

The mandatory biannual reorganization meeting of Souderton Borough Council was called to order by Mayor John R. Reynolds at 7:30 pm. Members of Borough Council in attendance included: Councilor Ned D. Leight, Councilor D. Jeffrey Gross, Councilor Brian K. Goshow, Councilor Andrew C. Schlosser, Councilor John U. Young, Councilor Steven J. Toy, Councilor Richard Halbom and Councilor Edward Huber. Councilor Jonathan Gardenier was absent from the meeting.

Mayor John Reynolds noted that he was administered the Oath of Office earlier on January 4, 2010 by District Justice Kenneth Deatelhauser. Mayor John Reynolds began the reorganization meeting by individually administering the mandatory Oath of Office to newly elected Borough Councilors Brian K. Goshow, Richard Halbom, Edward Huber, Ned D. Leight, Steven J. Toy and John U. Young.

Mayor John Reynolds reviewed the procedures for nominating and electing officers to the position of Borough Council President, Vice-President and President Pro-Tem. Mayor Reynolds then opened the floor for nominations for Borough Council President. Councilor John Young nominated Brian Goshow. A motion was then made by Councilor Andrew C. Schlosser, seconded by Councilor John U. Young, to close the nominations for Borough Council President. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor John Reynolds next opened the floor for nomination for Borough Council Vice-President. Councilor Richard Halbom nominated Andrew Schlosser. A motion was made by Councilor John Young and seconded by Councilor Steven Toy to close the nominations for Vice-President. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor John Reynolds opened the floor for nominations for the position of President Pro-Tem. Councilor Andrew Schlosser nominated Jeffrey Gross. A motion was made by Councilor John Young, seconded by Councilor Andrew Schlosser, to close the nominations for President Pro-Tem. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

There being no further business, Mayor John Reynolds adjourned the Reorganization Meeting of Borough Council at 7:44 pm.

The Regular Meeting of Souderton Borough Council was then called to order by newly elected President Brian K. Goshow at 7:45 p.m. Members of Borough Council present at the regular meeting included the following:

President Brian K. Goshow	Councilor Edward Huber
Vice-President Andrew C. Schlosser	Mayor John R. Reynolds
Councilor Ned D. Leight	Junior Councilor Daniel Yocum
Councilor D. Jeffrey Gross	Solicitor Robert G. Bricker
Councilor John U. Young	Borough Manager P. Michael Coll
Councilor Steven J. Toy	Public Works Director Steven R. Coll
Councilor Richard Halbom	Police Chief Charles A. Quinn, Sr.

Absent from the meeting was Councilor Jonathan Gardenier. The Invocation was given by Borough Manager P. Michael Coll, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Consideration was given to the minutes of the December 7, 2009, Regular Borough Council Meeting. There were no Borough Council work sessions during the month of December. A motion was made by Councilor Richard Halbom, and seconded by Councilor Andrew C. Schlosser, to approve the minutes of December 7, 2009 Borough Council Meeting as presented. The motion was approved.

Mayor John Reynolds expressed appreciation to John Young for his past twelve or more years of service as Borough Council President. The Mayor expressed that he felt he was speaking for the entire Council in saying that John Young has been a tremendous leader of Borough Council during his tenure as President.

The Borough Solicitor's report for the month of December was distributed to Borough Council. The Solicitor completed settlement on the purchase of the Scholl Brothers property on December 18, 2009. The Borough Solicitor reviewed and advertised the Souderton Police Pension and the Souderton Non-Uniformed Employee Pension ordinances. They are currently working on a purchase and lease agreement regarding the proposed donation and transfer of the Scout Cabin property to the Borough.

The Borough Solicitor prepared the Notice of Suspension regarding the personnel matter with Officer Thomas Lawson.

Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that the Public Works Work Session which is normally scheduled for the second Monday of the month will be cancelled to permit members of Borough Council an opportunity to attend the scheduled Community Visioning Meeting on Monday, January 11, 2010 beginning at 6:30 pm at the Telford Community Building, 125 S. Hamilton Street in Telford Borough. This meeting is sponsored by the Souderton-Telford Revitalization Plan Task Force and planning consultants from the Montgomery County Planning Commission. The Administrative Work Session will be held on Monday, January 18, 2010 beginning at 7:00 pm in the Conference Room of the Souderton Municipal Building.

Councillor John Young noted that at one time Borough Council held the work sessions on the third and fourth Mondays, which may have worked better for the Manager and other members of Borough Council. Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that the current work session schedule provides time to prepare and post the scheduled Borough Council agenda about a week prior to the meeting. Staff would be rushed to continue to post the agenda about a week before the next Borough Council meeting if the schedule was changed. The current schedule seems to work best and Borough Council members agreed to maintain the current work session schedule.

Borough Manager Michael Coll reviewed the items scheduled for consideration by Borough Council. The first item concerns various staff appointments. Ordinances establishing the new Borough administered police and non-uniformed employee pension plans have been prepared in consultation with Trollinger Consulting Group and Borough Solicitor Robert Bricker. Copies of the proposed ordinances have been forwarded to Borough Council. Also distributed to Borough Council were copies of the revised Minimum Municipal Obligation worksheets which calculate the mandatory financial obligation of the Borough to each pension plan for the 2010 calendar year. The cost projections for 2010 are well within budget projections. Two resolutions have also been prepared to reduce member contributions to each pension plan during the 2010 calendar year. The last item for consideration is authorization to advertise the sale of 1990 John Deere Backhoe and the irregular parcel of surplus property to be subdivided from the swimming pool parking lot. The parcel size is roughly 2,373 square feet. Sealed proposals must be received and formally considered in order for the planned subdivision to proceed.

Councillor Ned Leight noted that several sidewalks after the recent snow fall have not been cleared according to Borough regulations. Councillor Ned Leight discussed this matter with the Code Enforcement Officer. President Brian Goshow questioned the procedure used by the Borough to notify property owners who are not in compliance. Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that we utilize door hangers and follow up with telephone calls. The Code Enforcement Officer listed a number of actions regarding this matter in his report. There are approximately twelve property owners that are regular offenders and will be issued citations without advanced warning.

Consideration was given to paying the bills for the month of December, 2009

GENERAL FUND

North American Benefits Company	\$ 945.13	MetLife	217.63
PPL Electric Utilities	266.34	MetLife	1,675.84
Unum Insurance Company	827.34	MetLife	217.63
Verizon	51.69	MetLife	1,675.84
Comcast Cable	42.95	MetLife	217.63
HISI	4,089.00	MetLife	1,675.84
Independence Blue Cross	14,145.21	MetLife	217.63
Keystone Health Plan East	5,777.22	MetLife	1,675.84
Atlantic Tactical	53.98	MetLife	217.63
C & S Lawn & Landscape	1,110.00	MetLife	1,675.84
David Zimmerman	25.00	Montgomery County Emergency Svs	5,000.00
Fredericks Flowers	1,218.00	Montgomery Newspapers	749.65
Moyer & Son, Inc	1,655.69	Moyer & Son, Inc	328.37
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc	631.35	N.A.B.I.	60.00
PECO Energy	53.29	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	316.47
Petty Cash Fund	178.67	Nextel Communications	346.12

PPL Electric Utilities	7,894.10	North Penn Goodwill Service	4,500.00
Univest Visa	17.95	North Penn Visiting Nurse Assoc	4,750.00
Univest Visa	1,174.58	North Penn Water Authority	50.98
Jay R. Stover	621.00	PECO Energy	153.23
Armstrong and Son Equipment Repair	806.36	Pennsylvania One Call	16.90
AT & T	79.25	Perseverance Volunteer Fire Co.	22,500.00
Ches-Mont Disposal, Inc.	379.50	PPL Electric Utilities	356.13
Comcast Cable	206.64	Public Agency Training Council	295.00
Generations	6,250.00	ROGO Fasteners Co., Inc.	45.75
HISI	4,498.00	SEPTA	400.00
Indian Creek Foundation	376.00	Souderton Ambulance Assoc.	4,750.00
John T Fretz Ins Agency	22,396.06	Travis Bivighouse	495.00
John U. Young	1,325.00	Verizon	103.62
K J Door Service, Inc	105.00	Word Work, Inc.	<u>330.00</u>
Keystone Health Plan East	6,406.53		
Lansdale Police Department	150.00		
Meals on Wheels Indian Valley	6,250.00	Total General Fund	\$145,021.40

SEWER FUND

Bennett Painting	\$10,000.00	PPL Electric Utilities	14,614.10
Bergey's Electric, Inc	261.99	S P Solutions	135.00
Bergey's, Inc.	34.00	Waste Management of I V	7,735.13
Carquest	238.11	Excelsior Blower Systems, Inc.	895.82
CCP Industries, Inc.	503.36	Glasgow, Inc.	140.00
Ches-Mont Disposal, Inc.	90.75	Richter Drafting & Office Supply	62.78
Cintas First Aid & Safety	30.00	Commonwealth of PA/DEP	1,200.00
Clemens Uniform Rental	280.84	Bennett Painting	21,990.00
Comcast Cable	42.95	Chemsearch	342.59
D. R. Cordell & Assoc., Inc	1,313.33	Ches-Mont Disposal, Inc.	90.75
Environmental Machines/Services	918.00	Comcast Cable	93.26
Fastener Supplies, LLC	32.15	Essex Service Corporation	1,052.76
Filter Belts	947.00	Hach Company	321.95
Fisher Scientific	998.25	Hajoca Corporation	481.82
Geogre's Tool Rental	285.00	Hart Mechanical Contractors	3,100.00
Good, Inc.	36.84	HISI	1,191.00
Hajoca Corporation	404.64	Independence Blue Cross	118.80
HISI	1,082.00	Independence Blue Cross	207.65
Independence Blue Cross	113.10	John T. Fretz Insurance Agency	9,887.94
Jaeger Electric Service, Inc	347.50	K & A Services, Inc	1,000.00
Lawson Products, Inc.	86.91	Keystone Health Plan East	2,478.45
Markey Paper & Packaging, Inc	29.81	Lawson Products, Inc	567.79
Maryland Biochemical Co., Inc.	1,377.58	Markey Paper & Packaging, Inc	47.89
Moyer & Son, Inc	248.18	Maryland Biochemical Co., Inc	1,377.58
NetCarrier Telecom, Inc	424.58	McMaster-Carr	613.86
North American Benefits Co	307.60	MetLife	82.21
North Penn Water Authority	80.48	MetLife	82.21
Nyco Corporation	120.36	MetLife	82.21
PPL Electric Utilities	413.94	MetLife	82.21
Schaner's Wastewater Products	2,152.19	MetLife	82.21
Shelly Enterprises, Inc.	205.79	Mobile Dredging & Pumping	14,488.75
Siemens Water Technologies	4,442.16	Monarch Door Company	1,050.00
Suburban Water Testing Labs	726.00	Nelson Wire Rope Corporation	89.75
United Laboratories	347.70	NetCarrier Telecom, Inc.	158.37
Univar USA, Inc	5,277.70	North Penn Water Authority	136.56
Unum Insurance Company	246.75	Nyco Corporation	17.50
USA Blue Book	139.88	Penn Valley Pump Co., Inc	11,608.00
Verizon	53.04	PPL Electric Utilities	645.97
Waste Management of I V	4,688.47	Precision Solutions, Inc	1022.40
Water Environmental Federation	130.00	Schaners Wastewater Products	2,169.91

Bearings & Drives Unlimited	167.65	Shelly Enterprises, Inc.	9.75
Independence Blue Cross	3,838.17	Siemens Water Technology	4,478.51
Independence Blue Cross	207.65	Siemens Water Technology	187.00
Jaeger Electric Service, Inc.	1,283.50	State World Headquarters	126.39
Keystone Health Plan east	2,235.00	Suburban water Testing Labs	135.00
All Industrial-Safety Products	379.98	Suncoast research Labs, Inc	1,488.00
Bergey's Electric, Inc.	42.60	Sureflow Technologies	267.25
EPWPCOA, Inc.	200.00	Teledyne ISCO, Inc	1,903.35
Freedom Systems Corporation	1,643.75	Univar USA, Inc.	3,547.46
H. Keith Koehler	134.95	USA Blue Book	3,875.26
Waste Management of IV	9,276.93	Verizon	59.50
Wise Electric	130.00	Young's	<u>25.80</u>
		Total Sewer Fund	\$176,647.56

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

County Line Landscape Nursery	\$ 1,881.67	Concrete Unlimited, Inc (void)	830.88
Jaeger Electric Service, Inc.	9,836.93	Ecybro Trucking	220.00
Landis Block/Nyce Concrete	6,103.71	Georges Tool Rental	45.00
The Home Depot	66.20	Glasgow, Inc.	70.00
Univest National Bank	5,611.21	Highway Materials, Inc.	9,126.58
Univest national Bank	1,706.25	Jaeger Electric Service, inc	7,457.31
Univest Visa	102.82	M & M Stone Company	70.00
Univest Visa	1,041.98	Moyer & Son, Inc	1,357.30
Wade Associates	10,100.00	Naceville Materials	193.11
Blooming Glen Contractors, Inc.	38,713.40	Norris Sales Company, Inc.	627.00
Bauman Crane Company, Inc	368.88	Shelly Enterprises, Inc.	4.50
Blooming Glen Contractors	13,273.20	Trout Brothers, Inc.	86.00
Boucher and James, Inc	19,486.07	Univest National Bank	5,611.21
Boucher and James, Inc.	4,692.38	Univest National Bank	1,763.12
Clearview Nursery, Inc.	949.35	Wade Associates	<u>7,450.00</u>
		Total Capital Reserve Fund	\$148,846.06

LIQUID FUELS FUND

Established Traffic Controls	\$737.80	PPL Electric Utilities	\$507.02
Letterco	60.00	Established Traffic Controls	144.64
PPL Electric Utilities	320.45	PPL Electric Utilities	<u>176.37</u>
Blooming Glen Contractors	61,619.05		
		Total Liquid Fuels Fund	\$63,565.33

SANITARY SEWER CAPITAL FUND

Glasgow, Inc	\$70.00	Telford Borough Authority	\$3,186.72
Highway Materials, Inc.	215.80	Blooming Glen Contractors	19,126.35
Naceville Materials	789.60	Highway Materials, Inc.	135.26
Norris Sales Company, Inc.	1,364.25	Moyer & Son, Inc.	24.40
P. K. Moyer & Sons, Inc.	15,837.75	Shelly Enterprises, Inc.	13.74
Shelly Enterprises, Inc.	9.78	Trout Brothers	<u>10,445.08</u>
		Total Sewer Capital Fund	\$51,218.73

LAND DEVELOPMENT ESCROW FUND

Trout Brothers, Inc.	\$399.50
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LIBRARY TAX FUND

Indian Valley Public Library	\$10,322.27
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A motion was made by Councillor Richard Halbom, and seconded by Councillor Andrew C. Schlosser, to pay the bills for the month of December, 2009, as presented. The motion was approved.

President Brian K. Goshow opened the floor to the audience for public comment. There being no comments from the audience, President Goshow moved to the scheduled items of business.

The first item of business concerns various staff appointments, the first concerning the appointment of P. Michael Coll as Borough Secretary and Borough Treasurer. A motion was made by

Councillor Andrew C. Schlosser, and seconded by Councillor D. Jeffrey Gross, to appoint P. Michael Coll, 458 Wile Avenue, Souderton, to serve as Borough Secretary and Borough Treasurer. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Andrew C. Schlosser, and seconded by Councillor John U. Young, to appoint Robert Bricker of Bricker, Landis and Hunsberger, LLC to serve as Borough Solicitor. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Ned D. Leight, and seconded by Councillor Richard Halbom, to appoint Boucher and James, Inc. to serve as Borough Engineer. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Andrew C. Schlosser, and seconded by Councillor Edward Huber, to appoint Styer Associates to serve as Borough Auditors. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

President Brian K. Goshow noted that the next item of business is the consideration of Ordinances establishing Borough administered Police Pension and Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plans, copies of which were distributed to members of Borough Council.

A motion was made by Councillor D. Jeffrey Gross, and seconded by Councillor Steven J. Toy, to enact Ordinance No 10-690-01 providing for the establishment and regulation of a pension plan for the full time police officers of the Borough of Souderton. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Ned D. Leight, and seconded by Councillor D. Jeffrey Gross, to enact Ordinance No 10-691-02 providing for the establishment and regulation of a pension plan for the full time non-uniformed employees of the Borough of Souderton. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

The next item of business concerned Resolutions reducing member contributions to the established employee pension plans. A motion was made by Councillor Andrew C. Schlosser, and seconded by Councillor John U. Young, to approve Resolution No. 10-01 reducing member contributions to the Police Pension Plan to two percent (2%) of gross wages for the 2010 calendar year. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Andrew C. Schlosser, and seconded by Councillor Steven J. Toy, to approve Resolution No 10-02 reducing member contributions to the Non-Uniformed Employee Pension Plan to three percent (3%) of gross wages for the 2010 calendar year. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Councillor Ned D. Leight, and seconded by Councillor Richard Halbom, to authorize an advertisement to accept proposals to purchase the Borough's John Deere backhoe. President Brian Goshow questioned the age of the machine. Borough Manager Michael Coll noted that it is a 1990 model. The Borough received a trade in offer from Plasterer Equipment Company on this machine in conjuncture with their proposal under the State COSTARS contract for a new backhoe loader. Disposal of surplus Borough property must be completed through an advertised public bid process and will further serve to confirm the trade in value already quoted by Plasterer Equipment Company. If a higher quote is received, then the Borough will sell the machine to the competing third party, with the revenue from the sale applied to the required down payment. A 48 month municipal lease was just approved for this purchase at an annual cost of just under \$25,000. An allocation of \$35,000 was incorporated in the 2010 Budget. President Goshow then noted if there are no further questions, a motion is on the floor to proceed with the advertisement for bids. Calling for the vote, the motion was approved.

A motion was made by Councillor D. Jeffrey Gross, and seconded by Councillor Steven J. Toy, to authorize an advertisement to accept proposals to purchase an irregular parcel of ground, consisting of approximately 2,373 square feet, from the swimming pool parking lot. The motion was approved.

President Brian K. Goshow expressed appreciation to the members of Borough Council for their support and he will be working with the Borough Manager and members of Borough Council to appoint committee assignments in the coming week. The Borough Manager further noted that he will be scheduling meetings with the Pool Committee and the Streetscape Planning Committee in the

coming week.

Mayor John Reynolds further expressed appreciation to Brian Goshow, Andrew Schlosser and Jeffrey Gross for accepting the nominations to serve. At times, it may not be an easy task to run the Borough Council meetings and their willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Michael Coll, Secretary

WORK SESSION MINUTES AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative Work Session – January 18, 2010 (7:00 pm-10:00 pm)

Council Attendees: Mayor John Reynolds, Brian Goshow, Ned Leight, Jeffrey Gross, John Young, Andrew Schlosser, Steven Toy, Richard Halbom and Edward Huber. Junior Councillor Daniel Yocum.

Staff Attendees: Police Chief Charles Quinn, Borough Manager Michael Coll.

1. Police Committee

- a) David Kutzler, a Borough resident at 18 Penn Avenue, attended the work session to discuss consideration of allowing parking on both sides of Penn Avenue, between Broad Street and Highland Avenue. He commented that street parking is becoming very competitive and at times very tense between neighbors. Penn Avenue was reconstructed in 2005. The reconstruction plan reduced the width of the sidewalk from 8 feet to 6 feet and added approximately 4 feet to the cartway width of the road, which is now 32 feet. Many other local roads have cartway widths of 30 feet and allow street parking on both sides. Concern was raised by Borough Council members that this particular block contains many rowhomes with the potential that both sides may be solidly parked, providing no room for cars to pull over to yield to oncoming vehicles, like other less populated blocks of streets. Travel lanes will only be 8 feet wide and will be very narrow for truck traffic and emergency vehicles. Borough Council members suggested that parking on both sides will be acceptable with a one way street, traveling from Broad Street south towards Highland Avenue. Borough Council suggested that a survey and opinion letter be drafted and sent to the surrounding residents and businesses, including Shelly's.
- b) Councillor Halbom reported on recent meetings and discussions with Front Street residents about the recent removal of the 3 way stop intersection at Montgomery Avenue and S Front Street, along with various alternatives discussed by the Traffic calming Committee to address safety and slow the speed of traffic along S Front Street. Councillor Halbom suggested consideration of painting shoulder lines to visually narrow the cartway as a potential first step, which is far less expensive than constructing other physical traffic calming features. Members of Borough Council discussed possible action to re-establish the 3 way stop intersection.

Residents Craig Silsbee, 138 S. Front Street and Timothy Mack, 127 S. Front Street attended the work session. A subsequent e-mail was received from Joshua Landis, 145 S. Front Street. The residents noted that they appreciated the efforts of Borough Council in addressing safety concerns on S. Front Street. The stop signs did aid in these efforts, adding the proposed street markings and crosswalks along S. Front Street were supported by the residents in attendance. The general consensus of Borough Council was to have the Borough Engineer develop a conceptual plan for South Front Street that includes the proposed street markings and a review of alternatives at Montgomery Avenue and South Front Street, including review of posting the 3 way stop intersection. This plan will be prepared for further review at the February work sessions.

- c) Chief Quinn reviewed a few issues that surfaced a few weeks ago concerning handicapped

parking spaces. A resident complaint was filed about the continuation of the handicapped space at 41 Franklin Avenue. The property owner noted that the space is still being used by her son when he visits them on a regular basis. The handicapped parking space posted for a resident at 201 Noble Street is now being used by a resident at 203 Noble Street and should remain. A new request was made by a resident at 141 Central Avenue. The resident has a valid handicapped parking placard and is requesting the posting of a space in front of 141 Central Avenue. Borough Council discussed strengthening the policy for authorizing and monitoring the use of handicapped parking spaces. A motion will be prepared for consideration at the February Borough Council Meeting to authorize the posting of a handicapped parking space in front of 141 Central Avenue for a 90 day trial period.

- d) Committee members discussed increasing the two hour parking restriction in the Main Street parking lot. An insurance agency is scheduled to relocate to the adjoining Village Centre office suites. The recommendation is to post the line of spaces, including the handicapped spaces, along the property line with 143 Main Street. The line of spaces along the railroad bank will remain unrestricted. A motion will be prepared for consideration at the February Borough Council meeting to authorize the additional parking restrictions.
- e) Souderton Police Chief Charles Quinn noted that police will continue to monitor juvenile loitering around the Wawa store. The problem seems to have calmed since school is back in session.
- f) Chief Quinn is scheduled to retire on April 30, 2010. Committee members suggested that Safe City Solutions be contacted to assist in developing a job description for Police Chief and assist in the search for candidates. A proposal for this service will be obtained.

2. Administrative Committee

- a) Borough Council President Brian Goshow reviewed committee assignments for 2010 and 2011. Steven Toy will be taking over the Police Committee chairmanship and Ed Huber will be taking over as chairman of the Property Committee. All other members will retain their current committee assignments.
- b) Lee Ford, a Borough resident at 308 N Main Street, attended the work session to request the use of the Community Park to host the Lewis and Clark Circus as a fund raising benefit for the mummies. Mr. Ford is a member of the mummies, in their comic division. The Mummies will serve as sponsor and will provide the necessary liability insurance for the event. The tentative date for the event is Friday, June 11. Borough Council expressed concern with the proposed date, since it corresponds with the use of the softball field and Concert Sundaes. Significant rainfall, like was experienced this past year, may cause damage to the park grounds and impact on other local events. Mr. Ford will check with the Circus for possible later dates in the fall. Some members of Borough Council requested if the Mummies would be willing to perform at Concert Sundaes in return for the use of the park.

3. Development Committee

- a) Discussions were held with the owners of the Mill Apartment building about the potential to extend additional right of way to locate street parking on the east side of Main Street. The owners are hesitant to consider giving up any additional right of way and given the tight construction schedule, Committee members have elected to drop consideration in adding street parking on the east side of Main Street. Discussions are ongoing with Univest National Bank on the proposed plans, particularly, making Lumber Street a One Way street, eliminating the driveway entrance at the right yield lane and extending fencing along West Broad Street to force pedestrian traffic to the signalized intersections. Committee members last met with the engineers on January 14th. Street parking remains in the concept plan on the west side of Main Street between Chestnut and Lumber Streets, focusing on the best alternatives to transition the right turn lane to maximize traffic flow. The signal system will need modifications to address the signalized pedestrian crossing. The plan also addresses some realignment on West Broad Street and a realignment of the entrance to the train station parking lot.

Montgomery County extended the implementation grant to construct this second phase of the streetscape project in 2010. However, the extension included certain milestone dates for permitting and the beginning of construction. Work must proceed promptly to complete the PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit by April and the Borough should begin bidding materials and street lights in March. Construction will have to be scheduled around the Soap Box Derby, and more importantly the Univest Grand Prix. The project must be fully constructed by the end of 2010.

- b) Streetscape Committee members will meet with Hunt Engineering representatives on Wednesday, February 3rd at 3:00 pm to review the status of the Master Streetscape Plan and remaining goals and objectives to complete the remaining portion of the project within the original budget scope. Hunt Engineering underwent personnel changes since the project was awarded to them. Committee members expressed concern with the cookie cutter approach to the project, which has been relayed to Hunt Engineering representatives. The project stalled in 2009 and there is some remaining budget to complete the project. Priorities will be established at this meeting. The grant will expire at the end of 2010 requiring the project to be completed in the coming months.
- c) A meeting was held last fall with Montgomery County officials about possible grant funds under the new Economic Development program to complete the Economic Redevelopment Plan for Souderton Borough. Victor DePallo estimated that 70 percent of the plan has been completed and another \$25,000 to \$30,000 will be required to fully complete and implement the plan. Montgomery County Commissioners have elected not to open any planning grant programs through 2010.

A meeting was held with Superintendent Dr. Charles Amuso on November 24th to discuss the status of Metro Development Company and the pending sale of the high school. At this meeting, we discussed the Borough's investment of nearly \$130,000 towards the redevelopment plan for the High School property, zoning and subdivision ordinance amendments and work completed to date on the expanded Economic Redevelopment Area Plan. There is a major benefit to both the School District and Borough in completing the Economic Redevelopment Plan and the associated prerequisites to offer TIF financing for the high school redevelopment project. A request was made to have the School Board consider sharing in the expense to complete the plan. Dr. Amuso will discuss this matter with School Board officials.

- d) The Souderton-Telford revitalization Plan Task force will continue their work in developing a new joint Souderton-Telford Revitalization Plan. The Souderton task force representatives will resume their monthly afternoon meeting on the third Wednesday beginning in February. Broad goals were addressed at the Community Visioning Meeting on January 11th. Committee members will now focus on the individual projects associated with each goal.

One of the priority goals in this new revitalization plan will be the redevelopment of the train station property. Souderton Borough has corresponded with SEPTA officials over the past two years about acquiring the leases for the train station properties along the same lines as Telford Borough. The last correspondence was made back in June of 2009; remarkably, we just received a response from SEPTA in the past week that they are very interested in completing this new lease. SEPTA just contacted Borough Solicitor Robert Bricker to essentially discuss correspondence that he sent over a year ago. The Borough is looking to acquire the leases for the train station, freight building, waiting station and the surrounding parking lots. Renovation of the buildings will follow similar paths recently completed by Telford Borough. The Borough will be responsible for the renovation and maintenance of the property, but will also be entitled to receive rental income from the private leases to apply towards the costs. Pam Coleman has already submitted a federal grant request through Congressman Dent for this potential project and we will make the train station one of our major priority projects under the Montgomery County Revitalization grant program. Some transit oriented grant programs may also open for this project. Further supporting this initiative is a renewed interest in restoring passenger service to the Bethlehem branch. This initiative has been on various planning initiatives for the past 20 years, but most recently caught some interest under certain state and federal programs.

- e) The Souderton Planning Commission met on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 and formally recommended consideration of the new C-2 Commercial Zoning District zoning ordinance and corresponding Zoning Map revisions to expand the district. A motion will be prepared for

consideration at the February Borough Council Meeting to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise this ordinance for formal consideration of Borough Council at the April Borough Council meeting. This is a fairly complicated zoning ordinance amendment and the zoning map boundary changes must be sent to all affected properties. April will be the first opportunity to hold the required hearing.

4. Finance Committee

- a) Borough Manager Michael Coll reviewed the 2009 year end budget comparison reports with Borough Council. Economic conditions contributed to declines in property tax revenue, earned income tax revenue, realty transfer taxes and the local services tax, which was grossly over-estimated from the beginning. Revenues fell short of rather conservative budget projections by nearly \$72,000. This was the first budget year where earned income tax revenue declined, suggesting that the unemployment rate is growing for Souderton Borough residents. The Borough Manager instituted a spending freeze across all departments through the first quarter of 2010, at which time revenue flow should begin to increase. The Borough Manager will attempt to pick up another \$100,000 in deferred discretionary expenses through the calendar year. Copies of the budget comparison reports for the 2009 calendar year are included in the information packets.
- b) The Borough Manager also reported that administrative changes have been made effective this year. The Borough Auditor recommended, at the conclusion of the 2008 audit, to divide the bank reconciliation duties among staff so that the person handling accounts payable is not the same person completing the bank reconciliations. Effective this year, Sandy Clemmer will focus on accounts payable, with Beatrice Kaizar and the Borough Manager completing the monthly bank and general ledger reconciliations.