

COLUMBIA BOROUGH COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

March 12, 2019 | 7:00 PM

Minutes

1. Council President Murphy call the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Councilpersons present: Murphy, Novak, Williams, FitzGerald, Kress Hartmann, Berntheizel, Burgard. Mayor Lutz was also present.

Junior Councilpersons present: Misciagna. Cover, Black, and Simpson were absent.

2. Moment of Silence offered by Council President Murphy

3. Mayor Lutz lead the Pledge to the Flag

4. Council President Murphy announced that on March 12, 2019 at 6:00 PM Borough Council held an information session to receive information only items from its Borough Manager and Solicitor.

5. Presentation: Haunted Lantern Tours: Rebecca Wright and Sara Mimmall spoke to the Council about their organization and their desire to host tours in downtown Columbia utilizing several Borough owned facilities including the Borough Hall, The Market House, Borough Parking Lot, and the Trolley. The tour is a “walking tour”. The focused location is the Dungeon located under the Market House. The group would need to secure use of facilities for event and rehearsal. The group is flexible and willing to work with the Borough to accommodate location changes in case the Market House and or other facilities requested are not available. The group is prepared to provide liability insurance. The group will allow for a full-page advertisement, to use at the Borough discretion and free of charge, in the event program. Borough Manager stated that the next step is meeting with Borough staff and CHI staff to discuss specific details before it comes back to Borough Council for final approval.

6. Citizen Comments on Agenda Items Only are incorporated at the end of theses minutes

7. Minutes for Approval

- a. Motion to approve Borough Council Regular Meeting Minutes for February 26, 2019

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
C. Berntheizel	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

8. Mayor Lutz referenced a draft article written by and for Pennsylvania Environmental Council’s Towns and Trails Toolkit website. He returned edits back to them and will communicate when the article will be published on the organization’s website. The Mayor addressed the earlier publishing of Bench Warrants to individuals with outstanding tickets or other violations that merit such action. Chief Brommer and the Mayor clarified what a bench warrant is, and that the Borough is rightfully owed money and needs to collect it. Lastly, the Mayor addressed WGAL’s recent segment on the Borough’s Drone. The Mayor and Chief Brommer both stated that the Drone will only be used in emergency/hazmat situations.

9. Finance

- a. Motion to approve January 2019 Finance Reports

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
J. Novak	C. Berntheizel	All Favored – Motion Carried

- b. Motion to consider projects for application to the Lancaster County Housing & Redevelopment Authority through the FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
C. Berntheizel	P. Williams	All Favored – Motion Carried

10. Legislation

- a. Motion to consider to draft and advertise Ordinance amending Chapter 5 (Administration of Government) of the Code of the Borough of Columbia

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
J. Novak	P. Williams	All Favored – Motion Carried

11. Personnel

- a. Motion to consider Change to Code Compliance Property Inspector, Dale Dommel, Hourly Wage

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
M. Kress Hartman	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

12. Public Works & Property

- a. Motion to consider Professional Services Agreement with CHI St. Joseph for the management of the Columbia Market House.

Motion by:	Second by:	Roll Call Vote:
F. FitzGerald	P. Williams	Burgard Yes Novak- Yes Williams- Yes FitzGerald – Yes Kress Hartman – Yes Berntheizel – Yes Murphy – Yes 7 “Yes” 0 “No” – Motion Carried

- b. Motion to consider 2019 Asphalt Bid/Award

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
F. FitzGerald	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

- c. Chair FitzGerald accepted Public Works Report – February 2019

Council Person FitzGerald reported that Street Sweeper can start as early as mid-March and that yard waste pickup will resume April 8, 2019.

- d. Motion to approve Items from the Waste Water Treatment Plant to be Surplused

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
F. FitzGerald	C. Berntheizel	All Favored – Motion Carried

13. Public Safety

- a. Chair Burgard accepted Public Safety Reports including Columbia Borough Fire Department; School Resource Officer; CQRS/EMS Statistical Report; SVEMS
- b. Chair Burgard accepted Codes Compliance Report – February 2019
- c. Chair Burgard accepted Board of Health / Zoning and Planning / EMOC Reports

14. Community Development

- a. Motion to consider Social Media Policy: Administration of Columbia Borough Facebook Page

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
C. Berntheizel	J. Novak	All Favored – Motion Carried

15. Reports, Comments, and Announcements

- a. Solicitor – No report
- b. Secretary/Treasurer- Borough Manager Denlinger read from the Public Press Release issued by Susquehanna Heritage in reference to President Trump signing S.47, The John D. Dingell, Jr Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, a major national conservation bill that includes designation of Lancaster and York Counties as the Susquehanna Heritage Area.
- c. Boards and Commissions- No reports
- d. Council Members- Mayor Lutz requested that Jr. Councilperson Misciagna start receiving hard copies of the Borough Council Packets.
- e. Citizen Comments (Non-Agenda Items Only)
- f. Announcement of Next Meeting. At 6:00 PM on March 26, 2019 Council will hold an information session to receive information from its Borough Manager and Solicitor.

16. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 PM

Motion by:	Second by:	Voice Vote:
J. Novak	P. Williams	All Favored – Motion Carried

MOTIONED AND APPROVED this 26th day of March 2019, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Columbia, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

BOROUGH OF COLUMBIA, LANCASTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

By:



Kelly Murphy, Council President

ATTEST:



Rebecca S. Denlinger, Secretary/Treasurer

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AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Heather Zink – 31 South Ninth Street, Columbia PA

Questioned why Solicitor on Agenda but not present at the meeting and hasn't been in the past. She voiced concern that residents need access to solicitor to stay informed on legal issues in the Borough. Borough Manager Denlinger answered. Asked what current status of legal action against the Borough. Borough Manager Denlinger responded.

Frank Doutrich – 1001 Ironville Pike, Columbia PA

Mr. Doutrich passed out an updated letter, that was posted to social media, for Council reference. Mr. Doutrich asked if Haunted Lantern Tour is new to Columbia; if the tour is in other cities; and where the organizers of the tour are from. Councilperson Berntheizel answered.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Sharon Lintner – 500 Chestnut Street, Columbia PA

Inquired about the Borough drone and the expected use of the drone in the Borough. The Mayor and Chief Brommer and Council President Murphy responded. Sharon asked why Councilperson Burgard voted on Agenda Item 12.a. when she recalls the solicitor stating that Councilperson Burgard should recuse himself from voting on this specific subject. Councilpersons Burgard and Council President Murphy responded. Lastly, Sharon asked about the status/situation with 717 Social Club. Chief Brommer responded.

Heather Zink – 31 South Ninth Street, Columbia PA

Recalled at the February Borough Council Work Session that Columbia Life Network requested financial support from the Borough, and she spoke in favor of the request. She is disappointed that the building that houses the CLN offices was sold. She feels "bamboozled" She asked Borough Council for their opinion on the situation. Councilpersons Berntheizel and Williams and Mayor Lutz responded.

Frank Doutrich – 1001 Ironville Pike, Street, Columbia PA

Mr. Doutrich asked for clarification on the meaning of bench warrant and how it is different than other kinds of warrants. Chief Brommer responded. Mr. Doutrich thanked Chief Brommer for being present at the meeting and commented that he would like to see the Chief, Solicitor and Accountant at all the meetings. Asked if Solicitor attends the Executive Sessions. Council President Murphy answered. Asked for info on the 717 Social Club. He saw the incident was reported on Social Media. Council President Murphy answered. Asked about a Code employee's health status. Borough Manager Denlinger and Council President Murphy responded. Commended the stone masonry business that opened on Front Street. Asked if Columbia Life Network is a referral service. Councilperson Williams responded. Asked where in Borough Code does it state that Borough can contribute financially to a 501c3 nonprofit/referral service? Councilperson Williams responded. Councilperson Novak stated that Borough Manager Denlinger will research and communicate back to Council. Mayor Lutz asked Mr. Doutrich, if the handout he gave to Borough Council is just a handout or if a response is expected. Franks stated that Borough Council can decide to respond or not respond and both scenarios are

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acceptable. Councilperson Novak stated that he defines the handout as an open letter, posted on Social Media, and does not warrant a response.

Gerald Hawn, 501 Walnut Street, Columbia PA

Inquired about the speed monitor on 5th Street and if it will be placed on the other side of the street too. Chief Brommer responded. Mr. Hawn offered his parking lot a possible location for the device. Mr. Hawn thanked Chief Brommer for resolving a parking issue that was occurring in front of his property. Mr. Hawn inquired about the punch list for the 500 & 600 blocks of Walnut Streets. His primary concern is that his concrete is not on the list. Mr. Hawn offered his assistance in identifying issues. He reported that two water shut off valves are covered with dirt and homeowners do not know where valves are located. He is concerned with the sloping of the funeral home's driveway. Cars hit when entering and exiting. The church lot across the street is sloped properly. Councilperson FitzGerald responded. Mr. Hawn asked what are residents to do with the grass strips? Councilperson Berntheizel, Council President Murphy and Mayor Lutz responded. Borough Manager Denlinger will work with Engineer to communicate directly with residents. Council President Murphy encouraged Mr. Hawn to communicate with Councilperson FitzGerald and Borough Manager Denlinger directly. Mr. Hawn is trying to contact Mr. Helm about 119 North Fifth Street. Borough Manager Denlinger stated she will investigate matter. Lastly, Mr. Hawn emphasized the need for the inspector to be able to shut projects down immediately when concerns arise.