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Borough Council

Posted on: September 19, 2018

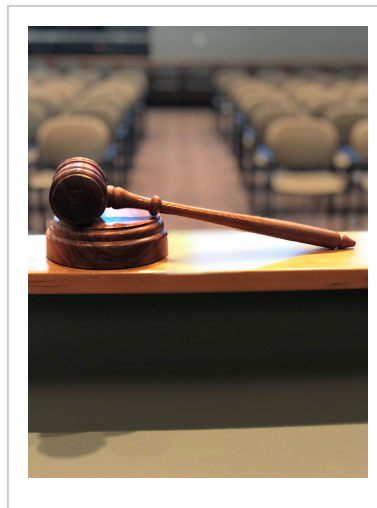
[ARCHIVED] Recent Action Report: Monday, September 17, 2018 Borough Council Regular Meeting

More information about all the action items in this post can be found by downloading the agenda [here](#).

Proclamations/Special Business

Mayor Hahn issued the following proclamations:

- Welcoming Week, Welcoming America— Mayor Hahn issued a proclamation, which was accepted by Chase Crowley, a representative from the Penn State Law Center for Immigrants' Rights Clinic.
- Hispanic Heritage Month—Mayor Hahn issued a proclamation declaring September as Hispanic Month and Melissa Blanco, accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Latinx Law Student Association at Penn State Law.
- Resolution on Plastic Straws—Councilwoman Cathy Dauler presented a resolution that discourages the use of plastic drinking straws and encourages local businesses to provide alternative options to reduce straw waste. The Resolution can be found in the agenda packet [here](#).



All proclamations can be found at:

<https://www.statecollegepa.us/2953/Proclamations>.

Consent Items

Council approved the following items:

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- Approved the closing of various Borough streets (normal SCASD Homecoming Parade route) on Thursday, September 20, 2018, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., for the annual State College Area School District's Homecoming Parade.
- Approved with conditions the use of the Mayor Welch Plaza, on Tuesday, October 2, and Wednesday, October 31, 2018, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., for Centre County PAWS Pit Stop dog events.
- Approved the closing of South Burrowes Street (between East College and East Beaver Avenues), East College Avenue (between South Burrowes and South Allen Streets), South Allen Street to East Foster Avenue, and East Foster Avenue into Memorial Field, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., on Sunday, October 28, 2018, for the 72nd annual Centre Region Parks and Recreation Halloween Costume Parade and Costume Judging Contest.
- Approved the use of various downtown sidewalks on Friday, November 9, 2018, from 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., for the annual Grace Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten Veteran's Day Sidewalk Parade.
- Approved Payroll and Accounts Payable vouchers for the month of August totaling \$4,752,526.15.
- Approved minutes from the meetings held in July:
 - July 2, Regular Meeting
 - July 9, Work Session
 - July 16, Regular Meeting
- Approved the closing of East Nittany Avenue, between Apple Alley and Locust Lane, on Saturday, November 3, 2018, from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m., for the 7th Annual Run for Shelter 5k, sponsored by Housing Transitions.

Public Hearing

A. Parking Study (Overnight Parking Restrictions Request from Highlands Civic Association)

In April 2017, the Highlands Civic Association presented a proposal to change the practice of not enforcing the 2:00 A.M. – 6:00 A.M. parking restrictions and lawn parking on Penn State Football Weekends as a pilot program for the 2017 football season. After reviewing the proposal, Council directed staff to collect data on parking during the 2017 Penn State Home Football season to determine the number of cars parked on-street, on lawns and in Borough parking garages during these weekends. The report, including analysis of the parking data, was presented to Council at the February 5, 2018 meeting, and the report was referred to the Transportation Commission for review, comment and recommendation. The Transportation Commission recommended that the Borough enforce the 2 A.M. – 6 A.M. parking restrictions with no exceptions.

On April 16, 2018, Council approved a policy to codify the practice of lifting the overnight parking restrictions during special events, granting parking permissions for residential parking, and approving a pilot program for the Highlands to enforce the overnight parking restrictions at all time with a permitting system for residents.

Ordinance No. 2115 was developed to implement the policy, which was adopted by a 4-3 vote of Council on August 20, 2018. Subsequently, Mayor Hahn vetoed the ordinance on August 22, 2018. On August 27, 2018, Council held a special meeting to consider a vote to override the Mayor's veto. The override vote failed by a vote of 4 in favor of overriding the veto and 3 opposed. Council then approved a motion to forward the ordinance to the Transportation Commission for review and recommendation, and to schedule a public hearing to receive public comments on the ordinance.

The Transportation Commission reviewed the ordinance at its meeting on September 11, 2018. The Commission's recommendation is attached with the [agenda](#) on Page 39. An ordinance incorporating the TC's recommendations is still being drafted and will be incorporated into the agenda packet as soon as it has been completed.

Council received public comment on the ordinance. Following the public comments, Council considered enactment of the ordinance as originally presented, enacting an amended ordinance as recommended by the Transportation Commission, enacting an amended ordinance as offered by a member of Council, or Council may take no action.

The Council approved the ordinance with the Transportation Commission's amendments and set the start date for the pilot program to be January 1, 2019.

Planning and Zoning

A. Conditional Use Decision for Expansion of the Community Ambulance Building at 732 East Marylyn Avenue

A public hearing was held on the Application for Conditional Use Permit for 732 East Marylyn Avenue at Council's August 20, 2018 meeting. At that meeting, Council authorized the Borough Solicitor to prepare a draft Findings of Fact and Decision based on the testimony at the public hearing. Council has 45 days from the hearing date to make a decision on the request.

The Council approved the permit.

B. Amend the Borough Codification Chapter XIX Zoning Ordinance to Replace the Historic Resources Commission with the Historic Architectural Review Board

Borough Council amended the Borough Codification of Ordinances to establish a Historic and Architectural Review Board in 2017. The Board is to become active October 1, 2018. It is necessary to revise the Zoning Ordinance to replace the Historic Resources Commission with the Historic Architectural Review Board for the purpose of reviewing land development plans that involve a contributing building in either the College Heights Historic District or the Holmes-Foster/ Highlands Historic Districts and to review porch enclosures for contributing buildings in the same historic districts.

A copy of the draft ordinance is attached beginning on Page 87 of the agenda. Council referred the ordinance to the Planning Commission.

C. Amend the Borough Codification to Reestablish the Design Review Board and Remove the Design and Historic Review Board.

Borough Council amended the Borough Codification of Ordinances to establish a Historic and Architectural Review Board in 2017. The HARB is to become active October 1, 2018. Because the HARB assumes some of the responsibilities that had previously been designated for the Design and Historic Review Commission, it is recommended that the Code be modified to reestablish the original Design Review Board for reviewing land development plans, signs in commercial planned districts, as well as other design related activities that are not within the purview of the HARB.

Attached to the agenda is the ordinance to re-establish the Design Review Board (DRB) and remove the Design and Historic Review Board (DHRB) from the Borough Codification of Ordinances.

The Council approved the ordinance.

General Administration

A. Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Borough's Pension Plans in 2019

Act 205 of 1984 (as amended by Act 189 of 1990) requires that the minimum pension obligations for the upcoming year be submitted to Council prior to September 30 of each year. This Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) is based on actuarial costs of the pension plans, obtained from the Plan's actuary, and the estimated payroll cost for 2019.

The 2019 MMO for the Borough's pension plans has been calculated to be \$2,913,097, which includes \$1,376,920 for the Police Pension Plan and \$1,536,177 for the General Government Plan. The share of the obligation to be paid by Centre Region Council of Governments for the General Government Plan is \$421,103. The calculation for the Defined Benefit Pension Plans (MMO) is included in the table attached to the agenda. [Page 83]

A Defined Contribution Pension Plan MMO is also included with a projected obligation of \$154,922 for the Borough and \$81,962 for COG in the meeting's agenda.

Council voted to receive the MMO calculation for the Borough's Pension Plans.

Other News in Borough Council

Recent Action Report: Monday, November 5, 2018, Borough Council Regular Meeting

Posted on: November 6, 2018



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