

Council Meeting  
September 11, 2007  
Chancellor Center

The regular semi-monthly meeting of Newtown Borough Council was called to order at 7 P.M. on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, by Council President, Marjorie E. Torongo. President Torongo asked those in attendance to join her in a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Councillors Craig, Jaslow, King, Smith, Tomlinson and Torongo; Mayor Glenn D. Hains; Solicitor Thomas J. Walsh, III; and Engineer Karyn Witkowski from Gilmore & Associates, Inc.

### **Mayor's Report – Glenn D. Hains**

- **Thomas and Shari Donahue – Publication of *Cop Buddy***  
Mayor Hains introduced Tom and Shari Donahue, who explained their formation of the Zebra-Striped Whale Foundation, a charitable, non-profit organization whose mission is to serve the community through the art of children's picture book publishing. All proceeds from the sale of *Cop Buddy*, based on a true story about a child from Newtown Borough and police officer Brian S. Gregg, will be donated to the Brian S. Gregg Fund, established at The First National Bank of Newtown.
- **5K Run to Benefit The Newtown Library Company**  
Mayor Hains reported that the route for the 5K Run, scheduled for October 13, 2007, has been changed. The entire event will be held within the boundaries of Newtown Borough.

### **The Police Report for August 2007 was presented**

### **President's Report – Marjorie E. Torongo**

President Torongo reported

### **Correspondence**

- A letter from Preservation Consultant Dominique Hawkins was received advising that she would not be renewing her contract with Newtown Borough for 2008, but noting how much she has enjoyed working with the Historic Architectural Review Board and Council during her years of service.
- A letter was received from Senator Charles McIlhenney regarding a seminar on Deer Management that will be held October 9, 2007, at Delaware Valley College.

### **Certificates of Appropriateness**

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Jaslow, seconded by Councillor Tomlinson, and carried unanimously to follow the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board and direct President of Council to sign the following Certificates of Appropriateness, thereby approving the historical appropriateness of the application, with final approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.

**COA 2007-027-H Applicant Newtown Historic Association, various locations in Newtown Borough**

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the revision of an application for the installation of historic markers at various historic sites. It was clarified that the final locations will be subject to review by Mr. Mount to verify that pedestrian traffic is not impeded.

**COA 2007-045-H Applicant DeFrehn Corporation, 200 S. State Street**

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement of a cedar roof with 30 year Timberlane asphalt shingles.

**COA 2007-047-H Resident Melissa Pickersgill, 115 Liberty Street**

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of front and side door storm doors with screen inserts made from Douglas fir. COA application notes that photos of the original doors were sent to a company for construction of custom matching doors. The approval noted that the screen/storm doors would be painted to match the underlying doors.

**COA 2007-049-H Residents Richard & Regina Quinn, 28 N. Chancellor Street**

The applicants were seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement of a slate roof with GAF Slateline. This residence is a twin and work will be done in conjunction with application #07-050-H (below). The approval included the following conditions:

- The pattern and location of the decorative slates will be duplicated with the same number of rows of carriage house shingles in the same locations as existing
- The dormer cheek walls will be either cedar or smooth finished Hardiplank of similar exposure and detailing as the wood house siding
- Ridge caps will be installed at the main ridge and dormers to match existing in profile and color
- Downspouts will be smooth, round copper

**COA 2007-050-H Residents Robert A. & Nicole Rodowicz, 26 N. Chancellor Street**

The applicants were seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement of a slate roof with GAF Slateline. This residence is a twin and work would be done in conjunction with application #07-049-H (above). The approval included the following conditions:

- The pattern and location of the decorative slates will be duplicated with the same number of rows of carriage house shingles in the same locations as existing
- The dormer cheek walls will be either cedar or smooth finished Hardiplank of similar exposure and detailing as the siding at the house
- Ridge caps will be installed at the main ridge and dormers to match existing in profile and color
- Downspouts will be smooth, round copper

### **COA 2007-037-H Applicant Jason Knipe, 111 E. Washington Avenue**

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of exterior lights at the front porch and garage.

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor King, and carried, with Councillor Jaslow abstaining, to follow the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board and direct President of Council to sign the following Certificates of Appropriateness, thereby approving the historical appropriateness of the application, with final approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.

### **COA 2007-048-H Resident Rand Jaslow, 123 Court Street**

The applicant was seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for replacement of an existing 3' high fence gate with a 6' high fence gate to hide refuse; fence will match existing and be painted red, existing hardware will be reused and painted black.

*HARB recommended approval of the proposed gate in a location to hide the meters as presented.*

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Jaslow, seconded by Councillor Tomlinson, and carried unanimously to follow the recommendation of the Historic Architectural Review Board and direct President of Council to sign the following Certificates of Appropriateness, thereby approving the historical appropriateness of the application, with final approval by the Code Enforcement Officer.

### **COA 2007-046-H Applicant Lee Kirsh, 16 S. State Street**

The applicant is seeking a Certificate of Appropriateness for repainting and re-lettering of an existing wall sign, to be mounted in the existing location; background to be same color as existing and new white vinyl letters to be installed.

*HARB recommended approval as presented with the addition of the 3" high telephone number centered under "You're in good hands".*

Both Councillors Jaslow and King noted that chimneys would be reviewed more carefully by HARB, as they are considered a defining feature.

### **Engineer's Report – Gilmore & Associates, Inc., Karyn Witkowski**

#### **General Projects Update**

Engineer Witkowski reported that a walk-through is scheduled for State Street. Several issues need to be addressed before completion of the State Street project, including straightening of lights and wattage issues.

#### **Bid Award for Norwood Avenue Project**

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor Jaslow and carried unanimously, to award the bid for the Norwood Avenue Road Improvement Project to Blooming Glen Contractors in the amount of \$34,928.85.

**Payment Authorization for Bray Brothers, Inc.**

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor Jaslow, and carried unanimously to authorize payment to Bray Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$12,574.80 for Greene Street construction work, contingent on receipt by Gilmore & Associates of certified payroll documentation from Bray Brothers, Inc.

**Presentation of Minutes**

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Jaslow, seconded by Councillor King, and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2007, Semi-Monthly Meeting of Council.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Beautification & Revitalization Board – Liaison, Robert A. King**

No meeting was held.

**Budget & Finance – Rand F. Jaslow**

**Consolidated Report**

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Jaslow, seconded by Councillor Tomlinson, and carried unanimously, to approve, subject to audit, the consolidated expenditure report for the month of July 2007, totaling \$196,301.30.

**Environmental Advisory Council – Robert A. King**

Mayor Hains attended the EAC meeting in the absence of Councillor King. Mayor Hains reported that Senator Charles McIlhenney spoke to the EAC about Old Skunky issues and the possibility of obtaining grant money. As a result of that meeting President Torongo sent a letter to Senator McIlhenney requesting financial assistance for the Old Skunky Study Scope and mitigation related to Old Skunky issues.

**Joint Downtown Newtown Corporation – Liaison, Mark A. Craig**

No report.

**Joint Historic Commission – Liaison, Robert A. King**

Councillor King reported that Joint Historic Commission members would be meeting tomorrow with representatives of the Village at Newtown to address the leaking roof at the Toll House. Estimates for repair are approximately \$7,000. The Commission also approved the porch demolition at 206 Jefferson Street.

**Long Term Parking Committee – Liaisons Robert A. King & Donald P. Smith**

There was no meeting.

**Newtown Area Telecommunications Advisory Commission – Liaison, Donald P. Smith**

There was no report

**Personnel – Robert A. King**

There was no report.

**Planning Commission – Liaison, Rand F. Jaslow**

Councillor Jaslow reported that the meeting centered on a presentation of results from the Comprehensive Plan surveys. Public meetings are scheduled for September 12 and October 10, 2007, at 7:30 P.M. in the Chancellor Center to discuss the survey results. The date for the November meeting has not been confirmed.

**Police Committee – Marjorie E. Torongo & Richard B. Tomlinson**

No report.

**Recreation Board – Mark A. Craig**

No report.

**Regional Traffic Planning Task Force – Mark A. Craig**

No report.

**Southeastern Bucks League of Municipalities – Rand F. Jaslow**

Councillor Jaslow reported that there was discussion on global warming and climate change.

**State Street Committee – Rand F. Jaslow**

There was no meeting.

**Streets, Lights & Properties – Richard B. Tomlinson & Donald P. Smith**

No report.

**Zoning, Planning & Ordinance – Mark A. Craig**

No report.

**Solicitor’s Report – Thomas J. Walsh, III**

- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Jaslow, seconded by Councillor King, and passed unanimously to approve Resolution 08-14-07 appointing the President of Council as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Newtown Borough Police Pension Plan.
- ❖ A motion was duly made by Councillor Tomlinson, seconded by Councillor Jaslow, and carried unanimously to authorize the Solicitor to advertise an amendment to the Solid Waste Trash Ordinance.

**Old / New Business**

There was no old or new business to come before the Council.

**Public to be Heard**

There was no one from the public who wished to be heard at this time.

Motion to adjourn at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Borough Secretary

IN ATTENDANCE

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Robert Walker          | 2 Jefferson Court        |
| Warren & Julia Woldorf | 440 Washington Avenue    |
| Jim McAuliffe          | 545 E. Centre Avenue     |
| Gerard O'Malley        | 313 Washington Avenue    |
| Danny Adler            | The Courier Times        |
| Patty Lovi             | 151 N. State Street      |
| Diana Bowen            | The Advance              |
| David Callahan         | 113 Court Street         |
| Rosemary Wuenschel     | 26 N. Lincoln Avenue     |
| Martin Wade            | 130 S. Chancellor Street |
| Stephen Gansky         | 137 N. Lincoln Avenue    |