

HARMONY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING & HEARING January 6, 2009

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: John Rice, Frank Luek, Dave Szakelyhidi, Jeff Smith, Michelle Barto, Gary Habsburg, Dave Eberle, and Mayor Cathy Rape.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sharon J. Melanick
Wade J.
Cathy Rape
MICHAEL PARRISH
Cathy Beecher
Charles Scammitt
Bernice + Dave Levin
Diane Brenner
BETH POLACK
Jim + Ann John
Dak + Kathy Reisinger
Ron + Carolyn Meyer
Tom + Karen Law
Nancy Hoffmann
Mike Harsar
Frank + Andrea Harrison
Beth + Thomas
Phyllis Metz
Tim + Rhonda Eppinger
David Luek
Verned L. Morrow

January 6, 2009

HEARING:

Council President, Jeff Smith, called the hearing to order at 7:00 PM to hear public comment concerning opening 5th Street.

President Smith explained the reason and request for opening 5th Street. He stated that no vote can be taken until an ordinance is written and advertised. He then turned the meeting over to Attorney Marshall.

Attorney Marshall swore in those residents wishing to speak at the hearing.

Michael Parrish, 2100 Georgetown Drive, Sewickly, presented a Harmony Street Map (July 1996) showing 5th Street. He stated that there are two agreements of sales;

Brenkle Enterprise & Harmony Developers

Dale Warner and Judy Warner & Harmony Developers

He then presented to Council:

Exhibit #1 - 1996 Borough Street Map

Exhibit #2 - Map of proposed 5th Street

Exhibit #3 - Agreement of Sale (Warners)

Exhibit #4 - Agreement of Sale (Brenkles)

Mr. Parrish stated that the Borough has expressed that 5th Street is a Borough Street and that the Borough adopted the map. The developer has offered to develop the street at no cost to the Borough. Opening 5th Street offers a better access.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Phyllis Metz (766 Spring Street) presented Exhibit #5 – a letter she had sent the Borough expressing her concerns of traffic on Spring St. and the importance of keeping green space.

Gary Barnes from the Harmony Inn (230 Mercer St) addressed the paper that is going around Harmony Borough. He protested the content of the paper concerning gains to the Harmony Inn. Mr. Barnes stated that he is in favor of all new people coming into the town, not just the Harmony Lake Development. He also protested the distribution of the letter which stated that Harmony Inn will be the sole benefits of the new development. He also stated that he resents what has been passed around by an elected official of Harmony. He stated that he has a right to express opinion.

Dale Reisinger (773 Spring Street) expressed concerns on opening 5th street and quoted from notes concerning Borough ordinances and the Municipal Planning code adoption. The last grading of Spring Street was 1960. Since the new development does not abut 5th Street, he does not believe they have the right to open 5th Street. 51% of the abutting property owners have to agree to opening the street. Lewis owns 50% and Reisinger owns 50%

Cathy Rape (769 Spring Street) questioned, “why open 5th Street? The only revenue will be from water taps which the Water Authority will get anyway. They have no intention of repairing or improving Spring Street.” She disagrees that not much traffic comes down Spring Street. She questioned if there is a homeowners association and expressed concern

