

Council Work Session
October 27, 2011
Council Chambers

The Special Work Session meeting of Newtown Borough Council was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 27, 2011, by President of Council Julia Woldorf.

Present were Councillors Burke, O'Malley, Sellers, Walker, Warren and Woldorf; Mayor Dennis O'Brien; Solicitor Paul Cohen and Engineer Maryellen Saylor

Amendments to the Agenda

Solicitor Cohen added discussion/motion regarding the pension plan to the agenda.

Public to be Heard

No one from the public wished to be heard at this time.

Schedule Conditional Use Hearing for Stocking Works II

Mr. Cohen explained that the first hearing for a Conditional Use Application must be scheduled within 60 days of receipt of the application and the Stocking Works II application was received on October 10, 2011. The Solicitor requested that Council authorize scheduling the hearing for the December 7, 2011, Work Session, unless Council decides to hold a special meeting.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Sellers, seconded by Councillor Warren, and carried unanimously, to schedule the Conditional Use Hearing for Stocking Works II on December 7, 2011, at 7 P.M.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor O'Malley, seconded by Councillor Burke, and carried unanimously, to arrange televising the December 7, 2011, Work Session, contingent on the availability of a crew from the Council Rock School District.

Mr. O'Malley offered to contact Council Rock School District about the arrangements.

Mr. Walker asked that Council receive comments on the plan from the Borough Planning Commission and from the Bucks County Planning Commission with respect to their position on the Conditional Use Application. Ms. Woldorf did not believe there would be time between now and the hearing to receive comments from the Bucks County Planning Commission (BCPC). Mr. Cohen said that the Zoning Officer should send the application to the BCPC and advise them of the scheduled hearing date

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Burke, and carried unanimously, to send the Conditional Use Application submitted by Steeple View LLP regarding Plan A for 200-212 S. State Street to the Bucks County Planning Commission.

Ms. Woldorf suggested that Council compile a list of questions for next week's work session and give them to the Planning Commission so that their review would be focused.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Burke, and carried unanimously, to request the Newtown Borough Planning Commission review the Steeple View LLP Conditional Use Application for Plan A for 200-212 S. State Street prior to the December Work Session.

Authorization to Sign Amendments to the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Chief's Agreement

Mr. Cohen said that the amendments are simply acknowledging and agreeing to the changes to the pension plan.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Warren, seconded by Councillor Walker, and carried unanimously, to authorize the President of Council to sign agreements to the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Chief's Contract, acknowledging and agreeing upon the change in the pension plan.

The Solicitor left the meeting at this point.

2012 Proposed Budget Discussion

The Council members and the Treasurer discussed the 2012 Budget. Traditionally, the Secretary does not take minutes for the Budget Work Session, as Council considers it a working meeting.

Police Department Maintenance Work

Mr. Sellers reported that shingles on the small overhang at the entrance to the Police Department have come off and need to be replaced. In addition, two corbels require straightening and tightening, but most importantly there is a continuing problem with water damage to the second floor on the North side of the building. Mr. Sellers said that the problem appears to be with the chimney and bricks that require re-pointing. Although some re-pointing was done last year, additional re-pointing needs to be completed at a higher level on the outside wall.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Sellers, seconded by Councillor Walker, and carried unanimously, to authorize work on the exterior of the Police Department, per an estimate given by Eric Johnson, at a cost not to exceed \$2000, to include replacement of shingles at the front of the building, work on two corbels, re-pointing of brickwork on the North face of the Police Department, as well as miscellaneous caulking/flashing and front door work.

Public to be Heard

Mr. King asked Council what the [budget] process would be from here. Ms. Woldorf responded that Council would receive the next budget work sheet at the November Work Session. Council would approve the draft and

authorize advertising at the November 9, 2011, Council Meeting. The budget would then be available for public review from that date until December 13, 2011, when Council would vote on the budget. Mr. King said that it sounded to him like the income is not there to cover the expenses and he asked what happens if the budget is not balanced. Ms. Woldorf said Council would not know that until next Wednesday and they would still have an opportunity to change the budget at that time.

There was a motion to adjourn at 10:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Scull
Borough Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE

Jeff Werner
Warren Woldorf
Paul Salvatore
Bob King

The Advance