,000 is donated to the Media Police Department, Media Fire Company, Media-Upper Providence Library, Ethel Mason Daycare and Media Fellowship House from this event. Mr. Crowe thanked Council in allowing Town Talk Newspapers to work with them and members of the Media Business Authority. Jane Rowland, E. Second Street, inquired about home delivery. Mr. Crowe replied that he will address this matter. Letitia Jeavons, 216 N. Monroe Street, inquired about anticipated problems with political campaigning during this event. Mr. Crowe responded that they do not sell tables to political parties. Robert Green, 40 E. Jefferson Street, mentioned that it is his understanding dogs are not allowed at these events, however, he has noticed people in attendance with their dogs. Mr. Crowe acknowledged that this has been a problem. Signs are posted prior to each event and they are attempting to address the best that they can either by asking the individual to leave or by asking the Police Department to get involved.

Councilman Derrickson made a motion to untable the motion to table the Civil Service Commission appointment due to the fact that letters of interest have been received for the vacancy. Councilman Cunningham inquired who submitted letters. Councilman Derrickson responded that Larry Sica, Paul Cavanagh and David Daniel submitted letters of interest. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion to untable the motion to table. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Derrickson made a motion to appoint Larry Sica to the Civil Service Commission for a term of six (6) years, which will expire on December 31, 2013. Councilwoman Simpson seconded the motion. Councilman Cunningham made a motion to appoint David Daniel to the Civil Service Commission. Councilman Alyanakian seconded the motion. The motion to appoint Larry Sica to the Civil Service Commission carried 5-2, with Councilmen Cunningham and Alyanakian casting the dissenting votes.

Councilman Cunningham inquired about a perceived public safety issue regarding a brick wall separating from its base along the sidewalk near the Media Inn. Borough Manager Smith responded that this issue falls under the Community Development Committee and will be reviewed accordingly at their next meeting.

Councilman Cunningham noted that he frequently witnesses vehicles speeding along State Street and believes the 25 miles per hour speed limit should be reduced to either 15 or 20 miles per hour. Councilman Cunningham also noted that he believes there are not enough speed limit signs along State Street. Councilman Derrickson responded that the issue of speed limit along State Street was brought to the attention of the Public Safety Committee last year and it was determined that the Borough can not reduce the speed limit. Councilman Derrickson deferred to Engineer Walton on this matter. Engineer Walton mentioned that the Borough needs to follow the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation traffic code, which states that the lowest possible speed limit that can be set is 25 miles per hour unless in a school zone. Also, Engineer Walton indicated that enforcement begins at nine (9) miles per hour over the speed limit. Councilman Williamson mentioned that there might be traffic-calming items that the Borough could consider.

**Health, Library & Homeowners Association (HOA) – Mr. Alyanakian**

Councilman Alyanakian announced the Friends of the Media-Upper Providence Free Library will present the Buddy Holly Story on March 30, 2008, 3:00 p.m., at the Media Theatre. Tickets can be purchased at the Library for \$35.00, which \$15.00 will go towards the Friends of the Media Upper Providence Library.

**Public Comment & Privilege of the Floor**

Veronica Barbato, 320 W. Fifth Street, mentioned that she disagrees with the decision to remove Councilman Alyanakian from the Environmental Advisory Council and respectfully requests that the two (2) solar panel grants be recorded under Councilman Alyanakian's name. Ms. Barbato suggested that it was a political move to remove Councilman Alyanakian.

Veronica Barbato noted her displeasure when receiving her tax bill due to the most recent millage increase and requested to see a history of tax increases and would like to know where the money is going. President Daly mentioned that a copy of the budget is available for inspection at the Borough office.

With regard to the speed limit issue, Letitia Jeavons, 216 N. Monroe Street, inquired if State Street is unique due to the trolley and if it can be used to regulate. Engineer Walton responded that this is something that may be looked at in the future.

Robert Green, 40 E. Jefferson Street, noted that there tends to be a lot of stormwater, which collects in the area of his property. Engineer Walton noted that non-conforming properties generally have this issue and mentioned the importance of water quality, etc. Engineer Walton explained the status of the Borough NPDES permit and noted that the issue of stormwater management is slow being addressed.

Jane Rowland, E. Second Street, inquired about the status of a one (1)-way request on Manchester Avenue. Councilman Derrickson reported that this request is on hold until the Borough receives a development plan for 300 E. State Street.

Councilman Cunningham mentioned that he was sorry to hear of the passing of Carl Marshall. Mr. Marshall was a loyal Borough employee who provided many years of service within the Public Works Department.

Councilman Cunningham mentioned the passing of Robert Ickes' wife, Vivian, and requested that the Borough send a letter of condolences.

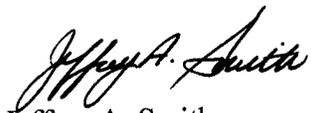
Councilman Cunningham mentioned the passing of William Rawley, 300 block of W. Third Street, and noted Mr. Rawley was an active member of the community.

### **Adjournment**

Councilman Cunningham motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 p.m. Councilman Alyanakian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Daly announced Council would enter into Executive Session at this time.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Smith  
Borough Manager/Secretary