

**CHALFONT BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

May 11, 2010

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In the absence of President Cleland, the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice President, John Abbott.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

Mayor Becker, John Abbott, Tracey Bowen, Abigail Corson, John Engel, Marilyn Jacobson, Bill Kuder, Eileen McDonald, Melissa Shafer, Dean Ibrahim, and Richard O'Brien were present.

**Announcements** The meeting will be recorded.

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Mitch Meyerson

**Consent Agenda**

**John Engel made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the April 13, 2010 Council Meeting, with disbursements from the general fund of \$151,636.15 for the month of April. The motion was seconded by Bill Kuder, and carried unanimously. The financial report will be filed for audit.**

**Special Items**

- **Eileen McDonald made a motion to appoint Jerry Scullion to the HARB term vacated by Murray Smolens ending 12-31-11, as recommended by the HARB. The motion was seconded by John Engel and carried unanimously.**

**Council Committee Reports**

**Mayor's Report**

Marilyn Becker

- Mayor Becker announced a Fire Company blood drive to be held for volunteer firefighter, Bob Dando, who was injured in a hit and run accident.
- Officer Horn was recognized by MADD and Representative Patrick Murphy for his outstanding DUI enforcement.
- The Mayor has become a member of Mayors against Illegal Guns, working toward common sense goals to strengthen enforcement of existing laws.

**Parks Committee**

Eileen McDonald

- Plans underway for 2010 National Walk to School Day which will include Pine Run and Butler Elementary School
- Thanked Mary Ellen Noonan from Bucks County Conservation for being a guest reader for Story Time
- Thanked Sarah Byrd from DCNR for speaking on home environmental issues at Senior Coffee
- Thanked Mars Fishcare for the use of electricity, and Bill Kuder, and Mark Glidden for the loan of equipment for Movie Night
- Thanked staff and Public Works for help with activities this month

**Streets Committee**

Marilyn Jacobson

- Deerpath Road repaving should begin week of May 17 and should be completed by May 27<sup>th</sup>.

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- The Lindenfield Fairview Bridge and Trail project is scheduled to begin May 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Sewer replacement and trails are scheduled to be finished in July.
- The committee is looking for ways to fund additional street sweepings and constructive ways to use the debris from the sweeper as Liquid Fuels money cannot be used for removal of debris.

5K

Marilyn Jacobson

- Thanked Joy Styles, Chalfont resident and Manager of Chalfont Branch of Abington Bank, for the excellent fund raising, bringing new sponsors to the Chalfont 5k. There are 250 registered runners. Volunteers are welcome.

Property Public Facilities

John Engel

- Stated that the committee is working with the PLCM Municipal Utilities Commission to help municipalities shop for lower cost energy.

Police Facility Committee

John Abbott

- Discussion was held on the options presented for relocating the Police Department facility. Troy Hill was thanked for his preliminary renditions of plan options for Council's consideration. Estimated costs for relocating the police facility to the public works building. A tax increase of approximately 1.5 mills is anticipated to fund the much needed facility. **Bill Kuder made a motion to direct the Manager to prepare a Request for Proposal for architectural services for preparation of plans for a combined Police and Public Works facility. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and, after Council discussion, was carried unanimously.** Eileen McDonald requested the plan include options for energy efficiency.

Staff Reports

Manager's Report

Melissa Shafer

- Discussion to revise Ordinance 97A in compliance with DEP standards on open burning. **John Engel moved to direct the Manager to revise the current burning ordinance and report back to Council. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and carried unanimously.**
- The Chalfont Borough Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the 2010 Comprehensive Plan, with Council members in attendance. Council members should contact the Manager with any comments or corrections prior to the June meeting. Council will consider authorization to advertise the Plan at that time.

Solicitor Report

Dean Ibrahim

- The outstanding litigation regarding Oxford Land Development involving the Fire Company has been resolved and the court order has been signed. The Fire Company has begun building the new fire house.

Zoning Report

Richard O'Brien

- A "foundation only" permit is expected to be issued for the firehouse by the end of the week and the full building permit to follow six to seven days after.

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- In reply to Council inquires regarding tall grass complaints, the department is following up on all complaints received with investigation and enforcement.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. Eileen McDonald made a motion to approve Ordinance 393 repealing Ordinance 356 in its entirety and promulgating an Ordinance authorizing a program of fire safety and emergency equipment inspections and providing penalties for violations thereof. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and, after public comment by Robert Showalter, carried by unanimous roll call vote.
2. After consideration of correspondence received from HARB Chair, Troy Hill, and Michele LeFevre of the PHMC, Bill Kuder made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for a window sign and ground pole sign for Chalfont Family Restaurant. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and, after Council discussion, approved by unanimous roll call vote.
3. Marilyn Jacobson made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for a porch renovation at 210 Chestnut Street. The motion was seconded by Eileen McDonald and approved by unanimous roll call vote.
4. Bill Kuder made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness for signs for attorney Leonard Shoher as specifically indicated his application. The signs are to be located on the new office building at 308 N Main Street. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and, after Council discussion and clarification, approved by unanimous roll call vote.
5. John Engel made a motion to approve the Certificate of Appropriateness, 10-06, for a sign for Elegant Affair at 308 N Main Street. The sign approved will be the same size and dimensions, color and font as identified within the HARB application for signage with the condition that it be located hanging on the porch areas but not located in any area where it may be a danger to the health safety or welfare of the people entering or exiting the structure. The motion was seconded by Marilyn Jacobson and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

John Abbott requested that Council consider disposition of the Water Fund II account, stating that the original intent was to return the money to the community. His suggestion was to consider spending the money on something tangible, but he is open to all suggestions. The option is also available to continue to save the money and accrue interest. Tracey Bowen suggested the money could help offset the new police facility.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comment was heard from Scott Stokes, 36 ½ W Butler Ave., Carol Davis, 36 W Butler Ave., Mitch Meyerson, 12 Langhorne Road, and Bob Showalter, 116 E Butler Ave.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Thank you note received from Murray Smolens.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming meetings were announced.

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John Abbott adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Next Ordinance number: 394  
Next Resolution number: 2010-10

Respectfully Submitted,



Barbara Qualteria  
Borough Secretary