

June 7, 2021

The New Oxford Borough Council met at 7 PM on Monday, June 7, 2021, in borough council chambers located at 124 North Peters Street, New Oxford, for their scheduled and advertised council meeting.

The meeting was called to order and pledge of allegiance led by Council President Robinson.

Roll call of those present: John Griffie, Matthew Johnston, Linda Kane and Dorothy Robinson. Also present were Solicitor Harold Eastman, Engineer Jeremy Smith and Secretary/Treasurer Tania Kepner. Absent were Amanda Sipe and Mayor James Eisenhart.

Solicitor Eastman stated an executive session of the New Oxford Borough Council was conducted immediately prior to the commencement of this evening's general business meeting of the Borough Council beginning at 6 PM consistent with section 708(a)(4) of the Sunshine Act in order to consult with its solicitor regarding information relative to the court-mediated settlement and the implementation of the Consent Order entered by Christopher C. Connor, United States District Judge, in connection with litigation filed in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania to Docket No. 1:19-cv-01829-CCC, captioned Brian Platt, Plaintiff v. James Graham, Pennsylvania Municipal Code Alliance, Inc., New Oxford Borough, et al, Defendants, and to review and discuss information in connection with issues on which identifiable complaints have been made or are expected to be filed.

Audience acknowledgment / opportunity for public comment:

1. Doug Fishel, United Hook & Ladder. Mr. Fishel is attending the meeting in his capacity as a member of UH&L but is also a police officer with Eastern Adams Regional Police Department. Mr. Fishel wanted to make the council aware of the situation on North Berlin Avenue that has become a safety issue. Cars are blocking North Berlin Avenue out to Lincoln Way East because they are waiting in a line to pick up their children from school. Mr. Fishel asked council to consider enacting a no stopping/standing ordinance. President Robinson stated that topic is on the agenda for council to discuss later in the meeting.

Griffie made the motion to approve and accept the minutes from the May 3, 2021 Public Hearing for Comcast Cable Service Franchise Renewal and the May 3, 2021 council meeting as presented. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Johnston made the motion to accept the Code Enforcement Officer's Report as presented. Kane seconded. Motion carried.

Finance, Budget & Treasurer's Report by Johnston:

1. Johnston made the motion to pay the bills as per the Vendor Balance Detail Report. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

2. Johnston made the motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

3. Johnston made the motion to ratify and implement the court-mediated settlement as set forth in the Consent Order entered on May 12, 2021 by Christopher C. Conner, United States District Judge, Middle District of Pennsylvania, in Civil Action No. 1:19-cv-1829. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Robinson & Johnston had nothing to report for Buildings & Grounds.

Robinson & Kane had nothing to report for Parks & Recreation.

Robinson & Griffie had nothing to report for Eastern Adams Regional Police Department Commission Report.

Griffie had nothing to report for Streets & Sidewalks.

Nothing to report for Health & Safety due to Mayor Eisenhart's absence.

Nothing to report for the Mayor's Report due to Mayor Eisenhart's absence.

Zoning Hearing Board – alternate member appointment – tabled.

Ambre Noel, SJC All Stars – leasing the gym. Ms. Noel was not able to attend the council meeting. Kane made the motion to deny the request from Ambre Noel, SJC All Stars to lease the gym. Johnston seconded. Roll call vote: Griffie – yes, Johnston – yes at this time, Kane – yes and Robinson – yes. Motion carried.

New lawn mower quotes – tabled to obtain consistent bids.

Johnston made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 03-2021 extending Declaration of Disaster to September 8, 2021. Kane seconded. Motion carried.

Girl Scouts Silver Award Project proposal for center square. Griffie made the motion to deny the request for Blessing Boxes to be placed on center-square as proposed. Johnston seconded. Motion carried. The Council asked the Girl Scouts to submit to the borough office a detailed drawing of the Blessing Boxes. Council will consider the placement of the Blessing Boxes at the borough building property.

Kane made the motion to approve the request from the New Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce to have family friendly live music during Market on the Square, Saturday, August 14, 2021 from 10 AM – 3 PM. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Rabbit Transient request to install a Bus Stop Sign on Center Square. Rabbit Transient will need to submit a written request for council to consider.

Griffie made the motion to approve the Transient Retail License Application from Cecilia Pinera, Macs by Ceci. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Community Media request for a/c repairs and second floor restroom remodel – tabled.

Traffic stopping/standing ordinance review. Griffie made the motion directing Solicitor Eastman to prepare a draft ordinance for councils review regarding stopping/standing on all streets, 24/7. Johnston seconded. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement. Johnston made the motion directing Solicitor Eastman to prepare two resolutions with regards to code enforcement with Middle Department Inspection Agency and South Penn Code Consultants. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

President Robinson had nothing to report for the President's Report.

Kane made the motion for adjournment at 8 PM. Griffie seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tania K. Kepner
Secretary/Treasurer