

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2020

President Bill Heaton called the meeting to order. All members were present including Mayor Farkas. Chris Lemmon was excused.

The November minutes were approved unanimously by a McNeely/Little motion. The Officers reports were approved unanimously by a Harker/Sepp motion.

Mr. Harris moved to hear the citizens present at the meeting and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed.

Mr. Dennis Miller, 201 Patterson Avenue is interested in purchasing a piece of land consisting of 2 lots near the public steps owned by Regis Benden. He would like to know if a subdivision is required and what steps are necessary to complete the process. Attorney Budicak responded that multiple lots on the same property is now considered one parcel and does not require a subdivision. (Depending on how it is listed on the tax map). A new deed would be required and possibly a title search. The new deed would only include the two parcels that are considering to be sold. He suggested that Mr. Miller speak with a real estate attorney to get clarification. Mr. Miller does not plan to build anything on the property but to utilize it for parking for his existing property. If the sale is completed, he would like the no parking signs to be moved.

With no other citizens who wished to address council, Mr. Harris moved to return to the regular order of business and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion carried.

Old Business

Fire and Police - Ms. Harker - none

Parks and Playground - Mrs. Sepp - none

Sewers and Sanitation; Ordinances -Mr. Kosanovich – none. He is continuing to work on the recycling grant and needs decals for the wood chipper to complete the process. He is also going to set up a collection point by the cell tower with labeled bins for cardboard, paper, glass, cans and plastic.

Building and Grounds – Mr. Harris talked about the placement of the spill kits. As long as there is something available that will soak up any spills by the diesel fuel tank, the regulations are met. He suggested some additional mats be provided for that area. He also reported that the chemical list is almost ready.

Streets, Lighting and Bridges –Mr. Little reported that the leaf vacuum and Scag mower have been repaired.

Finance and Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – none

Mayor Farkas – none

Mr. Heaton - none

Mr. Budicak- none

New Business

Fire and Police Ms. Harker - none

Parks & Playground – Mrs. Sepp – none. She again asked about the policy for taking personal time off (using comp time) during the winter snow removal time. It is stated in the employee handbook that no one is permitted to take time off or vacation during snow removal. After a discussion, personal time can be used if there is no snow; however, if it does snow, you will be expected to be available for plowing as necessary.

Sewers & Sanitation; Ordinances - Mr. Kosanovich reported that ProShot had followed up on the repair of the culvert to make sure that all was well. They have a dry spray that they utilize for lining pipes and will send us information on it.

Buildings & Ground – Mr. Harris – none

Streets, Lighting & Bridges – Mr. Little – none. On behalf of the Fire Department, Santa will be visiting the borough on Saturday the 19th as long as council still approves. Approval was given.

Mayor Farkas – announced that he will complete his term as Mayor but will not be seeking re-election.

Finance & Litigation – Mrs. McNeely – none

Mr. Heaton reviewed the proposed 2021 budget and asked if any additional changes were needed. There were none and called for a motion to adopt the 2021 budget as written. The budget also includes a 50 cent per hour wage increase for the two street department employees and a 3% increase in the code enforcement and secretary salaries. Mr. Harris moved to approve the 2021 budget with the salary increases. Mr. Little seconded the motion which was approved by a roll-call vote as follows: Ms. Harker – yes; Mr. Little – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mrs. McNeely – yes; and Mr. Heaton – yes.

Mr. Budicak – reviewed the tax resolution for 2021. Since there was no change in millage, an ordinance is not required. Mrs. Sepp moved to adopt the 2021 Tax Resolution and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed all in favor.

In other business Mrs. McNeely asked that the second plow person be given additional training as he is not plowing properly. Mr. Little is going to personally ride with him to make sure that he understands what is required.

The Christmas bonus of \$100 to be given to the street department employees, secretary and zoning officer was discussed as well as buying hams for all council members, the tax collector and solicitor. Mrs. Sepp moved to purchase hams for the council, tax collector and solicitor and was seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed all in favor. Since the next pay day falls on Christmas Day, it was discussed that the street department employees be given a ½ day paid holiday on Christmas Eve so that the checks can be distributed prior to the Christmas holiday. Following that discussion, Ms. Harker moved to approve the \$100 Christmas bonus for the street department employees, secretary and code enforcement officer and to grant a ½ day paid holiday on Christmas Eve for the street department employees. Mrs. McNeely seconded the motion which passed by roll-call vote as follows: Ms. Harker – yes; Mr. Little – yes; Mr. Kosanovich – yes; Mr. Harris – yes; Mrs. Sepp – yes; Mrs. McNeely – yes; and Mr. Heaton – yes.

Mr. Heaton said that in light of the increase and billing changes proposed by Mr. Riggio from the Municipal Authority, council would probably have to consider an increase in our sewer rate as well. Mr. Kosanovich said that a letter from Mr. Riggio to the residents explaining the proposed increase.

The December bills were presented to council and Mrs. Sepp moved to pay the borough bills seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Little moved to ratify all purchases made by committees and was seconded by Mrs. Sepp. The motion passed all yeas.

With no further business to discuss Mr. Harris moved for adjournment at 7:15 p.m., seconded by Mrs. McNeely. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Lansberry
Borough Secretary