

Continued Meeting of California Borough Council, August 30, 2018 at 6:30 pm

Vice President Alfano called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Alfano, Mr. Bittner , Mr. Encapera, Mr. Difilippo, Mr. Glab, Mrs. Gutosky, and Mayor Stetar

ABSENCE: Mr. Mariscotti

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Glab added Rose Plastic revised Storm water plan

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Maddiex asked if Rose Plastic's is going to be a site plan.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO

BID OPENINGS – MISC. CONCRETE WORK

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to have the Engineer open the bids for the concrete project carried with all members present stating aye.

BID OPENINGS – ALLEY PAVING PROJECT

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to have the Engineer open the bids for the alley paving project carried with all members present stating aye.

WIDMER INVOICE #21807288 - \$3,075.00

Mr. Alfano stated we have an invoice from Widmer Engineering #21807288 in the amount of \$3,075.00 for concrete work bid specs.

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to pay Widmer Engineering invoice #21807288 in the amount of \$3,075.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

RIVERFEST

Mr. Alfano stated the Riverfest took place this past weekend and was a success and he thanked the Street Dept., Fire Dept., Recreation Authority members and he thinks we had the best turn out we've ever had.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – DR. MARTIN

Dr. Martin stated we are nearing the end of our lease with our copy machines with Precision Office Products. We presently have the same machines we've had for a while. This would give us the same model and style of machine but it would be the latest edition, the newest version. This would be a 60 month extension of the lease; the technology would actually go from \$346.03 per month to \$310.00. All of this information is contained in your packets. Per copy cost on the overage on black would fall from \$13.00 a month to about \$8.00, the per copy color overage would fall from \$88.92 per month to \$54.00. By extending the contract with precision we would get the newest version of the same machines and capabilities that you have now and would realize a savings of about \$76.00 a month. Dr. Martin stated he's asking for a motion to extend the current lease with Precision Copy Products.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to extend the current lease with Precision Copy Products duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON COUNTY TAX COLLECTION COMMITTEE

Dr. Martin stated a few minutes ago President Alfano handed him a copy of a letter from the Washington County Tax Collection Committee concerning the PA Dept. of Revenue taking over the collection and distribution of the local tax. Dr. Martin stated everyone has a copy of this letter in their packets and he read the letter aloud. Mr. Alfano asked council how they feel about this possible change.

Motion by Bittner/Glab to send a letter endorsing the Washington County Tax Claim Collection Committee's stand on this issue carried with all members present stating aye.

PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB

WEBINAR ON ZONING LAW ALERT

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to pay for a webinar attended by John Petro regarding changes in the zoning law in the amount of \$45.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ROSE PLASTIC REVISED STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to approve the revised storm water management plan for Rose Plastic's medical facility located at 525 Technology Drive with the conditions 1. The revised storm water management plan will be approved by the appointed engineer, McMillen Engineer with review costs paid by the applicant to McMillen Engineering. 2. The post construction storm water management plan and executed operating and maintenance agreement between the property owner and the Borough of California be duly recorded in the Recorder of Deeds office in Washington County duly carried on a roll call vote with a members present voting yes

Mr. Glab stated in short the original storm water management plan and post construction storm water management drawings were approved in 2017 by McMillen and the Borough and since that time the Storm water management plan and post construction storm water management drawings were revised.

ZONING HEARING

Mr. Petro announced that there is a Public hearing on the new Zoning Ordinance on Thursday at 5:30 pm.

MR. MARISCOTTI

Nothing to report

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER

Mr. Bittner stated he received Bill Gamble's agreement in the mail and we already allocated \$1,000.00. His charges are going to be \$70.00 per hour.

Mr. Agrafiotis stated there is a full hold harmless clause and you can't hold someone harmless if they commit their own intentional wreck less or gross and negligent act. He stated if he'll just need to add a sentence or two.

Motion by Bittner/Glab to approve the agreement that Bill Gamble submitted pending review & negotiations by the Solicitor duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

FINANCE – MRS, GUTOSKY

Nothing to report

PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO

WIDMER INVOICES

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to pay Widmer Invoice #21807291 in the amount of \$2,415.00 for the bid specs for the Folino contract duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to pay Widmer Invoice # 21807292 in the amount of \$375.00 for running the camera in the storm sewer on Malden Road, sewer leak on Zulu Street and the Part II permit duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PERSONNEL – MR. MARISCOTTI & MR. ENCAPERA

Nothing to report

MAYOR'S REPORT – DR. STETAR

Mayor Stetar added a thank you to the Scaccia's for implementing the firemen's parade at the kick off of Riverfest along with the other organizations mentioned earlier.

CHIEF’S AD

Mayor Stetar stated Shirley has already placed the ad in the Mon Valley paper and the Borough Association webpage however, the bids were extremely high for the entire ad for hiring a police chief so what if we just put in the paper that we are hiring and to see our website for details.

Motion by Encapera/Bittner to post that we are accepting resumes for a Chief of Police and to have them directed to our webpage for details in the Tribune Review, Washington Observer, and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00 carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ENGINEER’S REPORT

BID RESULTS

Mr. Eby read the results for:

ALLEY PAVING PROJECT

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>PER TON</u>	<u>BID</u>
El Grande Industries	\$145.60	\$149,968.00
Hunters Excavating	\$137.28	\$141,398.40
Michael Facchiano Exc.	\$145.00	\$149,350.00
Morgan Excavating	\$143.00	\$147,290.00

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to award the Alley paving project bid to Hunter’s Excavating at a price of \$141,398.00 pending review of bid and bonds duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PROJECT #2 – MISC. CONCRETE WORK

- A. Replace retaining wall and sidewalk at the borough building
 - B. Replace parking lot grate at borough building
 - C. Replace storm basins at 4th and Liberty St and sidewalk repair of existing location of storm basins.
- Alternate #1 – Replace sidewalks & install handicap ramps at 4th and Liberty Streets

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>A.</u>	<u>B.</u>	<u>C.</u>	<u>Alternate Bid & A,B,C</u>
A. FOLINO	\$33,282.00	\$9,950.00	\$26,980.00	\$155,329.50
HUNTER EXC.	\$42,792.12	\$5,352.00	\$20,636.28	\$154,603.32

Mr. Difilippo asked if this is budgeted. Ms. Evans stated no it has not been budgeted for. Dr. Martin stated it is not a budgeted expense but you can look at gaming revenue and some other things. Mr. Difilippo stated we need to straighten that area up the sidewalks are in bad conditions and we have the new monument going in. Mr. Taday stated the monument has to go in first so the sidewalks don’t get damaged during the monument installation. He will check with Kevin Clancy to see when the monument will be installed.

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to award the Project #2, A,B,C & Alternate bid contract to Hunter’s Excavating at a price of \$154,603.32 pending the Solicitor making sure all the bonds and insurance is in order duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

COAL CENTER PUMP STATION

Mr. Eby asked for a motion to authorize him to contact the power company to get a pump station easement through their property.

Motion by Bittner/Glab to have the Engineer contact the power company to get an easement for the pump station relocation duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

(2) LSA GRANT APPLICATIONS

Mr. Eby stated he’d like a motion to apply for two LSA applications. One for a house demolition and parking lot construction and the second is for the pump station construction and gravity sewer line on Malden Road.

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to authorize the Engineer to prepare a grant application for our pump station project duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Alfano stated the second grant application would be for the Historical Society who is having trouble getting the funds to tear a building down that was donated to them and put a parking lot there. They think the LSA Grant would be a good funding source.

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to have the Engineer prepare a LSA grant application in the Historical Society's name duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Difilippo asked Mr. Eby what he needs to get started on Highland Drive to pick up those other houses. Mr. Eby stated a motion to get a price from the contractor and he'll submit it at the meeting in two weeks. The solicitor stated no motion is needed to get a price. Mr. Eby stated he'll do the same with the easements as he did with the other easements.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business at this time

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Glab asked Mr. Tудay to lower the flags to half mass until next week for John McCain. Mr. Tудay stated sure.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

WES SHEETS

Mr. Sheets introduced himself and stating he is speaking on behalf of his mother Margaret Sheets, who is in attendance and resides at 1265 Highland Drive. He thanked council for the opportunity to speak. His concern is with the sewage project on Highland Drive. He just heard some mention of a pump station and he also heard what down need for Highland Drive. He would like to know if the project is awarded or is a done deal, what is the situation with that. Mr. Alfano stated go ahead and continue and we'll answer the questions when you are finished. Mr. Sheets stated he has brought some information tonight which council is all award of. It is all the minutes over the last two years that referenced Highland Drive sewage project. He stated the last time his family came to a council meeting requesting official information on the sewage was when the Edward Street sewage was installed and we were told Highland Drive is in the future expansion project. Since then, Malden Road, Knob, Road, the other end of Highland Drive has all gotten sewage along with other areas in the borough. We were very happy to hear early last year that Highland Drive was being looked into for sewage expansion. Earlier this month he heard the project bid only included three houses, two on Highland Drive and one on Hill Street all with malfunctioning or failing systems. After doing some research over the last couple of weeks he has found out that there were several options or alternatives to this project, seems one of these included Highland Drive completely, Blaine Road, and McCrory Circle. His figures are rounded up and not to the penny. The bid on that was \$472,000.00. The only thing he could break out and reference to that was the Blaine Road portion which is 6 houses and the radio station at \$242,000.00 leaving approximately \$230,000.00 to do the Highland and McCrory circle which is 14 homes and 3.1 acres for future development. The cost to pick up only the three homes which council is aware of is \$88,000.00 and is being run out to Route 88 leaving the six other houses on Highland Drive out of the project as well as the homes on McCrory Circle. He wants to know why? After to talking to an inspector checking the house for sale at 1245 Highland Drive he found out it has a failed septic system as well. He was also told by another inspector at that property inspecting the roof of the house that alluded to that failed septic system is going to be addressed by city sewage being extended to pick up two houses at the bottom of the hill which is 1245 and 1243 Highland Drive. Over the last two years he's not seen any mention of these two houses on Highland Drive getting sewage. If a change order is going to be made to the currently approved Highland Drive project to do these two houses why not all homes along Highland Drive. From 1245 Highland Drive to the top of the hill on Highland Drive is approximately the same distance as the \$88,000.00 bid to take it out to Route 88, about 400 ft. His mother and Beverly Constantine, who lives at 1255 Highland Drive, were not aware this project nor the plans to exclude them until earlier this month. They both want sewage to their homes. With an excess of \$5,000,000.00 in the sewage fund, not allocated to anything specific, he thinks it would be the right thing to do to pick up all these houses along Highland Drive for not much more than the already awarded bid. Especially if two other homes may be added to the work order this would make the cost even less. As he reads it 14 homes could get sewage for

approximately \$230,000.00 instead of three homes for \$88,000.00. He asked that council explain why the decision was made to exclude the other 11 homes and all of these homes are within a quarter mile of city sewage and it would all run downhill. If work continues as planned will it take another 20 years or if ever to get sewage to get sewage to these residents or maybe the possible future sales of 1255 and 1265 Highland Drive whose systems would fail without the constant diligence of the people living there with the septic systems they have right now. It takes a special person to have a septic systems.

Mr. Alfano stated there has been some miscommunication or misconception among council of what this project was actually going to be. Some of us thought it was as is and some of us thought it was going to be more. He stated he will let the Engineer take over and answer the questions as to what it would take to make the whole thing happen. Mr. Eby stated he can work up some costs to see how much it would cost to pick up everyone on Highland Dr. Mr. Sheets stated the old McCrory house was tested and failed for septic, that's common knowledge. Mr. Eby stated that is correct. Mr. Sheets stated the borough plans to pick up those two properties, now from there to his mother's property, which would include Constantine's, it's not straight up hill but it is definitely downhill, its gravity flow. Mr. Eby stated those two houses sit below the road so he'd have pump to get them up to the road to the line. Mr. Eby stated to get it out front from where your septic is now you'd have to pump it. Mr. Sheets stated no that is not correct if you are coming up Highland you can get it because it currently comes out half way up the wall. Mr. Sheets stated the cemetery house which is now owned by Betty Walters sets on the corner of Hill and Highland has nothing as far as drains in her basement. Mr. Eby stated there is a dip in the road that he can't get it to flow this way. Mr. Sheets stated if you went down an extra foot you are already below any drain. Mr. Eby stated we did a preliminary design a while back and was going to take you and the rest of the hillside down to 43 to the intersection. Mr. Sheets stated there are still 14 homes being left without sewage and it is all downhill no matter how you look at it. Mr. Sheets stated he can't fault anyone who has gotten sewage. He stated Shirley is unfortunately sitting here and he's known about Rolo's problem for about 15 years or so when he used to speak to him. He stated you can either force those property owners to put in sand mounds and septic systems or give them sewage and he's not poopooing them getting sewage for \$88,000.00 but why spend the 88,000.00 thousand to go down the back of their property to Route 88 when you can go down the hill and you can pick up other homes for a little bit more whose systems have already failed. Both his mother and Constantine both would give right of ways and both want sewage. If it's brought up the back of the property his mom would have a considerable more money to get tapped in from the back. Mrs. Margaret Sheets thanked council for considering extending sewage to her home. She stated she's lived here for 68 years and she thinks its shame that she has to come here and fight for something that is only right and she shouldn't have to pay to put another septic in or sell her home to get sewage put in. Mr. Eby stated next meeting he will have something as to cost to cover the rest of Highland Drive whether its gravity or grinder pumps. Mr. Alfano expressed to Mrs. Sheets that the engineer will design and have a cost estimate of what it would take to get her and the other Highland Drive residents public sewage. Mr. Sheets stated he would like the opportunity to look at that.

JIM MADDIEX

Mr. Maddiex announced the next planning commission meeting and there are still two openings. Mr. Maddiex asked the Solicitor on the planning commission bylaws there is a place for the signatures of the Secretary, the secretary has resigned so can they temporarily combine the office of the Treasurer and Secretary for the purpose of signing these bylaws. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he'll look into it. Mr. Maddiex stated if they get no letters of interest by the Sept. meeting of council he is going to ask council if any of them can fill Beth Baxter's term which is through December of this year.

GENTLEMAN FROM LIBERTY TOWERS

He stated the reason he is here this evening to see if council could reestablish the bus lines to come back down to the front entrance of Liberty Towers. It is hard for the residents to get down to the corner of Fifth and Liberty St. because some are in wheelchairs, some have walkers, and others just don't have the strength in certain weather to get down there to catch the bus. In the winter time with ice and snow it will be more difficult. He stated it was easier when they picked up and dropped off in front of the entrance for all the residents there. He stated if they put a bus shanty on Fifth & Liberty it won't be accessible to wheel chairs if it's like the one at the red light because it is encased. Nor will it have an accessible wheel chair ramp to get onto the bus they will have to stop in the middle of Fifth Street, install a ramp and then get the person on the bus

and it is a very busy street and it will cause a hazard. Mr. Encapera stated Dr. Martin has relayed his concern to the Mon Valley Transit Authority and that will be in their discussions.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm carried with all members stating aye.