

BOROUGH OF WEST READING – BOROUGH COUNCIL

MARCH 20, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.

West Reading Borough Council held its regular monthly meeting at Borough Hall on the above date. Council President Stephanie J. Murray called the meeting to order with the following persons present: Council Members Kevin M. Conrad, Michael H. Doyle, Michael P. Ferencick, Amy Good-Ashman, Nathalie R. Kulesa, and Michael W. Morrill; Mayor Shane J. Keller, Borough Manager George I. Tindall, Solicitor Socrates J. Georgeadis, Police Chief Edward C. Fabriziani, Fire Chief Mark D. Burkholder, Code Compliance Officer Gerald A. Trate, Borough Foreman Jim A. Beane, and Administrative Assistant Rosalie A. Loeper.

VISITORS: Rev. Shaun Myers – St. James Church
Tim Rowley & Mrs. Rowley – Cumru Twp. Commissioner on behalf of
Rep. Caltagirone
Randall Miller – Secretary PSAB/BCAB
Jay Kupiszewski – 228 South Third Avenue
Douglas Geiger- 546 Penn Avenue
Elizabeth Heckler – 460 Chestnut St
Sam Loth – Main Street Executive Director
Sheila Scott – 322 Chestnut St
Kelly Lonaberger – 133 Franklin St
Becca Keller – 395 Oak Terrace
Karen Livingood – 211 Sycamore Rd
Philip Wert – 214 Olive Street
Ben Grande – GNA-421 Penn Ave
Chris Reinert – 158 Penn Ave

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION: Pastor Shaun Myers gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Kim Manning – There was a moment of silence in memory of Kim Manning, a Recreation Board member and summer employee who recently passed.

PRESENTATIONS

House of Representatives – Commonwealth of Pennsylvania – Mr. Tim Romley presented a Citation from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, House of Representatives, which was sponsored by the Honorable Thomas R. Caltagirone and Dennis M. O'Brien, Speaker of the House. The Citation is in honor of the Borough's 100th Anniversary.

100th Anniversary – Certificate of Recognition – Randy Miller, a representative of Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, presented the Borough with a Certificate of Recognition on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary as a Borough in the County of Berks.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jay Kupiszewski – 228 South Third Avenue – Mr. Kupiszewski stated he was glad the Anniversary Committee postponed the parade.

COUNCIL MINUTES: On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael P. Ferrenchick, Council approved the minutes of the Special Council/Budget Meeting of November 9, 2006 and the regular Council minutes of February 20, 2007. There is one correction on the November 9 minutes; it is to change Auto Clad to Auto Cad.

BOROUGH MANAGER’S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council accepted the Borough Manager’s Report. The following items were discussed:

Douglass Geiger – Double Click Computers – 546 Penn Avenue – Mr. Geiger spoke about his Water Bill of \$1,982.25 for 26,436 Cu. Ft. of water. Mr. Tindall noted that the apartment upstairs had a mal-functioning toilet. Mr. Conrad, Mr. Tindall, and Mr. Beane will investigate further.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Council President Stephanie J. Murray recessed the meeting at 7:21 p.m. for an executive session to discuss Personnel matters. The meeting reconvened at 7:52 p.m.

CDBG \$50,000 Grant – Handicapped ADA Sidewalk Ramps – Mr. Tindall briefly discussed the handicapped ramps to be installed in 2008.

BENECON REBATE – Mr. Tindall announced that the Borough received a rebate of \$27,000 from the Borough’s health-care provider, Benecon.

Plumbing Inspector – Appoint Great Valley Consultants as Plumbing Inspector. On motion duly made by Council Member Amy Good-Ashman, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa and passed, Council appointed Great Valley Consultants as Borough Plumbing inspector.

Telephone System – In 2006, Council approved expenditure of approximately \$3,000 to upgrade the telephone system. These funds were not used. The system separates calls automatically to Administration, Codes, and Police. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, and passed, Council approved the installation of additional telephone features for \$1,030 from Berks Western Telecom, Inc.

Reading Hospital Conditional Use – The Public Hearing for The Reading Hospital & Medical Center is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27.

Training – Mr. Tindall stated there should be a backup in the Codes Department for building inspections. Gerry Trate is taking the Residential class and test. Mr. Tindall requested permission to attend classes at Kutztown University for 16 days, spread out over two months starting in May. This would be for commercial building inspections, but this would also cover residential inspections. The budget did not plan for Mr. Ganster to resign and the money budgeted for training is not sufficient. The cost of the course and books is \$2,933.00. Mr. Tindall requested permission to take this course on Borough time, but he will pay for the tuition and books. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick, seconded by Council Member Amy Good-Ashman and passed, Council permission to attend these classes.

ASSISTANT CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – Mr. Ferencick discussed this situation and stated that it is necessary to re-advertise the position. The job should be advertised for \$34,000, due to the need of having a more experienced person. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, and passed, Council approved the re-advertisement of the Assistant Code Enforcement Officer position.

Use of Borough Bucket Truck – Amity Township Borough Manager Charles E. Lyon would like to borrow the Borough's bucket truck for approximately one to two weeks. Amity would provide a certificate of insurance naming West Reading as an additional insured as well as providing any other assurances or indemnifications required by us. On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick, and passed, Council approved the loan of the bucket truck. The Solicitor will draw up a short agreement.

Stripping and Painting Pool House, Restrooms, and Change Rooms – The Borough received three bids for stripping and painting pool house, restrooms, and change rooms. H.Y. Painting, Criterion Flooring Systems, LLC, and Hannahoe Painting. Council discussed the difference between H. Y. Painting (\$3,930) and Criterion Flooring Systems, LLC (\$4,500). For the difference in price, Criterion provides a lot more services. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council awarded the bid for stripping and painting the pool house, restrooms, and change room to Criterion Flooring Systems, LLC for a cost not to exceed \$4,500.

Borough Manager's Computer – Mr. Tindall asked for permission to purchase a new computer for \$1,200, since his is dying. Council Members asked for more quotations.

8. ENGINEER'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council accepted the Engineer's Report. Members briefly discussed the upcoming conditional use hearing for the Hospital.
9. SOLICITOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council accepted the Solicitor's Report. The following items were discussed:

Ordinance No. 950 – This ordinance amends and restates the West Side Regional Emergency Management Agency Agreement by and between the Borough of West Reading, the Borough of Sinking Spring, Borough of Wyomissing, and the Township of Spring. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, and passed, Council adopted Ordinance No. 950, which amends the West Side Regional Emergency Management Agency Agreement.

Political Sign Ordinance - Solicitor Socrates J. Georgeadis apologized for not having this ordinance advertised for today's Council meeting. He will have it ready for the April Council meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION – On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council accepted the February 7 & March 7, 2007 Planning Commission minutes. The following item was discussed:

Penn View Site – Council briefly discussed the site from the developer's point of view, a possible site for a school, or for a Trader Joe's.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE – On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, and passed, Council accepted the February 21, 2007 Traffic Committee minutes.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE – Council Member Kevin M. Conrad stated the Infrastructure Committee did not meet. However, he stated that Great Valley Consultants is preparing the specifications for the sanitary sewer project for this year. The Borough shall receive another \$62,000 that can be used for the project from the Joint Municipal Authority of Wyomissing Valley.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Chairperson Michael P. Ferenchick stated that on March 8, four members of Council met with the Personnel Committee. No decisions were made at that time. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council accepted the January 25 and February 20, 2007 Personnel Committee minutes. The following item was discussed:

Chad Moyer – As per the January 2007 union contract, Mr. Ferenchick made a motion, seconded by Michael W. Morrill, and passed, to hire Chad Moyer, at the rate stated in the union contract. Mr. Moyer's start date will begin after he passes all requirements and the Borough receives his acceptance letter.

RECREATION COMMISSION – On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council accepted the March 6, 2007 Recreation Commission minutes. The following item was discussed:

Recreation Staff Positions 2007 – Chairperson Nathalie R. Kulesa presented a list of names of people to be hired as FT lifeguard, PT lifeguards, PT Concession, and PT Desk. Mrs. Kulesa asked that some of the people listed be approved contingent on successful interviews on Wednesday, March 21, 2007. No name for pool manager was listed. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council hired the following people pending successful interviews:

Recreation Staff Positions 2007

POSITION	NAME	FT/PT	RETURNING EMPLOYEE	SALARY
Pool Mgr.				
Asst. Pool Mgr	Kim Jones	PT	yes	9
Head Swim Coach	Kim Jones	PT	yes	8.5
Asst. Swim Coach	Kerilyn Patti	PT	yes	8
Lifeguard	Kerilyn Patti	PT	yes	7.4
WSI	Maria McDevitt	PT	yes	8
Lifeguard	Maria McDevitt	FT	yes	7.4
Head Lifeguard	Cally McCurdy	FT	yes	8
Lifeguard	Casey McCurdy	FT	yes	7.4
Lifeguard	Jason LaFata	FT	yes	7.4
Lifeguard	Bethany Murray	FT	no	7.15
Lifeguard	Brian Berger	FT	no	7.15
Lifeguard	Ryan Yusella	FT	no	7.15
Lifeguard	Matt Lioni	FT	yes	7.4
Lifeguard	Patrick Cesarz	FT	yes	7.4
Lifeguard	Katie Ness	FT	yes	7.4
Lifeguard	Danielle Belfanti	FT	yes	7.4
Playground Leader	Danielle Belfanti	PT	yes	7.4
Lifeguard	Matt Banta	FT	yes	7.4
Playground Leader	Matt Banta	PT sub	yes	7.4
Playground Leader	Tyler Ness	PT	no	7.15
Playground Leader	Alex Killinger	PT	no	7.15
Playground Mgr.	Stacy Moyer	PT	yes	9

Front Desk	Stacy Moyer	FT	yes	9
Front Desk	Brian Berger	PT	no	7.15
Concession Co- Mgr.	Marcy Wilkes	FT	yes	8.75
Concession Co- Mgr.	Selene Schwartz	PT	yes	8.75
Concession	Tyler Ness	PT	no	7.15

Needs: (1) FT Lifeguard, (4) PT Lifeguards, (2) PT Concession, (2) PT Desk, (1) Pool Mgr.

Please approve contingent on successful interviews Wednesday, March 21, 2007

SAFETY COMMITTEE – On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, and passed, Council accepted the March 2, 2007 Safety Committee minutes.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: No written report is available this month. The following items were discussed:

Proposed Ordinance – Police Jurisdiction and Mutual Aid – Following discussion, on motion duly made by Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council approved the advertisement of this ordinance for April Council meeting.

Officer Ronald Ladd – Chief Edward Fabriziani advised that Officer Ladd is in the States; however, the Chief does not have the status of his demobilization time or anticipated back to work date.

Two Officers – Baltimore, Maryland – Two Borough police officers recently attended classes for Gang Awareness and Graffiti for a week in Maryland. All expenses for their attendance will be reimbursed.

M & S Lighting Bill – Chief Fabriziani stated this bill is a Fire Department bill and not a Police Department bill. He will discuss this matter with the treasurer to have the dollars transferred to the Fire Department.

MAYOR'S REPORT/CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council accepted the Mayor's Report. The following items were discussed:

100th Anniversary Parade – Due to inclement weather, the parade is postponed to March 31, with an anticipated 98% return rate. Some groups who could not make March 17 are now able to attend on March 31.

Centennial Service – A beautiful Ecumenical Centennial Service was held on Sunday, March 18, 2007 at Sacred Heart Church. Monsignor DeSantis did a great

job and invited all the pastors of the Borough. However, only Pastor Myers from St. James Church was able to attend.

Wyomissing Area School Board - Mayor Shane J. Keller has been working diligently with the School Board to keep the presence of a school building in the Borough. Mr. Morrill advised that Wyomissing Superintendent Dr. Larson recently called him to continue dialogue. The Mayor, Mr. Doyle, and Mr. Morrill will actively continue fighting for a West Reading facility.

ICGA Corridor – Mayor Keller and Council Members Mr. Doyle and Mr. Conrad met with Gerry Johnson, who will ask respective municipalities to appoint members to a Steering Committee.

BOROUGH FOREMAN'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Amy Good-Ashman, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council accepted the Borough Foreman's Report.

Generators – Foreman Jim Beane reported on the Kohler Generator at Borough Hall and the Cummins Generator at the Public Works Building. Each generator has a defective part. Parts have been ordered and should arrive shortly.

Pool Paint – Mr. Beane requested permission to order 70 gallons of Ocean Blue Insl-X semi-gloss waterborne pool paint and 5 gallons of Black Insl-X waterborne pool paint for \$2,635.00. On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Amy Good-Ashman, and passed, Council approved the purchase of paint as outlined above.

MAIN STREET EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council accepted the Main Street Executive Director's Report.

First Annual RiverPlace Cherry Blossom Festival – Mr. Loth announced the First Annual RiverPlace Cherry Blossom Festival will take place between April 8 and April 22, 2007. Penn Avenue businesses may participate in the "Ginza Shopping Arcade".

Berks Blog – West Reading Main Street, Berks Economic Partnership, The Berks County Community Foundation, Greater Reading Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the five universities that exist in the Greater Reading area are creating a "Berks Blog". More information should be available next month.

ELM STREET REPORT – Ms. Amy Good-Ashman requested that the Elm Street Report be added to the Council agenda. As a member of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee, Ms. Good-Ashman would like to have their ideas expressed before Council.

CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, and passed, Council accepted the Code Compliance Officer's Report. Mr. Trate and Chief Fabriziani discussed their visit to the Homeless Camp near the Penn Avenue Bridge.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, and passed, Council accepted the Fire Chief's Report. The following items were discussed:

6 Portable Radios – Chief Mark Burkholder budgeted \$5,000 for 6 Motorola portable radios. Due to a change in their six-gang bank charger, the cost to purchase these radios is \$5,402.49. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, and passed, Council approved the purchase of six portable radios from Radio Maintenance, Inc. for \$5,402.49. \$5,000 from Capital and \$402.49 from Communications budget.

Inner Circle - 416 Reading Avenue – Solicitor Georgeadis issued a statement with regard to this property. Council Members requested the solicitor to send an enforcement notice effective May 1, 2007.

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES WITH COMPARISON TO BUDGET – Period Ending February 28, 2007 – On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Amy Good-Ashman, and passed, Council approved this improved report.

Payment Approval Reports (4 of them) – On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, and passed, Council approved the four reports for payment of bills.

ADJOURNMENT – On motion duly made by Council Member Amy Good-Ashman, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, and passed, Council President adjourned the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Loeper
Recording Secretary

Approved by George I. Tindall
Borough Manager/Secretary