

EMMAUS BOROUGH COUNCIL

Emmaus Borough Council  
Agenda  
Monday, April 7, 2008 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Personal Appeals, Part I
4. Reading of Minutes  

March 17, 2008
5. Decision on Bids  

2008 Curb & Concrete Contractor Bid Results
6. Communications
  - a. Jan Creedon, Lehigh County Depart. of General Services – Lehigh County Composting Center User Fee
  - b. Joanne McCandless, Emmaus Aquatic Club – EMAC requesting to rent Community Park Pool from June 16 to August 1
  - c. Budd Coates, Rodale – Requesting to rent Community Park Pool from May 28 to August 29
  - d. Chris Romig, 450 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street – Letter of interest to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission
  - e. Robert M. Geneczko- PPL Electric Utilities – Compact Fluorescent Light Recycling Program
  - f. Emmaus Main Street Program – Invitation to Celebrate Emmaus Farmers’ Market May 4<sup>th</sup> Grand Opening
  - g. Ron Glassic, EMSP President – Requesting Grant for Conferences
  - h. Kathy Kline – Lincoln Elementary School – Requesting use of Kiwanis and Williams Street Fields for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day, June 4, 2008
7. Borough Engineer’s Report
8. Solicitor’s Report
  - a. **Ordinance No. 1038** – Amending the Provisions of Chapter 15, Section 403, and establishing that parking shall be prohibited at all times in a certain

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location along Arch Street near the entrance of the Rodale Parking Lot within the Borough of Emmaus (**Final Reading 4/7/08**)

Solicitor's Report (continued)

- b. **Ordinance No. 1039** – Amending Chapter 15, Section 406, and establishing a Two-Hour Parking Zone between Chestnut Street and Railroad Street on South Fourth Street (**Final Reading 4/7/08**)
  - c. **Ordinance No. 1040** – Amending Chapter 15, Section 214, and establishing a Four-Way Stop Sign at the Intersection of Keystone Avenue and Pine Street (**Final Reading 4/7/08**)
  - d. **Review of Parking Requirements in Zoning Ordinance**
- 9. New Business
  - 10. Unfinished Business
    - a. Request for proposals on Southside Emmaus Industrial Master Plan (Bid Opening April 10<sup>th</sup>)
  - 11. Items Not on Agenda, Subject to Rule 6
  - 12. Mayor's Report
  - 13. Committee Reports

**Public Works/(Highway, Water & Sewer)** (Labenberg, Neely, Waddell)

- 1. Committee
  - a. **Hiring of Summer Help**
- 2. Solicitor
  - a. Sidewalk Standards

**Health and Sanitation** (Holtzhafer, Labenberg, Brown)

- 1. Committee
- 2. Solicitor

**Parks and Recreation** (Barrett, Labenberg, Holtzhafer)

- 1. Committee
  - a. Raven Mill Property Swap

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- b. Furnace Dam Geese Problem – (Tabled 3/3/08)
- c. Skate Park
- d. **Hiring of Lifeguards**
- e. **Adult Swim**

2. Solicitor

**Public Safety** (Gilbert, Barrett, Brown)

- 1. Committee
  - a. Outdoor Fires
  - b. Four-way Stop Sign (Keystone/Pine) – 90-Day Trial Period (Expires 4/25/08)
  - c. No Parking on Portion of Arch Street (41' East and 50' West of Entrance to Rodale Property Located at 400 S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street) – 90-Day Trial Period (Expires 4/25/08)
  - d. Two-Hour Parking on West Side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street between Railroad & Chestnut Streets – 90-Day Trial Period (Expires 4/25/08)
  - e. Request for Two-Hour Parking Signs on Macungie Ave. on East/West Side between Chestnut and Green Streets – 90-Day Trial Period (Expires 6/17/08)
  - f. Parking Concerns – 324 S. 16<sup>th</sup> Street (Laura Mory)
  - g. Concerns of Loud Horns and Sirens at Halloween Parade
  - h. **Hiring of Fire Truck Driver**
  - i. **Police Personnel**

2. Solicitor

**General Administration** (Neely, Gilbert, Barrett)

- 1. Committee
  - a. Historical Building Ordinance

2. Solicitor

**Budget and Finance** (Waddell, Gilbert, Holtzhafer)

- 1. Committee
  - a. **Bill List (R-11)**
  - b. **Review of Matching Fund Policy**
  - c. **Main Street Budget Request**
  - d. **Police Personnel**

2. Solicitor

**Community Relations/Development** (Brown, Waddell, Neely)

1. Committee
  - a. Downtown Master Plan
  - b. Southside Emmaus Industrial Master Plan
  - c. Web Page Update
2. Solicitor

**Ad Hoc Committees** (Holtzhafer, Gilbert, Barrett, Fosselman, Mayor Iobst)

Community/School Relations

14. Personal Appeals, Part 11
15. Borough Manager's Report
  - a. Significant Revenue and Expense Items for March 2008
  - b. Manager's Report
  - c. Triangle Park Funding
  - d. Reminder – April 19<sup>th</sup> – Clean Up Day
16. President's Business
17. Adjournment

Next Resolution #12  
Next Ordinance #1041

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The Emmaus Borough Council met in regular session on April 7, 2008 in Borough Council Chambers, 28 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Emmaus, PA 18049.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Waddell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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Michael Waddell, President	Present
Craig Neely, Vice-President	Present
Brent Labenberg	Present
Lee Ann Gilbert	Present
Wesley Barrett	Present
Nathan Brown	Present
Brian Holtzhafer	Present
Winfield Iobst, Mayor	Present
Frank Procyk, Solicitor	Present
Bruce Fosselman, Borough Manager	Present

PERSONAL APPEALS, PART I

- A. Otto Slozer 121 E. Elm St.,** referring to his appeal at the last Council meeting regarding parking for businesses, presented an Ordinance that was passed in June 1993 that has a chart that regulates the number of parking spaces per the number of employees per business. He said that Council has the authority through the Municipality Planning Code to regulate the business parking so that it doesn't become a burden on the residents or the businesses.
- B. Ed Loughlin 542 Chestnut St.** informed Council of the problem in the 500 block of Bank Street with kids throwing bottles and trash, fights and possession of knives. Mr. Loughlin requested to have stone placed in the tree well that is in front of his home. Currently the tree well has mulch and he said that it washes out when it rains and he has to clean it up. Also the mulch is lying in the bottom of the storm drain. He presented pictures to Council. Mr. Loughlin also requested to have a pothole patched on Chestnut Street by the storm drain and the request will be forwarded to PennDOT. Regarding the problem with the kids and vandalism, Mr. Loughlin said that the kids need a recreational place to go and give them something to do. Council Member Brown encouraged residents to communicate with the kids.
- C. Toni Daniels 565 Chestnut St.** feels that the Borough needs a community center. She spoke with numerous businesses in the Borough who expressed the same need. Ms. Daniels suggested removing pavilions at Community Park to build a center with game tables, basketball court and vending machines. She spoke to businesses and organizations who committed to donations if a community center is put in place. Council Member Neely invited Ms. Daniels to attend the General Administration meeting. President Waddell commended Ms. Daniels for her involvement and said that a community center is desperately needed in this community.
- D. Chuck Koehler 350 S. 12<sup>th</sup> St.,** regarding Ordinance No. 1038 concerning no parking on Arch Street, said that cars are now parking on the south side of Arch Street from Rodale's entrance to S. 10<sup>th</sup> Street and is dangerous. He requested that Council look into this before having a final reading on the Ordinance tonight. Mr. Koehler also feels that the geese at Furnace Dam have been there so long, nothing will change that. Regarding the tree on the triangle, he suggested cutting off the bottom branches, high enough to set benches underneath.

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**E. Anthony Groller 1302 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St.**, regarding a community center, said that that liability and supervision become a problem. He also reported that an out-of-town Public Works employee took ice home. Also, employees are changing their oil in personal vehicles in the Borough garage. As a taxpayer of this community Mr. Groller stated that he's tired of playing Santa Claus. Council Member Neely asked Borough Manager Fosselman to discuss these issues at the next staff meeting. He said whether they live in or out of the Borough, personal vehicles should not be serviced in the Borough garage.

**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Waddell to extend Mr. Groller's appeal time. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

Regarding the estimate of \$5,000 to remove the triangle tree, Mr. Groller said he spoke to a landscaper that would charge \$1,500 and also suggested that the Public Works Department remove the tree. President Waddell said that the estimates for the triangle were rough numbers and there are no commitments or decisions made for the tree. Mr. Groller also said that the soapbox derby will be requesting waivers again and he is tired of people coming to Council requesting everything for free under his tax dollars.

**F. Richard Wetzel 7804 Sweetwood Dr.** requested permission to use Ridge Street for the soapbox derby on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Council Member Barrett confirmed with Mr. Wetzel that this is a family activity. President Waddell read a written request that Mr. Wetzel presented and referred it to the Public Safety Committee. President Waddell asked how much of the fees collected are distributed back to the participants for prizes and for expenses. Mr. Wetzel said that the organization ends up with about \$500 to keep the organization going and a second organization, Keystone Valley Association, gets about \$200 to put towards awards and a picnic for the children.

**G. Frank Sadrovitz 130 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St.** reported that there was a lot of graffiti in his area. He suggested getting kids involved in organizations or at the park. Council Member Labenberg said that it comes down to parenting, but Council cannot make parents be responsible for their kids; the Borough can only enforce the law when the kids break it. He disagrees that there is nothing for kids to do. Council Member Neely agrees with Mr. Labenberg and said that everyone needs to think about what the government's responsibility is and what an individual's responsibility is. He doesn't feel it's the government's roll to do everything. Mr. Neely said that everywhere that he has been, nowhere has the feel of a community the way Emmaus does. He said that the community needs to step forward and take control of this community and that everyone needs to be eyes and ears of it. President Waddell agreed that a decision needs to be made as far as how far government can go. Council Member Barrett said that even though it seems that residents are pointing the blame towards Council, he feels that the residents just care that much.

READING OF MINUTES

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**Motion by Council Member Brown, seconded by Council Member Barrett to dispense with the formal reading of the March 17, 2008 minutes. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

**Motion by Council Member Neely, seconded by Council Member Barrett to adopt the March 17, 2008 minutes as drafted. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

DECISION ON BIDS

Borough Manager Fosselman said the Borough received four bids for the 2008 Concrete Contractor Bid. Staff recommends awarding the bid to the lowest qualified bidder; Matthews Brothers Concrete of Spring Grove, PA in the amount of \$50,250.

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to accept the 2008 Concrete Contractor Bid from Matthews Brothers Concrete in the amount of \$50,250.**

Council Member Holtzhafer confirmed that this is for all concrete work in the Borough for this season and wondered where the line item is in the budget. Borough Manager Fosselman said that it is part of the street project and the Borough is reimbursed from the County. Mr. Holtzhafer confirmed that the amount could be higher or lower depending on the quantities. Council Member Neely confirmed with Mr. Fosselman that this concrete work is for curb, sidewalk and handicap ramps along streets that are being paved, plus some additional handicap ramps. Council Member Brown confirmed with Mr. Fosselman that, by state law, the Borough must go with the lowest qualified bidder.

**There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Jan Creedon, Lehigh County Dept. of General Services – Lehigh County Composting Center User Fee. Borough Manager Fosselman said the invoice is for \$1,608 for 2008 and the Borough budgeted \$4,500. The Borough borrows a chipper from the County and when the equipment arrived, they were broken. The Borough mechanics fixed the equipment, so in turn the Borough does not need to pay the \$1600 invoice.
- b. Joanne McCandless, Emmaus Aquatic Club – EMAC requesting to rent Community Park Pool from June 16<sup>th</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup>. Referred to staff.
- c. Budd Coates, Rodale – Requesting to rent Community Park Pool from May 28<sup>th</sup> to August 29<sup>th</sup>. Referred to staff. Council Member Labenberg feels the rental fee should increase.
- d. Chris Romig, 450 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street – Letter of interest to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Letter to be kept on file. No vacancies.
- e. Robert M. Geneczko- PPL Electric Utilities – Compact Fluorescent Light Recycling Program. Borough Manager Fosselman ordered a kit and said that this is a great program.
- f. Emmaus Main Street Program – Invitation to Celebrate Emmaus Farmers' Market May 4<sup>th</sup> Grand Opening

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- g. Ron Glassic, EMSP President – Requesting Grant for Conferences. Reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee, who will schedule a meeting with Mr. Glassic to explain.
- h. Kathy Kline – Lincoln Elementary School – Requesting use of Kiwanis and Williams Street Fields for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day, June 4, 2008. Referred to Staff.
- i. Girl Scouts of America – Requesting space to set up a cookie booth. The letter was also sent to local businesses. Borough Manager Fosselman will contact them.

BOROUGH ENGINEER'S REPORT

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Procyk presented Ordinance No. 1038 for its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Neely to read Ordinance No. 1038 in short title. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

President Waddell read Ordinance No. 1038 in short title: An Ordinance Amending the Provisions of Chapter 15, Section 403, and Establishing that Parking Shall be Prohibited at all Times in a Certain Location along Arch Street Near the Entrance of the Rodale Parking Lot Within the Borough of Emmaus

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to adopt Ordinance No. 1038 on its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.**

Council Member Labenberg asked if Mr. Koehler's personal appeal meant that this ordinance will create the problem or correct the problem. Council Member Gilbert stated that the no parking signs were placed when Rodale was constructed, but never put under the ordinance. She said that they will need to look into Mr. Koehler's concerns.

**Roll Call Vote: Gilbert aye, Neely aye, Brown aye, Labenberg aye, Holtzhafer aye, Barrett aye, Waddell aye. Motion carried.**

Solicitor Procyk presented Ordinance No. 1039 for its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Brown to read Ordinance No. 1039 in short title. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

President Waddell read Ordinance No. 1039 in short title: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15, Section 406, and Establishing a Two-Hour Parking Zone Between Chestnut Street and Railroad Street on South Fourth Street

**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Gilbert to adopt Ordinance No. 1039 on its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Roll Call Vote: Barrett aye, Holtzhafer aye, Labenberg aye, Brown aye, Neely aye, Gilbert aye, Waddell aye. Motion carried.**

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Solicitor Procyk presented Ordinance No. 1040 for its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to read Ordinance No. 1040 in short title. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

President Waddell read Ordinance No. 1040 in short title: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15, Section 214, and Establishing a Four-Way Stop Sign at the Intersection of Keystone Avenue and Pine Street

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Barrett to adopt Ordinance No. 1040 on its 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading.**

Council Member Labenberg hopes that after sidewalks are installed in this area and the bushes are removed, the 4-way stop can be removed.

**Roll Call Vote: Gilbert aye, Neely aye, Brown aye, Labenberg nay, Holtzhafer aye, Barrett aye, Waddell nay. Motion carried.**

Solicitor Procyk reviewed the zoning parking requirements and said that the parking situation is basically use dependant depending on what the nature of the use is and what district it's located in; not just district dependant. There are no designated spaces on a public street for business use. The Zoning Hearing Board has the power when it hears an appeal to grant use variances, such as a home occupation, and it can enhance the parking situation given the language set forth in Zoning Ordinance Section 402.

Progress

NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Request for proposals on Southside Emmaus Industrial Master Plan (Bid opening April 10<sup>th</sup>)

ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA, subject to Rule 6

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Progress

President Waddell recessed the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

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President Waddell reconvened the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Public Works Committee

**Motion by Council Member Labenberg, seconded by Council Member Neely to hire the following for summer park employment: Eric Focht, Assistant Leader, at \$9.25/hour, Ryan Curley at \$8.25/hour, Kyle Focht at \$7.75/hour, Scott Focht at \$7.40/hour, Nick Haja at \$7.40/hour, Matt Beers at \$7.15/hour. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

The next Committee meeting will be April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m.

Progress

b. Health and Sanitation Committee

Council Member Holtzhafer received information for the Committee to continue the process of energy reduction.

Progress

c. Parks and Recreation Committee

The Committee met on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to hire the following lifeguards: Meghan Ashcroft, Pool Manager, Mike Zimmerman, Cameron Harkins, Emily Bahnick, Erin Hanosek, Andrew Holland, Ian Ross, Tim Campbell, Sam Murphy, Nate Clark, Melissa McNelis, David Trine, Katelyn Ashcroft, Kayla Switzer, Bridget Hogue, Corey Horn, Francesca Panunto, and Jenna Green as Cashier.**

Council Member Holtzhafer asked what determines if the Pool Manger gets the \$2,000 bonus or not. Borough Manager Fosselman said that it is up to the Park and Recreation Committee and it depends on the manager's performance. Mr. Holtzhafer asked why there's a difference in the salaries between summer park employment and lifeguards. Mr. Fosselman said it was based on what other communities were paying.

**There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

Council Member Barrett said lifeguards and staff proposed to change the hours for adult swim time. There was a problem last year that the last few weeks of adult swim would run to the point that it was too dark and was a safety issue.

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**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to end adult swim time at 8 p.m. on August 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Council Member Labenberg suggested that as of August 1<sup>st</sup>, change adult swim time to 7-8 p.m. Council Member Barrett said it is a very limited attendance. Borough Manager Fosselman said that this can be looked at again in August and see if 7-8 p.m. adult swim would be feasible. Council Member Holtzhafer confirmed with Council that the adult swim will end as of August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

The Committee discussed and will continue to look into a skate park.

Council Member Barrett said that one of the shade structures is installed at the pool. Borough Manager Fosselman said that the structures look really nice and will compliment the pool. He said that the piers are 9 feet deep in the ground with concrete.

The Committee recommends installing signs on the Triangle restricting pets.

**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Holtzhafer to post Triangle Park as 'no pets allowed'.**

Council Member Gilbert asked what happens for the pet costume contest. Council Member Holtzhafer said that is now held at the Knauss Homestead, which is also a park. Council Member Labenberg is hesitant to install signs if the problem is only because of one person. President Waddell disagrees and said that all parks should be posted.

**There were 4 ayes, 3 opposed (Neely, Brown, Labenberg). Motion carried.**

Progress

d. Public Safety Committee

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Brown to approve Robert Schwoyer as driver of engines 711 & 712. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

The Police Department received a \$22,000 grant that will cover 4 in-car video systems.

Council Member Gilbert said that the main concern on Macungie Avenue is that cars do not park close to driveways. She's not sure that the whole block needs to be posted for 2-hour parking.

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**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to table the 90-day trial period for 2-hour parking on Macungie Avenue between Chestnut and Green Streets. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

Currently there is a 15-minute parking sign on Macungie Avenue that is not covered by an ordinance, which will be removed.

Progress

e. General Administration Committee

The Committee will meet April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

Progress

f. Budget and Finance Committee

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Holtzhafer to adopt the April 7, 2008 Bill List.**

<b>Bill List</b>	<b>\$ 305,623.48</b>
<b>Payroll #7</b>	<b>\$ 101,385.35</b>
<b>Payroll Taxes</b>	<b>\$ 31,614.36</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 438,623.19</b>

**Done this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 2008. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

The Committee approved the drafted matching funds policy. Council Member Labenberg asked the outcome of the suggestion to set a maximum amount. President Waddell said there was no support for that suggestion. Council Member Barrett confirmed with Borough Manager Fosselman that the Borough has never contributed more than the budgeted \$15,000. Council Member Neely questioned Part ‘b’ of the General Guidelines and why Council would award more than requested. Dr. Waddell said that would be in case the funds were miscalculated or if something came up after the request was submitted. Mr. Neely also questioned Part ‘e’ and feels that there may be reasons to award funds for capital expenditures. Borough Manager Fosselman stated that the Borough matched the Rotary Club’s donation for the ice skating rink. Mr. Neely said that is a type of capital expenditure and is concerned that Part ‘e’ will no longer allow that. He pointed out that the guidelines do not need the Part ‘e’ limitation because Part ‘b’ gives Council the right to refuse a request on a case by case basis. After discussion it was decided to remove Part ‘e’ because Part ‘b’ leaves the matching fund up to Council’s discretion. Mr. Neely then questioned Part ‘f’ and matching legal sources of revenue. President Waddell said that an organization’s fund raiser may be games of chance and use that for the money to be matched.

**Motion by Council Member Gilbert, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to approve the General Guidelines for a Matching Funds Request with changes.**

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President Waddell said that Part 'e' will be eliminated.

**There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

Borough Manager Fosselman stated that the Sentinels have received a \$500 donation and will be requesting matching funds for that.

Police Chief Faust explained a memorandum he wrote to Council regarding manpower and staffing. Currently there are two part time officers; the department lost six part time officers in the last sixteen months. Chief Faust said that historically there has been 13 part time officers and now is the time to look at replacing part time officers or adding a full time officer. He is requesting to reduce the line item for the part time police budget by \$25,000 and utilize a full time officer to decrease overtime about \$30,000. The proposed officer would be assigned a 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. overlap shift and reduce overtime. All part time officers must be trained and equipped with a uniform, just as a full time officer would be. Council Member Labenberg confirmed with Chief Faust that the part time officer positions have been advertised and received some applications, but interviews were not conducted. Council Member Neely confirmed with Chief Faust that this proposal is a permanent solution that would save the Borough money. Chief Faust added that management can dictate when a full time officer must work, rather than a part time officer, who has another job that is full time, doesn't want to work weekends and holidays. Scheduling Sergeant, Troy Schantz, said that by contract, seniority officers have first right to take an overtime shift at a premium rate and part time officers will not stop that. By having a full time officer, seniority doesn't matter and the time will be paid at regular rate to the additional full time officer rather than time and a half for overtime. Officer Schantz said that the proposed officer cannot eliminate all overtime on all shifts, but down the road have it done for all shifts at all times. Chief Faust said that he cannot promise there will never be overtime due to unforeseen circumstances. Mr. Neely confirmed with Chief Faust that he is comfortable with the reduction amounts given. Chief Faust said that the part time reduction is due to the fact of staying with two part time officers and not hiring additional. Regarding the overtime, Chief Faust said it was looked at conservatively and estimates \$62,000 to \$80,000 in overtime to replace the officer that was missing last year for the entire year. Council Member Barrett confirmed with Officer Schantz that overtime is not needed when all employees are available for work. Council Member Brown confirmed with Chief Faust that the Borough will not be saving any money, the proposal is only to move money to different line items. Mr. Brown wondered why part time officers are leaving and Chief Faust said the part time officers would be glad to take a full time position, but were offered a full time position elsewhere. Chief Faust stated that the two current part time officers are very dependable and is not looking to penalize them, but feels that now is the time to shift the responsibility from 8-10 part time officers to one full time officer. Mr. Labenberg thanked the Chief for his proposal and congratulated him on receiving a grant from the County. He then suggested that the approved officer for Lehigh County Drug Task Force be used for this purpose instead. Chief Faust said that Council made a wise choice to assign an officer to participate with the Drug Task Force, but can't do that until there is a full staff. He said Emmaus cannot afford their own vice unit and must be done through a collective effort by the District Attorney. Mr. Labenberg said that the County Executive would like to designate money to hire

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more officers in the County. He said the County should also designate money for the drug task force. Chief Faust said that even though the Borough would have an officer assigned to the drug task force, if a situation comes that Emmaus is short, the Borough has the right to bring that officer back to the Borough. Mr. Labenberg suggested sending a Borough officer for drug task force training, but Chief Faust said that would be a one man drug unit; that is not feasible or safe. Regarding shifting funds, President Waddell confirmed with Chief Faust that he would like to commit to two part time officers for 2009 and then see if that works or a third would be needed. Mr. Neely agrees with Mr. Labenberg and said that last year Council discussed budgeting for another officer, but Council did not vote that this officer would be assigned to the drug task force. He said that the current request to switch line item money is premature because if Council doesn't assign an officer to the task force, then there are two additional full time officers. Mr. Neely said that he understands and is sensitive to the current staff problem and suggested that the District Attorney make a presentation to the current Council so that a decision can be made on the Drug Task Force Officer. Chief Faust said that both officers would be *Borough's officers* and said there will not be excess manpower; he said he could use that additional person now. Council Member Holtzhafer said that Chief Faust professionally answered a list of questions regarding this issue and he feels confident with Chief Faust's decision of an extra officer to deal with the rising crime. Council Member Gilbert confirmed with Chief Faust that there is a police academy starting in July. She also confirmed with Borough Manager Fosselman that the Borough would pay an officer from July to the end of the year, which is approximately \$17,000, plus the reimbursement from the state from the officers currently going through the academy, so there will be no impact on this year's budget. When the budget process starts for 2009, Ms. Gilbert said that is when the reduction will be noticed for the two line items. Mr. Brown confirmed with Chief Faust that hiring one more officer will bring the Force up to 18 full time officers; 20 are preferable. Mr. Barrett asked Chief Faust if he foresees the amount of full time officers decreasing. Chief Faust said that looking at the monthly report the crime numbers are increasing, not just in Emmaus, but in the Valley. Mr. Labenberg stated that he supports the proposal for one more full time officer, but cannot support the Drug Task Force Officer because that should be funded by the County; this is why he cannot vote in favor of the proposal tonight. Mr. Brown suggested having District Attorney Martin come to speak with Council regarding the Drug Task Force. Dr. Waddell confirmed with Chief Faust that Council would need to make a decision by the end of this year or beginning of next year if an officer were to work for the task force. Chief Faust agreed to have District Attorney Martin attend a Council Meeting.

Motion by Council Member Labenberg, seconded by Council Member Neely to table Chief Faust's request regarding manpower and staffing. There were 3 ayes, 4 opposed (Holtzhafer, Barrett, Waddell, Gilbert). Motion denied.

Council Member Barrett confirmed with Chief Faust that in order to send new officers to the Police Academy in July, interviews must first be conducted. Council Member Holtzhafer stated that since this proposal will not affect the 2008 or 2009 budget, he doesn't see how it is a question to do this and improve public safety. Council Member Neely said that once the Borough ties itself to one more full time officer, that officer will be on the payroll and makes a significant budget impact. He said that when the two officers, currently in training, come out of the Police Academy, the department is not short staffed until an officer is assigned to the drug task force.

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President Waddell said that once the part time police budget is reduced, that will equal one full time officer; whether its an officer at the academy or drug task force, the part time police was still eliminated out of the budget to create a full time position. Mr. Neely said that if an officer is not sent to the drug task force, the Borough has the budgeted funds to cover another full time officer who can fill all the shifts that the Chief is asking to fill by his request, and not be short staffed once the two officers are done with the police academy. In the event that an officer is assigned to the task force, then Mr. Neely feels it's appropriate to look at adding an additional officer. Mr. Neely said the Borough could save \$55,000 by relying on the officers who are coming out of the academy and not send an officer to the task force. Mr. Holtzhafer researched and found that the recommended ratio for a community the size of Emmaus is 1 officer to every 500 residents; however, Emmaus is only staffed at 1 officer to every 700 residents. Chief Faust said that it's Council's choice if they're interested in the drug problem; he cannot send an officer out to do it on their own and the County's program has been found to be the most effective. Dr. Waddell stated that the Budget and Finance Committee voted 3-0 to grant the Chief's request. Council Member Labenberg feels that in the long run, this proposal will affect the tax base. Chief Faust said that alternately he can staff the force as done historically and he will hire 4-5 part time officers. Council Member Barrett would like more time to look into this.

**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Labenberg to table Chief Faust's request regarding manpower and staffing. There were 5 ayes, 2 opposed (Holtzhafer, Gilbert). Motion carried.**

Progress

g. Community Relations/Development Committee

The Committee met with Derck and Edson Associates regarding the Downtown Master Plan. The business community also offered a lot of ideas.

There were three candidates for a new web page and is now down to one. The Committee is waiting for that proposal.

The next Committee meeting is April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Progress

h. Ad Hoc Committees

Community School Relations

The Committee will look to schedule a meeting in mid-May.

Progress

## EMMAUS BOROUGH COUNCIL

PERSONAL APPEALS, PART II

- A. Ed Loughlin 542 Chestnut St.** said that the vandalism and crime problems are not a parental problem. He said that it's the community's problem to try and do something for the kids because they don't have anything to do. Council Member Labenberg disagrees. President Waddell suggested that Mr. Loughlin speak with churches, scouts and other organizations; a governmental body cannot control children wondering the streets. He agrees that this is a parental responsibility. Bethel Bible Church is constructing a community center and Dr. Waddell hopes that this provides a place for children. Council Member Brown said that citizens need to help the police and have a crime watch and encouraged Mr. Loughlin to come to a Public Safety Committee meeting.
- B. Jim Woodeshick 108 Seem St.** said there are many groups in this community to get kids involved; boy scouts, girl scouts, youth groups, small service groups through the Lions and Kiwanis groups and Emmaus Youth Association. He said that parents need to volunteer their time and get their kids involved. Mr. Woodeshick said that Rodale went smoke-free and now Furnace Dam and the storm sewer looks like an ash tray.
- C. Otto Slozer 121 E. Elm St.** said that there are many organizations for the youth. He also pointed out that the City of Allentown has a lot of facilities for people too, but it hasn't solved the crime problem. Mr. Slozer is concerned that the vandalism and graffiti is gang related. He agrees that the Police Department needs the community's help. Mr. Slozer would like to see Emmaus involved with tactical units or the drug strike force to deal with the current situations.
- D. David Faust 440 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.** said that he left this meeting to find the police station full of police officers, detectives and juveniles under arrest for a gang fight with knives and a table is littered with narcotics. He said that people need to know and that this problem is not going away.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Regarding the Triangle Park Funding, Borough Manager Fosselman said that Senator Wonderling has a \$15,000 grant pending.

April 19<sup>th</sup> is Clean Up Day. Volunteers will meet in Weis parking lot at 8:30 a.m.

The energy audit was completed by DEP and the process will start for a grant.

Progress

PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

President Waddell reported that he enjoyed spending time with the Historical Society and was amazed at the information and things that people have donated, which included memorabilia from previous celebrations. He encouraged everyone to visit the Historical Society and become a member.

ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Council Member Barrett, seconded by Council Member Gilbert to adjourn. There were 7 ayes. Motion carried.**

The meeting of the Emmaus Borough Council adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Bruce Fosselman  
Borough Manager

Transcribed by: Renea Flexer  
Administrative Assistant  
April 17, 2008