

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, January 10, 2019

President Alfano called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Alfano, Mr. Bittner, Mr. Difilippo, Mr. Glab, Mrs. Gutosky, Mr. Mariscotti, Junior councilmember Mr. Kotchman, and Mayor Stetar

ABSENCE: Mr. Encapera

MOMENT OF SILENCE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Mariscotti added Executive session following the meeting
Dr. Martin deleted wharf camera and lighting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Maddix stated if council goes along with the sign that could go along with one of their items from the Comprehensive plan all though it doesn't particularly fit the design. He stated he would question as to who gets the advertising rights and who will program it.

MINUTES

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to approve the minutes of Dec. 13, 2018 carried with all members present stating aye.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Evans read the Accounts payable and the Account balances as of October 31, 2018.

PRESIDENTS REPORT – MR. ALFANO

MCMILLEN ENGINEERING INVOICE # 18-3149

Mr. Alfano stated we tabled from the December meeting McMillen Engineering's invoice #18-3149 in the amount of \$2,100.00 so he wants to know what council wants to do with it; pay it not pay it. Mr. Agrafiotis stated you can table it again if you choose.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to table paying the McMillen Engineering invoice duly carried with all members present voting yes.

DIGITAL SIGN – CO OP WITH CAL U

Mr. Alfano stated we are having a meeting tomorrow with the University about a digital sign for the corner of Third & Wood Streets. He stated we are going to talk about the agreement we had for some meters that were removed for the University. We will report back to council at the next meeting.

REQUEST FROM SAI BE REFUNDED FOR 2018 TAXES

Mr. Alfano stated we have a letter from the tax collector requesting we refund SAI for taxes over paid in 2018 in the amount of \$1,752.64. Taxes were deemed over payment due to assessments. During discussions Mr. Agrafiotis stated this was a stipulation between the county and the school district and the borough was not involved in the discussion. Mr. Alfano stated the school had a lot more to lose money wise and they still went along with it.

Motion by Mariscotti/Glab to reimburse SAI for overpaid taxes in the amount of \$1,752.64 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Bitter and Mr. Difilippo who voted no.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – DR. MARTIN UPDATES

Dr. Martin stated for updates he is referring council to the departmental reports that he sends council. He doesn't have any updates beyond that this evening.

TECHNOLOGY DRIVE PROJECTS

Dr. Martin stated as Steve Eby has indicated there are five projects up at the Technology Park made to be bid and to be paid for by LSA money that the Redevelopment Authority is holding on behalf of California Borough for the Technology Park.

Installation of Sewer Line

Dr. Martin asked council for a motion to advertise for bids on the sewer line installation in the Rose Plastic area up there.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to advertise for bids a sewer line installation near Rose Plastics in the Technology Park duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Road Repair and Crack Sealing

Dr. Martin stated the next project is for road repair and crack sealing on Technology Drive and he asked council for a motion to bid this project.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to bid the project for road repair and crack sealing on Technology Drive duly carried with all members present voting yes.

Tree Trimming

Tree trimming of overhang limbs along Technology Drive

Dr. Martin stated the next one is for tree trimming of the trees along Technology Drive that need to be cut back.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to advertise for bids Tree trimming along Technology Drive duly carried with all members present voting yes.

Clearing & Leveling on two remaining available lots in Technology Park

Dr. Martin stated the next one is to do some clearing, leveling and cleaning up on the two remaining available lots in Technology Park.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to advertise for bids for clearing & leveling of two remaining lots in Technology Park duly carried with all members present voting yes.

Lot leveling and clearing out parcel off Promise land Drive

Lot leveling and clearing in the out parcel off of Promise land Drive which is adjacent to the Technology Park and also under the control of the County Redevelopment Authority.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to bid lot leveling and clearing on an out parcel off of Promise land Drive duly carried with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB

NOTARY RENEWAL PACKAGE – LORI CLANCY

Motion by Glab/Mariscotti to approve paying for Notary Fee renewal for Lori Clancy at a cost of \$344.35 which is her reappointment fee and online education duly carried with all members present voting yes.

ZONING HEARING BOARD MEETING

Mr. Glab stated we had a zoning hearing board scheduled from a continuation of the Oct. 25th hearing and it was originally scheduled for Feb. 21st and there was some confusion and now we are back to a hearing date of Jan. 31st.

ZONING ORDINANCE PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Glab announced that there is a public hearing on the new Zoning Ordinance and it is scheduled for Feb. 7th at 5:30.

SNOW REMOVAL

Mr. Glab reminded all property owners that it is their responsibility to have their sidewalks cleared of snow and ice removed within 24 hours from the completion of the storm. There are fines and quality of life citations that will be issued. This is for the safety of everyone.

PUBLIC WORKS – MR MARISCOTTI

Mr. Mariscotti stated ongoing operations in the Street department and he will discuss Dan's retirement under personnel.

Mr. Taday stated our truck hasn't been built yet they keep pushing the build day back it was supposed to be Dec. 10th.

Dr. Martin stated we just sent out the emergency snow removal invitations to give us quotes and haven't gotten them back yet but expecting them very soon. They were sent to the three vendors who we typically send them to.

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER RANGE INSTRUCTOR VEST

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to purchase a shooting range instructor's vest at a cost not to exceed \$100.00 duly carried with all members present voting yes.

BILL GAMBLE INVOICE

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to pay Bill Gambles invoice in the amount of \$1,435.00 for his work during our chief search duly carried with all members present voting yes.

SIANA BELLWOAR INVOICE

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to pay Siana Bellwoar invoice #77708 in the amount of \$983.79 duly carried with all members present voting yes.

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY

WHARF LIGHTING INVOICE

Mrs. Gutosky stated the one invoice included in the bills is for overhead lighting at the wharf and puts us over the \$2,500.00 previously authorized to spend. She stated the original motion was by Gutosky/Mariscotti so do we need to rescind it and fix it or make a new motion to cover the overage. The solicitor stated you could do it either way. Mr. Agrafiotis stated you can approve this overage and then approve future bills as they come in. Dr. Martin stated he is suggesting it be paid for by the DA Forfeiture fund since it is for security down there.

Motion by Gutosky/Mariscotti to increase the amount for installation of lighting at the wharf by \$800.00 to be paid from the DA Forfeiture fund duly carried with all members present voting yes.

MONTHLY BILLS

Motion by Gutosky/Mariscotti to pay the monthly bills as presented duly carried with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO

SEWAGE LETTERS

Mr. Difilippo stated we have received two letters from two separate individuals that have single tap ins with multiple accounts. He stated he looked through the ordinance and could not find anything about this so he's referring this to the solicitor to look into before next month's meeting.

WIDMER ENGINEERING INVOICES

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to pay Widmer Invoice #21812476 in the amount of \$6,660.00 for the Highland Drive re-design duly carried with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to pay Widmer Invoice #21812477 in the amount of \$5,100.00 for the inspection of Union Street sewer project duly carried with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to pay Widmer Invoice #21812481 in the amount of \$225.00 for locating manholes in the Malden are duly carried with all members present voting yes.

PERSONNEL – MR. MARISCOTTI & MR. ENCAPERA

2019 SALARY SCHEDULE

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to adopt the 2019 Non contractual Salary Schedule duly carried with all members present voting yes.

RETIREMENT OF CHIEF RICK ENCAPERA

Mr. Mariscotti stated he is formally announcing the retirement of Chief Encapera.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to regretfully accept the retirement resignation of Chief Rick Encapera effective Feb. 15, 2019 duly carried with all members present voting yes.

RETIREMENT OF STREET EMPLOYEE DAN FOWKES

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to accept the retirement resignation of Dan Fowkes effective Feb. 12, 2019 duly carried with all members present voting yes.

ADVERTISE FOR STREET DEPT. EMPLOYEE

Motion by Mariscotti/Bittner to advertise for a street dept. employee with the description to be made part of these minutes, attached below, duly carried with all members present voting yes.

The Borough of California is accepting applications for a full time position in the street department. Applicants must have at least a Class B CDL and be able to pass a criminal background check and drug testing. Experience in road maintenance and road equipment is required. Applicants must be physically fit and able to deadlift at least 50 lbs. Applications may be picked up in the Borough office during regular business hours. Deadline for returning applications and complete resumes is 4:00 PM on January 25, 2019. California Borough is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Mr. Glab added that all keys and uniforms and borough issued property needs to be turned in on their last date of employment. Mr. Taday stated it will be.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Mariscotti requested an executive session before the meeting is adjourned.

JUNIOR COUNCILMEMBER MR. KOTCHMAN

SCHOOL UPDATES

Mr. Kotchman stated the students are in the middle of Keystone Test state required standardized tests. He stated the boys' basketball are doing really well.

MAYOR'S REPORT – DR. FRANK STETAR

Mayor Stetar stated Chief Encapera has been here for 41 years and recognized him for his service. He stated Officer Sheehan is the Officer in Charge until a new Chief is hired.

IDEAL INVESTIGATION & SECURITY GROUP INVOICE

Mayor Stetar stated we have an invoice from Ideal Investigations for the background checks and he wasn't even in the ball park when he asked for the motion last month, he apologized. He is asking for an amendment to the motion made by Mariscotti/Difilippo.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to pay the invoice from Ideal Investigation & Security Group in the amount of \$920.85 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

REQUEST FOR TRAINING

Mayor Stetar stated in your packets there is a request from Officer McCarthy and Officer Ireland to attend a Drug Interdiction training at a cost of \$199.99 each in North Huntingdon. He stated we can use the previously donation from EQT for this training.

Motion by Bittner/Gutosky to authorize payment and attendance by Officers McCarthy and Ireland to the Drug Interdiction Training at a cost of \$199.99 each duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PARKING WEBINAR

Mayor Stetar stated we talked briefly via emails about the parking group that wants to do a webinar on the electronic parking enforcement. He asked if any date works better for council. He stated he will send an email out tomorrow and council can nail down a date for one day next week.

COAL CENTER BOROUGH – SALT/PLOWING

Mayor Stetar stated Coal Center Borough has contacted him to see if we would be interested in plowing and salting their main roads so he asked Jeff Taday to get in touch with them and try and work that out with Mark Koehler and then he will bring information back and hopefully we can come to an agreement and move forward.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – STEVE EBY UPDATES

Mr. Eby stated he talked to the guys doing the handrails at the Municipal building and he was told they would have them in by meeting.

DEFRANK CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER #1

Mr. Eby stated this change order will increase the contract by \$3,688.11

Motion by Glab/Mariscotti to approve Change order #1 for DeFrank Construction increasing the contract by \$3,688.11 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PAYMENT APPLICATION #1 – DEFRANK CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Eby asked for a motion to pay DeFrank Construction their payment request #1 in the amount of \$28,528.11 and this is the first and final payment application for the whole project.

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to pay DeFrank Construction's payment app. #1 in the amount of \$28,528.11 contingent on the final walk through and to be paid from the Municipal Building Fund duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Glab asked if this \$28,528.11 includes retainage or are we still holding retainage. Mr. Eby stated well basically if he passes everything tomorrow he won't need any retainage to hold. He has a bond so if the gutters leak or something he has to come back and because have a one year warranty on it. Mr. Eby stated we won't release his check until I have approved everything on our final walk through.

SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION – DEFRANK CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Eby asked for a motion to sign the certificate of substantial completion for DeFrank construction contingent on his final walk through.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to sign the substantial completion for DeFrank Construction contingent on Steve's final walk through and approval duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PAYMENT REQUEST #3– A. FOLINO - \$145,763.00

Mr. Eby asked for a motion to approve payment request #3 for A. Folino Construction for Highland Drive part of his contract.

Motion by Mariscotti/Bittner to pay A. Folino's payment request #3 in the amount of \$145,763.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – MR. AGRAFIOTIS

Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS

No old business at this time

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Agrafiotis stated if you go into executive session and you want to come back and vote on something it has to fall under new business.

Mr. Difilippo asked Mr. Alfano to provide from the Recreation Authority their budget and final budget numbers so that council can take a look at it. He stated we have a playground on High Street and it's a total wreck and the playground in Daisytown isn't looking very good so he thinks we need to do something at Rotary Park because people bring their kids down so they can walk and there is nothing for them to do there. Mr. Alfano stated keep in mind we have a \$30,000.00 budget how many parks can we fix. Mr. Bittner stated as far as Rotary park there are stipulations set forth by the Rotary Club so check that first.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

JIM MADDIEX

Mr. Maddiex stated on that electric sign he was under the impression that it was going to be down near Rotary Park and you guys said Third & Wood Street. He stated that empty lot and its part of the overlay district and when Mr. Filoni did the plan for it a building was to go in there. If you put a sign there that may detract someone from putting a building in there.

ROBERT MCCOY

Mr. McCoy addressed council about his concerns and concerns of others at Liberty Towers about moving the bus stop from the front entrance of their building down to the corner of Fifth and Liberty. He stated handicap and folks in wheel chairs cannot push themselves back up the hill to get into the towers and the police were there already assisting a woman who got partially up the hill in her wheel chair and could not go any further. He stated he and many others at the Towers would like the bus stop moved back to the front entrance of the building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Glab/Mariscotti to with all members stating aye to go into executive session at 8:05
Council reconvened at 8:30 pm.

HIRE POLICE CHIEF

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to hire Tim Sheehan as Chief of Police contingent on an executed MOU as a non-civil service position with a 180 probationary period duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

OFFICER'S CPR TRAINING

Mayor Stetar asked for a motion to send approximately 11 officers to CPR Training which will be held here at the municipal building this Monday.

Motion by Bittner/ Mariscotti to pay for CPR Training for 11 of our officers at a cost not to exceed \$400.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm