

POTTSTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The 2007 Adjournment Meeting of the Pottstown Borough Council was called to order on Wednesday, December 26, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Meeting Room Pottstown Borough Hall, 100 East High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, with President Wolf in the Chair.

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Councilors present were Mark Gibson, Arthur Green, Michael Wenzel, Greg Berry, Jack Wolf and Daniel Schadler. Also present were Solicitor Charles Garner, Borough Manager Raymond Lopez, Mayor Sharon Thomas and Borough Secretary Virginia Takach. Vice President Toroney was absent.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2008 Budget – Motion by Councilor Wenzel, seconded by Councilor Green to approve the 2008 Budget with total revenues of \$45,853,590.00 and total expenditures of \$45,853,590.00 as outlined in the 2008 Proposed Budget dated December 11, 2007. Motion carried: 5 ayes, 1 nay. Councilor Berry cast the negative vote.

b. 2008 Tax Ordinance – Motion by Councilor Wenzel, seconded by Councilor Green to adopt an Ordinance to fix the Borough tax rate for real property for the Year 2008 as follows:

Tax rate for general purposes, the sum of	4.97925 mills
For debt purposes, the sum of	0.88469 mills
For fire house maintenance purposes, sum of	0.91103 mills
For library purposes, the sum of	0.16253 mills
For street light purposes, the sum of	0.31708 mills
For shade tree purposes, the sum of	0.00000 mills
For parks and recreation purposes, the sum of	<u>0.79388 mills</u>
TOTAL MILLAGE	8.04846 mills

ORDINANCE NO. 2048

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN, COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE YEAR 2008

Motion carried: 5 ayes, 1 nay. Councilor Berry cast the negative vote.

c. Amendment Fee Resolution – Motion by Councilor Wenzel, seconded by Councilor Schadler to adopt a Resolution amending the Comprehensive Borough Fee Resolution to amend certain permit fees and license fees associated with photocopying charges, Public Works Services, water meter and tapping fees/rates, and refuse fees.

RESOLUTION 2007 – 39

A FEE RESOLUTION AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE BOROUGH FEE RESOLUTION TO AMEND CERTAIN PERMIT FEES AND LICENSE FEES ASSOCIATED WITH PHOTOCOPYING CHARGES, PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES, AND WATER METER AND TAPPING FEES/RATES.

WHEREAS, the Burgess and Town Council of the Borough of Pottstown conducted a Comprehensive Fee Resolution on July 10, 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Borough annually reviews the Fee Resolution to determine if additions or amendments to the Fee Resolution are necessary and appropriate; and

WHEREAS, the Burgess and Town Council of the Borough of Pottstown desires to amend and add certain fees/service charges due to the change in cost for providing such service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Burgess and Town Council of the Borough of Pottstown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

SECTION 1. The following charges and procedures associated with Pottstown Borough's public records access policy shall be formally added to the Fee Resolution and read as follows:

A. Twenty Five Cents (\$0.25) per page for all duplication of requested records. There shall be no per page charge for requests of five (5) pages or less.

B. If a request is made for a copy of any record which cannot be reasonably duplicated on the facilities available at the Offices of the Borough, either due to the physical size or shape of the record or to the volume of the records being requested, the Borough shall have the requested records duplicated at a commercial copying service or similar location, and the person or entity requesting the records shall be responsible for the amount charged by such outside source, plus Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00) for courier-conveyance services in

connection with the Borough's transportation of the records to and from such source. When the records are sent for copying to a commercial copying service, the total amount charged to the person or entity making the request may not exceed the rate of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00), or the total charges based upon Twenty-Five Cents (\$0.25) per page times the number of pages copied, unless the person or entity making the request has been advised in advance.

SECTION 2. The following fees associated with the Pottstown Borough Public Works Services are hereby revised from its existing amount to the amount set forth in this Resolution .

<u>EQUIPMENT PRICE LIST FOR BILLABLE WORK</u>	<u>COST PER HOUR</u>
Air Compressor	\$ 40.00
Backhoe	\$ 60.00
Bucket Truck	\$ 60.00
Dump Truck	\$ 45.00
Dump Truck (Five Yd.)	\$ 60.00
Gas Cut Saw	\$ 20.00
Gas Cut Saw (on wheels)	\$ 50.00
Loader	\$ 45.00
Roller	\$ 35.00
Sweeper	\$ 90.00
Tamper	\$ 20.00
Trash Pump (Three inches)	\$ 15.00
Trash Pump (small)	\$ 15.00
TV Rig	\$ 175.00
Sewer Jet Truck	\$ 160.00
Snow Blower	\$ 20.00
Snow Plow Dump Truck	\$ 60.00
Snow Plow Pick-Up	\$ 50.00
Labor shall be billed at 135% for each employee plus overtime, if required.	

SECTION 3. Pottstown Borough's annual service charge for the collection and disposal of garbage, rubbish and refuse for each residential dwelling unit shall be increased from Three

Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) per unit to Three Hundred and Nine Dollars (\$309.00) per unit.

SECTION 4. The following Sections of Appendix A of the Fee Resolution are hereby amended to read as follows:

Usage Charge:

All usage in low pressure zone:		\$2.26 per 100 ccf
All usage in high pressure zone:		\$2.55 per 100 ccf
All usage in super high pressure zone:		\$3.36 per 100 ccf

Meter Testing for Disputed Account:

A deposit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for e" to 1" meters, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for 1½" to 2" meters, Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for 3" meters, Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) for 4" and larger will be required before the meter is tested, which sum will be returned if the meter is found to be registering more than four percent (4%) against the consumer, on a flow equal to c of the diameter of the service, otherwise, the deposit will be retained by the Authority to cover the cost of the test. The meter removal charge will be applied.

Tapping Fees:

One Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Four Dollars (\$1,764.00) per EDU.

SECTION 5. All future modifications of these fees and other fees established by the Comprehensive Borough Fee Resolution shall be made by Resolution duly adopted by the Burgess and Town Council of the Borough of Pottstown.

SECTION 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon enactment. ENACTED and RESOLVED this 26th day of December, 2007.

Motion carried: 6 ayes.

d. Sewer Rates – Motion by Councilor Schadler, seconded by Councilor Wenzel to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 18 amending Sanitary Sewer Rates for the calendar year 2008.

ORDINANCE NO. 2049

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN AMENDING SUBPART E, VACANT PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE, OF PART 9, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES OF CHAPTER 1, ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN, AS AMENDED, TO

December 26, 2007

AMEND THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE FROM VACANT PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE, TO BLIGHTED PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE.

Motion carried: 6 ayes.

e. Blighted Property Review Committee – Motion by Councilor Wenzel, seconded by Councilor Schadler to adopt an Ordinance amending the name of the Vacant Property Review Committee to the Blighted Property Review Committee.

ORDINANCE NO. 2050

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN AMENDING SUBPART 3, VACANT PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE, OF PART 9, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES OF CHAPTER 1, ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN, AS AMENDED, TO AMEND THE NAME OF THE COMMITTEE FROM VACANT PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE, TO BLIGHTED PROPERTY REVIEW COMMITTEE.

Solicitor Garner noted that the Ordinance is a requirement due to changes in the law.

Motion carried: 6 ayes.

f. Sale of Borough Vehicles – Motion by Councilor Wenzel, seconded by Councilor Green to award bids for the sale of Borough Vehicles as set forth on the Bid Tabulations of December 26, 2007 as follows:

- a) 1979 Chevrolet Van – Marks Motors, Maple Shade, NJ @ \$215
- b) 1995 Intrepid – PCS Auto Sales, Bala Cynwyd, PA @ \$759
- c) 1996 Mitsubishi – Scott Schaeffer Auto, Birdsboro, PA @ \$508.08
- d) 2002 Ford Crown – PCS Auto Sales, Bala Cynwyd, PA @ \$1,259

Motion carried: 6 ayes.

g. HARB – Motion by Councilor Wenzel, seconded by Councilor Green to approve a Certificate of Appropriateness for property located at 232 High Street as recommended by HARB.

Mr. Smith advised that there is no longer a window sign at the location. He added that the paper sign in the window was considered a temporary sign.

Motion carried: 5 ayes, 1 nay. Councilor Berry cast the negative vote.

h. PAID – Motion by Councilor Green, seconded by Councilor Berry to forgive

December 26, 2007

\$35,000 as money owed to the Borough by the Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc. (PAID).

Mr. Lopez explained the letter from PAID requesting forgiveness \$35,000 out of the approximate amount of \$71,000 owed and due to the Borough. He added that the end of PAID's five-year period is December 31, 2007.

President Wolf reviewed the accomplishments of PAID in the downtown area and noted that the forgiveness of this debt would allow PAID to retain its tax-exempt status. He added that PAID has been using the money for development and it was never an income for the Borough.

Motion carried: 6 ayes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Lopez, on behalf of the Borough, presented inscribed plaques to President Wolf, Councilor Green and Councilor Schadler and thanked them all for their years of service to the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

President Wolf, for the last meeting of his tenure on Council, invited his grandson, Harrison Wolf, to hit the gavel and the meeting adjourned on motion by Councilor Green, at 5:20 p.m.

Attested,

Raymond W. Lopez
Borough Manager