

Council of the Municipality of Murrysville held a Regular Voting Meeting on Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 7:03 p.m. in the Municipal Building. Present at the meeting were Council members Robert Brooks, Jeffrey Franke, Nancy Kacin, Larry Nicolette, Dennis Pavlik, and Theo van de Venne. Also present were Mayor Joyce K. Somers, Chief Administrator John M. Barrett and Solicitor George A. Kotjarapoglus.

**PRESENTATION BY SENATOR DON WHITE:** Senator White presented the Municipality of Murrysville with a check in the amount of \$13,500. These funds will be used for the purchase of emergency management services radios and generators.

**PRESENTATION BY RICHARD CONNORS, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS, AND PARKS PERTAINING TO YEAR 2007 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:** Mr. Connors presented the following topics:

- ✓ Capital Projects (Hometown Streets, Old William Penn Highway Landslide, 2007 Overlay Project, Remaley Road Reconstruction, Murrysville Community Park Infrastructure).
- ✓ Roads Maintenance.
- ✓ Parks Maintenance.
- ✓ Building Maintenance.
- ✓ Trends (Total road mileage increases yearly due to new developments, Parks mowing square footage has increased by 50%, Paving [Overlay] budget has decreased in 2007, manpower has remained static.)
- ✓ Public Works will seek to acquire Agency Accreditation with the American Public Works Association.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mrs. Kacin called to order the Regular Voting Meeting of Wednesday, April 4, 2007.

**DETERMINATION OF VOTING ORDER – ROLL CALL:** Cherie Weber determined the voting order and called the roll: Mrs. Kacin, Mr. Pavlik, Mr. Franke, Mr. Nicolette, Mr. van de Venne, Mr. Brooks.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mrs. Kacin led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF UNLISTED AMENDMENTS:**

None.

Mr. Pavlik moved to approve the Agenda. Mr. Nicolette seconded. All present voted aye. Motion approved.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

4A. MARCH 7, 2007, MEETING MINUTES TO BE APPROVED.

4B. MARCH 14, 2007, MEETING MINUTES TO BE APPROVED.

Mr. Franke moved to approve the Consent Calendar Items. Mr. van de Venne seconded. All present voted aye. Motion approved.

**COMMUNITY INPUT:**

Lori Bricker – 3100 Barberry Court – Ms. Bricker is a member of the Board of Directors at the East Suburban Family YMCA. Ms. Bricker encouraged the Murrysville residents to contribute to the YMCA's scholarship fund and other programs. All funds stay in the Murrysville/Plum/Delmont/Export area. For every \$1.00 donated, Miles Sampson will match with \$2.00. A benefit concert to support the YMCA will be held on Friday, April 13, 2007.

Mark Emerson – 4600 School Road South – Spoke in favor of televising Council meetings, especially those which would discuss transferable developments rights.

**COMMENTS BY MAYOR SOMERS:**

Mayor Somers stated that it was an honor to have Senator Don White and his staff visit the Municipality and expressed her appreciation for the funds received as presented by Senator White.

Mayor Somers noted that the Public Works Department has begun the annual street sweeping. The Public Works Department will pick up the winter stone that was used on icy roads and will use the stone the following season. This equates to 300 to 400 tons of stone that is recycled.

The Mayor noted that the After-School Program for middle school students has begun. To date, nine participants have enrolled. The first hour of the program is spent in the library completing homework. The participants are transported to the Sports Zone for games and crafts until 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Somers announced that the registration for the Spring and Summer Recreation programs began on April 2, 2007. There is a limited schedule for the swim program due to work being performed on the pool.

**COMMENTS BY THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR:**

John Barrett announced that Dave Jobe, Senior Building Inspector, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Association of Building Code Officials.

John Barrett stated that an official opening of the Murrysville Community Park will occur later this Spring. Currently, the park is open for use of the athletic playing fields.

Mr. Barrett requested feedback from Council on the draft letter supporting the Trouthaven residents' stream restoration project encompassing a long section of Haymaker Run. Council stated that the letter was acceptable.

**LIAISON AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Mrs. Kacin and Mr. van de Venne attended the first in the series of monthly meetings with the Public Works and Engineering Departments. Mrs. Kacin stated that the transfer of work from Glenn Engineering to in-house is progressing well. Diane Heming, Director of Finance and Taxation, reported that in the 2007 budget, there is a line item for \$53,000 for Glenn Engineering and it is projected that only \$20,000 to \$25,000 will be used. Mr. van de Venne stated that the Staff noted that in the past, they have taken on projects which hinder completing regular maintenance. There is not enough Staff in place to do this again. Staff would prefer to have the maintenance completed before assuming projects such as building roads.

Mrs. Kacin stated that she attend the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) meeting. A discussion took place on the Echo Murrysville Associates site plan, 45 acres, for a Target and Lowe's. There were several suggestions made on the plans, including safe walking paths between the businesses as well as proposing the use of green roofs. There was a review of a PRD along Mamont Road called Shag Bark Grove. The EAC inquired if the development would be able to fit in the standard zoning requirements. There was a discussion on the Washington Street bridge on Ringertown Road. The road is falling apart and the stream banks are eroding along the property owners' backyards, which is undercutting the street on the other side.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**

None.

**ENGINEERING:**

**10A. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MAJOR EXCAVATION, RESPIRONICS PROPERTY:**

Mr. van de Venne moved to approve, subject to the conditions listed in Item VI in the Agenda Briefing. Mr. Nicolette seconded. All present voted aye. Motion approved.

**10B. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE CONTRACT WITH TRESKO PAVING CORPORATION, INC., FOR THE 2007 OVERLAY PROJECT, DPW-1-07:**

Mr. Nicolette moved to approve the contract with Tresko Paving Corporation for the 2007 Overlay Project in an amount not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$580,000. Mr. Pavlik seconded. All present voted aye. Motion approved.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

11A. CONSIDER POLICY PERTAINING TO CONTRACTUAL OVERRUNS: Mr. Nicolette moved to approve. Mr. Brooks seconded. There was no vote on this motion.

Council suggested the following revisions to the Policy:

Under "Statement of Policy", next to the last sentence in the first paragraph, "...when available funds are **expected to be** exhausted", add language in bold print.

Under "Statement of Policy", remove the fourth bulleted item.

Under "Statement of Policy", remove the paragraph located underneath the table.

Under "Statement of Policy", last paragraph, "Should the amount of a projected contractual cost overrun **be expected to** exceed the thresholds established above, approval of such shall be **required** by Municipal Council." Add language in bold print.

Solicitor George Kotjarapoglus stated that per the Charter, the Chief Administrator could oversee projects. However, prior notice should be given to the Mayor, so that she is a part of the delegated power given by Council, which would be carried out by the Chief Administrator. The Charter does not contemplate delegating to the Chief Administrator. Therefore, the Chief Administrator should give notice to the Mayor and the Mayor consents to an expenditure.

Mr. Nicolette moved to table item until policy is reworked. Mr. Pavlik seconded. All present voted aye. Motion approved.

11B. CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE NO. 738-07, AMENDED 2007 SALARY ORDINANCE: Mr. van de Venne moved to approve. Mr. Brooks seconded. All present vote aye. Motion approved.

11C. DISCUSSION ON WASHINGTON STREET BRIDGE CLOSURE: Mr. Nicolette moved to discuss the Washington Street Bridge Closure. Mr. van de Venne seconded. There was no vote on this motion.

Mr. Barrett explained that in May 2006, the Washington Street Bridge was closed due to erosion, causing an unsafe driving condition. An application was submitted to the DEP for a permit to perform work on the bridge. To date, the Municipality obtained approval from the DEP to install a pipe under the bridge. Currently, there are no funds allocated in the budget to repair the structure; however, it is estimated that the cost to repair the bridge would be between \$80,000 to \$100,000. There are two structures which provide access over the tributary to Turtle Creek. They service five homes and when both are fully functional, they create a circular vehicular traffic pattern. This issue was presented to the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) and they stated that there are some new DEP programs, which may assist in this situation. Richard Connors, Director of Engineering, Public Works, and Parks will meet with the DEP on the week of April 9, 2007, to discuss possible remedies for the bridge matter. The other bridge in which the residents may utilize is still in good shape. There is some concern that if the alternate bridge is damaged due to a flood, the residents would be stranded. Additionally, the alternate bridge does not provide access to emergency vehicles. Presently, residents are turning around in a

neighbor's driveway and the Municipality has been providing materials to ease the burden of this condition. Mr. Barrett stated that the residents have defined their backyards with retaining walls and fences; however, due to the erosion, materials from same have been falling into the tributary. This is only likely to worsen as time passes. Council decided to wait until Mr. Connors has met with the DEP and also have the opportunity to visit the site before discussing this issue further.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

12A. Council discussed the reconstruction of Remaley Road. Council inquired if traffic calming could be conducted on the road to limit speeding.

12B. Council discussed the Hills Church Road gas well drilling, specifically, that gas drilling must end at 9:00 p.m. There was an incident where drilling continued well into the night. Murrysville Police were called and they stated they could do nothing to stop the drilling. Mr. Barrett stated that enforcement must come from Code Enforcement, not the Police Department, and that the drilling company was cited accordingly. Council suggested that the drilling company notify the Police Department when problems occur, state that drilling will continue past 9:00 p.m., and provide when the drilling will be expected to end.

12C. Council discussed taking over Wiestertown Road. Council directed the Chief Administrator to place this issue on a future Agenda for Council to discuss.

12D. Council agreed to scheduling candidates to interview for the Council vacancy. The interviews will be conducted on Wednesday, April 11, 2007, at 7:00 p.m.

12E. Mr. Pavlik requested a comparison of trash fees as a resident was concerned about the recent trash price increase.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mayor Somers announced that the new issue of *In Murrysville* magazine was mailed to residents. Should any resident not have received a copy, one can be obtained at the Municipal Building.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

COUNCIL OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MURRYSVILLE  
REGULAR VOTING MEETING  
April 4, 2007

15A. Council reviewed the March 21, 2007, Action Items. Items Nos. 40-06, 4-07, and 9-07 should be removed. For Item No. 39-06, Council directed Staff to contact each party one more time to ascertain status of this project.

15B. New Action Items: Council directed the Chief Administrator to provide the 2006 Overlay Project's quantity vs. bid tabulation.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mr. van de Venne moved to adjourn. Mr. Nicolette seconded. All present voted aye. Motion approved.

Time: 8:55 p.m.

JOHN M. BARRETT  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR

cdw 04/05/07

cc: Mayor  
Council  
Community Development  
Finance

Police  
Public Works  
Solicitor  
Front Office/Library