

BOROUGH OF WEST READING – BOROUGH COUNCIL

MARCH 21, 2006 – 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. Ferenchick, Shane J. Keller, Nathalie R. Kulesa, and Michael W. Morrill; Mayor Kevin S. Barnhardt, Borough Manager George I. Tindall, Solicitor Socrates J. Georgeadis, Fire Chief Mark D. Burkholder, Code Compliance Officer Jason S. Ganster, Borough Foreman James A. Beane, and Administrative Assistant Rosalie A. Loeper.

VISITORS: Ruth Cardell - 728 Reading Ave
Darrin Youker - Reading Eagle
Rita Ditsky
Marsha Adelman
Carl and Dee Gangemi - 140 Tulpehocken Ave
Kelly Lonaberger - 133 Franklin St
Stan and Fay Goerner - 114 Tulpehocken Ave
Sylvia Hatt - 712 Reading Ave
Sheila Scott - 323 Chestnut St
Elizabeth Heckler - 460 Chestnut St
Gary Parsons and Donna Hope - 141 Tulpehocken Ave
Chris Reinert - 158 Penn Ave
Alberto Colon - 425 Sunset Rd
Tony Tomczak - 323 Summit St
Terry Siggins - 400 Ann St
Robert Cardinal - 403 Ann St
Linda Fisher - 146 Tulpehocken Ave
John L. Lehman - 146-148 Tulpehocken Ave
Philip Wert - 214 Olive St
James T. Rogers - 414 Reading Ave
Jim and Karen Livingood - 211 Sycamore Rd
Becca Keller - 395 Oak Terrace
State Representative Thomas R. Caltagirone - Reading, PA
Sam Loth - Main Street Executive Director
Jay Kupiszewski - 228 South Third Ave
Father Chris Mugasha - Sacred Heart Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION: Pastor Mugasha gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Stan Goerner - 114 Tulpehocken Ave - Mr. Goerner inquired about the status of the crematorium. Solicitor Socrates J. Georgeadis stated that the original

application was denied. A new permit application was filed last Thursday or Friday, which is being reviewed by the Zoning Officer. The Borough has up to 60 days to review the application.

Robert Cardinal - 403 Ann St - Mr. Cardinal inquired as to why the applicant is entitled to a second application if the first one has been denied. A person can file as many zoning applications as he wishes and can be denied as many times as appropriate. A question was asked about what Council is going to do about the poisons that are going to be emitted in the air.

Council Member Michael W. Morrill replied that the Borough could pass the Air Pollution and Control Ordinance that is being introduced tonight. It will make sure that if a crematorium or a chemotherapeutic waste or body parts by any institution comes into West Reading, the Borough would be able to monitor it. Baseline standards would be established and if exceeded, severe penalties applied. Mr. Morrill thanked the many people who signed the petition both online and face-to-face and all those attending the meeting.

Mr. Cardinal asked how they can build when they have not received an occupancy permit. Solicitor Georgeadis replied that they are building at their own risk.

Linda Fisher - 146 Tulpehocken Ave - Ms. Fisher questioned the insufficient parking spaces for a funeral home/crematorium. Mr. Ganster is reviewing the parking issue.

Carl Gangemi - 140 Tulpehocken Ave - Mr. Gangemi stated that Borough residents should not have to put up with any toxins in the air, since we don't have any now. Council President Stephanie J. Murray replied that the Borough currently receives toxins from the crematorium located at Auman's Funeral Home in Reading and informed everyone that a bar of Dove Soap contains mercury. Solicitor Socrates J. Georgeadis stated that Pennsylvania Legislature passed a PA Clean Air Act, that is the law of the land. This Act authorizes local government to monitor and regulate air quality. The Act does not allow local government to say you cannot have any emissions. Mr. Gangemi also inquired about parking. Mr. Georgeadis replied that they have to provide parking within 250 feet.

John Lehman - 146 & 148 Tulpehocken Ave - Mr. Lehman asked if the 250 feet includes Tulpehocken Avenue. Mr. Georgeadis replied it does not, since they cannot park on a public street.

Gary Parsons - 141 Tulpehocken Ave - Mr. Parsons asked who would do the monitoring. Mr. Georgeadis replied that the Borough would hire an engineer or a scientist. PA law allows municipalities to impose stricter regulations than the State.

Dee Gangemi - 140 Tulpehocken Ave - Mrs. Gangemi expressed her frustration with the lack of information and/or insufficient information received regarding several situations, such as, Narrow Fabric property, Esterly Cement property, a bakery, and now the crematorium. Mrs. Gangemi questioned the receipt of another application. Mr. Georgeadis again explained that the applicant chose not to appeal the first decision, but to re-apply with more detailed information for a funeral home, crematorium, and flower shop facility. Mr. Ganster will again make a decision based on the new application. Should Mr. Ganster approve the application, any property owner can file an appeal. At this point, the situation goes to the Zoning Hearing Board. If Mr. Ganster rejects the application, the applicant has a right to file an appeal through the Zoning Hearing Board, or to submit a different application. Council Member Michael W. Morrill stated that the Borough has to find legal ways to protect the environment and health of its citizens.

James Rogers - 314 Reading Ave - Mr. Rogers questioned the February 21, 2006 minutes and stated that his second point was not made and that Mr. Ewall's remarks were not mentioned. Mr. Rogers inquired about the parking lot at Obold and Chestnut Streets. Several years ago, the apartment dwelling was required to retain this lot for tenant parking. Now all of a sudden, the School District teachers are parking on it. Mr. Georgeadis explained that, there was a Zoning Hearing decision that did require this parking lot for tenant parking. However, it was not being used for this purpose. Residents in the neighborhood were using it instead. The School District, upon realizing this, decided that they would take this property by eminent domain, so its teachers could park their cars on the lot. Instead of doing this, Borough Council allowed the sale of the property to the School District.

Tony Tomczak - 323 Summit St - Mr. Tomczak asked about the status of the Inner Circle located at 416 Reading Avenue. Mr. Georgeadis stated that it is scheduled to be heard by the Zoning Hearing Board on April 10 and April 12.

Alberto Colon - 425 Sunset Rd - Mr. Colon asked how one becomes aware of the meetings that are held. Mr. Georgeadis replied that Borough Council meets regularly the third Tuesday of each month. The Planning Commission meets the first Wednesday of each month. The Borough's newsletter (Courier) also lists meetings and the meetings are also advertised in the local newspaper. Council Member Kevin M. Conrad stated a resident may call or e-mail him any time.

COUNCIL MINUTES: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa and passed, the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 21, 2006 were tabled until next month.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council

accepted the Engineer's Report. Council President Stephanie J. Murray introduced Darryl A. Jenkins, Great Valley Consultants, as the new Borough Engineer.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council accepted the Borough Manager's Report.

Roof and Siding Replacement - Pool House - Mr. Tindall advised this roof is in very bad shape. The Borough would like to add vinyl siding on dormers and replace siding on the A's. There is not enough time to prepare specifications, advertise, and complete the project before Memorial Day. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council authorized Great Valley Consultants to prepare drawings and specifications for bidding purposes not to exceed \$3,150. The work will be done after Labor Day.

Truck Donation - Mr. Tindall noted that this truck would serve the Borough well. It will allow Borough Employees to service the lights and change the banners along Penn Avenue in a safe and efficient manner. Borough employees will be able to trim and maintain the lower branches of our trees. The only stipulation is that the truck must be painted and startup costs would be approximately \$1,200. This item has not been budgeted. On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick and passed, Council accepted the donation of a 1997 General Motors 3500 van with a bucket lift from Mr. Richard Hivner of Telco, Inc.

Cleaning Services - Mr. Tindall received a proposal from Coveral Cleaning Concepts with a proposed work schedule in the amount of \$800/month to clean Borough Hall and the Fire Company. I gave this same proposed work schedule to Ms. Kimberly Bucolo and asked her to give me a price for these same services. She replied with a price of \$735/month. Ms. Bucolo has been on this job since the spring of 2005. Her work has been satisfactory, and the service would be the same only more defined. On motion duly made by Council Member Shane J. Keller, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa and passed, Council authorized the Borough Manager to sign a contract with Ms. Bucolo for cleaning services in the amount of \$735/month. This includes Borough Hall cleaning from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesday and Friday and the Firehouse as scheduled by Fire Chief.

USDA Wildlife Services - Mr. Tindall advised that this is the organization that chases the geese from our property, the Museum, Wyomissing, and the Scottish Rite Cathedral and now after talking to The Reading Hospital, they are included also. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed 5-2, with Mrs. Kulesa and Mr. Doyle voting no, Council authorized a maximum expenditure of \$1179 for this program and also authorized the Borough Manager to sign the agreement.

Sale of Vehicles - Mr. Tindall mentioned that the Borough has two vehicles for sale to the highest sealed bidder. A 1981 General Motors step van and a 2000 Dodge Durango. Mr. Tindall noted that there is another Borough and a Township that may have vehicles to sell and would like Council permission to approach them to conduct a group bid. Council tabled this matter until the Solicitor can check to see if a group bid can be done.

Ballast Controls - Mr. Tindall advised that new ballast controls have been received and will be installed within the next two weeks, weather permitting. These controls will be installed on the Penn Avenue lights.

Seasonal Employees - Mr. Tindall requested permission to authorize the advertisement for two seasonal employees for Public Works Department. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council authorized the advertisement for two seasonal employees for Public Works Department.

Hospital Parking Lot - Mr. Tindall met with The Reading Hospital & Medical Center personnel and asked if Borough employees could park on its lot located aside of Borough Hall. They have agreed to 15 parking spaces.

Resolution No. 2006-4 - This Resolution appoints a representative and/or an alternate to the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing Council. George I. Tindall is named the representative and James A. Beane is the alternate on the Berks County Cooperative Purchasing council for the purpose of meeting periodically with representatives of the Council, to discuss governmental procurement problems and other items. On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Shane J. Keller and passed, Council adopted Resolution No. 2006-4, as outlined.

West Reading Main Street Foundation and West Reading Main Street Authority - The following outstanding balances due to Reinsel Kuntz Leshar were reviewed.

	West Reading Main Street Foundation	West Reading Main Street Authority	Total
Total outstanding invoices	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 6,885.00	\$ 10,035.00
Accrued finance charges	<u>118.14</u>	<u>258.18</u>	<u>376.32</u>
Totals	\$ 3,268.14	\$ 7,143.18	\$ 10,411.32

Mayor Kevin S. Barnhardt advised that a credit of \$1,000.00 was issued toward the \$10,411.32; therefore, the amount to be paid to Reinsel Kuntz Leshar is \$9,411.32. These fees relate to audit and other additional professional services related to the year ended December 31, 2003. On motion duly made by Council

Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick and passed, Council approved the payment of \$9,411.32 to Reinsel Kuntz Leshner.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Shane J. Keller and passed, Council approved the Solicitor's Report.

Ordinance No. 932 - Borough Solicitor Socrates J. Georgeadis presented Ordinance No. 932, which establishes new bus stops and prohibits parking at these bus stops. The ordinance also repeals former bus stops. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council adopted Ordinance No. 932.

Air Quality Monitoring and Emission Standards Ordinance - Mr. Georgeadis presented the Air Quality Monitoring and Emission Standards Ordinance. Mr. Georgeadis reviewed this draft for legal content only and expressed no opinion as to any technical portions of the ordinance. Mr. Georgeadis strongly urged Borough Council to engage an air quality engineer or scientist to review this and advise the Borough on the ways and means of implementation and testing procedures. Council has two choices: (1) to authorize the advertisement of this ordinance for consideration at the April meeting and give it to our engineer to review. If there are insubstantial changes as a result of the engineer's review, Council could vote on this ordinance at the April meeting or (2) to not advertise the ordinance until the engineer has provided the Borough with his review. The cost to advertise is about \$75 to \$80. Council Member Michael H. Doyle requested to add the particulate emissions to the existing ordinance. Mr. Doyle will e-mail the Borough Solicitor with the particulate emissions to be added to it. Council Member Michael P. Ferencick moved to advertise the ordinance for consideration on or at the April meeting. The Solicitor advised that the ordinance must be date specific and stated that he will advertise it for the April meeting of Council. Council Member Michael W. Morrill advised that most of the environmental engineers work for the polluters and requested that the Borough hire someone who is fair and has a reputation for representing the people. At this point, Mr. Ferencick withdrew his motion.

Mr. Morrill requested that the ordinance be passed as is and then amend it as necessary. Mr. Conrad suggested two engineers. Council President Stephanie J. Murray formed a Committee consisting of Mr. Morrill, Mr. Doyle, and Mr. Tindall to look for an appropriate engineer and to work out the environmental factors pertaining to this issue. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council moved to advertise this ordinance for approval at the next meeting. Mr. Morrill presented information that shows appropriate technology exists to do what we want to do. The information names companies that produce the necessary monitors. The cost of monitoring air quality and emissions is borne by the company.

INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, seconded by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa and passed, Council accepted the Infrastructure Committee Report.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE: On motion duly made by Council Member Shane J. Keller, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council accepted the Traffic Committee Report.

PLANNING COMMISSION: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill and passed, Council accepted the Planning Commission Report.

RECREATION COMMISSION: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council accepted the Recreation Commission Report.

Bands for the 4th of July - Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa requested Council authorization to have three bands for the 4th of July celebration. The amount budgeted should cover the cost of the bands. Except for the John King Band, the others will play in the pool area. Following discussion, on motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council approved the three bands.

Ballfields - Council Members discussed the proposed charges for use of the ballfields. Following discussion, on motion duly made by Council Member Nathalie R. Kulesa, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council moved to charge \$10 for practice with no lining of the field and \$25 for games with lining the field only once on a Friday, even if there are games throughout the weekend.

Summer Personnel

West Reading Borough Employee List 2006
Bold - Returning Employees

NAME	POSITION(S)	2005 Pay Rate	2006 Proposed Pay Rate
Chad Moyer	<u>Pool Manager</u>	\$12.25	\$12.25
Justin Moyer	Asst. Pool Manager	\$9.00	\$9.25
	WSI	\$9.25	\$9.50
	Lifeguard	\$7.50	\$7.75
<u>Kim Jones</u>	FT Lifeguard	\$6.75	\$7.00
	Asst. Swim Coach	\$7.50	\$7.75
<u>Mary Roth</u>	Head Guard	\$7.25	\$7.50
<u>Danielle Belfanti</u>	FT Lifeguard	\$6.00	\$6.25
	Playground Leader	\$5.75	\$6.00
Maria McDevitt	FT Lifeguard	\$5.75	\$6.00

Ashley Skiles	FT Lifeguard	\$5.75	\$6.00
Patrick Cesarz	FT Lifeguard	\$6.00	\$6.25
<u>Kerilyn Patti</u>	<u>FT Lifeguard</u>	\$6.25	\$6.50
	Asst. Swim Coach (only if needed)	\$7.50	\$7.75
Jason LaFata	FT Lifeguard	N/A	\$5.75
Kyle Bredbenner	FT Lifeguard	\$5.75	\$6.00
	Playground Leader	\$5.75	\$6.00
Katie Ness	FT Lifeguard	\$5.75	\$6.00
	Substitute Playground Leader	\$5.75	\$6.00
Matt Banta	FT Lifeguard	N/A	\$5.75
Cally McCurdy	FT Lifeguard	\$6.25	\$6.50
Matt Lioni	FT Lifeguard	N/A	\$5.75
Casey McCurdy	PT Lifeguard	N/A	\$5.75
Marcy Wilkes	Concession Stand Co-Mgr	\$6.75	\$8.50
Jennifer Slahetka	Concession Stand Co-Mgr;	N/A	\$8.50
	Playground Co-Mgr.	N/A	\$8.50
<u>Maya Missoni</u>	<u>Front Desk worker/Concession stand</u>	\$6.00	\$6.25
	<u>Substitute Playground leader</u>	\$5.75	\$6.00
Amanda Mangiolardo	Front Desk worker/Concession stand	\$5.75	\$6.00
Stacy Moyer	Front Desk worker	\$8.25	\$8.50
	Playground co-Mgr.	\$8.25	\$8.50

On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council approved the above-listed hires.

Conditional Approval:

Sean P. Nutting	FT Lifeguard	\$5.75 /hour	new hire
Katelin K. Pufnock	FT Desk/Concession stand	\$5.75/hour	new hire
Gregory A. Snook	PT Desk/Concession stand	\$5.75/hour	new hire
Selene Schwartz	PT concession stand (adult)	\$7.00/hour	new hire
Vanessa Putt	PT Lifeguard	\$7.00/hour	re-hire
Audrey Colepreto	PT Concession (adult)	\$7.50/hour	re-hire

Borough Council discussed the hiring process for new employees as to how many people have to be present during the interview process. Following discussion, on motion duly made by Council Member Shane J. Keller, seconded by Council Member Michael P. Ferencick and passed, Council approved the hiring of the six individuals listed above conditional upon successful interviews with the Recreation staff and at least one member of Borough Council.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council accepted the Personnel Committee Report.

Open Administrative/Fiscal Clerk Position - Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick motioned to retroactively approve to place an ad in the newspaper for the position of Administrative/Fiscal Clerk. This ad resulted in the receipt of 30 resumes. Motion seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael W. Morrill and passed, Council accepted the Police Chief's Report. Mayor Kevin S. Barnhardt reported that the 2005 Police Department Annual Report is ready. Mayor Barnhardt invited Council Members to attend a forum on crime on April 6 at Muhlenberg High School.

MAYOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Shane J. Keller and passed, Council accepted the Mayor's Report.

Olivet Dance - Chief Fabriziani and Mayor Barnhardt met with representatives of the Olivet Boys and Girls Club about the incident that occurred at the recent dance. The meeting was very productive, and for future dances, the Club will call the Police Department in advance, and the dance will end at 9:30 p.m.

ICGR - Mayor Barnhardt and Mr. Loth attended the ICGR meeting on March 1. The next meeting is April 4. All are invited to come. There are seven areas of interest starting at Penns Commons in Reading to the furthestmost end of Wyomissing. The two districts that involve the Borough are the Chocolate Factory District and the Fifth and Penn Avenue District. The Mayor noted that this represents the area where people will walk 1500' to conduct their business. Research shows people will not walk any further, and there are no concrete plans at this time for these areas. Mayor Barnhardt discussed a fixed rail system (\$50,000,000 endeavor) to run the whole length of the project.

Crime and Codes in the County - Chief Fabriziani, Mr. Ganster, and the Mayor met with County personnel and police and codes personnel. Legislative and Technical Committees were established. The Legislative Committee wants to re-introduce some legislation that was not previously passed. The Committee meets every other Thursday.

Emergency Management Agency - Mayor Barnhardt stated that Police Chief Edward C. Fabriziani was ratified as the Borough's Director during its meeting at Spring Township.

Garden Club - Mayor Barnhardt thanked the Borough crew for tilling the soil in front of the pool area. They also re-arranged some of the plants that were re-arranged once before. The next meeting is April 13 and the club is looking for more members. Price quotes will be obtained for plastic mesh to put down on the north side of the 200 block of Penn Avenue in anticipation of our securing a grant

for \$115,000 to beautify the Avenue. The bulk of these funds would be spent for improvements along this bank.

Centennial Committee - The Centennial Committee met after the Garden Club Committee. Becky Keller came up with the perfect plan for the Centennial Planting for West Reading in 2007. Its next meeting is April 13 at 7 p.m.

FOREMAN'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Shane J. Keller and passed, Council accepted the Foreman's Report.

Purchases - Foreman Jim Beane requested the following items be purchased:

- a. Pool chemical pump, gallon per minute flow meter, and chemical pump parts for the 2006-pool season. Pyrz Water Supply quoted \$2,351.10 and Accent Control quoted \$2,503.40.
- b. 24 - 5/8 inch Invensus SRII water meters from L/B Water of Ephrata @ \$94 each for a total of \$2,256.00.
- c. 75 gallons of Insul-X Water Borne Pool Paint from ICI Paints of Reading @ \$37.95 a gallon for \$2,846.25. This is the only place that carries the product we need.

The total cost of these items is \$7,453.35. On motion duly made by Council Member Michael H. Doyle, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council approved the expenditure of \$7,453.35.

MAIN STREET EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council accepted the Main Street Executive Director's Report.

Farmers Market - Main Street Executive Director Sam Loth invited Borough Council Members, Police Department, Codes Department, Borough Crew, and Fire Department to meet with the Penn State Cooperative Extension representative, the Philadelphia Food Trust representative and County Commissioner Judith Schwank on April 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Hall. The group will discuss the upcoming Farmers Market, which will run Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful - Mr. Loth advised that on Tuesday, April 4, representatives from the Pennsylvania Beautiful People, Pennsylvania Downtown Center, for the Elm Street program will be here to discuss the beautification of the area around 120 South Third Avenue where Westside Weekly is located and the area that wraps around Kaley's Korner.

ICGR - Mr. Loth invited everyone to the next ICGR meeting to be held on April 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Sovereign Center for Performing Arts.

Elm Street Manager - An ad has been placed in the *Reading Eagle, Westside Weekly*, and the Pennsylvania Downtown Center Website for an Elm Street Manager. Carol Wells, John Woodward, and Lori Weidenhammer will interview the candidates.

CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council accepted the Code Compliance Officer's Report.

Inner Circle - Code Compliance Officer Jason S. Ganster informed Council that the Zoning Hearing Board is set to hear arguments for the Inner Circle, 416 Reading Avenue on April 10, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

223 Chestnut St - Mr. Ganster noted that the owners of 223 Chestnut Street must start over with a new application to go before the Zoning Hearing Board.

Exterior Property Violations - Mr. Ganster informed Council seven more blocks are left for the exterior property violations. Council Member Michael P. Ferenchick stated he is opposed to making homeowners replace sidewalks and curves where a tree is pushing them up. Council President Stephanie J. Murray asked Mr. Ganster and Mr. Ferenchick to go to the next Shade Tree Commission meeting on Thursday, May 18 at 4:00 p.m.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad and passed, Council accepted the Fire Chief's Report.

FEMA Grant - Fire Chief Mark D. Burkholder informed Council that he is working on this grant application. Apparently, the FEMA budget has been drastically cut and only those items that are of dire need will be considered.

Apparatus - Mr. Burkholder advised Council that a problem developed with the ladder lock cables on the aerial of Truck 64, which was delivered to Seagraves Sales and Service in East Brunswick, New Jersey on March 7 for replacement of the cables.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Shane J. Keller and passed, Council accepted the Treasurer's Report.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: On motion duly made by Council Member Michael W. Morrill, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council approved the bills to be paid.

BERKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION - Council Member Kevin M. Conrad advised that the Berks County Planning Commission, as part of the Reading Area Transportation Study Long-range Transportation Plan, is seeking the Borough's input for any corridors or intersections that are congested. Mr. Conrad asked for Council's input. The Borough must respond the Berks County Planning Commission by April 14, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion duly made by Council Member Kevin M. Conrad, seconded by Council Member Michael H. Doyle and passed, Council President adjourned the meeting at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Loeper
Recording Secretary

Approved by George I. Tindall
Borough Manager/Secretary