

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2009
7:00 P.M.

Council members present were: Mr. Rapp, Mr. Grotenhuis, Mr. Blatt, Ms. Halleman, Ms. Gifford and Mr. Trotter, Jr.. Mr. Capuano was absent. Also in attendance were: Mayor Fink, Rick Prill, Administrator and Jim Levernier, Public Works Supervisor.

Council President Rapp called for the pledge to the flag.

Mr. Rapp reviewed items to be placed on the November 2, 2009 meeting Agenda as follows:

1. Minutes of the 9/23/09 and 10/5/09 Council Meetings have been prepared for review. Mr. Rapp noted that anyone with corrections to the Draft Minutes of 9/23/09 and 10/5/09 should provide them in writing to Mr. Prill.

Mr. Rapp noted there was three items for review and/or discussion on the agenda as follows:

1. Letter from Mr. Steve Floyd requesting 'Watch Children' or similar warning signs be installed on the 800 block of Long Street. Councilwoman Gifford indicated she is in favor of this request. Jim Levernier noted that the cost would be around \$300 for signs and poles. Councilman Trotter, when asked, stated that Council was elected to help protect the public so on this basis, we should probably approve the request. Councilman Blatt suggested that maybe Mr. Floyd might be willing to contribute towards the cost of purchasing the signs and poles. Council President Rapp indicated that Council could possibly receive many more such requests and in a time of very tight finances, where would the money come from to pay for the signs/poles. Jim Levernier was asked to see if he has any extra poles and signs that could be re-faced to save some money.
2. Update on electric purchasing program. Mr. Prill commented that the Borough had received word that it was not going to be eligible to participate in the electric purchasing program with the group including Allentown because of our small size and insufficient energy demand. However, he is pursuing a similar program that is being coordinated by the State Purchasing Program (COSTARS) and will report back when more information is available.
3. Resolution #2009-43, Approving the City of Bethlehem Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Update. Mr. Rapp noted this will be placed on the November 2nd meeting agenda.

Mr. Rapp moved on to the next agenda item, Council Action, noting that there is one item for approval as follows:

Randy Soriano, Salisbury Manager, has volunteered to participate on the Borough's Pool Feasibility Study Committee. Having Mr. Soriano participate will allow the Borough to potentially submit a grant application in the future on the basis that it would be a joint cooperative arrangement with a neighboring community, thereby making any such application stronger with a greater chance of being funded. Councilwoman Gifford moved for the appointment of Randy Soriano to the Pool Feasibility Study Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Trotter and approved unanimously.

Mr. Rapp moved onto the next agenda topic – Announcements, asking if any Council members had any announcements they would like to make. Hearing none, Council President Rapp noted that Mr. Prill had two items as follows:

1. Two (2) bids have been received for the Stanley Avenue / N. Lynn Street storm sewer rehabilitation project. The bid documents are being reviewed by Hanover Engineering and it is anticipated that a bid award could be made at the November 2nd meeting. The Borough has received a \$100,000 Community Development Block Grant for this project and we are waiting to hear from DCED with regards to a grant application submitted.
2. We are in receipt of a letter from Mr. Robert Erland, St. Lukes Hospital, identifying those projects that St. Lukes has agreed to provide funding for. Council President Rapp reviewed the specific items that will receive funding. There was a general discussion about prior year funding approval levels and how this year compared to them. Councilman Grotenhuis suggested that the Borough might want to go back to St. Lukes requesting a higher level of funding. Councilman Blatt noted that while the amount may be less than in previous years, we should say thank you and move on. Council President Rapp noted that the St. Lukes would not be willing to negotiate higher amounts.

Mr. Rapp asked if there was any other business to address:

Mr. Rapp noted that a MECAB meeting will be held in the Council Chambers on October 29th, 7:00 pm, and that the guest speaker may be Representative Freeman.

Councilwoman Gifford noted that the Spooky Forest program will be held this Friday.

Councilman Blatt reported on the meeting he attended for the Act 32 EIT collection committee and that the committee is making progress setting up a temporary structure, working on bylaws, etc. and that another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night, Thursday, 10/22.

Councilwoman Halleman asked about the status of the N. Clewell Street reconstruction project. Council President Rapp noted that a pre-construction meeting is being held in the morning and that the project will be completed in the next 30 days.

Hearing no further comments, Mr. Rapp asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Blatt made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Gifford and the motion passed at 7:25 pm.

Approved on December 7, 2009.

	Motion	2nd	Yes	No	Abstain
Tavis Grotenhuis			X		
Carolee Gifford	X		X		
Norman Blatt			X		
Fred Capuano			X		
Larry Rapp			X		
Doug Trotter		X	X		
Helen Halleman			X		
Mayor Ned Fink					

Lawrence E. Rapp, President of Council

Rick Prill, Borough Secretary