

COLUMBIA BOROUGH COUNCIL – WORK SESSION

July 2, 2019 | 6:00 PM

Paul W. Myers Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. Council President Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Councilpersons present: Berntheisel, Burgard, Fitzgerald, Murphy and Novak. Mayor Lutz was also present. Kress-Hartman & Williams were absent

Junior Councilperson present: None.

Council President Murphy requested phones be turned off or silenced, reviewed proper meeting protocol and announced the meeting is being live streamed to the Borough's social media page.

2. After observing a moment of silence, all were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Columbia Borough Police Chief Jack Brommer.
3. Announcements regarding Executive and Information Session(s)

- a. On June 27, 2019 5:30 PM Borough Council held an executive session to discuss matters involving personnel and litigation.
- b. On July 2, 2019 at 5:30 PM Borough Council held an executive session with legal counsel to obtain legal advice.

Chris Courogen, Lancaster Newspapers, requested additional details on the specific subject matter of the executive sessions announced. President Murphy responded that the legal matters discussed involved the Revolving Loan Fund. He declined to discuss the specific personnel matter discussed.

4. Finance

- a. Council President Murphy introduced the discussion on Ordinance 913-2019 regarding repeal of Ordinance 897-2018 (Revolving Loan Fund). Resident Frank Doutrich (1001 Ironville Pike) asked for status of the one loan issued from the Revolving Loan Fund. Council President Murphy and Borough Manager Denlinger responded. President Murphy requested this discussion item be added to the July 9, 2019 Council Meeting agenda.
 - b. Council President Murphy introduced the discussion on Ordinance 914-2019 regarding the 2016 General Obligation Bond. Donna Kreiser, Bond Counsel, gave a legal overview of the proposed changes to the 2016 General Obligation Bond that are being considered through Ordinance 914-2019. Mrs. Kreiser stated that under the Local Government Unit Debt Act, the Borough has the ability to amend the original ordinance that authorized the bond debt. The ordinance that Borough Council will be considering amends the project description that was included in the original ordinance to authorize additional capital projects. The proposed ordinance includes an exhibit which lists the proposed projects that the borough may use bond proceeds to finance. The ordinance will be properly advertised twice, and the proof of publication will be submitted to DCED, as required.
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Borough Manager Denlinger offered that she and Public Works Manager Jake Graham would provide immediate information on any projects listed and that the Borough Engineer is scheduled to provide a detailed review of infrastructure projects at the July 9, 2019 Regular Borough Council meeting.

Resident Frank Doutrich (1001 Ironville Pike) asked how much additional debt the Borough was proposing to add to the original \$10 Million bond. Bond Counsel Kreiser responded that the Borough is not issuing new or additional debt, Council is modifying the list of projects that the existing bond proceeds can be used to finance.

Mayor Lutz commented that the expanded list of projects would enable the Borough to better prioritize which capital projects could take advantage of the bond proceeds. Resident Frank Doutrich (1001 Ironville Pike) asked how much is remaining of the bond proceeds. Council President Murphy responded. President Murphy requested this discussion item be added to the July 9, 2019 Council Meeting agenda.

- c. President Murphy led a discussion of proposed changes to the Highway Capital Improvement Fund, known as Fund 19, that was initiated in 2014 through Resolution 2014-15. The Fund currently has \$234,728.48. Given the manner in which Borough Council has been planning for and carrying out road improvement projects, including the use of the Borough's Liquid Fuels Fund, President Murphy indicated that there is no longer a need to have this separate Fund in place.

President Murphy requested Borough Manager Denlinger to consult with the Borough Solicitor to understand the necessary steps that will allow Borough Council to dissolve the Fund 19 Highway Capital Improvement Fund and move the funds back to the General Fund. Councilperson Novak commented that since the original fund was created by Resolution, it should be dissolved via resolution. Further Councilperson Novak commented that the resolution will need to address the specific language of the 2014 resolution that allocates 10 years of funds from the cell tower on Blunston Street and SRMC General Fund revenues to Fund 19.

Resident Heather Zink (31 S 9th Street) brought a clerical error to Borough Councils attention.

- d. President Murphy announced that a discussion regarding a review of invoicing procedures will be tabled to a future meeting to allow for Finance Manager Kyle Watts to be in attendance.

5. Legislation

Councilperson Novak introduced discussion on the intent of Borough Council to review and consider appropriate legislative changes to several elements of the Columbia Borough Code

- a. Columbia Borough Code Chapter 220 Zoning; Article III Chapter 220-28.1 Airport District Overlay. Councilperson Novak commented that the Borough no longer has an airport. The former McGinness parcels were used as, and regulated by the FAA, as an airport. He recommended that the matter be referred to the Columbia Borough Planning Commission for review and consideration of amendment to that chapter of the Borough's Code.

- b. Columbia Borough Code Chapter 24 Fire Department. Councilperson Novak commented that the Borough now having only a single Fire Department, there remain references within the Borough Code of multiple "Fire Departments." He recommended that the Public Safety Leader on Borough Council, Councilperson Burgard, should review this with Borough Staff and bring back to Borough Council recommendations for corrections, amendments, or changes, as appropriate.
- c. Columbia Borough Code Chapter 27 Fire Inspector. Councilperson Novak commented that similar to Chapter 24, the Public Safety Leader on Borough Council, Councilperson Burgard, should review this with Borough Staff and bring back to Borough Council recommendations for corrections, amendments, or changes, as appropriate.
- d. Columbia Borough Code Chapter 31 Fire Police. Councilperson Novak commented that it was his understanding that the Fire Police operated as an independent organization at one time; however, now they operate as part of the Columbia Borough Fire Department. He recommended that the Public Safety Leader on Borough Council, Councilperson Burgard, should review this with Borough Staff and bring back to Borough Council recommendations for corrections, amendments, or changes, as appropriate.

Mark Fritz, President of Columbia Borough Fire Department voiced his support on the process to review the fire related elements of the Borough Code and recommended including Columbia Borough Fire Chief Doug Kemmerly in all discussions. He also shared that Fire Police Captain, Mike Rhodes, was in the hospital. He asked for everyone to keep Captain Rhodes in our thoughts and prayers.

6. Announcements

Mayor Lutz requested Chief Brommer provide an update on Officer Castellanos. Chief Brommer commented that Officer Castellanos remains in the hospital but is recuperating and that all are encouraged by his progress to date.

Mayor Lutz discussed a recent meeting at the Columbia Public Library where he was a guest speaker sharing updates on community initiatives.

Mark Fritz, President of Columbia Borough Fire Department gave an update on the status of two new pieces of equipment the Fire Department purchased, the training underway for personnel operating those new pieces, and the equipment currently for sale through a broker.

Resident Sharon Lintner (500 Chestnut Street) raised a question about the current loan borrowed from the Borough's Revolving Loan Fund. Council President Murphy responded.

Councilperson Novak noted items from a list he provided for discussion at Borough Council meetings. Borough Manager Denlinger responded.

Council President Murphy announced on July 9, 2019, at 6:00 PM, Council will hold an information session to receive information from its Borough Manager and Solicitor prior to the regularly scheduled Borough Council Meeting at 7:00 PM that evening.

Resident Frank Doutrich (1001 Ironville Pike) questioned the list of projects included in the proposed Ordinance 914-2019. Borough Manager Denlinger responded.

7. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 06:42 PM.

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

MOTIONED AND APPROVED this 9th day of July 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