

**HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 22, 2022**

The meeting of the House Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gene Gabel. Present in addition to Mr. Gabel were committee members Keith Endy, Barry Christman, and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also in attendance was Council member Charles Heller; Lori Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Bruce Hansley, Street Supervisor; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark LLC.; Jason Newhard, SSM, Inc.; Nathaniel Guest, Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust, and Jake Lea, Building a Better Boyertown.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Gabel, seconded by Mr. Christman, and approved.

Mr. Gabel called for public comment on the agenda; no comments were forthcoming.

Unfinished Business

Lighting and Parking Lot Layout Plan 25 SRA & 16 WPA – Delivery date for the lights is approximately two weeks from receipt of order. The delivery is anticipated to be received in early March.

New Business

Nathaniel Guest, Executive Director Colebrookdale RR Trust-Local Share Grant Application – Mr. Gabel recognized Mr. Guest who addressed the committee concerning a request for the Borough to partner with the Colebrookdale RR Trust in submission of a grant application to the DCED Local Share Account Statewide Grant Program for funding to construct a farmer's market house parallel to Pear Street and adjacent to the railroad tracks. The existing structures would be removed to construct a farmer's market house. Mr. Guest noted that grant eligible applicants are counties, municipalities, municipal authorities, economic development agencies and redevelopment authorities. Mr. Guest shared renderings of the proposed farmer's market house, which recreates a Berks County railroad freight station designed by Philadelphia Victorian architect Frank Furness. The preliminary projected cost of the project is \$800,000 to \$1,000,000. Funding for this grant is provided from the PA Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, which provides for the distribution of gaming revenues through the Commonwealth Financing Authority to support projects in the public interest within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The application submission deadline is March 15th.

Discussion was held on the request and it was noted that this is a reimbursable grant. Mr. Guest also advised that he would work with Mrs. Loder to complete and submit the grant application. The Borough is required to approve a resolution authorizing

the submission of the grant. Mrs. Loder noted that the resolution could be approved at the March 7th meeting of Borough Council. Following discussion, the committee and council member present agreed to include approval of the required resolution on the agenda of the March 7th meeting of Borough Council. In the meantime Mrs. Loder and Mr. Guest will work on completion of the grant application.

Public Comment

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. was made by Mr. Gabel, second by Mr. Endy. The next meeting of the House Committee is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary