

Reorganization Meeting Minutes  
January 6, 2020

Mayor Paul Farkas called the meeting to order. All members were present. At this time, Mayor Farkas administered the Oath of Office to the newly elected council members, Michelle McNeely, and Monica Sepp. Lou Little and Wendy Harker (re-elected). Nominations for the Office of President were then called for. Bruce Harris nominated William Heaton and was seconded by Eli Kosanovich. A roll call vote followed: Ms. Harker – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mr. Little – yes and Mrs. McNeely yes; Mr. Heaton abstained. Mr. William Heaton is the newly elected president of Council. Only one nomination of Wendy Harker was received for Vice President from Mr. Little, seconded by Mr. Harris. The roll-call vote of all members excluding Ms. Harker who abstained was unanimous. Ms. Harker is the newly elected vice president of council. The gavel was retained by Mr. Heaton who continued the regular order of business. A Harris/Little motion approved the December meeting minutes. The secretary/treasurer report was approved by a Harris/Little motion. No police report was available.

Mr. Bovalino reminded all newly elected officials that an affidavit of residency was required for anyone elected to office. They should turn them in to the borough secretary if they haven't already.

Correspondence received was a notification from COG to submit a list of delegates to attend the COG meetings.

Old Business

Mr. Chris Lemmon did not have any permit or code enforcement report. He did receive a phone call from the owner of Tru-Plumbing who is planning to purchase the building across from New Pig Energy on west 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to be used as a warehouse. He wanted to know if a dye test and occupancy permit was required. It is a requirement for any sale of property within the borough.

The new owner of vacant land property on West 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue has been removing trees and clearing ground. Mr. Lemmon will contact Everet at Code Systems and have him contact the owner to go over the necessary process for new construction and what permits are required. Mr. Bovalino wants to make sure that no excavation is being performed without proper permitting.

A resident of West 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue inquired about installing a fence on her property. She doesn't have a back yard and wanted to know if the 4 foot limit on front fencing could be lifted because she has a large dog. Mr. Bovalino will look into it to see if an exception could be made.

A question was also raised about burning brush. Due to the no-burning ordinance, any outdoor burning must be approved by the fire department and DEP.

A comment was received on the borough website asking for any open building permits or code violations on property at 3713 West 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. This is the property that Tru-Plumbing is purchasing and is probably just a follow-up for the purchase. He will reply to the comment.

**Fire and Police** - Ms. Harker - none

**Parks and Playground** - Mrs. Sepp – none. She reported that the Borough Christmas Party had a nice turn out. The starting balance in the fund was \$1229.86 and the balance to begin for the 2020 party is \$918.86. She submitted all receipts to Mrs. Lansberry for filing.

**Sewers and Sanitation; Ordinances** -Mr. Kosanovich – none. He reported that the borough was awarded a DEP Recycling Grant in the amount of \$58,050.00. Very specific expenditures are mandated and must come from the list that was submitted with the grant application.

**Streets, Lighting and Bridges** -Mr. Little reported that a ditch had been dug on Lenore Alley and a pipe will be installed in the spring to correct the overflow of water onto 37<sup>th</sup> Street Extension.

Mrs. McNeely - none

Mayor Farkas - none

Mr. Bovalino requested the name of a surveyor for a continuing project that he is working on. Coe Surveys was suggested.

Mr. Heaton spoke with a PennDot representative and the manhole on 37<sup>th</sup> Street has been taken care of. He inspected Teresa Goe's driveway because of the complaint lodged at a previous meeting. The driveway is on an even level connecting to the street so he feels that the problem is taken care of. He has pictures to corroborate that.

The overflow of water from Mayfield Village onto West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue is still not resolved.

#### New Business

Ms. Harker - none

Mrs. Sepp – none

Mr. Kosanovich has applied for a small water sewer grant and submitted the application.

Mr. Harris reported that a lock has been installed on the garage door.

Mr. Little reported that brake shoes have been installed on the red pick- up truck and that the trucks need to be inspected.

He found a K-12 saw at Hamilton Tool Company for \$600 and requested permission to purchase it to purchase it. (If it has not already been sold). Mr. Harris moved to give permission to purchase the saw and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed all in favor.

Mrs. McNeely felt that the residency issue brought up at the beginning of the meeting was directed at her. Mr. Bovalino explained that it is a law and a residency affidavit is required for any elected government official. All newly elected members to council must submit one. They should have been included in the election packets that they received at the courthouse.

Mrs. McNeely also expressed her concerns about the borough's roads. Nothing has been done for quite a while and the streets are terrible. We need to start now making a list of the roads that are in need of repair because if we wait too long, all the paving companies will be busy and again nothing will get done with our roads.

The water company has still not repaired the road where the water main broke and they had to dig it up. The company will again be contacted to take care of it.

Mayor Farkas remarked that sometimes it is the contractor's fault for the road condition, citing Rock Avenue as an example.

Mr. Bovalino has prepared the Tax Ordinance and it needs to be advertised before it can be adopted. Mr. Harris moved to authorize publication of the ordinance and Mrs. Sepp seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

He also informed council that he has been given a promotion at work and will be submitting a letter of resignation at the February meeting. He is giving a 90 day notice with a maximum of 6 months to procure a replacement. He strongly recommends that our ordinance committee meet and review our ordinances, especially the pet and noise ordinances to amend them and bring them up to date.

Mr. Heaton said that we should consider a contact person to deal with Code Systems.

The overflow in the culvert on Patterson Avenue was caused by a beaver dam that erupted and actually originated in Chippewa Township. The game commission is sending someone to trap the beavers.

Mr. Heaton requested a motion to reappoint Mr. Bovalino, solicitor; Mr. Lemmon, code enforcement; Mrs. Lansberry, secretary; Widmer Engineering and Cottrill Arbutina Auditors.

Mr. Kosanovich moved to reappoint Mr. Bovalino, seconded by Mr. Harris and unanimously approved.

Mr. Harris moved to reappoint Mr. Lemmon, seconded by Mrs. McNeely and unanimously approved.

Mrs. Sepp moved to reappoint Widmer Engineering, seconded by Mrs. McNeely and unanimously approved.

Mr. Harris moved to reappoint Mrs. Lansberry, seconded by Mrs. Sepp and unanimously approved.  
Mr. Little move to reappoint Cottrill Arbutina Auditors, seconded by Mr. Kosanovich and unanimously approved.

The bills were reviewed by Mrs. Lansberry. Mrs. McNeely moved to pay the borough bills and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion carried.

Mrs. McNeely moved to approve purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion carried.

Mr. Little moved to adjourn at 7:50 pm; seconded by Mrs. McNeely with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Lansberry