

Incorporated 1814



Reincorporated 1866

*Leo S. Lutz, Mayor
Michael L. Beury, Borough Council President*

*Robert L. Pfannebecker, Solicitor
Norman B. Meiskey, III, Borough Manager*

FINAL AGENDA
COLUMBIA BOROUGH SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
October 9, 2012
5:00PM

- I. Opening of Meeting
 - 1. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - 2. Pledge to the Flag
- II. Business Items
 - 3. Proposed 2013 Budget
 - 4. Any Other Borough Business
- III. Adjournment

**Columbia Special Borough Council Meeting
October 9, 2012
Paul W. Myers Council Chambers**

Council President Michael Beury called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Councilpersons present: Barninger(arrived at 5:20pm), Beury, Murphy, Smith and Wickenheiser.
Mayor Lutz was also present.
Sears and Ford were absent.

Mayor Lutz led the pledge to the Flag.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2013 Proposed Budget

Borough Manager Meiskey explained that there would be no Citizen Comments at this meeting because the budget, as presented, is not complete enough at this point.

Waste Water Treatment Plant – Charlie Moll, the Waste Water Department Manager, stated that there are not many changes to the proposed budget. He said that his biggest variables are electric and overtime.

There was some discussion regarding the increase in the line items for lime and polymer.

Charlie also noted that the cost for the replacement of almost a mile of pipe, from Plane Street to Walnut Street on RT 441, is in the Municipal Authority Capital Budget.

There was some discussion regarding budgeting for engineering fees.

Charlie Moll explained that the proposed budget reflects salary expenses for an Environmental Engineer. He further explained that both he and Ron Miller, the Public Works Director, are distracted from their normal duties by tasks that could be done by the Environmental Engineer. He stated that some tasks need to be done by an individual who is specially educated in that area but that he and Ron cannot continue to do all of the work themselves.

Police Department – Chief Jack Brommer discussed the need for 12 patrolmen as opposed to 11. He explained that the Columbia Borough Police Department's call volume is 3rd highest in Lancaster County. He noted that the department is currently down by 3 people and the patrol officers are struggling to keep up with the volume and are concerned for their safety.

Council and Chief Brommer discussed the positives and negatives of having 12 hour shifts. They also discussed the use of part-time officers. Chief Brommer noted that part-time officers usually have full-time jobs elsewhere so they are not available during certain peak times.

Mayor Lutz and Chief Brommer explained the need for a new police vehicle. Mayor Lutz noted that every time we put off the purchase of a vehicle to the following year, we end up buying two vehicles that year so he doesn't see the benefit of waiting.

Highway Department – Jake Graham stated that he does not see any manpower issues. He noted that the department is still one person short but that they are managing. He said he is hopeful that during 2013 his department will not be pulled away from their regular duties as much as in the past couple of years and they should be able to catch up.

There was discussion regarding the cost effects of having two buildings as opposed to one.

Codes/Zoning/Planning Departments – Jeff Helm, Manager of the Zoning, Planning and Codes Departments stated that there are no significant changes to his budget compared to the past several years. He does not foresee any capital items. He noted that his department will be purchasing new codes software which should increase efficiency and allow his employees to take on additional tasks. He noted that his budget reflects payroll for three part-time Code Officers but at this point he only has two.

Finance Department – Georgianna Schreck, Manager of Finance and Human Resources, stated that there are no significant changes in budget for her departments.

There was discussion regarding the need to purchase new finance software. Georgianna said that she has been budgeting for this expense over the past few years but there has been no requirement to purchase a new system so it has not been purchased as of yet to avoid spending the money. Some of the Council Members asked why the Borough would continue to use an outdated system when the money has been budgeted to purchase a new system.

There was conversation regarding the outdated phone system being used in all of the buildings.

There was conversation regarding the monies spent on stray animals and better, less expensive, ways to deal with this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Motion: M. Wickenheiser 2nd: M. Barninger Voice Vote: All Favored

MOTIONED AND APPROVED this 22nd day of October 2012, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Columbia, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

BOROUGH OF COLUMBIA, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

By: Michael L. Beury
Michael L. Beury, Council President

ATTEST: Norman B. Meiskey III
Norman B. Meiskey III, Borough Secretary