

OFFICIAL MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of November 23, 2009 of Kennett Square Borough Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Monroe Nute Room of the Kennett Fire Company No. 1, 301 Dalmatian Street, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania with President David B. Miller in the Chair. Roll Call followed the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were:

President D. Miller
Vice-President R. Pesce
Council Member E. Avello, Jr.
Council W. Carozzo
Council Member J. Cocks
Council Member J. Darman
Council Member J. Thomas
Mayor L. Spencer, Jr.
Manager B. Kucera

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments from the floor

CONSENT ITEMS

MINUTES of NOVEMBER 16, 2009

President Miller presented the November 16, 2009 minutes for approval.

It was moved by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Cocks to approve the minutes as presented.

Council Member Darman advised that the date of the minutes approved on page 3, under Consent Items, needs to be amended as follows:

“MINUTES of NOVEMBER 2, 2009

President Miller presented the November 2, 2009 minutes for approval.”

It was moved by Council Member Carozzo and seconded by Council Member Thomas to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION of the PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET

The Manager gave a second edition of the proposed 2010 budget consisting of the following highlights:

- Balanced Budget.
- Wages of all non-uniformed employees have been frozen.
- All capital outlay in the General Fund has been removed except for one (1) new squad car.
- Administrative staff fully accounted for in General Fund.
- Public Works reduced by 1.25 FTE.
- 1 mill increase in property taxes for a millage of 4.85 mills.
- Proposing to charge \$55/quarter for solid waste; solid waste now accounted for as in Internal Service Fund.
- Water Rate is proposed to increase by \$1.00/1,000 gallons of excess usage.
- Sewer Rate is proposed to increase by \$1.25/1,000 gallons of excess usage.

The Manager showed a breakdown of property taxes as follows:

- 75% goes to Kennett Consolidated School District.
- 13% goes to Chester County.
- 12% goes to Borough of Kennett Square.

Council Member Thomas recommended that the 2010 expenses be decreased by ten percent (10%) across the board then he would be willing to pay \$40 per quarter for trash collection along with a one (1) mil tax increase.

Council Member Darman questioned the quantity of surface lot permits sold annually and suggested that a slight increase be considered.

The Manager entertained questions from Council and discussions ensued.

The Manager stated that garbage collection costs 1.68 mils annually. The Fire Company is allotted .6 mils annually.

President Miller stated that the reserve funds have been depleted and we are not in the position to rely on windfalls.

President Miller thanked the Manager for his presentation.

RESOLUTION NO. 8-09
CHESTER COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

President Miller presented a resolution authorizing the grant application to the Chester County Department of Community Development for approval.

The Manager advised that this resolution is needed to apply for a grant through the County's Community Revitalization Program. The grant requires a 25% match from the Borough.

It was moved by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Cocks to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 9-09
AMENDING THE BOROUGH OF KENNETT SQUARE
SECTION 125 CAFETERIA PLAN FOR 2010

President Miller presented a resolution amending Section 125 Cafeteria Plan effective January 1, 2010.

The Manager advised that this resolution is for the calendar year 2010 and allows the employees' share of health premiums to be a payroll deduction on a pre-tax basis.

It was moved by Council Member Cocks and seconded by Council Member Carozzo to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

BISHOP WILLIAM F. CRAMER DAY

The Mayor advised that he attended a celebration honoring Bishop William F. Cramer. In recognition of this, the Mayor has declared December 4, 2009 as Bishop William F. Cramer Day in the Borough. He added that a tree will be planted at 4 p.m. on the same day in Anson B. Nixon Park in Bishop Cramer's honor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Myra Miller, 301 Scarlett Avenue, stated that she has been stopped by residents in her neighborhood and noted that she advised them to come to tonight's meeting. She said if citizens are concerned then they should come to the meetings.

President Miller thanked Ms. Miller for her comments.

Ms. Charla Watson, 523 Magnolia Street, expressed her concern of the lack of membership diversity in the Borough's boards and commissions stating that we need to expand beyond our personal telephone directories when appointing people. She stated that she has volunteered to serve on committees but was never asked to serve. Ms. Watson questioned what happened to the funds that were not needed for snow removal over the last few winters. Ms. Watson requested that she be on the December 7, 2009 Council agenda to address the request for basketball courts in Anson B. Nixon Park.

Upon the five (5) minute time limit President Miller asked Ms. Watson to end her comments.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Council Member Thomas and seconded by Council Member Darman to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Brant Kucera
Borough Manager