HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES November 21, 2023

The meeting of the House Committee was called to order at 8:00 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 were Council members Charles Heller, Charles Neubauer and Jeffrey Cascino; Lorraine Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Bruce Hansley, Street Supervisor; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark, LLC; Jason Newhard, SSM, Inc.; Daryl Peck, Concord Public Finance; Tom McHugh and Jarid Miller.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 24th, 2023 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Gabel, second by Mr. Christman, and approved.

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

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

2024 Meeting Schedule – The 2024 Meeting Schedule was presented for consideration. Following review, the committee agreed to recommend Borough Council authorize the Borough Manager to advertise the 2024 Schedule of Meetings. This matter will be added to the agenda of the December 4th meeting of Borough Council.

Appointments Boards, Commission and Authority – Mrs. Loder presented and reviewed with the Committee a list of Boards, Commissions and Authority appointments which will need to be made at the January 2024 Borough Council Re-Organization Meeting. No action is required at this time.

Public Comment

Mr. Gabel inquired if there was any further business to discuss and recognized Mayor Carnes. Mayor Carnes advised the committee that she was contacted today concerning vulgarities written on the "Before I Die" board, which is now stationed in the 100 block of Philadelphia Avenue on property owned by Mr. Ellixson. Mayor Carnes advised that upon being notified of this information she went to the site and cleaned the board. Mayor Carnes expressed concern about the "Before I Die" board remaining on display. Mr. Cascino suggested that we shouldn't react abruptly to inappropriate behavior on the part of a few individuals. It was also noted that the board will be removed shortly and replaced with a Christmas tree. Mrs. Loder advised the committee that it is not clear what if any authority the Borough has over the continued use of the "Before I Die" board on private property; noting that legal advice from the Borough Solicitor would be required. The committee made no recommendation regarding the "Before I Die" board.

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There being no public comment and no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 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, December 19th, 2023 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder Borough Manager