

MINUTES
Stroudsburg Borough Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 7 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call: Council President Kim Diddio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Borough Manager Cathryn Thomas called roll. Present were President Diddio, Vice President Joanne Kochanski, Council Members Eric Scelza, Ken Lang, Matt Abell, and Boyd Weiss. Absent was Council Member Neil Allen. Also present were Mayor Ellen Deihl and Solicitor Ralph Matergia (who arrived at 7:35 p.m.).

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Input: Sunset Lane resident Scott Mathieson requested Council consider changing Sunset Lane to no parking and Woodcliff Avenue to parking only on the east side as residents of a nearby apartment complex park too close to the intersections on both sides of the street leaving only a little over 8-feet for two way traffic. Fire trucks cannot get through and leaves are not being picked up. Ms. Diddio asked staff to review this and come back to Council with a recommendation.

Newly elected Council Member Mark Connors requested Council consider reimbursing Council Members for attending a Municipal Officials Boot Camp in January.

788 Sunset Lane resident Richard Lavdanski thanked Council for their service.

4. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2015: Motion by Mrs. Kochanski, second by Mr. Scelza, to approve the Council Meeting Minutes from November 10, 2015. Motion passed 5 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 abstention with Mr. Lang abstaining.

5. Monthly Administrative Reports: Motion by Mrs. Kochanski, second by Mr. Abell, to accept the Monthly Administrative Reports. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Accept August and September Treasurer's Reports: Motion by Mr. Scelza, second by Mr. Abell, to accept the August and September Treasurer's Reports. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

None

New Business

7. Consideration to adopt the 2016 ***Proposed*** Budget and to set public hearings on December 1 to consider adoption of the tax ordinance and an ordinance setting the sewer rate: Council briefly discussed the proposed \$100,000 "carryover" balance for the 2106 SARP Budget and the proposed tax and sewer rate increase. Motion by Mr. Lang, second by Mrs. Kochanski, to adopt the 2016 Proposed Budget and to set a public hearing on December 1, 2015 to adopt the tax

ordinance and sewer rate ordinance. Motion passed unanimously. Solicitor Matergia arrived during the budget discussion.

8. Solicitor's Report: Mr. Matergia reported that with regard to the Shanti House issue, we are in a holding pattern right now awaiting a decision from the Zoning Hearing Board. Codes Officer Jeff Wilkins stated a decision has been reached and the paperwork is awaiting signatures. Mr. Matergia stated it is likely that both parties will file an appeal. The Borough will have to figure out the most efficient way to handle this in court.

9. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Deihl thanked Captain Jen Lyon for the handling of a police situation Saturday morning.

10. Council Member Reports:

Mrs. Kochanski again reported street lights not working.

Mr. Scelza extended his "goodbyes" as this is the last meeting he will be attending as a Council Member.

Mr. Lang requested a staff evaluation of our recycling plant as he feels our current program is expensive and loses a tremendous amount of money. Mr. Scelza agreed. It was suggested the Borough consider outsourcing municipal garbage and recycling pick up. Ms. Thomas reminded Council that as part of our current agreement, two year notice to East Stroudsburg is required for any changes.

11. Manager's Report: None.

12. Approval of Bills on Warrant 151117: Motion by Mr. Abell, second by Mr. Scelza, to approve the Bills on Warrant 151117. Motion passed unanimously.

13. Executive Session: None.

14. Adjournment: Motion by Mrs. Kochanski, second by Mr. Scelza, to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Approved:

Kim M. Diddio, President of Council

Attest:

Cathryn Thomas, Borough Manager/Secretary