

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, May 10, 2018

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

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Alfano, Mr. Bittner, Mr. Difilippo, Mr. Encapera, Mr. Glab, Mrs. Gutosky, Mayor Stetar and Junior Council member Mr. Goroncy

ABSENCE: Mr. Mariscotti

MOMENT OF SILENCE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA

Mrs. Gutosky added the Solicitor's bill- \$1,821.00

Solicitor added Geokinetic's bond returned and an executive session before the end of the meeting.

Dr. Martin added tree removal

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM

Mr. Maddiex commented about the Planning Commission bylaws

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2018

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 12, 2018 passed with all members present stating aye.

SECRETARY'S REPORT –MS. EVANS

Ms. Evans read the accounts payable and account balances for April 30, 2018.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to accept the Treasurer's report carried with all members present stating aye.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO

EP & D INVOICE

Mr. Alfano stated he has received the final invoice from Environmental Planning & Design in the amount of \$553.40.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to pay EP & D's invoice in the amount of \$553.40 carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Alfano on behalf of the recreation authority stated they are having some issues with the surface of the basketball court and they are going to try and get a cost of repairing at least one of the tennis courts up at Szalley Park. He stated they have a lot of other small projects going on.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. MARTIN

APPROVAL TO REMOVE A TREE AT THE CORNER OF LIBERTY & 4TH ST.

Dr. Martin stated he'd like to ask council for a motion for the removal of a tree on a borough parcel up in the corner of Liberty and Fourth Street to make way for the footer that we need to put in place in order to move one of the stones to a new location so that we can proceed with the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The tree was in the way and Steve marked it with survey pins. An outside contractor removed that tree. He asked Mr. Tудay if he has a final cost on that. He stated no.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to authorize payment of that tree removal in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

UPDATES

Dr. Martin stated in accordance with the solid waste contract we have set up the semi- annual electronic recycling collection and it is set for the 18th and 19th of this month. This is where we bring the large roll off dumpster and place it down by the library and resident may bring their electronic recyclables down there and they will be properly disposed of in accordance with state regulations.

The Second Street sewage issue the first phase is done and we have to go back after the ditch settles and do some cosmetic work there but we can't do that until it settles. He stated the second phase has not yet begun. He stated the engineer is working with the residents and the property manager down there to get the second part of that problem addressed.

He stated an issue arose on Skyline Drive and we needed to replace a 120 feet of rain runoff line under a property up there. The street department has been working on that and it. He stated the crew has been working on this and he asked Mr. Tудay how much longer this will take. Mr. Tудay stated it should be completed tomorrow.

Union Street is still being investigated and there were some camera problems with Robinson Pipe cleaning. We have not yet been able to determine where the runoff is coming from under that street. He stated Steve has been working hard on that and he'll give a more complete report.

The smoke testing continues up around the Malden pump station and Steve can update you all on that as well. He stated the school is still in session so we're waiting on smoking that area until school is out for the year.

He stated this afternoon he was in Representative Bud Cook's office and he has donated to the borough a number of sets of flags for all of our municipal bldgs. and parks and hopefully we will have those up for Memorial Day. He thanked him for that donation.

In your agenda meeting packets he had a copy of the written response we received from Penndot to the letter that we sent expressing our concerns on Penndot maintained roads in our area. To sum up their response, they are aware of these issues and as soon as they can will address them.

Mr. Bittner asked about the dates for the Spring Clean- up. Dr. Martin stated we will be starting the two weeks of everyday pick up on Monday the 14th and will continue through the 25th.

PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB UPDATES

Mr. Glab stated as a reminder your grass needs to be cut and maintained at a roughly small height. Next week the code enforcement officer will be out checking for violators and filing the appropriate Quality of Life citations at the District Magistrate's as required.

PAY TYHONAS CONSTRUCTION

Motion by Glab/Bittner to pay Tyhonas Construction's invoice, for the removal and site approval of the Tatar property that was located on Knob Road that had burned down last year, in the amount of \$4,300.00 out of the Tatar fire escrow account duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Agrafiotis stated as a side note they had Mr. Tatar's mother sign a statement that she was the next of kin and there was no estate and no will and no children. She gave us permission to go on the property. There is still money left in this escrow so we may want to direct his mother if she's so inclined to have an attorney get a small estate petition approval so she can get the rest of the money in the escrow account and we can get that escrow account closed. Ms. Evans stated they'll be almost \$9,500.00 left in the account. He stated he will talk to Mike and they can send her a letter.

RENTAL PROPERTY INSPECTION CLASS – MAY 30 – GREENSBURG - \$135.00

Motion to authorize the code enforcement office employees to attend a one day seminar at the Marriot Courtyard in Greensburg dealing with Property inspection programs and the cost is \$135.00 per person up to \$270.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Petro stated he cannot attend and Dr. Martin stated he cannot attend so Mr. Glab stated if Mike and/or Lori wish to go pay for both of them.

Mr. Glab stated he thinks there is some confusion on the recycling dates. With our previous hauler recycling was every other week and with the new hauler it is the second and fourth Mondays of each month. Mr. Alfano stated if the garbage company is okay with it we can probably amend it. Dr. Martin will check with County Hauling.

Mr. Glab reminded everyone that the Public Hearing will be held on June 7th at 5:30 pm to go over the new proposed Zoning Ordinance

PUBLIC WORKS – MR. MARISCOTTI

Motion by Bittner/Gutosky to advertise the 2018 Street Paving project for bids with bids to be submitted by noon on May 31, 2018 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Difilippo asked how Columbia Gas is helping with this project. Mr. Alfano stated they will pay us for what they would have paid to pave their section of Pennsylvania Ave. Dr. Martin stated Jeff is to notify them they are still responsible for the base work the money that they are giving us is only for the surface.

Mrs. Gutosky asked if we will have an independent inspector there to ensure the work is completed correctly. Mr. Alfano stated we will have to do a separate motion to do that. Mr. Alfano stated once we get a cost for that we can bring it back and make the motion.

COLUMBIA GAS AGREEMENT

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to authorize Patsy Alfano, as Council President, to sign the agreement to receive funds from Columbia Gas for paving Pennsylvania Avenue duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Dr. Martin stated as soon as that paving is completed we will paint the lines back up there that council was concerned about.

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER

RENEWAL OF CANINE MORTALITY INSURANCE

Motion by Bittner/to renew the Canine Mortality Insurance with HA Thomson at a cost of \$618.00 to be paid out of the K9 fund duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

RENEWAL OF K9 MAJOR MEDICAL & WELLNESS INSURANCE

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to renew the Major Medical insurance from Nationwide for the K9 at a cost of \$692.00 to be paid from the K9 fund duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Bittner stated the civil service tests are completed and three were tested and all three passed and the civil service committee dropped of the results. Mr. Alfano asked that all of council gets a copy.

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY

Motion by Gutosky/Glab to pay the monthly bills duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PAY MONTHLY BILLS

Motion by Gutosky/Glab to pay the monthly bills duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

SOLICITOR'S BILL

Motion by Gutosky/Glab to pay the Solicitor's bill in the amount of \$985.00 from General and \$781.00 from Zoning, and \$55.00 from Sewer fund for a total amount due of \$1,821.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO

WIDMER ENGINEERING INVOICES

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to pay Widmer Engineering Invoice #21804151 in the amount of \$562.50 for the Union Street camera and Second St. projects duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to pay Widmer Engineering's invoice #21804158 in the amount of \$2,172.50 for smoke testing around the Malden Pump Station duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Difilippo thanked the sewer dept. and the road crew for the hard work over the past month. Mr. Difilippo asked Dr. Martin and Ms. Evans to keep up on the insurance issue with the Miller property on Orchard St.

PERSONNEL – MR. ENCAPERA & MR. MARISCOTTI

Mr. Encapera stated the hiring of a part time officer is under the Mayor's report.

JUNIOR COUNCIL – MR. GORONCY

SCHOOL UPDATES

Mr. Goroncy stated tomorrow is prom and grand march. The senior lunch in at Nemaquin Woodlands is May 15th which is next Tuesday. The scholarship interviews for the district foundation scholarships are on the 17th of May there are quite a lot of those. Graduation is June 2nd and beside that everyone is wrapping up the year with finals and preparing to graduate.

STUDENT INITIATIVE PROJECT

The Student Initiative Project is a project devised and sponsored by Representative Bud Cook. He stated himself, Sarah Burn, Ryan Bilitiski were on the school's committee. Every school in the 49th district had a small committee that participate in the initiative. The goal was to revitalize the Mon Valley. This year's project has concluded and it will begin again next year with new committees being formed. To finish this year Representative Cook arranged a trip for them to Harrisburg on May 1st and it was a great experience because he actually arranged for them to have seating on the floor while the House of Representatives was having session. There was about 10 of us that went from various districts and we met the Speaker of the House representatives and got a tour of the House of the Representatives wing of the Capital by Representative Cook. On behalf of his he would like to give a big Thank you to Representative Cook for all that he's done with this project.

MAYOR'S REPORT – MAYOR STETAR

HIRE PART TIME OFFICER – STEPHEN OLESKY

Mayor Stetar stated council has had the opportunity to meet with Mr. Olesky and he would like a motion to hire him.

Motion by Encapera/Bittner to hire Stephen Olesky as a part time officer according to the terms of the Collective Bargaining Unit and completed hiring packet, background check, and clearances duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PAST EVENTS

GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY

We had a few events last month. Good Neighbor Day and we had some young children come to the Borough Building in honor of Mr. Rogers and they swept sidewalk and washed a police car and the fire truck. It was very well attended.

PIKE RUN FISHING FESTIVAL

There was also the Pike Run Drive fishing festival and that had an amazing turn out. There were cars lined all the way to Malden.

ANNOUNCE KENNYWOOD DAY

California Kennywood Day is set for July 25th and you can purchase your tickets through the fire hall as always.

RECOGNIZE CITIZEN – JESSICA FURNIER

Mayor Stetar stated he would like to recognize one of our Borough citizens, Jessica Furnier who is a lifelong resident here and she has competed in the Boston marathon the last three years and that is great representation for California Borough. He congratulated her for competing and completing the marathon.

ALERT SYSTEM

Mayor Stetar stated if you signed up for the weather alerts you know after this weekend it is working. One thing with the weather alert once you sign up for it it goes straight through the government and the county and he has no input on when those alert goes out. So if you signed up to use the weather alert option when the county puts it out it will call you even if it is four o'clock in the morning. Keep in mind this is not something we can control. When you go in to register your phone you can set the weather alert to only send you a text message. He stated we also provide meeting reminders and those are set up to only send texts and emails. That is automated and was set to go out at noon today and it did so that is up and working. He is going to add a general borough news alert for things like electronic recycling. All the residents are already downloaded into the system through the government but we will only use your information if it is a serious emergency. If you want any of these other information alerts you need to go to our website select the link and subscribe to the alerts you want to receive. He will work with Chief to get the police updates and he puts on Facebook now through the alert system also.

SRO AGREEMENT

Mayor Stetar stated everyone has had a chance to review the SRO Agreement which is basically just an extension for one year with updated dates and asked council if they would make a motion to accept the 2018-2019 SRO agreement.

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to extend the SRO Agreement for one year duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Stetar requested an executive session following this meeting to discuss personnel.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – MR. EBY

PART II PERMIT FEE - \$500.00

Mr. Eby stated he needs a check to submit with the Part II permit made out to the Commonwealth for the outfall manhole since we are altering the design of the system with the sewer plant

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to approve paying \$500.00 to the Commonwealth for our Part II permit fee duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting **yes**.

INVENTORY

Mr. Eby stated we have all the materials we need to put two manholes over the existing line and use a 24" sewer pipe to connect the two manholes together.

LINE AT THE INTERSECTION OF 88 AND HIGHPOINT DRIVE

He will make a one call and see if there are gas lines in there and he's working with Penndot right now to get that pump station relocated.

UNION STREET

Mr. Eby stated they ran a camera in the storm lines on Union from Third Street to the river and there is no abnormalities and everything is sealed so that is not the problem causing the sink hole. As soon as he can get the camera back in here we will camera the line and mark all the laterals off that line and work backwards and dye tests some houses until we find the problem.

WATER LINES AT ROTARY PARK

He stated prior to the meeting he went to Rotary Park to see what kind of water lines are near Rotary Park to see if it is feasible to have water brought to the walking track.

SMOKE TESTING

He stated they haven't found anything much that would cause the problem that was occurring on Malden so when school is out they will test the upper are off Malden Road.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

PLANNING COMMISSION BYLAWS

Mr. Agrafiotis stated he thinks the changes that Mr. Maddiex made to the planning commission bylaws were pretty good. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he and Mr. Petro added a few things to the bylaws and should be approved by council. He asked council if they had a chance to review those amendments. Council stated they have not yet seen them. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he will email them to council and they can vote on them at the next regular meeting.

GEOKINETICS BOND

Mr. Agrafiotis stated Steve did a walk-through of the roads and they appear to be in order so council can do a motion to release the bond.

Motion by Encapera/Difilippo to release the Geokinetics bond duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Ms. Evans asked who has the bond it was never received here. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he knows they put one up he will double check that. Ms. Evans stated it was now a cash escrow but a bond instead.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Agrafiotis stated he needs an executive session that may require a vote before the end of the meeting. We can do a short one now on a legal issue and do the Mayor's executive session following the meeting.

Council went into executive session at 7:35 and reconvened at 7:45

OLD BUSINESS

No old business at this time

NEW BUSINESS

No new business at this time

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

Christine Kindle stated she is from the University and as you all know they are having commencement this weekend. Friday night's ceremony is for our Master's degree candidates starting at 7:00. Saturday morning is our big undergraduate Spring commencement and that begins at 10:00 am. She stated she realizes that is a big influx of family and friends and they very much appreciate all the help that the borough provides in traffic control and patience on the part of the residents.

JIM MADDIEX

Mr. Maddiex reminded everyone of the date of the next Planning Commission meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to adjourn into executive session duly carried with all members present stating yes.