I. Call to Order

II. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Virtual Meeting Procedure Overview

V. Proclamations

VI. Items of Information from Council Members

VII. Resolution Condemning Racist and Xenophobic Hate and Bias during the COVID-19 Pandemic

VIII. Resolution in Support of State College Area School District Graduating Seniors

IX. Public Hour - Hearing of Citizens

X. Consent Items

XI. State College Borough Citizen Participation Plan Amendment

XII. Application requesting the use of Locust Lane for the Central PA Farmers Market Association

XIII. Reports and Presentations

A. Mayor's Report

B. President's Report

C. CRCOG Committee and Regional Reports

D. Manager/Staff Reports

E. Student Representative Report

XIV. Adjournment

Documents:

May 18, 2020 Regular Meeting Complete Agenda Packet.pdf
Meeting Agenda
State College Borough Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2020
7 p.m.

Please note: The Monday, May 18, 2020, Borough Council Regular Meeting will be a remote meeting. Public Participation will be available only for those who have registered to attend and participate in the meeting. To learn more about participating in this meeting, please visit http://www.statecollegepa.us/3162/A-Virtual-Meeting.

I. Call to Order

II. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President
Deanna M. Behring
Janet P. Engeman
Theresa D. Lafer
Peter S. Marshall
Dan Murphy
Evan Myers

IV. Virtual Meeting Procedure Overview

V. Proclamations

1. National Police Week [Page 93]

2. National Public Works Week [Page 94]

3. Immigrant Heritage Month [Page 95]

4. Men’s Health Month [Page 96]

VI. Items of Information from Council Members

The Mayor will recognize any member of Council who wishes to bring up an item of information for the benefit of the full Council, including items that members may wish to have added to a future agenda.

VII. Resolution Condemning Racist and Xenophobic Hate and Bias during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Council President Jesse Barlow will present a draft resolution calling on all residents of the State College Borough to condemn racist and xenophobic hate and bias towards Asians, Asian-Americans, and Pacific Islanders during the COVID-19 Pandemic. [Page 7]

VIII. Resolution in Support of State College Area School District Graduating Seniors

Borough Council, along with other Centre Region municipalities, is being asked to support a resolution recognizing the 2020 Graduating High School Class of the State College Area School District. The resolution is to celebrate and honor the State High Class of 2020 as they graduate in a virtual commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 6, 2020. [Page 9]

IX. Public Hour

Anyone wishing to address Council with an item that is not on the agenda should ask to be recognized at this time. Please utilize the “raise hand” feature to notify the Mayor that you would like to speak. The Mayor will recognize and unmute participants, and each speaker will have up to four minutes to present comments to Council.

X. Consent Items

Recommendation: Staff recommends that Council approve the following consent items. (Attached to the agenda beginning on Page 11 is the background information.)

A. Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable vouchers for the month ended April 30, 2020 totaling $3,811,805.85.

B. Approve a resolution authorizing the Borough Manager to act as the Borough’s agent in the Execution of an Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to apply for a Park Rehabilitation and Development Grant which will assist in development of an Action Sports Park within High Point Park. [Page 13]

C. Award Project 3-2020 (Parking Structures Condition Appraisal) to Walker Consultants, the low bidder, for a total amount of $42,740.00. [Page 15]

D. Ratify a request for an extension of the Noise Waiver Ordinance to permit CA Ventures to work on THE HERE Project from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

E. Ratify an extension to the Noise Waiver for P.J. Dick to continue with its construction of The Standard through June 30, 2020 since their previous waiver expired during the COVID-19 pandemic.
F. Appoint Thomas E. Daubert to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority with a term ending December 31, 2020.

G. Approve minutes for the following meetings held in January, February, March and April.

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XI. **State College Borough Citizen Participation Plan Amendment**

The State College Borough Citizen Participation Plan (Plan) establishes local policies and procedures for engaging the public in allocation of grant funds. Temporary changes to the Plan are authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to enable grantees to utilize an expedited process to prepare, propose, modify, or amend the statement of activities (Consolidated Plan) by which CDBG-CV and ESG funds, plus FY 2020 and FY 2019 CDBG and HOME funds, will be allocated to prepare for, prevent and respond to the growing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As authorized by the CARES Act the following changes are proposed to the citizen participation process.

- The public comment period is reduced from 30 days to not less than 5 days until December 31, 2020.

- During times when local, state or national authorities recommend limiting public gatherings for public health reasons materials will be made available for public review at the State College Borough Municipal Building during regular business hours and on the Borough’s website; and public meetings and hearings will be held electronically rather than in-person.

In accordance with the CARES Act, concurrent amendment processes may be undertaken for the Citizen Participation Plan and the Consolidated Plans.

The revised plan is included in the agenda packet beginning on Page 55. The Policy Briefing Statement, which is also included, provides more detail.

Public Notice was given to provide a public comment period from April 21 through May 5, during which time the revised Plan was available for public
review on the Borough’s website and in the State College Municipal Building. The CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee reviewed the revised plan at its meeting on May 5, 2020 and unanimously recommended that it be adopted by Council.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council adopt the recommended amendment making temporary changes to the State College Borough Citizen Participation Plan as authorized by the CARES Act.

**XII. Application requesting the use of Locust Lane for the Central PA Farmers Market Association**

The Central PA Farmers Market Association has applied for a Special Activity Permit and request the closure on the 100 block of Locust Lane from College Avenue to Wilson Alley for the summer Farmers Market. The Association is requesting this road closure from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. each Friday beginning June 5, 2020 and continuing through Friday, November 27, 2020.

The applicant has been working with the Borough Health Officer regarding the COVID-19 mitigation precautions the market will be required to follow.

Included with the agenda is a document containing guidance for farmers markets provided by the PA Department of Agriculture. This guidance will be the basis for the requirements the Borough Health Officer places on the Central PA Farmers Market Association approval. [Page 67]

Staff recommends that the application be approved with the following conditions:

- Applicant and participating vendors follow all COVID-19 mitigation requirements established by the Borough Health Officer.
- Designate a market employee to enforce social distancing, masking, and monitor for overcrowding.
- Limit vendors to one side on Locust Lane to allow for proper social distancing between vendors and customers and to allow for pedestrian traffic to traverse the street while maintaining social distancing.
- Applicant to obtain and provide to the Borough no later than Friday, May 29, 2020 a Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Borough as an additional insured.
- Notify, obtain, and submit to the Borough no later than Friday, May 29, 2020 the required signatures/sign offs for all affected business/property owners of the planned street use and closure for this special activity.
- No farmers market permitted on Friday, August 21, 2020.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council the Central PA Farmers Market’s request to use Locust Lane on Friday, June 5, 2020 through Friday, November 27, 2020 except for Friday, August 21, 2020.
XIII. Reports and Presentations

a. Mayor's Report

b. Council President's Report

Council met in Executive Sessions on May 5, 8, and 12, 2020 to discuss Personnel, Litigation and Real Estate Matters.

Council will meet on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in June (6/1 & 6/15).

c. CRCOG Committee and Regional Reports

i. CRCOG Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Reduction Targets Report [Page 69]
   ii. Executive – Jesse Barlow [Page 97]
   iii. Finance – Evan Myers [Page 98]
   v. Parks Capital – Janet Engeman [No Report]
   iv. Public Safety – Dan Murphy [Page 102]
   v. Public Services – Deanna Behring [Page 103]
   vi. Transportation and Land Use/MPO – Theresa Lafer [No Report]
   viii. Centre Area Cable Consortium – Dan Murphy [Page 102]
   ix. CATA FY2021 Budget [Page 91]

d. Manager/Staff Reports

i. Year-to-Date Financial Report/DCED Report [Page 105]

e. Student Representative Report

XIV. Adjournment
RESOLUTION ___

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE
CONDEMNING RACIST AND XENOPHOBIC HATE AND BIAS
TOWARDS ASIANS, ASIAN-AMERICANS, AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2016, State College Borough Council adopted Resolution 1176, condemning Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, xenophobia, sexism, racism, and homophobia, in rhetoric or action, restating the Borough’s commitment to serving all people and committing to supporting, promoting and standing up for the values of inclusion, equity and justice; and on January 9, 2019, State College Borough Council adopted Resolution 1180, to expressly address the Borough Council’s position on immigration enforcement, and to recommit to non-discrimination, public safety, and the equal provisions of services; and on July 1, 2019, Borough Council adopted Resolution 1230 condemning immigration policies that result in the detainment of immigrant children and separation from their families; and

WHEREAS, the State College Borough Council recognizes the challenges faced by all residents during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic which, in addition to the universal impact on daily life has also exposed existing inequities and biases in our communities and placed additional stresses on specific populations; and

WHEREAS, Asians, Asian-Americans, and Pacific Islanders across these United States, including in our own community, are dealing with an increase in bias and hate crimes directed toward them; and

WHEREAS, racist acts range from avoiding or shunning people to name-calling and bullying in personal conversation and have also included racist comments and acts in grocery stores, medical facilities, workplaces, and online venues; and

WHEREAS, acts of bias have been directed not only against Chinese nationals and Chinese-Americans but also against those with origins in other Asian countries and these acts have also targeted other communities of color and other religious and ethnic minorities; and
WHEREAS, our leaders in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania including Governor Tom Wolf and the Pennsylvania State Police have called for an end to these acts of bias and hate which have no place in our community, our state, or our nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HERE RESOLVED:

1. We, the State College Borough Council, remain committed to ensuring that everyone in our community will have equitable access to resources and equal protection under the law; and
2. We call on everyone in State College and the neighboring communities to respect the individual humanity and dignity of all residents, to stop bias, prejudice and hate, and to stand united as we collectively respond to the Covid-19 virus; and
3. We strongly urge all businesses, educational institutions, and community organizations to create conditions that avoid discrimination against patrons and students, and to stand up against any acts of hate or bias.

RESOLVED this 18th day of May, 2020.

ATTEST: BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE

____________________________  By: ______________________________
Sharon K. Ergler          Jesse L. Barlow
Assistant Borough Secretary   President of Council
Resolution ____

RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE, CENTRE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, RECOGNIZING THE 2020 GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF STATE COLLEGE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus-borne global pandemic (“COVID-19”) emerged in December 2019-and subsequently spread to the United States; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention declared COVID-19 a “public health emergency of international concern,” and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services declared COVID-19 a public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, in response, Pennsylvania Governor Thomas W. Wolf proclaimed the existence of a disaster emergency on March 6, 2020 and on April 9, 2020 further ordered that schools remain closed through the end of the 2019-2020 academic year; and

WHEREAS, said orders have deprived the State College Area School District’s graduating senior Class of 2020 the experience of their final months of high school; and

WHEREAS, despite their dedication and hard work in exceeding all academic and other requirements for graduation, the State High Class of 2020 is unable participate in traditional public recognition and graduation ceremonies; and

WHEREAS, the Class of 2020 has demonstrated great resilience and positivity in the face of such adversity while maintaining exemplary academic and social standards;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by action of the Council of the Borough of State College, Centre County, Pennsylvania, that the State College High School Class of 2020 is hereby recognized and congratulated for tenacity, resilience and fortitude in navigating the final days of their senior high school year with courage and assurance in the promise of their positive impact on our community and the world at large.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the Borough of State College, Centre County, Pennsylvania that all residents of State College join with Council to celebrate and honor the State High Class of 2020 as they graduate in a virtual Commencement Ceremony June 6, 2020.

RESOLVED this 18th day of May, 2020.

ATTEST: BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE

______________________________ By: ____________________________
Sharon K. Ergler Jesse L. Barlow
Assistant Borough Secretary President of Council
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IX. Consent Items

Recommendation: Staff recommends that Council approve the following consent items as published in the agenda and projected on the wall.

A. Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable vouchers for the month ended April 30, 2020 totaling $3,811,805.85.

B. Approve a resolution authorizing the Borough Manager to act as the Borough's agent in the Execution of an Agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to apply for a Park Rehabilitation and Development Grant which will assist in development of an Action Sports Park within High Point Park.

C. Award Project 3-2020 (Parking Structures Condition Appraisal) to Walker Consultants, the low bidder, for a total amount of $42,740.00.

D. Ratify a request for an extension of the Noise Waiver Ordinance to permit CA Ventures to work on THE HERE Project from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

E. Ratify an extension to the Noise Waiver for P.J. Dick to continue with its construction of The Standard through June 30, 2020 since their previous waiver expired during the COVID-19 pandemic.

F. Appoint Thomas E. Daubert to the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority with a term ending December 31, 2020.

G. Approve minutes for the following meetings held in January, February, March and April.

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State College Borough Council  
Policy Briefing Summary  

RE: Action Sports Park Grant Application  

Date Prepared: May 5, 2020  
Prepared By: Alan W. Sam, Borough Arborist/Sustainability Coordinator  
Proposed Meeting Date: May 18, 2020  
Deadline for Action: May 31, 2020  

I. Request/Issue Needing Council Action  

Council is asked to approve a resolution to apply for a Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Park Rehabilitation and Development Grant to help pay for development of an Action Sports Park in High Point Park.  

II. Current Policy and/or Practice  

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources requires a resolution accepting the “Terms and Conditions of the Grant” if awarded and authorizing the Council President to sign on the signature page.  

III. Other Background Information  

Based on requests from Borough residents, a project was identified and included in the Capital Improvement Program for over five years including the 2020 – 2024 CIP while finding an appropriate location were being explored. In March of 2018, the Ad Hoc Committee authored the Action Sports Park Plan which narrowed the appropriate sites down to six, which included High Point Park. The citizens group Drop In, organized support and helped write the State grant which was submitted in April.  

IV. Financial Impact on Budget  

Although there is no financial impact on the budget regarding the resolution, the preliminary engineering estimate for development of the Action Sports Park is $500,000, $200,000 of which would be the Borough’s responsibility.  

V. Authority, Boards, and Commission Review  

None  

VI. Staff Recommendation and Reason  

Staff is recommending that Council approve a resolution to apply for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Park Rehabilitation and Development Grant to develop an Action Sports Park in High Point Park.
RESOLUTION NO. _____

Support for an Action Sports Park

WHEREAS, BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE desires to undertake the project, "Action Sports Park" and

WHEREAS, the applicant desires to receive from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources a grant for the purpose of carrying out this project; and

WHEREAS, the application package includes a document entitled “Terms and Conditions of Grant” and a document entitled "Grant Agreement Signature Page"; and

WHEREAS, the applicant understands that the contents of the document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant," including appendices referred to therein, will become the terms and conditions of a Grant Agreement between the applicant and the Department if the applicant is awarded a grant; and

NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that:

1. The "Grant Agreement Signature Page" may be signed on behalf of the applicant by the Official who, at the time of signing, has TITLE of "Borough Manager".

2. If this Official signed the "Grant Agreement Signature Page" prior to the passage of this Resolution, this grant of authority applies retroactively to the date of signing.

3. If the applicant is awarded a grant, the "Grant Agreement Signature Page", signed by the above Official, will become the applicant/grantee's executed signature page for the Grant Agreement, and the applicant/grantee will be bound by the Grant Agreement.

4. Any amendment to the Grant Agreement may be signed on behalf of the grantee by the Official who, at the time of signing of the amendment, has the “TITLE” specified in paragraph 1 and the grantee will be bound by the amendment.

RESOLVED, this ________________ day of May, 2020.

ATTEST

BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE

By: ___________________________  By: ___________________________
Sharon K. Ergler                Jesse L. Barlow
Assistant Borough Secretary     Council President

[SEAL]
State College Borough Council  
Summary Information for the Award of Bid  

Project Number: 03-2020  
Project Name: Parking Structures Condition Appraisal  
Date Prepared: 04-24-2020  
Prepared By: Thomas Brown, Facilities Manager  
Proposed Meeting Date: 05-18-2020  
Deadline for Action: 06-22-2020  

1. Time/Date of Bid Opening: 11:00 AM on Thursday, April 16th  
2. Project Description: Preform comprehensive condition appraisal of the four parking structures. The basis of this project is to identify any areas of immediate concern as well as items to be addressed in a 2021 construction project.  
3. Advertisement for Bids: Advertised on 3/11 and 3/15, 2020 in the Centre Daily Times in accordance with the Purchasing Ordinance  
4. Number of Bid Packages Released: 10  
5. Engineer’s Cost Estimate: $75,000.00  
6. Amount Budgeted/Funding Sources for Project: The funding for this project is available in B106-22-55-00-0000-000-96350 PF-999  
7. Bids Received:  
   
   Bidder  
   Amount  
   a. Walker Consultants  
   Gregory J. Neiderer  
   Director of Restoration  
   565 E. Swedesford Road, suite 300  
   Wayne, PA. 19087  
   $42,740.00  
   b. Stahl Shaeffer  
   Pete Brumborg  
   Director of Building Structures  
   301 Science Park Road Suite 333  
   State College, PA 16803  
   $58,275.00  
   c. Stiffler-McGraw  
   Timothy R. Campell  
   1731 N. Juniata Street  
   Hollidaysburg, PA 16648  
   $80,000.00  
8. Anticipated Notice to Proceed: 05/20/19  
9. Contract Construction Time: 8 weeks  
10. Anticipated Completion Date: 08/03/2020. Work to be completed before students return.  
11. Other Background Information: This essential work will be the basis for the 2021 renovation project as well as identifying any crucial structural repairs that may need to be made immediately. The 2021 project will address routine proactive maintenance and repairs required to avoid more costly repairs and possible life cycle shortening of the parking facilities in the future.  
12. ABC Review and Comments: N/A
13. Solicitor Comments: N/A

14. Staff Recommendation and Reason: The Public Works staff recommends that the project be awarded to Walker Consultants, the low bidder, for a total amount of $42,740.00
The State College Borough Council met in a special meeting on Monday, January 6, 2020 in the Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA. Mayor Filippelli called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

Present:
Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor
Evan Myers, Council President
Jesse L. Barlow
David J. Brown
Catherine G. Dauler
Janet P. Engeman
Theresa D. Lafer
Dan Murphy

Also present were: Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Thomas J. Fountaine, Borough Manager; Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; John A. Gardner, Chief of Police; Ed LeClear, Director of Planning; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Borough Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Dwight Miller, Finance Director; Thomas R. King, Assistant Borough Manager for Public Safety; Douglas Shontz, Communications Specialist; Deborah A.S. Hoag, Director of Public Works; Leann Shaw, Human Resources Director; Craig Bowser, Information Technology Manager; Edward C. Holmes, Purchasing/Risk Manager Director; Kevin Kassab, Community Engagement Manager; Kayla Irvin, Community Engagement Assistant; Greg Garthe, Senior Planner; Isabel Storey, Planner; Thomas Brown, Facilities Supervisor; and members of the media and interested citizens.

Public Hour

There was no one in the audience who wished to speak during the public hour.

Consent Items

Mr. Myers made a motion to approve the following Consent Items. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion which passed unanimously in favor.

- Approve minutes for the following meetings held in August, September, October, November and December.

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Special Reports and Recognition of Outgoing Mayor and Council Members

Mr. Myers bid farewell to outgoing Council members David Brown and Catherine Dauler and Mayor Donald Hahn.

Mr. Myers said Mr. Brown served one term on Council and he also served on the State College Community Land Trust and as the Borough’s representative to the COG Human Resources Committee. Mr. Brown was recently appointed to the Schlow Centre Region Library Board. Mr. Myers said he would miss Mr. Brown’s wise advice.

Mr. Brown said as he departed from Council, he said much like the Farmers Insurance ad “I’ve seen a thing a two”. He said the Borough had a lot of good policies and practices and as a Council, they accomplished a lot together. He also noted the fine caliber of Borough staff. He said the Police and others make our lives much better for it.

Mr. Myers commented that Ms. Dauler had a long history of community involvement. She had worked on the Downtown Strategic Plan, served on the Centre Area Cable Consortium, she was Council’s representative on the Downtown State College Improvement District, she was part of the Dr. Martin Luther, King Jr. Advisory Committee and also served on the National League of Cities REAL Committee.

Ms. Dauler thanked Mr. Myers for his kind words. She said much like David Brown, she appreciated the Borough’s professional staff who always reminded Council when they were straying from the path of righteousness. She added that she was grateful to her colleagues, both past and present. She said it was a great joy to be a part of each of the Councils she had served on. She commented that she had appreciated the different perspectives, the decision making, and the voters who elected her four times. She also thanked her husband and daughter and the campaign promise she made to them many years ago, which was to always cook dinner for the family.

Mr. Myers said former Mayor Don Hahn had left office as State College’s Mayor; however, he had not left public service since he had become the newest District Judge. He noted that Mr. Hahn had been involved as a former member of the Planning Commission, the CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee, and served several terms as a member of Council and one term as Council President. He said he appreciated Mr. Hahn’s perspective as he had grown up in State College as a man of color and how he strived for equal rights for all community members. He thanked Mr. Hahn, who was not present, for his invaluable service to the community.

Mr. Brown said he also wanted to thank an unsung hero of his, Sharon Ergler. He said he admired her and the duties she performed for the Borough and Council.

Adjournment

Ms. Lafer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:12 p.m. Ms. Dauler seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary
Meeting Minutes
State College Borough Council
Organizational Meeting
January 6, 2020

Oath of Office
Centre County Judge Brian Marshall administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected Council Members Jesse Barlow, Deanna Behring, Janet Engeman and Peter Marshall.

Present: Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President
Deanna M. Behring
Janet P. Engeman
Theresa D. Lafer
Peter S. Marshall
Dan Murphy
Evan Myers

Organization of the 2020-2021 Council
Following the swearing-in ceremony, Mayor Filippelli called the first meeting of the 2020-2021 Council to order at 12:18 p.m.

Mayor Filippelli asked Council for nominations for the office of Council President.

Mr. Murphy nominated Mr. Barlow. Ms. Behring seconded the motion. Ms. Engeman nominated Ms. Lafer. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion.

The motion to elect Mr. Barlow as Council President passed 5-2 with Ms. Engeman and Ms. Lafer voting against the motion.

Public Hour
There was no one in the audience who wished to speak during the Public Hour.

Items of Information
Mr. Myers expressed his appreciation to his fellow Council members past for their support over the last few years. He said it was his honor of being able to serve as Council President the last two years.

Mr. Myers said he would like to reintroduce the Summers on Allen on Council’s next meeting agenda. He commented that he had strongly supported it then and had been inundated with support since Council had voted against in late last year. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion. Mr. Fountaine said he would add Summers on Allen to the January 13, 2020 agenda.

Mr. Barlow expressed his heartfelt thanks for those who had supported him for the presidency. He said he believed it was important to speak out on the issues that were important to the community. He said he expected to sign things he disagreed with, but the most important role was to listen to his colleagues and the community.

Adjournment
Mr. Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:29 p.m. and Ms. Lafer seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

_________________________
Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary
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The State College Borough Council met in a regular meeting on Monday, January 13, 2020, in the Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA 16801. Mayor Filippelli called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President
Deanna M. Behring
Janet P. Engeman
Theresa D. Lafer
Peter S. Marshall
Dan Murphy
Evan Myers

Also present: Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Borough Manager; Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; Genevievre Miller, Student Representative; Douglas Shontz, Communications Specialist; Edward LeClear, Director of Planning and Community Engagement; John A. Gardner, Chief of Police; Deborah A.S. Hoag, Director of Public Works; Thomas R. King, Assistant Borough Manager for Public Safety; Dwight Miller, Director of Finance; P. Rick Ward, Director of Parking; Greg Garthe, Senior Planner; Alan Sam, Environmental Coordinator; Isabel Storey, Planner; interested residents and members of the media.

Public Hearings

Petition to Vacate Fox Alley between 420 and 448 East Prospect Avenue

Mayor Filippelli opened the public hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Mr. David D’Agostino, 448 East Prospect Avenue and the vacation petitioner, said he had been working on the vacation for over 2 years and the fraternity next-door had refused to join the request.

Mayor Filippelli closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Petition to Vacate Norma Street between East Marylyn Avenue and Property Owned by the State College Friends School

Mayor Filippelli opened the public hearing on the petition to vacate a portion of Norma Street at 7:03 p.m.

No one in the audience wished to speak during the public hearing.
Mayor Filippelli closed the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.

Conditional Use Application for the Core Spaces Signature Development at State College

At the request of the Borough Solicitor Terry Williams, Ms. Heather Boring, of Boring Court Reporting swore in all the applicants.

Solicitor Williams opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Mr. Garthe distributed the exhibits to Council and the applicant. He entered into the record the Overview of Facts for the case, the criteria for the conditional use and he explained how the applicant’s project met, exceeded or did not meet the criteria. He also noted how the Planning staff was working with the developer(s) to meet the criteria.
The applicant to the case was represented by Jeffery W. Miller, Esquire. Mr. Miller had no questions for Mr. Garthe.

Mr. Marshall asked Mr. Garthe if he had any idea how many students would be housed there? Mr. Williams told Mr. Marshall before the record was closed, he would try to get an answer from staff.

Ms. Lafer said she thought the signature area had been rolled back further than it was and no balconies were mentioned in the facts presented by Mr. Garthe. She asked Mr. Garthe whether the windows were openable? Mr. Garthe said he did not believe so. Ms. Lafer pointed out that despite the developer saying they were multi-family residential apartments they were being designed as student housing. Mr. Garthe said that he would let the applicants address that question. Ms. Lafer commented that multi-family, young professionals, families with kids and faculty coming in were not going to want to live in the building if there were going to be students. She wondered if they were being asked to approve a new area downtown that was co-op owned and often rented to students, not necessarily undergrads, or if it would be another student high-rise.

Mr. Williams said that Mr. Miller would provide comment through his witnesses.

Mr. Garthe said to answer Ms. Lafer’s question Council should look at Page 2 Exhibit 5 that showed where the signature developments were permitted.

Mr. Barlow mentioned he saw they were pursuing LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification and to what level do they expect to be awarded that?

Mr. Myers asked if it would be proper to deny conditional use based on who lives in the building? Mr. Williams said it would not.

Mr. John Soliskoe, Design Architect, said there were 172 total parking spaces and 9 retail spaces available to the public. He answered Ms. Lafer’s question stating the windows were able to be opened. He went over all of the different types of units that would be available in the building at different price points. He stated that it would be a base LEED building.

Mr. Williams said that in prior conditional use projects, high-rises facing the street were required to have fixed windows. He asked if their intent was for the windows to be openable? Mr. Soliskoe said that they were aware of the situation, 4’ openings with a limiter would be what they were proposing. He said the exposure to the exterior was extremely minor.

Mr. Myers said that what he was most interested in with any new building construction was the streetscape, setback and ability for wider sidewalks. He said State College had ever growing density downtown and wanted to commend them for adding that in and hoped others would do the same.

Mr. Barlow said he wanted to commend them for pursuing LEED Certification downtown.

Ms. Lafer said she had some concerns about the windows. She asked which way they would open and, regarding parking, how did the space-to-person ratio make sense? She asked where all the extra cars would be held, commenting it would be a potential problem with a disastrous move-in day.

Mr. Chip Schell, Vice-President of Core Spaces, went over the four demographics in which they intended on marketing the building to which were professionals, non-students and graduate/undergraduate students. He also reviewed how they intended to market the building to a different audience other than just undergraduates and what they planned to do about the buildings being replaced.

Mr. Myers said there had to be a specific number of inclusionary units provided in any structure over 6 units. He asked how many that might be and where would they be located? Mr. Williams suggested calling the Planning Director up in hopes of getting an answer to that question.
Mr. Murphy asked Mr. Schell to share the population mix of both Portland and Tempe. Mr. Schell responded stating in Portland 30% of residents in the building were regular residents and in Tempe it’s about 70% students 30% regular residents. Mr. Murphy asked Mr. Schell if they would be offering leases by the unit, bedroom or bed. Mr. Schell answered it would be by the person.

Mr. Murphy asked Mr. Schell if he was aware of the graduate stipend rate at Penn State, how many students receive aid, and what the average starting salary was at Penn State University? Mr. Schell answered he did not.

Mr. Miller called Mr. Mark Gohousen, Senior Development Manager with Core Spaces, as a witness.

Mr. Gohousen noted they were opting to go the fee-in-lieu route on the project and said the calculation was that 13.5 units would be affordable housing.

Mr. Marshall called the Planning Director, Mr. LeClear, to the podium for clarification.

Mr. LeClear said that there would be $1.7 million contributed to the housing program at the Borough. He then addressed Mr. Marshall’s question about how many apartments were being added stating there would be 4,200 beds through 2020 for downtown.

Mr. Williams asked if anyone from the audience who wanted to address Council about the application.

James Graef, 300 West Fairmount Avenue, said he wanted to move past the idea that every student was driving their own car to school. He said he was all for adding more housing; however, he had a problem with the zoning code for the development regarding the level of the first floor/retail area.

Mr. Marshall commented that Mr. Graef’s observations were good and thanked him for them. He said there were marketing issues about what could actually get into retail, but his comments were appreciated.

Pat Vernon, a resident of College Township, said Core Spaces was one of the better companies doing the development. He asked if the building was in the opportunity zone, why fee-in-lieu of the inclusionary housing was being used and where would it be located? He added State College had quite a bit of retail in the newer high rises being built, but he had a problem with the newer retail because mom-and-pop shops would not be able to afford rent at the newer places.

George Otto, 131 Oak Point Circle, said his house faced the Retreat Development and the pool deck needed looked at carefully as there could be nuisances coming from it.

Candace Bradley, President of State College Young Professionals, said the ordinance requiring fee-in-lieu was a great concept and they market it as affordable; however, it was not very realistic to tell someone they should try and live downtown. She said they should have had a more realistic plan in regards to affordability.

Ms. Lafer thanked Ms. Bradley for her efforts to make things work.

Mr. Williams closed the record at 8:14 p.m.

Mr. Williams told Council the written decision would come back for review and consideration of approval at the March 2 regular meeting.

Mayor Filippelli said that the two vacation issues that were brought up in prior meetings would be dealt with at the February 3 meeting.

Mr. Myers said a couple of points brought up were important to consider; one being about where the pool was situated and the impact it might have on the surrounding areas. He added Council needed to
understand how that was put in the decision. He said that regarding inclusionary housing, there needed to be more affordable places for people starting out.

Ms. Lafer noted she researched what was considered affordable housing in State College. She said there needed to be better options. She thought retail and modern up-to-date office space was extremely important.

Mr. Murphy said that he would like items in the conditional use documents laid out by staff. He noted maintaining pedestrian access during construction was important as well as having two lanes of traffic open at all times.

Mayor Filippelli commented that as a resident, he would like a condition added to continue the flow of traffic on Hetzel Street.

ABC Work Plans/Special Reports

Tree Commission – Lynn Herman, Chair of the Tree Commission, presented their recent activities and proposed 2020 Work Plan.


Transportation Commission – Hugh Mose, Chair of the Transportation Commission, presented an update on the Commission’s recent activities and their proposed 2020 Work Plan.

Mr. Myers commented on the exploding modes of transportation with rental scooters/bicycles and was wondering how people discarding them all over the place would be handled?

Mr. Mose said that he hoped it could be addressed; however, they were not yet legal in PA.

Ms. Lafer asked Mr. Mose about the changing demographic numbers for students coming to campus with their cars. Mr. Mose said that data showed people were driving less and purchasing cars in fewer numbers.

Mayor Filippelli said that this scooter/bike trend was exploding and put more stress on traffic control; it also was extremely dangerous to pedestrians. Mr. Mose stated it would be problematic and staff had many concerns.

Mr. Barlow commented he witnessed how much of a problem it was near the Westgate Building every day.

Planning Commission – Zoe Boniface, Chair of the Planning Commission, presented the Commission’s proposed 2020 Work Plan.

Public Hour

Katharine Watt, West Hamilton Ave, had emailed information to Council about the West Campus Steam plant expansion project and how it was incompatible with goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. She asked that Council ask the Board of Health to investigate the project.

Pat Vernon, a College Township resident, urged Council to ask for more from land developers and work on leading the University to exit the new 1700 car garage onto Blue Course Drive. He also asked to remove the Student House License idea as well as add a real estate professional to the Real Estate Advisory Committee.
Consent Items

Ms. Lafer made a motion to approve the following Consent Items. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- **Approve, with conditions, the closing of the 200 block of South Allen Street (between the entrance to the Schlow Memorial Library Parking Lot and East Foster Avenue) from 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 24, 2020 until 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 25, 2020 for the Monster Energy Up & Up Festival and approve a Noise Waiver for this event. The hours of the actual festival were from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 24, 2020. The rain date for the event was Sunday, May 2, 2020.**

- **Approve the Centre Region Council of Governments Alternate Delegate Voting Rights Policy for 2020-2021.**

- **Appoint/Reappoint the following individuals to the various Authorities, Boards, Commissions and Committees:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reappoint</th>
<th>Jon Eich</th>
<th>Centre Regional Planning Commission</th>
<th>December 31, 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reappoint</td>
<td>Zoe Boniface</td>
<td>Centre Regional Planning Commission</td>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appoint</td>
<td>Jesse L. Barlow</td>
<td>Centre Area Cable Consortium</td>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reappoint</td>
<td>Thomas E. Daubert</td>
<td>COG Steering Committee for Centre Region Parks &amp; Recreation Plan</td>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appoint</td>
<td>Peter S. Marshall</td>
<td>Downtown State College Improvement District</td>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reappoint</td>
<td>Janet P. Engeman</td>
<td>Spring Creek Watershed Commission</td>
<td>December 31, 2021</td>
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- **Accept the resignation of James Dunn, with regret, from the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority, effective immediately.**

- **Approve vouchers and payroll for the month of December 2019 in the amount of $2,722,248.70.**

- **Reappoint Thomas E. Daubert as the Borough Historian with a term ending on December 31, 2021.**

- **Receive and refer the request to amend the Zoning Ordinance limiting attached garages to three-car bays back to the Planning Commission for a recommendation by March 6, 2020.**

- **Receive and refer a request to rezone a portion of 732 East Marylyn Avenue to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation by March 6, 2020.**

- **Accept the resignation of Ron Filippelli, with regret, as the Chairman of the Zoning Rewrite Advisory Committee.**

- **Approve the 2020 Work Plans for the Tree Commission, Design Review Board, Transportation Commission and the Planning Commission.**
General Policy and Administration

Summers on Allen Street Closure

Mayor Filippelli stated all comments that were sent in were handed to Council Members who would consider all comments.

Jim Erickson, 431 West Fairmount Avenue, said he believed the benefits of Summers on Allen outweighed the negatives.

Steve Albert, a local business owner on the 100 block of South Allen Street, asked Council to not approve the event. He added that the Arts Festival already cut down his business by 10% each July and the closing of the 100 block of South Allen Street would be the death to a business, such as his.

Faith Lucchesi, Counsel for some of the 100 block of South Allen Street businesses, said that the businesses were town assets. She commented that many business owners were frightened because summers were always difficult on downtown businesses with the students being gone.

Matt Kisenwether, a representative for Rapid Transit Sports located on the 100 block of South Allen Street, asked that Council delay its vote on the application. He explained that his concern was about where all the grant money was going when there was only $5,000 proposed to be spent on programming for the event.

Amy Frank, 714 West Fairmount Avenue, Chair of the Retail Advisory Committee and owner of The Makery at 209 West Calder Way, said the Retail Advisory Committee strongly supported the event and had agreed to work closely with the Groznik PR firm to ensure that the programming was successful.

Melaine Miller, 144 Aikens Place, said she had heard a lot about parking and transportation and commented she was pleased to hear and feel like pedestrians were a priority and urged Council to support the proposal.

James Graef, 300 West Fairmount Avenue, said he thought Summers on Allen was a good thing for the residents and he hoped that Council approved the plan.

Bill Joseph of First National Bank, located on the 100 block of South Allen Street, said he had concerns with mobility of customers that come into the offices near and on Allen Street. He brought up a lot of concerns with safety and asked Council to say no to the event.

Jeremy Frank, CFO of KCF Technologies, said that he appreciated that State College was so welcoming to new businesses. He said that he wanted Council to do this to attract people into town so the community could thrive.

Roy Love, a Chiropractor in town for 34 years, said that they need more programming at Summers on Allen that appealed to a wider variety of people. Also, he said it was important that the businesses were successful if they were not, then they had failed.

Evon Gingerich, who lives on Waupelani Drive, said she agreed with the man who spoke before her, it would be a great way to bring uniqueness back to State College.

Molly Kunkel, the Executive Director of The Centre Foundation along with Groznik PR, said there was a sample flyer up on Facebook. She also went over a budget breakdown of the event and addressed some concerns that members of the community had.

Geoff Brugler, the owner of Appalachian Outdoors on the 100 block of South Allen Street, said that business ownership was challenging, and Council should give it a try. He said summers were already
slow for business and events were great. Mr. Brugler stated that businesses already benefit from Art’s Festival, so why not give this a try.

Jacob Loverich, former VP of KCF Technologies, said that a big way they recruited employees to the area was based on walkability and being downtown and Summers on Allen directly supported that.

James Tierney, 320 East Waring Avenue, a partial owner of Happy Valley Improv, said they would love to do some family-friendly activities during Summers on Allen. He added State College should investigate innovative ways to be profitable.

Nathan Woodman, KCF Technologies, said KCF wanted to recruit community-building talent to the area and this would be a great opportunity to bring people into State College.

Jay Meashey, former Chair of the CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee, said he spent a lot of time learning about community development and was speaking in support of Summers on Allen.

Brad Groznik, of Groznik PR, went over the programming for Summers on Allen. He said without the community’s support, this could not be the success we want it to be.

Steve Albert said he had noticed the majority of those that had businesses on Allen Street were opposed and those who did not were in favor.

Mr. Filippelli asked Mr. Williams about the legality of Council’s Home Rule Charter.

Mr. Williams said Council was never bound by what has gone on in the past. He said it was not a reconsideration, it was a regular consideration.

Mr. Myers moved to adopt the plan as outlined in the agenda. Mr. Murphy seconded.

Mr. Myers commented that State College was no longer referred to as a town but as a city. He said the project fit into the strategic plan of growth outlined by Council several years ago. He pointed out it was Council’s responsibility to do what was best for the entire community and said he would vote to support it.

Mr. Barlow said he approved of this and did indeed recognize the risks.

Ms. Engeman said that she did not like to approve something if she did not know how it worked. She added it was an 8-week experiment was a long time and it could have devastating results.

Ms. Behring thanked everyone who came out. She said she was in support of the proposal. She said it met the goals of what the community would like to achieve.

Mr. Murphy thanked everyone who came out in support. He said this plan was one of the most well put together proposals in his two years on Council. He stated his concern was over programming. He said he was interested in permanently closing Allen Street, so this experiment was important.

Mr. Marshall stated his concerns with the proposal and went over the results of a survey that he had put together and asked for business owners’ input. He said that he was not in favor of the proposal.

Mr. Marshall moved that the proposal for Summers on Allen be approved with these certain conditions:

- Be limited to a period beginning on Memorial Day and concluding July 3, only 1 month instead of 2.
- Applicants should have performance measurements methods by March 16.
- Add an additional condition to require the Downtown State College Improvement District to provide a written report 60 days following the conclusion to determine the success of the event.
• Applicants would provide a detailed budget along with a plan of the activities and calendar intended to attract citizens to downtown.

Mr. Marshall also asked that the Public Safety Plan be approved by the Fire Department and Ambulance Company be submitted by March 1 for approval.

Ms. Engeman seconded the motion.

Ms. Behring asked the planners of the project if the initial part of the amendment to reduce the timeframe would be considered enough to gauge full potential impact.

Ms. Kunkel said that it would not be enough time. She said that part of the success was having it there long enough for everyone to visit.

Mr. Murphy said that the amendments as presented moved Council beyond the realm of policy and the work of staff.

Mr. Barlow said the time restrictions would significantly inhibit the project. He said he opposed the amendment.

Mr. Myers agreed with Mr. Murphy. He said he did not see why a non-scientific study was being used as evidence to why they needed to do this. He said he was not going to vote in favor of the amendment.

The motion to adopt the amendment to the project failed 2-5 with Mr. Marshall and Ms. Engeman in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Lafer brought up her concerns with the project and said that she could not vote in favor of the project.

Ms. Miller noted the conversation was surrounded by circumstantial ideas of what might happen. She said Council should just vote on the proposal.

The motion carried 4-3 with Ms. Lafer, Mr. Marshall and Ms. Engeman voting against the motion.

**Official Reports and Correspondence**

**Mayors Report** - Mr. Filippelli said he had issued a Proclamation declaring January 21 as the National Day of Racial Healing in the State College Borough and urged all citizens to promote racial healing and transformation in the ways that were best suited for them individually, as a means to working together to ensure the best quality of life for every child.

**President’s Report** - Mr. Barlow said Council met in an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel, real estate and litigation matters.

Mr. Barlow also announced the following COG Committee Appointments/Alternates:

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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Alternate 1</th>
<th>Alternate 2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
<td>Jesse Barlow</td>
<td>Evan Myers</td>
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<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>Dan Murphy</td>
<td>Peter Marshall</td>
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<td>Finance</td>
<td>Evan Myers</td>
<td>Dan Murphy</td>
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<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>Peter Marshall</td>
<td>Theresa Lafer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Services &amp; Environmental</td>
<td>Deanna Behring</td>
<td>Janet Engeman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Land Use/MPO</td>
<td>Theresa Lafer</td>
<td>Jesse Barlow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks Capital</td>
<td>Janet Engeman</td>
<td>Deanna Behring</td>
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Manager/Staff Report – Mr. Fountaine said attached to the agenda packet was the Conflict of Interest Policy and Code of Conduct regarding HUD Programs. He added that Council members were asked to review the policy so that no conflicts of interest occur in the coming year.

Mr. Fountaine advised Council that the Borough applied for the Green Light Go Program. He said the project involved traffic signals at 21 different intersections within the Borough. He noted it would improve communication and operate with more artificial intelligence.

Student Representative Report – Ms. Miller did not have anything to report because the students had just come back from break.

Adjournment

Mr. Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Barlow seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary
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The State College Borough Council met in a regular meeting on Monday, February 3, 2020, in the Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA 16801. Mayor Ronald Filippelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor  
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President  
Deanna M. Behring  
Janet P. Engeman  
Theresa D. Lafer  
Peter S. Marshall  
Dan Murphy  
Evan Myers  

Also present: Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Borough Manager; Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; John A. Gardner, Chief of Police; Greg Garthe, Senior Planner; Deborah A. Hoag, Director of Public Works; Thomas King, Assistant Borough Manager; Genevieve Miller, Student Representative; Craig Bowser, IT Manager; Maureen Safko, Senior Planner; Alan Sam, Environmental Coordinator; Isabel Storey, Planner; Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor and members of the media and other interested parties.

Proclamation/Special Reports

City of THON

Mayor Filippelli presented Alex Reed and Raymond, THON Local Engagement Co-Captains, with a proclamation renaming State College the City of THON beginning on Friday, February 21 at 6 p.m. and ending on Sunday, February 23 at 4 p.m.

Ms. Reed said she wanted to thank the Borough for the ongoing support of THON. She said the Borough had been an invaluable partner of THON’s mission to end childhood cancer. She said they are very grateful for everyone involved.

Raymond said that he had been working with the Public Works Department putting up banners and working with Lion Bash. He added that it was a pleasure to work with the Borough especially with how collaborative and helpful everyone had been.

Mayor’s Task Force to Save Minor League Baseball

Mr. Barlow stated the importance of having a team here in State College for both the residents and small businesses.

Mr. Myers moved to adopt a resolution to save Minor League Baseball. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion.

Ms. Lafer commented that even though the community is very football oriented the State College Spikes are one of the best family-oriented sports organizations in our entire community and region.

The motion passed unanimously.
Update on State College Borough’s Sustainability Efforts

Mr. Sam reviewed State College’s past sustainability efforts. He said that even before Resolution 944 passed which declared the Borough a climate protection community, State College had leaned towards sustainability. The resolution laid out 16 Municipal and 5 Community goals. He had also gone over the Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Final Report which went over everything accomplished from Resolution 944.

Mr. Sam explained that the 2022 Sustainability Plan that was approved by the Council in 2018. He said that their committee’s goal was to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions by 10% of the 2007 levels by 2022 and continue to be a Climate Protection Community.

Mr. Sam stated that there are 8 total areas of focus within the Sustainability Plan: Waste Reduction, Transportation, Urban Tree Canopy, Stormwater Management, Energy, Public Space, Economic Vitality and Environment.

Mr. Barlow asked Mr. Sam how close the Borough was to becoming a silver bike friendly community and what does the Borough need to do to improve.

Mr. Sam said that regionally it’s a lot more difficult; however, when the Borough applies as a bicycle friendly business, it should receive the silver certification with the next application.

Mr. Barlow asked Mr. Sam how the Borough efforts coordinate with the COG Climate Committee.

Mr. Sam stated that the COG was working on a broader scale than the Borough itself. He said the Committee will continue to work with COG and support them in their effort by giving input and experience.

Ms. Behring wanted to thank Mr. Sam and others for the good report. She said the Borough always have to do more. She asked Mr. Sam if he could shed some light on why there had been progress within the Borough and less progress in the community.

Mr. Sam stated that things within the Borough such as changing lightbulbs or getting an electric fleet of vehicles, they had the authority to do so. However, when it comes to the community, they can encourage residents but without financial incentives it is a difficult thing to do.

Mr. Marshall asked Mr. Sam why the solid waste was twice as high as in 2006.

Mr. Sam said that they had switched to a national model. He said that the 2016 numbers were a little bit more precise and realistic, they were higher than that of 2006 and 2014 because there was a lot more things that they take a look at and consider.

Ms. Lafer commented that those who were in charge of giving out the Silver bike friendly community recently changed their rules and that the Borough did indeed fulfill all of the previous needs to achieve that rating. She then stated that she would like to help the community understand more about light pollution.

Mr. Sam agreed with Ms. Lafer about the lighting issue.

Mr. Murphy commented that the light pollution study piqued his interest and that he would like there to be measurements done on State High’s South field.

Items of Information from Council Members

Mr. Murphy stated that he had two things that he would like to bring up, the first being that February is Black History Month. He said it was important to learn how this country came to be. He said he also
wanted to draw everyone attention to the African American Music Festival that was taking place on February 22 at State High.

Mr. Murphy also wanted to bring everyone back to the December meeting of the LGBTQ Advisory Committee that occurred during which the Borough received a perfect score on the Municipal Equity Index. He said he was thankful to work and live in such a community. He also wanted to express his disappointment with the Athletic Equity Index scores, where Penn State got a 53 out of 100. He said he was interested in working with Penn State’s Athletic Departments to elevate that score.

Public Hour

Rich Fitzgerald, Hillcrest Avenue, wanted to applaud Mr. Sam and everyone for sustainability because that’s a large initiative that he undertakes every day at Penn State. He said he was here really because a year ago he came to talk about the streetlight at the corner of Hillcrest and Allen. There was a crosswalk light that illuminates over half of the intersection at night and he wanted to advocate on behalf of the Borough to get the light fixed, because you cannot see pedestrians caught crossing the street and they do not want any accidents to happen because of the broken light.

Ms. Hoag stated that she is already drafting the email to send to PennDOT.

Pat Vernon, a College Township resident said Mr. Sam had done great things with sustainability. He asked whether or not anything was happening with the bike/skatepark. He also wanted to talk about what he called ombudsman to help local businesses. Mr. Vernon suggested that the Borough designate someone to help local businesses survive easier. He stated to Council that we needed to promote local businesses.

Consent Items

Mr. Barlow moved that the Consent Items be approved. Ms. Lafer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approve, with conditions, the closing of various streets from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2020, for the Pride Parade. The hours of the actual festival are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 13, 2020, at the Sidney Friedman Parklet and Welch Plaza. There is no rain date set for the event.
- Accept the resignation of William Roll, with regret, from the Transportation Commission, effective immediately.
- Approve a resolution for the destruction of records in the Finance and Tax Departments.
- Approve the sale of the surplus property located at North Atherton Street and Woodland Drive, Tax Parcel Number 36-04-.277-.0000-.0000-, to Gary & Karyl Green for the sum of $6,522.00, subject to a 30-foot sign easement.

Planning and Zoning

Review of Draft Decision on the Conditional Use Application for the Core Spaces Signature Development at State College

Mr. Myers said that he had two items he wanted to talk about. The first one being Conclusion Section Item E – pertaining to public sidewalks having a minimum width of 5’. He said he was concerned about their width because the increasing number of pedestrians. He brought up a building on the 200 block of East Beaver that had already been built, the sidewalks were somewhat wider. He commented it seemed
that way because there was an elevated area planned for outdoor seating and just wanted clarification from someone at Core Spaces whether or not that was the case with this project.

Mr. Williams let Mr. Myers know that Council would not be able to do that now they would have to wait till later on in the process.

Mr. Myers then brought up the second item, affordable housing. He said he wanted to urge the developer to increase the amount of affordable housing from the mandatory 10% to 20%.

Mr. Murphy agreed with Mr. Myers and said he was pleased to see the condition about keeping the sidewalks accessible. He asked that there be a condition that allowed for PennDOT to coordinate with the Borough in regards to moving construction equipment so it did not conflict with any events going on in the Borough. He added that two more items did not make it into the condition which were providing bicycle parking and having a dedicated pickup and drop off point.

Ms. Lafer said that most of her concerns were covered by other Council members. However, she said that she would like the developer to look into the design of the windows so that the openings do not allow for beer cans to fit through for the sole purpose of reducing injuries and damage to property.

Ms. Lafer then added that there were a number of businesses that are bringing in young professionals which is causing people to expand. She said that in order to increase the literal value of the community they need to bring in more than just undergraduates. She said there needed to be more affordable options for those that work on campus or downtown.

Ms. Behring requested consideration of sidewalks to make it walkable, safe curb management, and bike parking as well.

Ordinance to Vacate Norma Street between East Marylyn Avenue and Property Owned by the State College Friends School

Mr. Myers moved to enact the ordinance as described. Janet Engeman seconded. In a roll-call vote, the motion passed 6-1. Mr. Marshall abstained.

Official Reports and Correspondence

Mayor's Report- Mayor Filippelli said he’s been very busy, he attended a Menorah Lighting, an MLK Banquet held in the Borough Building, a reception for veteran’s graduating with their bachelor’s degree, swore in a new police officer. He also met with the Executive Director of the Downtown State College Improvement District, joined the National Task Force of Mayor’s, met with the PSU Government Affairs staff, spoke at the ribbon cutting for KCF Technologies downtown. He said the most fun; however, was the first wedding he did. They were very in love.

President's Report- Mr. Barlow said Council met in an Executive Session prior to the regular meeting where they discussed personnel and real estate matters. He said he was sending a letter to the President of the School Board for reconsideration of a LERTA District previously approved by Council.

He announced the following appointments:
- Jesse Barlow to the Ad-Hoc Facilities Use Committee
- Dan Murphy to the Centre Area Cable Consortium

Regional Liaison Reports

Executive- Mr. Barlow said the Executive Committee met for the first time this year, they elected a Chair and Vice Chair, this year Patton Township will Chair COG. They had also set the Committee and General
Forum meeting dates, received Parks and Rec Comprehensive Plan which were passed on to the COG General Forum Meeting and approved including the approval of a project to evaluate the conditions of the Millbrook Marsh Boardwalk.

He said a Trick or Treat Policy for severe weather cancellations was put in the hands of the Police Chief in consultation with the Centre Region Emergency Management Coordinator. Also, he said there was talk about Penn State handing off HAZMAT services over to COG.

Lastly, Mr. Barlow said the Solar Power Purchase Agreement Committee met and they were considering a request for proposals/consultants to help them with the process and also chose a vendor.

**Finance** – Mr. Myers said that he was now the Chair for the Finance Committee. He said they went over the timetable for budgeting process, prioritized items that they were going to be taking over in 2020, took a look at the future of Parks and Recreation, start to hire full-time firefighters and also expand other services. He said this will result in more expenditures and he would rather let the members of the public know and understand this is about to occur.

**Human Resources**- There was no report.

**Parks Capital** – Ms. Engeman said the first order of business was to reappoint a Chair and Vice Chair which they deferred until the next meeting. She said a majority of the meeting they went over the boardwalk at the Millbrook Marsh, they had also come to the decision that they were going to be meeting quarterly rather than monthly.

**Public Safety** – Mr. Murphy said he was elected its Chair. He said that the main items on the docket for the Public Safety Committee were the oversight and administration of HAZMAT services for the Centre Region, new municipal software package for Zoning Code Billing and Inspections, future service model for regional fire protection and the impact on non-fire related calls.

**Public Services** – Ms. Behring said that the Public Services Committee reelected the Chair and Vice Chair, drafted an outline for a Climate Action and Adaption plan for climate change, went over Greenhouse gas inventory, and established reduction targets for all the municipalities.

**Transportation/Land Use** – Ms. Lafer said that she was the Chair of the Committee again this year. She said there was various municipality discussions on bridges, roads, interactions with PennDOT, as well as affordable housing and how we can match up our housing with transportation. She said they discussed housing, transportation and continuation of the road and bridge projects in the Centre Region. There was also a Census update, everyone should fill in their information for accurate funding for our community needs.

**Metropolitan Planning Organization** – Ms. Lafer said the MPO was in the process of taking care of planning documents including the TIFF and the important information they need for the 2021-2024 implementation program and long-range planning program.

**Ad-Hoc Facilities Use Committee** – Mr. Murphy said that the Ad-Hoc Committee continued its conversation about the job description for the COG Facilities Manager.

**Centre Area Cable Consortium** – Mr. Murphy said that they had set a meeting schedule for the year in which they will meet quarterly.

**Manager/Staff Reports**- Mr. Dunlap said there are two items of information, the first being attached to the agenda on page 129, a report from the Chair of the Zoning Hearing Board. He said it outlined their activities from 2019. The second item, he said was that the Borough had retained the International Association of the Chiefs of Police to assess the Police Department’s policies and practices.
Student Representative Report – Ms. Miller reported that on February 12, 2020 UPUA held Emergency Management Day in the HUB, students would be provided a list of Emergency services available to them. She also reported that UPUA passed a resolution to establish a student vote campaign for the upcoming general election which would reduce lines and provide more of an incentive for students to vote. Lastly, the UPUA recently passed a bill to establish “We Care Day”, which will be held on February 14.

Adjournment

Mr. Barlow made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Ms. Engeman seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary
Meeting Minutes  
State College Borough Council  
Regular Meeting  
March 2, 2020

The State College Borough Council met in a regular meeting on Monday, March 2, 2020, in the Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA 16801. Mayor Filippelli called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present:  
Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor  
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President  
Deanna M. Behring  
Janet P. Engeman  
Theresa D. Lafer  
Peter S. Marshall  
Dan Murphy  
Evan Myers

Also present:  
Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Thomas J. Fountaine, II, Borough Manager; Genevievre Miller, Student Representative; Douglas Shontz, Communications Specialist; Edward LeClear, Director of Planning and Community Engagement; John A. Gardner, Chief of Police; Deborah A.S. Hoag, Director of Public Works; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Borough Manager; Dwight Miller, Director of Finance; P. Rick Ward, Director of Parking; Stacy E. Hall, Administrative Assistant; interested residents and members of the media.

Special Reports

Coronavirus Update

Mr. Brian O’Donnell, Health Ordinance Enforcement Officer for the Borough and surrounding townships, provided Council with a handout regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and reviewed it in detail. He noted an information sheet would be uploaded to the Borough’s website from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Borough’s Health Department. Mr. O’Donnell reported Mt. Nittany Health had a plan for an outbreak of the virus and would be utilizing the same protocol as used for the H1N1 virus a few years back. He added the State College Area School District had also enacted its Emergency Management Plan along with providing each classroom with tissues and hand sanitizer.

Ms. Engeman asked if students returning to the United States from Italy would be quarantined and checked to make sure they were not carrying the virus? Mr. O’Donnell answered yes, and they would be quarantined for 14 days. Mr. Myers asked if there were less people to work because of being sick, would it be best to have a skeleton crew to keep people from spreading the sickness? Mr. Myers commented that if the schools closed, folks might have to stay home. He asked if planning was taking place to ensure emergency and essential services would still be able to operate? Mr. Fountaine assured Council the Centre Region had a plan for the continuity of operations. He did say the guidelines should be refreshed and exercised through. Mr. Myers added it would be good to know the guidelines once they were refreshed. Ms. Lafer asked if State College had an outbreak, was there something above and beyond Mt. Nittany Health for that many people? Mr. Fountaine said yes, and shelters were a part of the Emergency Management Process and Plan.

Task Force on Mental Health Crisis Services Update

Dr. Patricia Best, Chair of the Mental Health Crisis Services Task Force, provided a brief overview and update of the Task Force’s work. The report was for information only and no action of Council was required. Dr. Best reported a consultant was hired to assist in getting the Task Force up and running. She noted three components to the process. She said the first would be to gather data, and the
consultant would provide a report later in the month. She noted the second component would be analysis of the gathered data followed by the third component which would be writing out a plan. She noted the plan would be an easy read. She concluded by stating the Task Force was not running a sprint or a marathon, but rather a relay with each member doing their part. She pointed out there was much more work to do and welcomed comments and questions which she would take back to the group.

Mr. Marshall asked if the Task Force would be divided into subcommittees with such a large group? Dr. Best answered they would be breaking into six groups of seven people. She added each group would have a facilitator, a scribe and a resource person. Mr. Barlow asked if the groups would be broken down so there were even mental health experts versus community members? Ms. Best answered yes. Mr. Myers commented Council had made a commitment to work towards solutions and he appreciated Dr. Best’s role in accepting the challenge of moving the Task Force forward. Mr. Murphy asked if there was a mechanism if during development something was discovered that needed immediate action or attention, to be brought to Council sooner rather than later? Dr. Best said of course the Task Force would do that. Mr. Murphy inquired if when looking at the path of those who had been receiving ongoing care as they reenter crisis, was that a pathway into the areas being explored? Ms. Best assured Mr. Murphy that would be looked at as the Task Force moved through the process. Mr. Murphy thanked her for her leadership.

Centre Region Parks & Recreation (CRPR) Comprehensive Plan

Mr. Fountaine announced Tom Daubert, the Borough’s representative to CRPR’s Master Plan Committee, would update Council on CRPR’s Comprehensive Plan. He added at COG’s January 27 General Forum meeting, the Comprehensive Plan was referred to the Centre Region municipalities for review and comment and all municipal responses were due to the COG Executive Director by March 17. He said Council was asked to complete its review and provide final comments at the March 16 regular Council meeting. He reminded Council there was a 10-page summary included with the agenda packet. Mr. Daubert gave a brief summary of the planned surveys regarding the Borough parks. He reported most people agreed the parks were of great benefit and the comments were complimentary with suggestions for additions and improvements. He reviewed the top five areas of interest which were to maintain park areas and facilities, develop trails and greenways, develop walking/biking connections, conserve open space and rehabilitate older parks. He said the CRPR Plan would prioritize addressing the maintenance and capital improvements of all the parks which included fences, play equipment, picnic tables and restrooms. He added they would actively support the Action Sports Park and participate with COG in planning the Whitehall Road Regional Park. He pointed out State College does not have or necessarily need a Parks and Recreation Committee; thus, Council would be responsible along with Borough staff’s support to take care of the parks. He said COG did not want to continue the Parks Capital Committee and change the Parks and Recreation Board to include elected officials from each municipality in the community. Ms. Lafer commented the vast majority of people were looking for paths to see nature. Ms. Behring pointed out Millbrook Marsh was under financial strain, but having great data showing its popularity would help Council in the decision-making process. Mr. Fountaine reminded Council they would be asked for final comments at the March 16 meeting and those comments would be sent on to COG.

Highlands Parking Pilot Program

Mr. Fountaine noted Borough staff would provide a preliminary report on the data from the first year of the Highlands Parking Pilot Program, and included in this report was a historical summary of the overnight parking issue in the Highlands Neighborhood and how the current Parking Pilot was developed.

He reminded Council the report was an interim report only and would not include an in-depth analysis of the data, but staff would provide a more comprehensive report at the end of the second year to determine the viability of the Pilot's long-term sustainability.

Mr. Ward gave a history of the Parking Pilot to Council and reviewed the first year in detail. He pointed out that signage was one of the most important aspects of the pilot. He outlined the program regulations
in detail and reviewed the permit software functionality which caused some challenges within the program. He added there was not enough time to build a strong software solution, so ParkMobile was used. Mr. Ward reviewed several charts outlining on-street data collections. He talked about times when on-street parking restrictions were lifted in residential areas for special events. He noted toward the end of 2019 the number of cars parked on lawns increased due to the amount of the fine versus what it would cost to park. He reviewed staff resources necessary for running the program along with statistics and revenues. Mr. Ward stated staff met with the Highlands Civic Association who provided them with recommendations for the program which were taken into consideration for the future of the Program.

Mr. Murphy asked how much was collected for lawn parking citations? Mr. Ward did not have an exact figure, but stated it was close to 70 percent. Mr. Murphy asked for more details so Council could explore lawn parking citations.

Public Hour – Hearing of Citizens

Mr. Duke Gastiger, 400 West Foster Avenue, commented Borough residents should be thankful for the Mental Health Task Force and he considered himself informed and involved.

He also spoke about a situation this past summer when Council considered allowing a liquor license to be brought in from outside of the Borough. He said he owned a liquor license and had to pay $10,000 to have it renewed for another year. He pointed out it had no value as far as the state was concerned, only market value. He added the time for financial reward was when the business was sold, but he was not allowed to sell his business. He voiced his frustration that when another liquor license comes into the Borough, it takes money out of his pocket. He asked during this period of growth that Council instruct new licensees to contact people who presently hold liquor licenses before bringing new licenses into the Borough.

Consent Items

Ms. Lafer motioned to approve the following Consent Items. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approve the use of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza, from 4 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., on April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3, August 7, September 4, October 2, November 6, and December 4, 2020, for the Downtown State College Improvement District's First Friday activities.

- Approve with conditions the closure of various roads for the 2020 Penn State Marines Association 5K on Sunday, April 26, 2020, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to promote awareness and change for suicide among students and veterans.

- Approve with conditions the use of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza on Wednesday, May 13, 2020, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. for the Centre Foundation Centre Gives Event to encourage community giving and to highlight and support the great work of local nonprofits.

- Approve with conditions the use of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza, along with the closure of the 100 block of South Allen Street and the partial closure of West Calder Way (between Kelly Alley and South Allen Street) on Saturday, May 16, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the third annual JAM Fest.

- Approve with conditions the use of various Borough sidewalks on Sunday, October 11, 2020, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., for the annual CROP Walk to raise funds to alleviate hunger both locally and worldwide.

- Approve with conditions an exception to the Open Container Ordinance and the Pop-Up Ave Spring and End of Summer Market Events scheduled for the 100 block of South Fraser Street...
and the use of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza on Saturday, April 25, and Saturday, August 29, 2020.

- Reappoint Ryan Solnosky, Ph.D., P.E. to the Centre Region Building and Housing Board of Appeals for a three (3) year term commencing on February 25, 2020.

**Planning and Zoning**

**Ordinance to Vacate Fox Alley Between 420 and 448 East Prospect Avenue**

Mr. Fountaine noted Mr. David D'Agostino of 448 East Prospect Avenue had petitioned the Borough to vacate a segment of Fox Alley between East Prospect Avenue and the rear of his property. This portion of the alley was never ordained by Borough Council. Following the street and alley vacation process in Chapter XVI: Streets and Sidewalks of the Borough Code of Ordinances, the applicant submitted the necessary materials to initiate the vacation process. The standard process required the signatures of all property owners abutting the alley. However, the applicant reached out to the owners of the neighboring 420 East Prospect Avenue but was informed they did not wish to vacate the alley.

He continued that on November 18, 2019, Council referred the request to the Planning Commission (PC) for a recommendation. The PC recommended vacating the entire width of the alley, not just the half that abuts Mr. D’Agostino’s property. He said Council could accept and act on that recommendation at its discretion.

He reported on January 13 Council held a public hearing to receive input on the proposed vacation, and no unfavorable comments were received. He stated staff recommended Council adopt the Ordinance to vacate the entire width of Fox Alley, between East Prospect Avenue and the rear property line of 448 East Prospect Avenue.

A roll call vote was taken and by a vote of 7-0 Council approved the adoption of the Ordinance to vacate the entire width of Fox Alley, between East Prospect Avenue and the rear property line of 448 East Prospect Avenue.

**Review of Draft Decision on the Conditional Use Application for the Core Spaces Signature Development at State College**

Mr. Fountaine announced an application for a conditional use permit for the development of a project known as the “Core Signature Development” had been filed with the Borough by the developer, Core Spaces. The proposal was to consolidate three parcels at the corner of East College Avenue and Hetzel Street and build a 12-story mixed-use building. The Borough’s Zoning Ordinance and the PA Municipalities Planning Code requires a public hearing on the application, and Council must take action to approve or deny the application within 45 days following the hearing. He said on February 3 Council reviewed a draft decision based on the record from the January 13 public hearing and the Solicitor prepared a revised decision for Council’s review based on Council’s direction at the February 3 meeting. He said staff was recommending Council take final action to approve or deny the conditional use permit and no additional testimony would be taken.

Mr. Myers noted it seemed as though every provision was put forward except for the one Council accepted and he thanked the Solicitor and developer for that.

Ms. Lafer made a motion that Council approve the Conditional Use decision. Mr. Myers seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

**Proposed Rezoning Amendment for a Portion of Tax Parcel 36-26-022**

Mr. Fountaine noted on January 13 Council voted to refer a rezoning request for a portion of Centre LifeLink’s property (Tax Parcel 36-26-22) to the Planning Commission (PC) for review and recommendation. He added the PC reviewed the item at its January 23 and February 5 meetings.
recommending approval and staff recommended Council vote to receive the PC’s report and schedule a public hearing for April 6 and to give its intent to enact the rezoning amendment on April 6 or a later meeting.

Mr. Barlow made a motion to receive the PC’s report and schedule a public hearing for April 6 and to give its intent to enact the rezoning amendment on April 6 or a later meeting. Mr. Myers seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Proposed Rezoning Amendment to Allow Exceptions for Private Garages at Single-Family Dwellings on Large Lots in the Residence 1 (R1) Zoning District

Mr. Fountaine reported on January 13 Pan Michaleris, owner of a single-family home located along Penfield Road submitted a request for a zoning text amendment that would allow him to park a vehicle in an additional bay of his attached garage currently enclosed and used for storage, and Council voted to refer the request to the Planning Commission (PC) for review and recommendations. He noted the PC reviewed the item and supported the request and reviewed several potential approaches that would allow larger capacity private garages. He said the PC expressed a desire to limit the impact to the amendment to the R1 zoning district to minimize unforeseen consequences in other districts.

He said staff recommended Council vote to receive the PC’s report and schedule a public hearing on April 6 and to give its intent to enact the rezoning amendment on April 6 or a later meeting.

Ms. Lafer asked if it would only be possible in oversized lots and was there a way to carry it into smaller lots? Mr. LeClear answered it was only R1 which was very limited to at least a 25 square foot lot. Ms. Engeman made a motion to receive the PC’s report and schedule a public hearing on April 6 and to give its intent to enact the rezoning amendment on April 6 or a later meeting. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Neighborhood Sustainability Program: Property Acquisition Transition & Line of Credit Balance Payment Decision

Mr. Fountaine reported the Neighborhood Sustainability Program (NSP) began in April 2014 with the establishment of a three-year, $5,000,000 line of credit (LOC) to be used to acquire homes to encourage diversity in the Borough’s neighborhoods by reducing the concentration of student housing. He added the State College Redevelopment Authority (RDA) was established as the agency responsible for implementation of the program and at the time of the program’s establishment, Council also created a Real Estate Advisory Committee (REAC) to evaluate the operation of the program, provide an annual report, along with recommendations on the program. He noted in April 2014, Borough Council approved a surety agreement backing the RDA’s $5,000,000 line-of-credit to implement the program, and in March 2017, Council approved a surety agreement for a renewed three-year line-of-credit to run until 2020. He pointed out the current line of credit with Fulton Bank to fund the program would expire on June 1 with a total remaining balance of $429,910.13.

He continued, the REAC and RDA met in a joint meeting on July 24, 2019, to discuss recommendations for the evolution of the program and the termination of the line-of-credit, and both boards recommended transitioning the program away from acquisition and resale of properties to a program that purchased the Student Home Licenses and extinguished the zoning permit for the Student Home use. He said the RDA also recommended repayment of the line-of-credit by June 1 through an internal loan with the Borough, and continuation of the NSP program with future revenue dedicated to the RDA.

He concluded by stating staff was recommending Council to approve an internal loan to the RDA in the amount of $429,910.13 to pay off the balance of the bank line-of-credit. He added no action was required at this time; however, after Council’s discussion of the report, this issue would be included as an action item on the March 16 agenda.

Mr. LeClear presented a slide presentation outlining the program in detail.
Ms. Lafer thought the program had been abused and the holder of the loan needed to be changed. She said she was willing to support the change in who held the loan and how it was paid back. She added she was against paying people to give up their licenses and another way needed to be found to make the homes available and redefine what the program was supposed to do.

Mr. Marshall commented $1.6 million was spent and the cost per unit was $114,000 which was reasonable for housing in State College. He said a loan program with a 20% down payment requirement would not reduce the number of student houses. Mr. Fountaine clarified the program’s primary purpose was to reduce the number of student houses to create more diversity within the neighborhoods. Mr. Murphy said he would like Council to rethink how diversity was spoken about and diversity was not achieved by taking away affordable student housing. He asked if the approved millage increase was to cover the cost of the program? Mr. Fountaine answered it was for the new model RDA funding and the goal of the program was not to have more single-family homes, but to have a balance of student housing and owner-occupied homes. Mayor Filippelli noted the program was also intended to build the tax base of the Borough which was augmented by having permanent residents.

Official Reports and Correspondence

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Filippelli reported he recently performed a wedding which he found enjoyable. He said he spoke at the Community Forum on the Census and stressed how important the 2020 Census was to the Borough and urged everyone to participate. He noted he read two wonderful little books to a kindergarten class. He said spoke with a group of students from UPUA and had a great interaction with them. He added he took a tour of the Glennland Building which was being renovated into an extended-stay hotel and stated it was really going to be a great addition to the Borough when finished.

President’s Report – Mr. Barlow reported Council met in an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss personnel, litigation and real estate matters. He also said how important the 2020 Census was to the Borough and urged everyone to participate. He read a letter from concerned citizens about a Confederate Flag being displayed at the Boalsburg Memorial Day Parade that made several spectators uncomfortable and did not stand in line with the values of Harris Township. Mr. Barlow said he and Mayor Filippelli were in support of the letter and urged Council to support it as well.

Manager/Staff Report - None

Student Representative Report – Ms. Miller announced the UPUA passed a Resolution to support transitioning Pennsylvania to 100 percent renewable energy by the year 2050. She said they also passed a Resolution in support of #notagainsu which was a movement by Syracuse University (SU) to stop student violence. She added this movement was not supported by SU administration; therefore, the students were reaching out to other universities for support.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Lafer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary

Prepared by Stacy E. Hall, Administrative Assistant
Meeting Minutes  
State College Borough Council  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, March 16, 2020

The State College Borough Council met in a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2020, in the Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA 16801. Mayor Ron Filippelli called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Present:  
Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor  
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President  
Deanna M. Behring  
Theresa D. Lafer  
Peter S. Marshall  
Evan Myers  
Dan Murphy

Absent:  
Janet P. Engeman

Also Present:  
Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; Thomas J. Fountaine II, Borough Manager;  
Shawn Kauffman, Centre Region Emergency Management Coordinator; Thomas R. King, Assistant Borough Manager; Dwight Miller, Finance Director; Brian O'Donnell, Health Officer; Douglas Shontz, Communications Specialist; Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor and Borough residents both in house and virtually via C-NET.

Mr. Fountaine wanted to let everyone know that they would be doing something a little different tonight. Peter Marshall will be joining remotely. The Solicitor has deemed it appropriate as long as he can hear the proceedings and the public can hear him. Virtual participation is available, there is a time delay of what happens live.

Special Report

Coronavirus Update

Mr. Fountaine started with a COVID-19 report and update. He said they are trying to keep as up to date as possible, everything is changing constantly. He provided Council with a memo that outlined a summary of actions previously taken. Identified that there were four actions that required Council’s Approval

- Rescind its previous approval and cancel all previously approved Special Activities and Special Events through May 10, 2020.
- Cancel the Council meetings scheduled for April 6 and April 20 and give notice that the April 13 meeting will be a regular meeting of Council to allow official action.
- Direct all Authorities, Boards, and Commissions to cancel all non-essential meetings. Essential meetings shall be limited to those meetings where actions are statutorily required
- Postpone the Annual ABC Banquet to a later date

Mr. Fountaine noted that the Governor issued an order that established closure of non-essential businesses in the Commonwealth for 2 weeks of all bars and restaurants except for carry out, pick-up and delivery. He added that the closure went into affect at midnight.

Mr. Kauffman stated his role as the Centre Region Emergency Management Coordinator and provided updates of what was going on in Centre County COVID-19 wise. He said there were plans in place so that Centre County will be prepared.

Mr. Myers stated his concern about what happened when the Borough or County reached the threshold for the plan that was in place, what would the community do. He commented that since we are a medium-sized community that revolved around Penn State, the University may make resources more available to the community.
Mr. Kauffman said he would get back to Mr. Myers with more information about the SURGE plans.

Ms. Lafer wanted to let everyone know that the dorms on campus were private property to those who have items in them. She stated she was more concerned about ventilators and was wondering if there were enough.

Mr. Kauffman stated that he wanted Council to continue to be the sounding board for the residents. He added, if there were any questions brought forth, to please get those to the manager.

Mayor Filippelli wanted more clarification on what a non-essential business was and if local enforcement was to continue enforcing the laws. Also, he was wondering if police should make it more than a recommendation.

Mr. King stated that there was no authorization for local enforcement on the businesses and that there was no mechanism to force anything. The Police Department are waiting to hear back and to see how the state would go about enforcing the Governor’s order within the next 24-48 hours.

Mr. Fountaine listed off businesses considered “non-essential” and stated that staff was still trying to get clarification and that updates would continue to be posted online.

Mr. Myers wondered if there was some way that Council, could urge landlords not to evict their tenants during the crisis. He wanted to do a short resolution supporting the national conversation that people should not lose their leases or be evicted.

Mayor Filippelli stated that Council needed someone to draft such a resolution and that Council should not do something like that on the fly.

Mr. Barlow moved that Council acted on the four items presented by Mr. Fountaine. Ms. Behring seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Hour – Hearing of Citizens**

Claire Kelling, President of Graduate and Professional Students urged Borough Council to rethink the student representative position. She wanted there to be a second position added to represent graduate and professional students separate from the undergraduate position.

Ms. Lafer said that she loved the idea and that it should be something that should be included on the April 13 agenda.

Charles Tierney, a member of the community group Centre County COVID-19 Response stated the hardships that members of the community were going through during the Coronavirus pandemic. He said he had a list of questions, most of which were answered, that he was going to forward to Council. He thanked Council for the presentation and looked forward to working together in the weeks and months to come.

**Consent Items**

- Approve a resolution for the destruction of Records in Purchasing.
- Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable vouchers for the month ended January 31, 2020 totaling $4,672,790.61.
- Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable vouchers for the months ended February 29, 2020 totaling $3,067,498.91.
- Approve a Resolution lifting the 2 a.m.- 6 a.m. parking restrictions.
- Appoint the following individuals to various Authorities, Board Commissions and Committees:
Mr. Murphy moved to remove Consent item C – which was related to parking restrictions from the list of Consent Items for further discussion.

Mr. Myers made a motion to approve the remaining Consent Items as presented. Ms. Behring seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Mr. Murphy stated that he wanted to postpone discussion on the parking restrictions until the until April 13 meeting. Ms. Behring seconded the motion.

Mr. Fountaine explained to Council that before they move on this Consent, it is a ministerial action and that under an ordinance adopted last year, Council are was required to let the public know when they voted to lift or amend the 2 a.m. - 6 a.m. parking restrictions Borough wide. Staff had failed to have Council vote on the restriction at their December 2019 meeting. He pointed out that the listed dates are the same dates they had lifted historically.

Mr. Myers asked whether the amendment included the Highlands neighborhood.

Mr. Fountaine stated the amendment was not related to the Highlands parking pilot.

Mr. Murphy questioned why Section 2 of the amendment talked about the Highlands. Mr. Fountaine agreed that section 2 should not have been a part of the proposed resolution.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to amend the resolution by to removing section 2 from the proposed resolution. Ms. Behring seconded the amendment. Mr. Murphy then made a motion to adopt the amended resolution. Ms. Lafer seconded that motion, which passed unanimously.

Planning and Zoning

Neighborhood Sustainability Program: Property Acquisition Transition & Line of Credit Balance Payment Decision

Mr. Fountaine asked Council to approve a motion to loan the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) $429,000 with a variable interest rate so the RDA could get things finalized by the deadline of June 1, 2020.

Mr. Myers asked the Finance Director if there was a total collapse of interest rates, how things would stand regarding that.

Mr. Miller stated that the Borough would be earning 1.65% on its money market. It was anticipated that it might drop; however, it is a wash for the Borough. The rates varied monthly and it would save the RDA and would not cost the Borough anything.

Mr. Barlow made a motion to approve the loan to the Redevelopment Authority, in the amount of $429,000.00. Ms. Lafer seconded which passed unanimously.

Regional Issue

Centre Region Parks and Recreation (CRPR) Comprehensive Plan
Mr. Fountaine asked Council to authorize comments made by Dr. Thomas Daubert regarding the CRPR Comprehensive plan and provide to him any other comments Council may have had.

There were no additional comments.

Ms. Lafer motioned to approve the comments as presented by Dr. Daubert. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Official Reports and Correspondence**

**Mayor’s Report** - Mayor Filippelli said he had attended the National League of Cities (NLC) conference in Washington D.C. where he attended some interesting sessions, specifically on affordable housing. He said there was a rise nationwide in student homelessness and it was a serious problem. He reported that there was a decline in student enrollments (not experienced at Penn State) and there was an issue with short-term rentals and the impact they had on communities.

Mayor Filippelli said he also attended a 2020 Census meeting and said that the National Director of the Census was very complimentary when talking about the Centre Region and Centre County with how events have been organized.

Mayor Filippelli also wanted to let everyone know that he had been working with staff on the Coronavirus updates. He sent out a video regarding the Coronavirus to all outlets that he could reach.

**President’s Report** - Mr. Barlow said he had also attended the NLC conference in Washington D.C. where he had attended sessions on Communications as well as the one the Mayor attended and touched on earlier. He noted that the NLC’s Information Technology Committee chose not to lobby the FCC but resorted to two strategies instead: one being to accelerate broadband, and the other one being to Co-Sponsor the Community Television Act.

Ms. Lafer said that one thing that all the committees she was a part of had in common was affordable housing. She said she had attended 3 sessions while also attended the NLC Conference in Washington D.C. and is mostly concerned about there being enough affordable housing in and near State College.

Mr. Barlow wanted to bring to everyone’s attention that this Friday was the one-year anniversary of the shooting of Osaze Osagie. In the time since the shooting the State College Borough Police Department and staff impressed him with their professionalism. As Council President he said he gave his support to all inside and outside of local government who were working on race and equity, mental health issues and on police community relations. He added that the public’s voices have been valuable to him and other Council members this past year. He stated that Council needed to continue to hear from its residents and that Council needed to continue to honor and celebrate diversity.

**Regional Liaisons Reports**

**Executive Committee** – Mr. Barlow said the Executive Committee was meeting again tomorrow. He said that the last February meeting there was a briefing on road and bridge construction, an update on the U.S. Census, approving a contract for renovations to the COG Building which was approved at the last COG meeting, as well as some reappointments to the Code Board of Appeals. He noted that they also discussed the Solar Power Purchase Agreement. Lastly, the Executive Committee appointed a new Executive Director which became official at the General Forum meeting held earlier that day.

**Finance** – Mr. Myers said the highlight of the meeting was the committee picture. The main thing they discussed was the Regional Parks loan, which they had been looking at with the help of financial advisors to try and reduce interest rates which would be favorable for COG.

**Human Resources**- Mr. Marshall said the Human Resources Committee met and approved the job description for the Finance Assistant. In addition, they also approved a title change from Senior Inspector to Manager and approved the pay plan for the noted changes.
Public Safety- Mr. Murphy said the Public Safety Committee provided its approval/support for Code Administration to add two electric vehicles to their fleet. He noted that they also approved an electric duplex plugin that would be available outside of the COG Building which would be accessible to the public at no cost.

Public Services- Ms. Behring said the Public Services Committee met on March 5 and the bulk of the meeting was spent listening to a presentation on the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory presented by Pam Adams. Also discussed was a proposed resolution that each municipality in the Centre Region would be asked to approve.

TLU/MPO – Ms. Lafer said the Transportation and Land Use Committee and the Metropolitan Planning Organization’s meeting were cancelled this month due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ad-Hoc Facilities – Mr. Barlow said the Ad-Hoc Facilities Committee met on March 3 and received an informational project update. He said there was also discussion about the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center, which was very heavily used now that parks were one of the very few places people can visit during the pandemic. The rest of the meeting was an update and preparations for the Facilities Coordinator and repurposing student funds.

CACC – Mr. Murphy said that the Centre Area Cable Consortium had not met but wanted to acknowledge the extra effort cable companies are putting in to meet the demand and to understand that some people may not be able to pay their bills on time.

Manager/Staff Report – Mr. Fountaine said that at the NLC meeting in Washington D.C. Michael Bloomberg announced that Bloomberg Philanthropies was establishing a fund for COVID-19 response. Mayor Filippelli was working to get signed up for that so the Borough would be able to access funds.

Mr. Fountaine also noted that was the last official trip that anyone will be taking until at least May 10. He said he had put travel restrictions in place and would continue to update Council and added that they may extend beyond that date. Also connected to our work with the National League of Cities, Mr. Fountaine said he had identified dates for the Borough’s Race, Equity, and Leadership Program in State College but due to travel restrictions those dates were no longer going to work and the project would have to be pushed back somewhat.

Mr. Fountaine reminded Council that The South Field Lighting Agreement expires in August 2020. He said that staff had been working on reviewing the agreement. He said he anticipated bring the Agreement back to Council with any necessary actions. He said that he had met with the representative from the SCASD and Neighborhood Associations and that they were mutually agreeing on extending the deadline for the Agreement back due to COVID-19.

Mr. Fountaine wanted to bring up what he had discussed with the Director of the Census and that State College was the first to establish a Complete Count Committee in Centre County.

Lastly, Mr. Fountaine said the joint meeting between the Planning Commission, Zoning Rewrite Advisory Committee, that was originally scheduled for March 19 has been cancelled. That joint meeting would be rescheduled later.

Student Representative Report – There was no report.

Adjournment

There being no new business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary
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The State College Borough Council met in a Virtual Meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020, in the Municipal Building, 243 South Allen Street, State College, PA 16801. Mayor Ron Filippelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Ronald L. Filippelli, Mayor  
Jesse L. Barlow, Council President  
Deanna M. Behring  
Janet P. Engeman  
Theresa D. Lafer  
Peter S. Marshall  
Evan Myers  
Dan Murphy  

Mr. Fountaine did a Roll Call and noted there was a quorum of Council attending the virtual meeting.

Also Present: Sharon K. Ergler, Assistant Borough Secretary; Thomas J. Fountaine II, Borough Manager; Thomas R. King, Assistant Borough Manager for Public Safety; Dwight Miller, Finance Director; Douglas Shontz, Communications Specialist; Terry J. Williams, Borough Solicitor; Ed LeClear, Director of Planning; John A. Gardner, Chief of Police; Roger A. Dunlap, Assistant Borough Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Genevievre Miller, Student Representative; Leann Shaw, Human Resources Director; P. Rick Ward, Director of Parking; Eric Brooks, Acting Director of Public Works; Craig Bowser, IT Manager; Maureen Safko, Senior Planner; and Borough residents virtually via C-NET and those who registered through GoToWebinar.

Mr. Fountaine wanted to let everyone know that they would be doing something a little different tonight. Council Members joined remotely.

Mayor Filippelli said he was wearing one of the masks provided by The Makery and its team of volunteers who kindly donated 100 masks to the Borough for its employees to wear during this pandemic. He noted that the Borough made a monetary donation and he was grateful for their efforts.

Virtual Meeting Procedure Overview

Mr. Shontz provided a procedural overview for the virtual meeting.

Special Business

Resolution in Support of Governor Tom Wolf - At the request of Council President Barlow, Council was asked to consider adopting the attached resolution in support of Governor Tom Wolf. Mr. Myers read the resolution aloud for the viewing audience.

Mr. Barlow said it may seem as though the Borough was overreacting; however, without social distancing and restrictions on business openings and travel, the number of COVID-19 cases would be much higher. The Governor’s restrictions have been very hard on all of us, especially those who have business losses and/or closing and for those who have experienced job loss. Moreover, no Governor would want to impose such an order twice. He said if the state reopened too soon, it may have to shut down again and everyone needed to do what they could to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He added that he strongly supported the resolution and planned to vote in favor.
Mr. Barlow made a motion to adopt Resolution 1250 in support of Governor Tom Wolf. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Resolution Calling for a Moratorium on Evictions during the COVID-19 Pandemic – Ms. Behring asked Council to consider adopting a resolution calling for a moratorium on evictions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Behring read the resolution aloud for the viewing audience.

Mr. Barlow thanked Ms. Behring and Mr. Myers for their work in preparing the resolution and for working with local activists on the Coronavirus pandemic. He said it was Council’s duty to encourage those in the Commonwealth who have the authority to react to evictions. He said the Attorney General’s stay on evictions is through April 30, 2020. He added that he would strongly encourage the Attorney General to extend that deadline.

Mr. Myers the proposed resolution was something that Council discussed at its March 16 meeting. As the resolution stated, it included folks who were renting and those in the lower or middle income. He added that the moratorium impacts local businesses as well. He commented that many businesses pay rent and others pay mortgage payments. He added that it was important to realize that folks receiving rent have mortgage payments due themselves. He stated the affects go full circle and government officials need to be understanding and accommodating and he would encourage others to support the resolution. Mr. Myers said although Borough Council had no legal authority, it could strongly encourage the Governor, the General Assembly and the Supreme Court of the PA Commonwealth to establish a moratorium on residential and business evictions for non-payment of rent through the end of May, 2020.

Mr. Marshall made a motion to adopt Resolution 1251 calling for a moratorium on evictions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Consent Items
Ms. Lafer made a motion to approve the following Consent Items. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Approve Payroll and Accounts Payable vouchers for the month ended March 31, 2020 totaling $2,363,911.02.
- Reject the contract to provide six- and eight-cubic yard refuse containers.

Rescind and/or Cancel all Special Activities and Special Events
Mr. Fountaine explained that Council acted at its March 16, 2020 meeting to approve several measures that were directly related to the Borough and Centre Region COVID-19 response. Those measures were intended to enhance physical distancing and cancel events that if held would result in large gatherings of people in the community. At that same meeting, Council rescinded previously approved special activities and special events through May 10, 2020. He added that Council was being asked at this meeting to rescind its previous approval and cancel all previously approved Special Activities and Special Events between May 11 and June 20, 2020.

Mr. Marshall made a motion to cancel all Special Activities and Events through June 30, 2020. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion.

Mr. Myers said with a heavy heart he supported the cancellations because with the COVID-19 pandemic there was not much choice. He added that a lot of the festivals and activities the community had planned had to be cancelled or put on hold. He said the decision to cancel the special events and activities was not an easy one.

The motion passed unanimously.
Extension of the Deadline to Pay Real Estate Property Taxes

Mr. Fountaine said due to the COVID-19 pandemic, he was asking Council to consider extending the deadline to pay Real Estate Taxes at face value. The current deadline to pay was June 30, 2020 and due to the economic hardships created by the pandemic, Centre County Administrators and local municipalities were being asked to extend the deadline to pay property taxes at face value for a longer period. If Council voted to adopt the ordinance, it would extend the deadline to September 30, 2020.

Ms. Lafer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2140 amending the deadline to pay real estate taxes at face value. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion.

Mr. Todd Price, 860 Bayberry Drive, urged Council to not extend the deadline because if the Borough approved the amendment, it might exempt the municipality from funding from the Federal Care Act in the future. He added that while it made good sense in the short term, it may make the Borough ineligible for future federal payments and be detrimental in the long term.

The motion passed unanimously in a roll call vote.

First Modification of State College South Track Lighting Agreement and Extension of State College South Track Lighting Agreement

Mr. Fountaine said in August 2019, the State College Area School District (SCASD) and the Borough entered into an operational agreement in accordance with the Zoning Code for lighting and facilitating the use of the field designated as the South Track. He noted that the agreement would renew on August 5, 2020 unless either party gave a 90-day notice to modify or cancel the agreement. He said due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Borough and the SCASD have agreed to extend the deadline for review of the agreement until July 6, 2020. He added that all other aspects of the original agreement remain in full force and effect.

Mr. Marshall made a motion to approve the First Modification and Extension of the State College South Track Lighting Agreement. Ms. Lafer seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.


Mr. Fountaine said Council was being asked to consider approval of the proposed amendments to the 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 Consolidated Plans, and to the Fiscal Year 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Annual Action Plans. He explained that Council had previously approved the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan, which included the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Action Plan, in October 2019, based on estimated CDBG and HOME Budgets; however, due to significant differences between the estimated and actual budgets a substantial amendment process was required. He noted that the CDBG Budget increased by 2% from 2019; while the HOME Budget decreased by 20%. Mr. Fountaine said the proposed budget changes accomplished the following additional program benefits:

1. Adjusted the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Action Plan Budget from estimated to actual allocations.
2. Reprogrammed CDBG funds remaining from the completed 2019 CDBG Infrastructure Project: Streetlights/Curb Ramps-Sowers/Hetzel/Foster to the 2020-2021 CDBG Infrastructure Project Streetlights/Curb Ramps-East Beaver Avenue.
3. Responded to a 20.8% reduction in Fiscal Year 2020 HOME funds by reallocating prior year, and Fiscal Year 2020, CDBG balances from the Borough’s First-Time Homebuyer Program (Low Income) 2020-2021 to the Temporary Housing Foundation First-Time Homebuyer Program 2020-2021.
5. Corrected minor typographical errors.
Mr. Fountaine said, in accordance with the State College Borough’s Citizens’ Participation Plan, the Substantial Amendment process was being followed, which included advertisement of the proposed changes, a 30-day comment period, a public hearing and action by Borough Council. He noted that the public hearing was held remotely on April 9, 2020. No comments, written or oral, were received during the 30-day comment period or during the public hearing.

Mr. Fountaine said Council was asked to consider approval of the proposed amendments that were unanimously recommended by the CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee on March 3, 2020.

Ms. Engeman made a motion to approve the recommended amendments to the Fiscal Year 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 Consolidated Plans and to the Fiscal Year 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 Annual Action Plans. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion.

Mr. Myers asked, because of the uncertainty with COVID-19 revenue shortfalls, was there a concern that approving the CDBG amendments would cause additional issues with realizing the funding that was previously described. Mr. Fountaine said the amendments were for previously approved funding. These amendments simply allocated those funds.

Ms. Lafer said she had served on the CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC) for 8 years and as a recipient of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Funding, the Borough was required to send certain reports and/or plans to HUD within a certain period of time or the Borough would lose the funding. She added that the Planning staff was working on adjustments, both before and during COVID. She noted that the CAC had already done its due diligence when it held a hearing earlier in the month. She urged Council to approve what staff was requesting so the Borough did not lose these funds.

The motion passed unanimously to approve the adjustments to the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans, as requested.

**Year-to-Date Financial Report**

Mr. Fountaine said in December 2019, Council enacted Ordinance 2136 which increased the sewage rates from $9.35 to $10.17 per thousand gallons per quarter and changed the minimum charge per quarter from $28.05 to $32.25. He explained that implementation was scheduled to occur in April; however, at that time, Borough staff requested postponing the increase for a month. He stated that at this time staff needed to notify the State College Borough Water Authority of its next step. Mr. Fountaine told Council that staff was recommending the increase be deferred to October 1, 2020 and implement the increase in the 4th quarter. He asked Council to ratify the deferral to the 4th quarter.

Ms. Lafer made a motion to ratify the deferral of new sewage rates until the 4th quarter of 2020. Mr. Barlow seconded the motion which passed unanimously in favor.

Finance Director Dwight Miller provided the 1st Quarter’s Financial Report. In addition, he reviewed the potential impacts of COVID-19 through May. 2020. He noted that the Borough spent approximately $15,000 to get employees set up so they could work from home. He noted increases in overtime costs in Police, Public Works and in the Health Department at approximately $63,000. Mr. Miller estimated that the lost parking revenue was estimated at $729,000 in the Parking Fund and another $200,000 in the General Fund from on-street parking meters. He also noted that there was no parking enforcement being done and anticipated a loss of $122,000 from violation revenue. Mr. Miller said based on changes to the service for commercial refuse accounts, staff had anticipated credits in the 2nd half of the year to commercial customers at approximately $250,000, if the Borough goes back to regular business in June. Other anticipated losses will likely occur in the Sanitary Sewer Fund due to so many apartments unoccupied.

Mr. Marshall said he was anticipating soon that staff would be providing revisions to the 2020 Budget such as anticipated changes in what the Borough was doing going forward, new estimates and Capital
Improvements that were being delayed. Mr. Miller said he and Mr. Dunlap were working on projections on all the above and he hoped to provide more information at Council’s May 18 meeting.

Ms. Lafer said she had been contacted by at least one person via email who raised a concern that there was going to be an increase in taxes or fees due to COVID-19. She said Council decreased fees earlier this evening and there were no new taxes proposed. She noted in terms of spending, the Borough was going to continue with the Budget as originally proposed and staff and Council would see what had to be cut and where the budget could be scaled back. She agreed that the community was going to need support from the Borough and/or the Centre Region in terms of food and/or shelter, which she said would be considered as the Borough moved forward. She said Council was aware of the changes and was adapting to them as they came up.

Mayor Filippelli complimented the community as they were staying in place and social distancing. He said everyone was doing a remarkable job and it was much appreciated.

Mr. Barlow agreed. He said Centre County had the same number of cases for the last 4 days. He said the curve was bending and hoped that continued in terms of the number of confirmed cases and added that was because everyone in the community was practicing social distancing and it had a great effect on the total number of positive COVID-19 cases.

Mr. Myers said earlier in meeting, Council voted unanimously to approve the amendment to extend the deadline to pay real estate taxes at face value to September 30, 2020. He said a concern was raised by a resident about where that amendment might leave the Borough in the future. He commented that the extension had been thoroughly checked prior to Council’s vote. He added that the Manager could attest to that as well.

Adjournment

Mr. Barlow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Myers seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

______________________________
Sharon K. Ergler
Assistant Borough Secretary
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State College Borough Council
Policy Briefing Summary

RE: Revisions to the State College Borough Citizen Participation Plan

Date Prepared: May 7, 2020
Prepared By: Maureen Safko, Senior Planner
Proposed Meeting Date: May 18, 2020
Deadline for Action: May 18, 2020

I. Request/Issue Needing Council Action

Council is asked to receive the proposed revisions to the State College Borough Citizens’ Participation Plan (Plan) and to consider approval of those revisions.

II. Current Policy and/or Practice

Substantial revisions to the Plan require that the revised Plan be made public and that citizens be provided an opportunity to comment on the revised Plan prior to adoption by Borough Council.

III. Other Background Information

As a Community Planning and Development Program participating jurisdiction, the Borough of State College (Borough) is required to adopt a citizen participation plan that sets forth the jurisdiction’s policies and procedures for citizen participation.

To expedite the delivery of CDBG, CDBG=CV, HOME and ESG funds and FY 2019 and 2020 CDBG and HOME funds to address the growing impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act permits the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to temporarily authorize the comment period for Consolidated Plan Substantial Amendments to be reduced from thirty to five days through December 31, 2020. Additionally, HUD waivers permit remote, virtual hearings and meetings to be conducted for the purpose of social distancing, and also permit concurrent amendments to both the Citizen Participation Plan and the Consolidated Plan.

The waivers do not authorize a public hearing advertisement of less than two weeks. Therefore, the revised Citizen Participation Plan Amendment proposes that a two-week notice be provided for Consolidated Plan (CP) Amendment hearings and that the public be given a comment period on the content of the CP amendment that is as long as reasonably possible, but that is not less than five
days in duration. The public notice is attached on page ___ along with the revised Plan. The temporary revisions authorized by the CARES Act are inserted at the end of the Plan.

IV. Financial Impact on Budget

Proposed Plan revisions have no anticipated financial impact on the budget.

V. Authority, Boards and Commission Review

The proposed revisions to the Plan were published in the newspaper on April 21, 2020. No comments were received from the public, either in writing or verbally when the CDBG Citizen’s Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed revisions during a public meeting conducted electronically on May 5, 2020. The CAC members voted unanimously to recommend that Council approve the revised Plan as proposed by staff.

V. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that Council adopt the revised State College Borough Citizen Participation Plan.
Citizen Participation Plan

As required under 24 CFR 91.105, following is the citizen participation plan for the Borough of State College’s Community Development (CD) Program as it relates to the development of any Consolidated Plan (CP) and/or Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH); substantial amendment to the CP and/or revision to the AFH; and the Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER).

To further citizen participation, Council shall:

1. Recruit and appoint members to the CAC;
2. Provide the opportunity for any resident to comment on matters relating to the CD program at all public meetings of Council; and,
3. Conduct such public hearings as required by federal law.

The Citizens’ Advisory Committee

The Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC) shall remain the focal point of citizen participation in the consolidated planning process, as well as the AFH process. In order to fulfill this obligation, the CAC, in conjunction with Council and staff, shall undertake the activities described below.

1. The membership of the CAC shall be seven members who shall serve 4-year terms and who may serve two successive terms. In recruiting members for the CAC, the municipality shall actively seek and encourage participation by low- and moderate-income residents or representatives of groups of low- and moderate-income residents.
2. Hold at least two public hearings annually to: a) identify housing and community development needs; b) review program performance; c) review the proposed use of funds; and d) proposed strategies and actions for affirmatively furthering fair housing. At least one of the public hearings will be held before the proposed CP/AFH is published for comment.
3. Provide a forum where any public or private agency or any individual or group of individuals may present proposals for use of HOME and CDBG funds.
4. Fulfill all duties and responsibilities established in the “Charge to the Community Development Block Grant Citizens’ Advisory Committee” as approved by Borough Council.

Borough Staff

To further the participation of residents in the consolidated planning process, as well as the AFH process, the Borough Manager or his/her designee shall:

1. Assist Borough Council and the CAC, as necessary.
2. Provide reasonable technical assistance to low- and moderate-income individuals or groups and to other agencies, individuals or organizations that request assistance in developing proposals under the CP/AFH submission.
3. Provide reasonable and adequate public notification of and access to all meetings, hearings, and other activities at which the housing and community development needs of the municipality, program performance, or proposed and actual use of funds are discussed. For the 2 public hearings, this is achieved by publishing in the local newspaper, the Centre Daily Times, with an ad located outside of the legal section and by advertising the meeting on CNET, Centre County’s government and educational access network 2 weeks prior to the hearings.

4. Provide residents, public agencies, and other interested parties the opportunity to receive information, and to review and submit comments on any proposed submission concerning proposed activities, including the estimated amount of assistance (including grant funds and program income) the Borough expects to receive and the range of activities that may be undertaken including the estimated amount that will benefit persons of low- and moderate-income. If necessary, contingency provision language will be included to explain how adjustments to the proposed plan will be made once actual allocation amounts are announced. The CP/AFH will be made available in a form accessible to persons with disabilities upon request. Access to records available for at least five years

5. Minimize displacement and assist those displaced as a result of proposed activities and provide access to the Borough's plans to achieve this.

6. Take actions appropriate to meet the needs of all residents including minorities and non-English speaking persons, as well as persons with disabilities in all stages of the consolidated planning process as well as the AFH process.

7. Based on the four-factor analysis, while a Language Access Plan is not necessary, staff will take reasonable steps outlined in the Borough’s Limited English Proficient (LEP) policy to provide the opportunity for meaningful access to LEP participants. The Borough affirms that it shall meet the needs of non-English-speaking residents at public hearings regarding the CP/AFH when a significant number of non-English-speaking residents can be expected to participate.

8. Publish the proposed CP/AFH so that affected residents, public agencies and other interested parties have sufficient opportunity to review it and provide comments. This requirement will be met by publishing a summary of the proposed CP/AFH in one or more newspapers of general circulation and making copies available at libraries, government offices and public places. The summary will describe the contents and purpose of the CP/AFH and will include a list of the locations where copies of the entire plan may be examined. Residents and groups will be provided with a reasonable number of free copies of the CP/AFH.

9. Provide residents a period of not less than 30 days prior to the submission of the CP/AFH to comment. Comments will be considered in the preparation of the final CP/AFH and a summary of the comments will be attached to the CP/AFH. This summary will include a written explanation of comments not accepted and the reasons why these comments were not accepted.

10. Provide timely written answers to written complaints and grievances, within 15 working days, where practical.

11. Ensure that prior to submission of any substantial amendment to the CP or revision to the AFH, residents will have reasonable notice of, and opportunity to comment, on the proposed amendment/revision.
**Consolidated Plan Amendment Policy**

Following are the policies and procedures for different types of amendments.

**CP Substantial Amendment**

A substantial amendment will be required to the adopted CP under the following conditions:

1. Deletion of an Approved Activity. Where the Borough proposes to delete an approved CP activity, a substantial amendment will be required.

2. Addition of an Activity. Where the Borough proposes to add an activity to an approved CP, a substantial amendment will be required.

3. Change of Scope to an Approved Activity. Where the Borough proposes to make additions or deletions to the scope of a previously approved activity, a substantial amendment may be required. CDBG/HOME staff will review all change of scope proposals to determine whether the action is significant. If the action is determined to be significant, a substantial amendment will be required. Significant actions are deemed to be changes which result in a change in the commitment of funds beyond 25% of the original allocation or $25,000, whichever is greater, but not to exceed 50% of the original allocation. Environmental impacts previously not considered shall also require a substantial amendment.

Following are the procedures to be followed when a substantial amendment is necessary:

**Step 1:** Staff prepares a report on the proposed changes.

**Step 2:** CDBG/HOME staff reviews the proposal and determines if a substantial amendment is required. If no amendment is necessary, staff publishes a notice of the change, allowing a 30-day comment period, and implements the proposed changes. If an amendment is necessary, staff prepares a recommendation to the CDBG CAC on the proposal, publishes a notice summarizing the proposed amendment in a newspaper of general circulation and makes copies available at libraries, government offices and public places. Staff ensures the notice provides no less than a 30-day period to receive comments on the substantial amendment before the amendment is implemented. Any comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at public hearings will be considered.

**Step 3:** On receipt of the recommendation from the CDBG CAC, Council establishes a Public Hearing date.

**Step 4:** Public Hearing is held before Council to consider any comments or views of residents regarding the proposed amendment. Following the hearing, Council may act to approve or deny the proposed amendment or request an additional staff report and table the action until the next-scheduled meeting.

**Step 5:** If Council approves the proposal, staff will notify HUD. Staff will provide a summary of any comments or views of residents received, any comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore; and attach it to the amendment.

**Step 6:** If Council approves the proposal, CD staff will submit the following documentation to the Finance Director:

a. a memorandum indicating the changes in the allocation of funds, and how account or accounts are affected; and

b. a copy of the pertinent pages of the amended CP.
CP Informal Amendment

An informal amendment will be required when the proposed change does not trigger a substantial amendment.*

Step 1: If an informal amendment is necessary, staff publishes a notice summarizing the informal amendment in a newspaper of general circulation and makes copies available at libraries, government offices and public places. Staff ensures the notice provides no less than a 30-day period to receive comments. Any comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at public hearings will be considered.

Step 2: Staff will notify HUD. Staff will provide a summary of any comments or views of residents received, any comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore; and attach it to the informal amendment.

Step 3: CD staff will submit the following documentation to the Finance Director:

   a. a memorandum indicating the changes in the allocation of funds, and how account or accounts are affected; and

   b. a copy of the pertinent pages of the amended CP.

*Exceptions: 1. DeMinimus Changes – Minor budgetary changes that are necessary will be made by staff. DeMinimus changes are deemed to be changes in funding up to $2,500, but not to exceed 50% of the original allocation.

2. Reconciling estimated and actual allocation amounts – changes made to reconcile estimated amounts used prior to the announcement of the funding year’s actual allocation amounts will not require an amendment as long as the CP includes language that estimated amounts have been used and contingency language on how the plan will be adjusted to match actual allocation amounts once announced.

Assessment of Fair Housing Revision Policy

A revision will be required to the accepted Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) under the following conditions:

1. A material change occurs. A material change is a change in circumstances in the jurisdiction of a program participant that affects the information on which the AFH is based to the extent that the analysis, the fair housing contributing factors, or the priorities and goals of the AFH no longer reflect actual circumstances. Examples include Presidential declared disasters, under title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), in the program participant’s area that are of such a nature as to significantly impact the steps a program participant may need to take to affirmatively further fair housing; significant demographic changes; new significant contributing factors in the participant’s jurisdiction; and civil rights findings, determinations, settlements (including Voluntary Compliance Agreements), or court orders; or

2. HUD’s written notification specifying a material change that requires the revision.

Following are the procedures to be followed when a revision is necessary:

Step 1: Staff prepares a recommendation to the CDBG CAC on the proposed revision, publishes a notice summarizing the proposed revision in a newspaper of general circulation and makes copies available at libraries, government offices and public places. Staff ensures the notice provides no less than a 30-day period to receive comments on the revision before the revision
is implemented. Any comments or views of residents received in writing, or orally at public hearings will be considered.

Step 2: On receipt of the recommendation from the CDBG CAC, Council establishes a Public Hearing date.

Step 3: Public Hearing is held before Council to consider any comments or views of residents regarding the proposed revision. Following the hearing, Council may act to approve or deny the proposed revision or request an additional staff report and table the action until the next-scheduled meeting.

Step 4: If Council approves the proposed revision, staff will notify HUD. Staff will provide a summary of any comments or views of residents received, any comments or views not accepted and the reasons therefore; and attach it to the revision.

**Temporary Changes in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act allows grantees to adopt and utilize expedited procedures to prepare, propose, modify, or amend its statement of activities (consolidated plan) to address the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the following changes to the citizen participation process are in effect until December 31, 2020:

1. The usual 30-day public comment period for any proposed amendments relating to the use of CDBG-CV and ESG funds, as well as FY2020 and FY2019 CDBG and HOME funds will be reduced. Efforts will be made to allow for as long a period as possible, with no comment period less than 5 days. In accordance with the CARES Act, concurrent amendment processes may be undertaken for the Citizen Participation Plan and the Consolidated Plans.

During the time national or local health authorities recommend social distancing and/or limiting public gatherings for public health reasons, the following procedures shall be in effect:

2. Access to copies of the proposed amendments will be available for as long a period as possible, but not less than 5 days prior to the public hearing, in the following manner:
   a. Hard copy at the Police Dept. during regular business hours.
   b. Online at Borough’s website: www.statecollegepa.us.

3. Public meetings and hearings will be virtual rather than in-person.
   a. Instructions and a link for public meetings will be emailed to CAC and Borough Council members, staff, and interested parties. This information will also be published in a public notice and made available on the Borough’s website for all citizens to participate.
   b. Notices for public hearings with instructions and a link will be published at least two weeks prior to the date of the hearing. Written comments to be included in the public hearing will be accepted until the 5 p.m. the day prior to the hearing.
   c. In addition to written comments, the public hearings and meetings will be conducted using software that will allow attendees the opportunity to ask questions in real time, with answers coming directly from CAC members, elected representatives and staff to all virtual attendees.
LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed amendments to the Borough of State College (Borough) Citizen Participation Plan (Plan) are available for public review and comment. The Plan outlines actions taken to involve citizens in the community development planning process. The proposed amendments involve temporary provisions to be implemented to address the COVID-19 pandemic (Pandemic). These include reducing the public comment period for amendments from 30 to 5 days and holding virtual public meetings and hearings. A copy of the revised Plan will be available from Apr. 21 through May 5, 2020 online at www.statecollegepa.us and in hard copy from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-Fri at the Borough Police Dept., 243 S. Allen St. The Borough Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC) will review the proposed amendments during a virtual public meeting to be held at noon on May 5, 2020. Borough Council will consider the amendments during a virtual public meeting to be held at 7 p.m. on May 18, 2020.

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Borough will receive $305,713 in CDBG-CV funds to prepare for, prevent and respond to the impacts of the Pandemic. FY2019 and FY2020 CDBG and HOME funds may also be reallocated for this purpose. The CAC will hold a virtual public hearing during the May 5th meeting to obtain the views of citizens, public agencies, and other interested parties on Pandemic-related community development needs and the development of activities to be undertaken to address these needs.

Interested parties may register to participate in the May 5th CAC virtual public meeting and hearing at https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1453859342949821964. For updated information and further instruction on hearing attendance and participation please see www.statecollegepa.us, call (814) 234-7109, (814) 234-7101 (TTY), or email planningdept@statecollegepa.us. Persons with a disability or Limited English Proficiency who wish to participate in the meeting/hearing are asked to contact the Planning Dept. at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to discuss your needs.

Written comments relating to either the Plan amendments, and/or Pandemic-related needs, will be accepted until 5 p.m. on May 4, 2020 by email, or by mail to Planning Dept., 243 S. Allen St., State College, PA 16801.

Thomas J. Fountaine, II
Borough Manager/Secretary
State College Borough Council
Policy Briefing Summary

RE: Amendments to the State College Borough (Borough) 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 Consolidated Plans (CP) and the 2019 and 2020 Annual Action Plans (AP)

Date Prepared: May 14, 2020
Prepared By: Maureen Safko, Senior Planner
Proposed Meeting Date: May 18, 2020
Deadline for Action: June 1, 2020

I. Request/Issue Needing Committee Action

Council is asked to review the proposed Substantial Amendments to the State College Borough (Borough) 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 Consolidated Plans (CP) and the 2019 and 2020 Annual Action Plans (AP). The amendment includes CDBG-CV funding.

II. Current Policy and/or Practice

III. Other Background Information

Through the CARES Act, HUD awarded State College Borough $305,713 in CDBG-CV funding. These Supplemental CDBG Entitlement funds must be used to “prepare for, prevent and respond to the growing impact of the COVID-19 health and economic crisis”. HUD will also permit grantees to amend FY 2019 and 2020 CDBG and HOME budgets for this purpose. Staff have examined prior year funding balances for opportunities to prioritize, expedite and postpone various projects as needed to make approximately $400,000 in additional funding available for the anticipated pandemic related community needs. Based on public input, and on federal guidelines that define project eligibility, the following activities are identified as potential uses for State College Borough CDBG-CV funds and 2019 and 2020 CDBG and HOME funding uses: short and medium term, homelessness prevention in the form of rent, mortgage and utility assistance; non-congregate housing (i.e. hotel and apartment stays) for those that could otherwise spread disease in shelters; emergency food distribution; PPE, testing, and remote medicine technology for CVIM for income eligible patients from State College Borough; additional support for human service and housing providers in State College Borough.

Schedule:
The proposed schedule for the allocation of grant funds involves the following steps. A public needs hearing was held on May 5. Input was provided by 7 organizations, 3 of which are newly formed or significantly expanded in their level of service. On May 18th Council will act on an update to the CDBG Citizens Participation Plan to allow remote meetings and for an expedited comment period of 5 days. A CAC meeting will be held on May 21 to review an amended Consolidated Plan and Action Plans. A public hearing will be held on June 1 prior to a Council meeting when Council will vote on the proposed allocation of...
funds. Plans will be submitted to HUD electronically. HUD will expedite the review of local Plans. Funding contracts are expected in July or August at the latest.

IV. Financial Impact on Budget
The proposed substantial amendments will have a positive impact on the Borough’s performance measurement of timeliness of expenditures and will result in increased funding for the CDBG and HOME program administration services.

V. Authority, Boards and Commission Review
The proposed amendment was published and posted for public comment on March 4, 2020. In response to measures necessary for COVID-19 response a corrective notice was published on March 27, 2020, moving the public hearing from April 6 at 7:00 PM prior to Council meeting to take place on April 9 at 2:00 PM to take place remotely through Go To Webinar with the amendments to be available at the State College Borough Police Department and on the Borough’s website, rather than in facilities that had been closed to the public. The CDBG Citizen’s Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed amendments at its meeting on March 3, 2020. After receiving no written or oral communications regarding the Substantial Amendments during the 30 day public comment period, or during the public hearing, Council is asked to act on the proposed substantial amendments.

VI. Staff Recommendation
Staff requests that Council consider the recommendation of the CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee during the meeting to be held on June 1st, 2020.

VII. Action Needed
No action required.

Attached:
1. Legal Notice
Please publish the ad below on Sunday, May 17, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Amendments to the State College Borough (Borough) 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 Consolidated Plans (CP) and the 2019 and 2020 Annual Action Plans (AP)

Through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, the Borough will receive $305,713 in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds to prepare for, prevent and respond to the impacts of the Pandemic. FY2019 and FY2020 CDBG and HOME funds may also be reallocated for this purpose. The CDBG Citizens’ Advisory Committee (CAC) received public input on pandemic related community needs during a virtual public hearing held on May 5, 2020. A second CAC meeting will take place at noon on May 21, 2020 to further discuss federal funding allocation. Parties interested in attending the upcoming CAC meeting may join electronically at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BDMAJcYiTmOLOc9EMTn2gg

Additional detailed information regarding the proposed use of CDBG, CDBG-CV and HOME allocations will be provided through a separate notice to be published on, or about, May 26th, 2020 after a public meeting of the CAC to be held at noon on May 21, 2020. Additionally, the proposed revised Plans will be available from approximately May 26 through June 1, 2020 online at www.statecollegepa.us and in hard copy from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-Fri at the State College Borough Municipal Bldg., 243 S. Allen St.

State College Borough Council (Council) will conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed amendments to the 2015-2019 and 2020-2024 CPs and the FY2019 and FY2020 APs at 7p.m. on June 1, 2020 and will act on the proposed Plans during the Council meeting following the public hearing. Parties interested in attending the public Council meeting and hearing may join electronically at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_h9_TsdmpSZSt5tZNgvoVw

For updated information and further instruction on hearing attendance and participation please see www.statecollegepa.us, call (814) 234-7109, (814) 234-7101 (TTY), or email planningdept@statecollegepa.us. Persons with a disability or Limited English Proficiency who wish to participate in the meeting/hearing are asked to contact the Planning Dept. at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to discuss your needs.

Written comments relating to the Plan amendments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on June 1, 2020 by email at planningdept@statecollegepa.us or by mail to Planning Dept., 243 S. Allen St., State College, PA 16801.

Thomas J. Fountaine, II
Borough Manager/Secretary
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COVID-19 GUIDANCE: Farmers Markets & On-Farm Markets

Farmers markets and on-farm markets are encouraged to follow the COVID-19 guidance for farm and distribution preparedness, in addition to the following recommendations developed for farmers markets.

1. Prepare market and individual stands
   - Consider delivery or pick up options
   - Consider pre-packaging bags of fruits, vegetables, other items to limit shoppers’ handling of food and to keep customers moving quickly along.
   - Consider alternate locations that could allow drive through or pick up.
   - Consider putting up signs and information on websites and social media to explain any changes, delivery options, or extra precautions taken to limit exposure to COVID-19. Ex: Instruct customers not to handle food. Package cheese and eggs for customers, even if the cheese and eggs are individually packaged. Open egg cartons for customers to see the eggs they are getting instead of having them handle multiple cartons.
   - Separate stands if possible, to limit crowds – try to separate stands at least six feet apart. Possibly consider limiting the number of customers within your market at one time in the case of “panic shopping”.
   - If possible, have a different person handle products and handle money or wash hands or sanitize in between these tasks.
   - Remove tablecloths and sanitize tables regularly.
   - Eliminate samples.
   - Eliminate eating areas and gently direct customers to take prepared foods home to avoid crowds.

2. Prepare workforce
   - Provide guidance for handwashing (liked time intervals) and handling materials.
   - Stagger lunch times or provide additional space to increase distancing of employees.
   - All sick employees need to stay at home.
   - Inform employees where they can find sanitizing materials throughout on-farm contact points.
• Encourage employees to practice social distancing and avoid large gatherings to avoid risks for potential exposure during off hours.
• Encourage employees not to handle customers' reusable bags and let customers pack their own bags.

3. Sanitize contact surfaces.
• Frequently disinfect all door handles and knobs, credit card machines, shopping baskets, etc. at a regular pre-established time intervals.
• Frequently sanitize common gathering places – restrooms, etc.

If you are considering opening an on-farm stand, for raw produce, shelf stable packaged foods like jams and jellies or baked goods, or a farm’s own eggs, you do not need a food safety license for an on-farm stand. Please visit the PDA website for more information about retail food licenses.

If you are relocating a farmers market temporarily due to COVID-19, the PA Department of Agriculture will not need to issue a new food safety license. If it is a permanent relocation, the application is on our website.
• 71% increase in extreme rain events (≥2”) since 1898 in State College.

• PennDOT spending $125.7 million extra for flood and landslide infrastructure replacement in 2018 alone.

• Farmers experiencing crop damage due to extreme events.

• Number of Lyme disease cases tripled in PA over the past 10 years.

• West Nile virus in 2018: 130 cases in PA; 20 cases in 2017
Identify pragmatic, fiscally responsible actions for local municipalities to consider in order to:

1. mitigate the region's contribution to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and
2. adapt to changing climate conditions.
Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Process

1. Inventory Emissions
2. Establish Targets
3. Conduct Vulnerability Assessment
4. Monitor/Evaluate Progress
5. Develop Action Plan
6. Implement Plan
7. Prioritize Actions

- Collaboration efforts
- Prioritization
- Financial resources
- Local and Regional Action
- Identify current sustainability practices
- Research best practices
- Stakeholder engagement
- Public Outreach
What GHG emissions are measured?

- Use of electricity by the Community
- Use of fuel in Residential and Commercial Stationary Combustion Equipment
- On-Road Passenger and Freight Motor Vehicle Travel
- Use of Energy in Potable Water and Wastewater Treatment and Distribution
- Generation of Solid Waste
- Agriculture – animal management and fertilizer use
CRPA | Sustainability | Centre Region Resilience | GHG Inventory

www.crcog.net

Centre Region Council of Governments
2016 Community Wide GHG Inventory and Methodology Report

Executive Summary

Centre Region Council of Governments

2016 Community Wide GHG Inventory and Methodology Report

Executive Summary

Central to the goal of mitigating climate change is the need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and ensure the public health and sustainability of the Centre Region. The 2016 Community Wide GHG Inventory and Methodology Report, prepared by CRCOG, identifies the major sources of greenhouse gas emissions in the region and provides a comprehensive picture of the region’s progress in reducing emissions.

Introduction

The report provides a detailed analysis of the region’s GHG emissions, including contributions from various sectors such as transportation, energy, and waste management. The data is presented in a clear and accessible format, allowing stakeholders to understand the magnitude of the challenge and the potential for action.

Methodology

The methodology used in the inventory is aligned with the guidelines established by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The inventory covers the period from January 1, 2014, to December 31, 2016, and includes direct and indirect emissions from various sources.

Results

The report highlights the significant contributions of different sectors to the overall GHG emissions in the region. Transportation, specifically, is identified as the major source of emissions, followed by energy and waste management.

Recommendations

The report concludes with recommendations for reducing GHG emissions, including the adoption of alternative transportation modes, increased energy efficiency, and improved waste management practices. The recommendations are intended to guide policy makers and stakeholders in developing effective strategies for reducing emissions and enhancing the region’s sustainability.

Conclusion

The Centre Region Community Wide GHG Inventory and Methodology Report provides a valuable resource for understanding the current state of GHG emissions in the region and identifying potential avenues for reducing emissions. The report is an important step towards achieving the goal of mitigating climate change and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Centre Region.

Figure 1: Observed and Projected Temperatures in Pennsylvania

The figure shows observed and projected temperatures in Pennsylvania over the past century, highlighting the impact of climate change on the region. The data is presented in a line graph, with the x-axis representing years and the y-axis representing temperature.

Figure 2: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

The figure provides a detailed breakdown of greenhouse gas emissions in the Centre Region, with a focus on the transportation sector. The data is presented in a pie chart, illustrating the percentage contribution of different sources to the overall emissions.
CENTRE REGION'S EMISSIONS PROFILE

Total 2016 Emissions 824,209 MT CO₂e

- 2% Water & Wastewater
- 5% Agriculture & Parkland
- 6% Solid Waste
- 20% Transportation & Mobile Sources
- 32% Commercial Energy
- 35% Residential Energy
Recommended
GHG emissions reduction targets

• 45% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 based on 2010 levels

• 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050 based on 2010 levels

• Offset the remaining 20% of GHG emissions in 2050 with carbon offset projects to be carbon neutral in 2050
Projected GHG Emissions with High-Level Actions

Forecasted emissions due to growth
High-Level Actions to 45% GHG Reduction

Residential Energy Actions:
- Reduce energy usage 30% energy in electricity and natural gas
- Replace grid electricity with 10% zero carbon generation

Commercial Energy Actions:
- Reduce energy usage 25% energy in electricity and natural gas
- Replace grid electricity with 5% zero carbon generation
Transportation Actions:

- Reduce vehicle miles traveled by doubling walk, cycle, carpool and transit modes
- Replace 25% of the current vehicles with electric vehicles

Other Actions:

- Reduce waste sent to the landfill by 5 – 20%
- Increase the “carbon farming” practices in the region
- Align and organize partnerships
CENTRE REGION RESILIENCE: A Climate Action and Adaptation Plan

**2011 - 2013**
- PSU completes Centre Region Community GHG emissions inventory for base year 2006

**2017**
- General Forum approves Sustainability position at its April meeting and with budget approval in November

**2018-2019**
- Adoption of the Centre Region Comprehensive Plan update, with a Sustainability Chapter
- CRPA compiles data for community GHG emissions inventory for base year 2016
- CRPA completes GHG Emissions Inventory and Methodology Report

**2020**
- Community and Stakeholder engagement
- CRPA drafts CAAP report

**2021**
- General Forum approve CAAP Report

*COG Public Services and Environmental Committee reviews at these milestones*
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PATHWAY TO 45% REDUCTION IN GHG EMISSIONS BY 2030

Below is a graph from ICLEI’s ClearPath software to visually show how the Centre Region can reach the 45% GHG emissions reduction goal by 2030 with the High-Level Actions specified below. While the focus of creating the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) will be identifying existing technology and feasible actions for the next 10 years, it should also include the necessary steps and actions to keep the region on the pathway towards the 2050 goal of an 80% reduction. This document focuses only the 2030 Reduction Goal.

HIGH-LEVEL ACTIONS TO REACH GOAL:

Residential Energy Actions:
- Reduce energy usage 30% energy in electricity and natural gas
- Replace grid electricity with 10% zero carbon generation

Commercial Energy Actions:
- Reduce energy usage 25% energy in electricity and natural gas
- Replace grid electricity with 5% zero carbon generation

Transportation Actions:
- Reduce vehicle miles traveled by doubling the current amount of people who choose to walk, cycle, carpool and use transit instead of driving
- Replace 25% of the current vehicles with electric vehicles
Other Actions:

- Reduce waste sent to the landfill by 5 – 20% with a focus on food waste, commercial waste and construction and demolition waste.
- Increase the “carbon farming” practices in the region
- Align and organize partnerships to ensure the climate action and adaptation implementation efforts are continually incorporated into municipal operations, regional policy development, and community organizations and businesses.

(Note these items were not included in the visual graph software calculations but will further reduce our GHG emissions.)

Below are examples of more specific actions that are being proposed for possible inclusion in the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP). This is not a comprehensive and final list.

ENERGY

✦ 67% of the Centre Region’s GHG emissions are energy related
✦ Co-Benefits: improved resiliency (shelter in place longer, less reliant on grid), reduced operating and infrastructure costs, improved indoor air quality, improved health

1. Encourage increased building energy efficiency and conservation
   A.1 Outreach to expand participation in energy efficiency programs and promote climate friendly practices in building and construction
   B.1 Implement a Benchmarking Program (Energy Star Portfolio Manager)
   C.1 Identify and adopt strategies to reduce energy efficiency barriers in rent/lease properties
   D.1 Garner support for businesses to create a District 2030 in the Centre Region where businesses strive toward 50% reductions in energy use, water consumption, and transportation emissions by 2030.
   E.1 Support affordable housing with reduced energy costs
   F.1 Expand partnerships with Centre Region authorities and SCASD to support energy efficiency programs
   G.1 Identify and adopt green zoning ordinances that incentivize energy efficiency

2. Support cleaner energy sources
   A.2 Continue to investigate the feasibility of a Solar Power Purchase Agreement for a portion of the Centre Region municipal entities’ electric consumption
   B.2 Continue to expand partnerships with Centre Region authorities, SCASD and Penn State to support solar installation
C.2 Continue to support regional entities renewable energy projects. For example, the UAJA’s implementation of a (2.61+__)MW solar array that will provide between 65 - 70% of its energy needs once the 2nd phase is completed.

D.2 Provide education and outreach to homeowner’s associations of region’s goals and advantages of solar roof installations

E.2 Identify and adopt a renewable energy increase goal per year

F.2 Streamline permitting for solar-plus-storage for individual homes and businesses.

G.2 Review and develop planning, zoning and development regulations that promote and integrate solar PV

H.2 Partner and support West Penn Power to investigate and switch to renewable energy resources

I.2 Influence and urge the State to increase the Alternate Energy Portfolio Standards.

3. **Maximize efficiency of municipal facilities, equipment and operations**

   A.3 Hire facilities coordinator and train them in energy efficiency training

   B.3 Perform energy audits and benchmarking of municipal facilities to establish an energy management plan for public facilities

   C.3 Ordinance for all new municipal buildings to meet high performance building standards, such as LEED certification, net zero energy ready standard

4. **Enhance resiliency throughout the community**

   A.4 Enhance community-wide resilience through investments in critical facilities and microgrids.

   B.4 Help bake resilience into electricity system planning through engagement with utilities and regulators.

**TRANSPORTATION**

+ 20% of the Centre Region’s GHG emissions are energy related
+ Co-Benefits: reduced traffic congestions, reduced future infrastructure costs, improved health, social equity

1. **Review and develop planning, zoning and development regulations that promote smart city growth**

   A.1 Study best practices for parking, neighborhood designs

   B.1 Consider land use codes that require/incentivize EV charging infrastructure at multifamily and commercial developments.
C.1 Consider street standards and street classifications in the Transportation Plan that promote shared streets that incorporate infrastructure for people walking, biking, and riding mass transit

D.1 Consider a land use code with a “Pedestrian Places” component, which encourages the creation of walkable mixed-use areas that encourage walking, bicycling, and transit use.

2. **Encourage driving cleaner, more efficient vehicles and operations**

   A.2 Create regional strategy to expand electric vehicle fleets and charging infrastructure
   
   B.2 Develop and provide information about electric and hybrid vehicles and incentive programs on the City website
   
   C.2 Examine potential for clean vehicle car sharing, and how best to provide community support
   
   D.2 Implement approaches for promoting and enforcing anti-idling
   
   E.2 Investigate the use of intelligent traffic lights, which are equipped with sensors and wireless communication capabilities.

3. **Support increase of public transit, cycling, and pedestrian volumes**

   A.3 Develop partnerships to support commuter trip reduction programs
   
   B.3 Establish employer partnerships with CATA to offer discount bus pass to promote increased ridership
   
   C.3 Provide incentives for employer-sponsored bicycle programs and other sustainable commuting practices
   
   D.3 Prioritize multi-modal development through investment and regulation
   
   E.3 Increase number of Bicycle Friendly Businesses certified and recognized
   
   F.3 Increase bike infrastructure in the Centre Region
   
   G.3 Build a youth cycling culture
A RESOLUTION OF THE CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PRAGMATIC, FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE STRATEGY TO
MITIGATE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND ADAPT TO CHANGING CLIMATE CONDITIONS

Preamble: The Centre Region has a tradition of responsible stewardship, prudent fiscal accountability, and inclusive local government and community practices. All six Centre Region municipalities are Sustainable Pennsylvania certified which is recognition for the policy and practice of sustainability as their way of operating in order to advance community prosperity. State College Borough, Ferguson Township and Harris Township have passed resolutions to address greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The municipalities each recognize that many actions needed to address climate change will be more effective with regional and cooperative efforts.

WHEREAS, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has determined that Pennsylvania’s temperatures have risen around 1.1°C (1.8°F) since the beginning of the 20th century and that temperatures in the 21st century have been higher than any other historical period; and

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service (NWS) has determined that the average annual precipitation in Pennsylvania has increased about 10% in the past 110 years, and NWS indicates that during that time period State College experienced a 70% increase in extreme rain events (greater than two inches); and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Auditor General reported that in 2018 climate-related costs to Pennsylvania totaled at least $261 million; that number includes record-breaking floods and landslides that caused over $125.7 million in infrastructure damages; and

WHEREAS, the Centre Region completed a GHG emissions inventory and found that in 2016 the Region contributed 824,190 MTCO2e (metric tons carbon dioxide equivalent); and

WHEREAS, 67% of the Centre Region GHG emissions came from energy consumption in 2016, and that energy is one of the largest operating costs that municipalities incur; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Global Warming of 1.5°C Report, the U.S. Fourth National Climate Assessment, and the 15th Global Risk Report of the World Economic Forum all conclude that climate disruption is a present danger to human health, the environment, and the economy; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is part of the US Climate Alliance, which is a bipartisan coalition of 24 governors committed to holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursuing GHG efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels in order to prevent catastrophic harm to people and ecological systems on which life depends;

WHEREAS, municipal actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency and protect the region from climate vulnerabilities provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the local government, businesses, and residents; and
WHEREAS, the magnitude and speed needed to achieve GHG emission reductions necessary to prevent dangerous human-induced warming urgently requires all local government entities to cooperate with other levels of government, the private sector, educational institutions, agriculture, and others to rapidly develop strategies to reduce GHG emissions; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Article 1, Section 27 guarantees that, “The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania’s public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustees of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people;” and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection found Pennsylvania contributes approximately 1% of global GHG emissions, which, according to the Commonwealth’s 2015 Pennsylvania Climate Impacts Assessment Report, is affecting agriculture, energy, human health, infrastructure, recreation, water quality, forests, and other ecosystems in Pennsylvania, and human health and ecological systems around the world; and

WHEREAS, green building practices and standards have been established, energy efficient buildings make communities more resilient, and the cost of alternative renewable energy is reaching price parity with non-renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, green building and renewable energy industries employ thousands of Pennsylvanians; and

WHEREAS, agriculture and forestry have played important roles in the Centre Region’s economy and culture for generations, and are integral in sequestering carbon, providing additional ecosystem services, beauty, and recreation, as well as afford a high quality of life for people and our environment; and

WHEREAS, universities in Pennsylvania, including the Pennsylvania State University, provide jobs that research, support, and educate Pennsylvania’s renewable energy industry and conduct international, national, state-level, and local climate assessments and planning assistance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HERE RESOLVED: that the Centre Region Council of Governments shall:

1. Immediately begin to develop a regional plan to:
   - Achieve a 45% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030 based on 2010 levels
   - Achieve an 80% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050 based on 2010 levels
   - Offset the remaining 20% of GHG emissions in 2050 with carbon offset projects to be carbon neutral in 2050
   - Engage peer governmental entities, non-governmental organizations, businesses, and universities to (i) raise awareness of climate change, (ii) identify and encourage courses of action to reduce the amount of GHG emissions, (iii) identify and encourage courses of action to lessen the impacts of changing climate conditions and (iv) embrace the opportunities of climate adaptation; and

2. Continue to lead by example to rapidly pursue these goals in a manner that is transparent, fair, and economically responsible; and

3. Encourage local projects and local impacts first, prior to making an investment out of the region to provide long-term benefits to the region; and

4. Promote “clean, renewable energy” to achieve the stated goals which includes energy produced from environmentally beneficial technologies. Technologies will be evaluated for carbon impact, public health and environmental justice implications.
RESOLVED, this twenty-second day of June 2020, meeting in regular session.

Attest:                               By:

__________________________________________________________________________
Eric Norenburg  Elliot Abrams
Executive Director, Centre Region COG  Chair, Centre Region COG
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Press Release

For more information, contact: Jacqueline Sheader  
Phone: (814) 238-2282 ext. 5141  
Release date: May 13, 2020  
Date: May 13, 2020

CATA Public Hearing - Proposed Fare Increase and Service Changes - Tuesday, May 26, 2020

The Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA) Board of Directors will host a public hearing on Tuesday, May 26, 2020, at 5:30 p.m., to seek public comment on a proposed increase in CATA BUS fares and proposed service changes to tentatively take effect this summer.

This public hearing will be held virtually via WebEx and participants are required to preregister. Full details on how to register will be available on the CATA website at www.catabus.com/publichearing in the coming days.

For the first time since 2017, CATA is proposing an increase in the CATA BUS base fare from $2.00 to $2.20, with a matching percentage increase to all other passes and fare media. These fares would also apply to the CATAGO! service. (No increases in CATARIDE fares are proposed.)

Several service, routing and frequency changes are also being proposed for CATA BUS service, and specifically for the A (Park Forest Village), B (Boalsburg), C (Houserville), F (Pine Grove), G (Gray’s Woods), HM (Nittany Mall/Toftrees), K (Cato Park), NV (Havershire/Martin/Vairo/Toftrees), S (Science Park), and VN (Toftrees/Vairo/Martin/Havershire) Routes, in addition to the elimination of all service on Christmas Eve day.

Full details for all proposed fare and service changes will be made available on the CATA website, www.catabus.com/publichearing, no later than Monday, May 18.

If you are unable to attend the virtual public hearing, but wish to have your suggestions or viewpoints presented and submitted to CATA’s Board of Directors, comments may be directed to:

Christopher Jordan, Director of Service Planning and Community Engagement  
Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA)  
2081 W. Whitehall Road, State College, PA 16801

Comments may also be submitted by email to cjordan@catabus.com and by telephone by calling (814) 238-CATA(2282) ext. 7500.

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Centre Area Transportation Authority • 2081 W. Whitehall Road • State College, PA 16801-2623  
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Proclamation

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK
May 10 through May 16, 2020

WHEREAS, Congress and the President of the United States designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the State College Police Department provide an essential public service, enhance the quality of life in our communities, safeguard the rights of individuals, pursue justice and provide for public safety as part of their duty and mission to protect and serve the residents of the State College Borough, College Township and Harris Township; and

WHEREAS, our community wishes to acknowledge and express our deep appreciation for the dangers faced by the men and women of the State College Police Department and for the sacrifices that they make to protect the residents and visitors of the State College Borough, College Township and Harris Township; and

WHEREAS, our community wishes to honor and express our utmost respect and gratitude towards members of law enforcement for their dedication, commitment and courage, not only in the Borough, but throughout the County, State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, during National Police Week, we wish to honor all Police Officers who have been injured or killed in the line of duty and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Ronald L. Filippelli, do hereby proclaim the week of May 10 through May 16, 2020 as National Police Week in the Borough of State College in appreciation and honor of all Police Officers, past and present, who have served in the State College Borough, College Township, Harris Township and around our nation.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the Borough of State College, this 8th day of May 2020.

Mayor Ronald L. Filippelli
May 8, 2020
Proclamation

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK
May 17–23, 2020

WHEREAS, 2020 marks the 60th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association; and

WHEREAS, public works infrastructure, facilities and services are of vital importance to sustainable communities and to the health, safety and well-being of the people of State College; and

WHEREAS, public works facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of the public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees from local governments who plan, design, build, operate and maintain the transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential to serve our citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for State College residents to understand the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Ronald L. Filippelli, do hereby proclaim May 17–23, 2020 as National Public Works Week in the Borough of State College and encourage all staff and citizens to recognize the contribution public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees make to our community.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the Borough of State College, this 18th day of May 2020.

Mayor Ronald L. Filippelli
May 18, 2020
Proclamation

IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH
June 2020

WHEREAS, generations of immigrants from every corner of the globe have built our country’s economy and created the unique character of our nation, State College and our Community; and

WHEREAS, immigrants continue to grow businesses, innovate, strengthen our economy and create American jobs in State College, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, immigrants have provided the United States with unique social and cultural influence, fundamentally enriching the extraordinary character of our nation, State College and our community; and

WHEREAS, immigrants have been tireless leaders not only in securing their own rights and access to equal opportunity, but have also campaigned to create a fairer and more just society for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, despite these countless contributions, the role of immigrants in building and enriching our nation, state and community has frequently been overlooked and undervalued throughout our history, continuing to the present day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Ronald Filippelli, do hereby proclaim June 2020 to be Immigrant Heritage Month in the Borough of State College.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the Borough of State College, this 18th day of May 2020.

Mayor Ronald L. Filippelli
May 18, 2020
Proclamation

MEN'S HEALTH MONTH
June 2020

WHEREAS, despite advances in medical technology and research, men continue to live an average of five years less than women, with Native American and African-American men having the lowest life expectancy; and

WHEREAS, educating the public and health care providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems will result in reducing rates of mortality from disease; and

WHEREAS, men who are educated about the value that preventive health can play in prolonging their lifespan and their role as productive family members will be more likely to participate in health screenings; and

WHEREAS, fathers who maintain a healthy lifestyle are role models for their children and have happier, healthier children; and

WHEREAS, the Men’s Health Month web site has been established at www.MensHealthMonth.org and features resources, proclamations, and information about awareness events and activities, including Wear Blue for Men’s Health; and

WHEREAS, Men’s Health Month focuses on a broad range of men’s health issues including heart disease, mental health, diabetes, and prostate, testicular and colon cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Ronald Filippelli, do hereby proclaim June as Men’s Health Month in State College and encourage all residents to increase awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise, and medical checkups and to pursue preventative health practices and early detection efforts.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the Borough of State College, this 18th day of May 2020.

Mayor Ronald L. Filippelli
May 18, 2020
Executive Committee Meeting ---April 21, 2020

1. Census Update. Charima Young, Director of Local Government and Community Relations for PSU updated us on the University’s efforts to address the possible undercount in the 2020 U.S. Census.

2. The Steering Committee for the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Regional Comprehensive Plan and the Executive Director Recruitment and Screening Committee were disbanded after having accomplished their missions.

3. We received an informational update from Pam Adams, CRPA Sustainability Planner on the Centre Region Climate Action Plan.

4. We received an informational update on legislation authorizing virtual meetings during the Covid-19 emergency disaster declaration.

5. We authorized CoG Director Eric Norenberg to either represent CoG on the C-NET board or to appoint another staff member to that position.

6. Next meeting is tomorrow, May 19 at 12:15.
REGIONAL PARKS LOAN:

The Finance Committee retained Chris Gibbons, Concord Public Financial Advisors, to contact and enter into negotiations with Fulton Bank at its March 5, 2020 meeting. Chris Gibbons and Joe. Viglione worked with Carl Chambers of Fulton Bank to secure two potential offers to amend the loan.

Staff and Mr. Gibbons recommend proceeding with amending the agreement based on Fulton Bank’s first offer to extend the draw date by two years (from June 1, 2020 to June 1, 2022) and extend the fixed term of the loan of 2.59% for two additional years (from June 1, 2022 to June 1, 2024). The Finance Committee concurred with this approach. The timeline outlined below notes the important dates for COG and the CRPR Authority between now and the June 1, 2020 final draw date for the Regional Parks loan.

- May 14 @ 8:30 am – Mr. Gibbons provided a recommendation of how to proceed in regards to amending the loan, if such an option exists. The Finance Committee made a recommendation to the Executive Committee and/or General Forum as to how to proceed with the loan.
- May 19 @ 12:15 – Executive Committee either 1) endorses that the Authority act to amend the loan based on the Finance Committee recommendation or 2) refers the action to be taken by the General Forum.
- May 21 @ 12:15 pm – COG staff provides an update and answers questions at the CRPR Authority meeting. Action is to be taken by the Authority to amend the loan either 1) based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee and endorsement of the Executive Committee or 2) based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee and contingent upon the endorsement of the General Forum.
- May 26 @ 7:00 pm – COG General Forum would endorse the Authority acting to amend the loan with Fulton Bank. **Only necessary if the Executive Committee does not act on behalf of the General Forum in this instance.**

At its April 9, 2020 meeting, the Finance Committee recommended that the costs of the loan be funded from excess funds in the regional parks fund and not from a draw on the available loan funds. Again, the cost for amending the terms of the loan is estimated to be less than $4,000.

It should also be noted that based on the current status of the loan and the amount being held in escrow currently, a draw of approximately $70,000 to increase the escrow amount will likely be required to maintain compliance with the terms of the loan.

The Finance Committee approved the following motion:
“That the Finance Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that they endorse the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority to action to amend the loan with Fulton Bank to extend the final draw date from June 1, 2020 to June 1, 2022 and extend the fixed term of the loan from June 1, 2022 to June 1, 2024 at a rate of 2.59%.”

FINANCIAL SCENARIO DISCUSSION:

At the April Finance Committee meeting, the Committee asked staff to take a look at their operations and perform scenario planning with the parameters of a July 1 partial opening and a September 1 full reopening. Staff met during the last two weeks of April and developed a plan and about the time the staff meetings were concluding the governor announced construction activity would resume May 1 and that Centre County would move from Red to Yellow effective on May 8, 2020.

On May 1, the Executive Director and Finance Director met with the Chair and Vice Chair to discuss many items, but two significant pieces of information came out of the meeting. First, staff clarified that a former version of the document was consistent with the Committee’s directive of staff at the April meeting. Secondly, the Chair and Vice Chair authorized staff to update the parameters surrounding their financial scenarios to reflect the more recent direction from the governor. The Committee agreed that planning should continue for a gradual opening.

2021 COG BUDGET PROCESS:

Staff recommended the Committee create a means to amend/abbreviate the 2021 Budget Process. The budget process usually commences with the distribution of the Program Plan and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in late June/early July to the Committee. The Detailed Budget document is typically distributed in mid-September and the Summary Budget is distributed to the General Forum in late October.

Due to the delays, uncertainty, and additional workload the typical spring processes have not occurred to date. Typically, in late April the Agency Directors begin preparing their sections of the Program Plan and the CIP. In early May the Human Resources Committee receives and vets any proposed new positions that may be included in the 2021 Program Plan. In April and May, the Finance Committee typically discusses whether or not to set a budget guideline for staff.

At this point in time, COG staff’s sole focus over the past two months has been amending workflows so that business could be conducted again. This refocus of workload, and the current economic uncertainty associated with COVID-19, has led to delays in the commencing of the budget process.
The Committee agreed to ways to amend/abbreviate the budget process with the goal being twofold – first, to ease the burden on staff who are spending significant time learning the new working and programming environment associated with COVID-19, and second, to allow more time to pass to potentially provide municipal leaders with a greater clarity of the impacts associated with COVID-19. This was done with the realization that Penn State has yet to make a determination of when they will be opening campus back up for students and also how quickly businesses will re-open, both will be huge factors on the budget.

**FEMA REIMBURSEMENT:**

As the life cycle of COVID-19 virus moves from the emergency response phase to the recovery phase, the municipalities and COG should also begin to move to the recovery phase. Part of the recovery phase will be for COG and its member municipalities to register and submit for reimbursement from FEMA for additional costs it may have incurred in connection with its COVID-19 response.

COG staff suggested that the Finance Committee meeting can be a forum for communication and coordination between the COG and its six-member municipalities to ensure knowledge is being shared and to ensure each knows and understands what the other is doing.

Shawn Kauffman, EM Coordinator, attended the meeting and updated the Finance Committee.

**USE OF CODE FUNDS/BORROWING POLICY:**

During the past five years, there have been three loans between the Code – New Construction fund (Centre Region COG) and various funds of the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority. In 2019, the Committee discussed and passed the following motion pertaining to the rate of interest that should be charged on the loans:

"The Finance Committee recommends to staff to utilize the maximum forfeited depository interest rate for the length (time period) of the loan to calculate the interest rate for all interfund/interagency loan agreements between Centre Region Council of Governments, Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority, and Schlow Centre Region Library."

The Finance Committee discussed a desire to set parameters as to how and when loans should be made between funds/entities. The Committee utilized this meeting to begin to set the framework and based upon their recommendations the staff will bring back a policy to the Committee for its consideration at the June Finance Committee meeting.

Evan Myers
Member of Council
COG HR Committee

The COG HR Committee met on May 6th. The following actions were taken.

a) The HR Director provided an update regarding the status of COG personnel. Most employees were working from home. Employees were granted 280 hours of emergency leave time during the pandemic. Discussions were being held regarding the furloughing of employees.

b) The Committee approved a revised job description for the position of Millbrook Marsh Nature Center Coordinator. The Committee also approved the reclassification of the position from exempt to non-exempt. The position is now eligible for overtime pay.

c) The Committee approved an application for a Peer to Peer grant to determine the priority need for an additional employee in the organization. The Parks and Recreation Consultant recommended an additional employee and the Director would like a study to determine where the greatest need is. The Peer To Peer grant is $9,000 and the Cog would have to provide an additional $1,000. Once the position is identified the Department will be eligible for a Circuit Rider Grant. This pays 100% of the employee’s salary the first year, 75% the second year, 50% the third year, and 25% the fourth year.

d) The CPI for the 12 months since March 2019 was 1.5%.

e) Dereck Hoover was hires as the part time Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator. He has experience in emergency management.

Peter S. Marshall
Public Safety Committee – May 12, 2020

The Public Safety Committee met via Zoom on Tuesday, May 12. We discussed:

TRANSFER OF HAZMAT PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY TO COG

The transfer of Hazmat Program responsibility from Penn State to the COG has been a subject of discussion for a number of years. The Public Safety Committee reviewed draft agreements between Penn State, the COG, and Centre County. The committee affirmed our desire to move the project forward which would transition Hazmat Program responsibility to the COG the June 30, 2023. Execution of agreements is needed prior to June 30, 2020.

ANNUAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES REPORT

The Committee received updates on local EMS from Centre Life Link, Penn State, and Mount Nittany. Demand for services is considerably down, which is impacting financial security for Centre Life Link and Penn State EMS – will have impacts of staffing, especially if demand remains down over considerable period of time. Reduction in volunteerism is also impacting these agencies, like is often discussed with the Fire Protection Program.

A summary report will be coming to COG General Forum.

Centre Life Link is still looking for a station in Ferguson or Patton Townships. Signaling for the Whitehall Road station appears to still be a concern. I will be following up with staff.

STAFF UPDATES

The committee received updates from Code Administration, Fire Protection, and Emergency Management Program.

Centre Area Cable Consortium

The Centre Area Cable Consortium did not meet.
PSE Committee of COG

The PSE Committee of COG met virtually on May 7, 2020. The main agenda items included an update from UAJA and an update on the draft GHG Emissions resolution.

The bulk of the discussion centered on a Draft Special Study submitted by UAJA re: a Beneficial Reuse Service Area Designation. There was some confusion as to the purpose of the study (described below). Ultimately, the request was referred to other interested parties, including the Source Water Project Management Team, to better define the scope of the study. Comments are due by May 29, 2020.

"A clearly delineated Regional Growth Boundary/Sewer Service Area for the UAJA’s sewer collection and conveyance system currently exists. However, a service area for the provision of the UAJA’s Class A beneficial reuse, or reclaimed, water has not yet been delineated. The Beneficial Reuse Service Area Designation Project generally involves the evaluation and delineation of a service area for existing and potential future extensions of the UAJA’s beneficial reuse water system within the Centre Region. For this Special Study, the entire Centre Region will be considered to be the study area. The Special Study will include an evaluation of existing beneficial reuse water facilities as well as existing and potential future demands for beneficial reuse water within the Centre Region."

The other main discussion item was another review of the draft GHG Emissions resolution with several PSE members asking for modifications to the draft. The State College Borough Council has not yet had an opportunity to receive a briefing from COG on the draft resolution and I have asked Ms. Pam Adams to reach out to the manager to get a briefing scheduled. The target date for the resolution to be presented to the General Forum is June 4, 2020.

Deanna Behring
Ad Hoc Facilities Committee Meeting ---May 5, 2020

1. Project updates. We received updates on a number of projects including Millbrook Marsh, a code renovation project, an RFP for a parking lot update, a sidewalk repair along Beaver and Allen in cooperation with the Borough and CATA, and a facilities assessment of the Patton Township Fire Station, Park Forest Pool, and Oak Hall Regional Park.

2. A brief of a visioning exercise developed by Joe Vigilone to develop a vision for a permanent facilities committee.

3. Summary of CoG facility information. Chair Rich Franke asked the staff to prepare one-page summaries to clarify all facilities that are under CoG, Library, or Centre Region Parks and Recreation authority.

4. Facilities Coordinator. A job description was approved at the March 4 meeting, however, the Covid-19 crisis has prompted a hiring freeze. The original start date for the position (July 1) has been delayed.
Y-T-D Financial Report
April 2020
BOROUGH OF STATE COLLEGE
General Fund Revenue

Y-T-D April 2019 & 2020

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<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>Increase</th>
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<td>Other Revenues</td>
<td>3,705,826</td>
<td>3,401,582</td>
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<td>Local Service Tax</td>
<td>452,931</td>
<td>336,762</td>
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<td>Earned Income Tax</td>
<td>1,250,523</td>
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<td>Real Estate Transfer Tax</td>
<td>388,212</td>
<td>1,116,012</td>
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<td>Real Estate Taxes</td>
<td>6,863,599</td>
<td>6,786,060</td>
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## General Fund Y-T-D April 2020

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<tr>
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<th>2019 YTD</th>
<th>2020 YTD</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>2020 Rev Bud</th>
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<td><strong>Revenues</strong></td>
<td>12,430,773</td>
<td>12,743,207</td>
<td>312,434</td>
<td>29,338,753</td>
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<td><strong>Expenditures</strong></td>
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<td>Personnel</td>
<td>5,433,537</td>
<td>5,226,921</td>
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<td>7,350,380</td>
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<td>Capital</td>
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<td>132,852</td>
<td>27,405</td>
<td>624,136</td>
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<td>Debt</td>
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<td>155,115</td>
<td>90,811</td>
<td>1,423,622</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1,360,150</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>7,446,846</td>
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<td><strong>Operating Net</strong></td>
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<td>5,296,361</td>
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<td><strong>Other Sources</strong></td>
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<td>250,185</td>
<td>19,867</td>
<td>1,999,388</td>
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<td>(365,375)</td>
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<td><strong>Net</strong></td>
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<td>2019 YTD</td>
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<td>Variance</td>
<td>2020 Rev Bud</td>
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<td>Personnel</td>
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<td>165,912</td>
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<td>630,736</td>
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<td>(82,517)</td>
<td>17,589</td>
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<td><strong>Net</strong></td>
<td>546,313</td>
<td>204,742</td>
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## COVID-19 Impacts (Y-T-D April)

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>General Fund Lost Revenue (Meters &amp; Fines)</td>
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<td>General Fund COVID-Related Operating Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>General Fund Total Impact</strong></td>
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<td>Parking Fund Lost Revenue</td>
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<td><strong>Parking Fund Lost Revenue</strong></td>
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<td>Total Impact Y-T-D April 2020</td>
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<td><strong>Total Impact Y-T-D April 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>$573,482</strong></td>
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