

## **Continued Meeting of California Borough Council, March 8, 2018 at 6:30 pm**

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

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

**ABSENCE:** Junior council member Mr. Goroncy

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO**

**Nothing to report**

#### **BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. MARTIN**

**Nothing to report**

#### **PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB**

**Nothing to report**

#### **PUBLIC WORKS – MR. MARISCOTTI**

##### **HIGHWAY AID 2018 STREET PROJECT**

Motion by Mariscotti/Encapera to approve the 2018 Street paving project as Hickory Street from Sixth St. to Pennsylvania Ave., Liberty Street from First St. to Third St, and if there is funding left do Union Street from First to Third Street duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Difilippo who voted no.

Under discussion Mr. Difilippo stated he is okay with Hickory but thinks Union will get more traffic with the newly installed boat dock there so that should come before Liberty. Mr. Mariscotti. Mr. Bittner stated until we get that sewage or storm water fixed underneath Union St he thinks we are just wasting our money paving it. He said there are problems down there under that street that need rectified before we pave it. Mr. Alfano stated he believes they didn't hook up all the laterals on that street. Mr. Bittner asked Dr. Martin if the Sewer dept. ran the camera in the lines under Union Street. Dr. Martin stated Ron said he had video of that but he doesn't know if it is current video. Mr. Glab stated Liberty Street is the same way it has been collapsing also. Mr. Mariscotti stated he thinks there is a lateral not hooked up in front of his funeral home because he's never had water in the basement like this. He stated every rain storm since Bella has been here he's had issues. Mr. Difilippo stated he thinks there should be a policy in place that before doing any roads they should be camera'd prior to to see if anything needs done to them prior to paving them. Dr. Martin stated he raised some of those issues with Ron when we had the first collapse down there on the bottom part of Union Street and he maintained pretty adamantly that the problem on Union and on Liberty is a poor compaction issue. He stated apparently some kind of a project that took place some time ago there and he said the company that was hired to do it simply didn't compact it properly before they put the road surface on and that was the problem. He stated he has no expertise with this so he's simply reporting to council what Ron told him. Mr. Glab stated if that is the case putting a couple more inches of asphalt on top of it will just add more weight to it and cause further collapses. Mr. Bittner stated he doesn't think it matters if the stone was placed in there loosely it is still not going to lose as much as we're getting a void down there. Mr. Bittner stated that stone is disappearing. Mr. Alfano stated we need to get costs on something to see how far our money can bring us so we know if we can even do it or not. We need to do some research on Union and Liberty and use the cameras so we can see them and then determine what the problem is. Mr. Difilippo stated he still believes prior to us paving a street we should look beneath it for upcoming potential issues. Mr. Difilippo stated we purchased cameras so why haven't they run the camera through it. Mr. Glab stated Union Street will be a gateway to our community and hopefully there will be a lot of people coming up there. Mrs. Gutosky said there has to be parking available and places to park and vehicle and boat trailer which takes a lot of length. Mr. Glab stated there is all of Second Street.

Mr. Glab stated we've said a thousand times we don't have a parking problem we have a walking problem. Mr. Glab stated they can park down by the old sewer plant it may not be convenient but its there. Mr. Mariscotti stated we could open our lot next to Signatures for boat & trailer parking. Mrs. Gutosky stated maybe we could put signs down there for the parking areas. Mr. Difilippo added when we have these projects done we need to hire an independent outside inspector, not our engineers, not our guys but an outside person. It may cost us some money but he thinks it will save us some money in the end. Mr. Bittner stated how long are we going to sit back as a council and take excuses from our employees about why they can't do something. He stated he's had it and he's tired of it and as Tony says from the book of excuses. He stated they are our employees and if we tell them to do something he doesn't care if they have to camera it six times in one damn day they need to do it. We bought them new equipment and if they need better equipment to do a better job we'll be them the equipment but he's totally had it with excuses. The tail is wagging the dog and it has to cease. Mr. Difilippo asked Mr. Bittner if he saw where the City of Pittsburgh they sent a whole crew home because they were blacktopping and filling pot holes and they didn't feel like blacktopping anymore so they sent them all home without pay. Mr. Bittner stated this is total unadulterated bs. Mr. Mariscotti stated seriously if you are around them two or three times it is the same excuse over and over. It's our camera doesn't fit or it won't go through the traps. He stated he thought when we bought that camera we bought a camera that went through traps. Then he found out and he doesn't know if it's true that camera that we have is like on tracks but that's not what he's seen. Mr. Glab stated he doesn't know what our camera looks like but when NPL was in town he watched them camera and it looked like something on tracks with wheels. Mr. Glab stated that camera went straight up that line and made a turn up a lateral and he brought it straight up to where he thought the clog was and there were no issues. Mr. Mariscotti stated the only one he's seen is on the end of a cable like on the end of a snake. He said it was not on tracks but it was push through and then they said it was too big to push through the trap. Mr. Vitchoff stated they have different size cameras for different applications and he thought we had them all. Mr. Mariscotti stated he thought we had them. Mr. Vitchoff stated Mrs. Gajan was a big component in that and we were going to rent them all over the country and make a million dollars. Mr. Mariscotti stated we'll have to look back and see what we bought because they could just be hidden so if no one knows we have them then they say we don't have them.

Motion by Mariscotti/Encapera to approve the 2018 Street paving project as Hickory Street from Sixth St. to Pennsylvania Ave., Liberty Street from First St. to Third St, and if there is funding left do Union Street from First to Third Street duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Difilippo who voted no.

Mr. Difilippo asked if we have any further updates with what they are doing with Pennsylvania Avenue. Dr. Martin stated the last bit of information we have is they are waiting for the weather to break and pave two feet on either side of the trench that they cut there. Mr. Glab stated they said they have already committed to do that. Mr. Vitchoff stated you have to pave it with union money and they don't have to so they are getting more for their buck than the borough could get. Mr. Alfano stated the rep council talked to said the opposite. He stated they are charging the utility companies more than what a municipality would pay for it. Dr. Martin stated that's what they said when we sat in that meeting. Mr. Vitchoff stated that may be what they said but he's doing the logical numbers and they don't have to pay the higher rate so why would they.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER**

Nothing to report

#### **FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY**

Nothing to report

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO**

Nothing to report

#### **PERSONNEL – MR. ENCAPERA & MR. MARISCOTTI**

Nothing to report

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT – MAYOR STETAR**

Nothing to report other than executive session to review our materials.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT – MR. EBY.**

Nothing to report

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

### **ORDINANCE 561 – STREET, ALLEY, SIDEWALK & R.O.W OPENINGS**

Mr. Agrafiotis stated we have a proposed Ordinance #561 and he's assuming everyone is satisfied with it and it updates our current ordinances and repeals some. He said unless council has any questions it is ready and up for adoption. Mr. Alfano asked the Solicitor to give a quick update on it. Mr. Agrafiotis stated we have #527 which was done in 2011 then we also chapter 1 in the code of ordinances which #527 changed part of those and it's very confusing so when they decided to update this thing it was also decided to repeal in its entirety for clarification purposes ordinance #527 and also the chapters in 184 of the portions that were still non repealed by ordinance #527. So the required permits for street openings, sidewalk openings, allies rights of way and there are standard permits, extended permits, and fees based on the length of the extended permit and there are provisions for emergency permits, and a form was added and there is regulations for bonding. It also includes fees, late fees and fines.

Motion by Difilippo/Encapera to adopt Ordinance 561 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Difilippo asked if someone digs in town do they stop in here first. Mr. Alfano stated not necessarily. Mr. Difilippo stated then how are we going to let people know about this then. Mr. Petro stated his suggestion is after its' adoption send a copy of the ordinance to the water & gas company and let them know what the procedures are because in this new ordinance you have the review process by council for extended permits.

Mr. Agrafiotis stated we have that abandoned property ordinance too so do we know if anyone has done that. Ms. Evans stated she doesn't believe so. Mr. Mariscotti stated we should put a sign up entering town.

Mr. Glab asked Dr. Martin to contact NPL and get a timeframe as to when they are coming back in town. Dr. Martin stated Jeff had spoken to someone from there about a week and a half ago and the answer he got was as soon as the weather breaks.

Ms. Evans asked the Solicitor if he's finished reviewing the agreement with Swift 911 so she can send the agreement and the check. Mayor Stetar stated he emailed them the updated agreement with Mr. Agrafiotis's changes and they set everything up and it's his understanding they are going to bill us now, but they didn't say when that would be. Ms. Evans asked when the system is going live. Mr. Stetar stated they set everything up today and he's coordinating a time for them to do training and get everything going within the next week. Ms. Evans asked if she should hold the agreement and the check or send it. Mayor Stetar stated he asked them when they are going to bill us but they haven't responded yet. Mr. Agrafiotis asked Mayor Stetar if he signed the agreement and he sent it to them and they set everything up.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing to report

## **RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS**

### **MR. MADDIEX**

Mr. Maddiex asked the Solicitor when he advertises an ordinance you put on there to call the borough office to arrange for a copy of it and he would prefer it the way it was done in the past where the secretary has a copy and we can stop any time to review it and it eliminates the calling and if she has it she can put it on the website under pending ordinances. Mr. Agrafiotis stated we can do that it's not a bad idea. Mr. Maddiex reminded everyone that the planning commission will meet on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **MR. CLANCY**

Mr. Clancy asked council what the time frame is to receive the donation they pledged to the Vietnam veterans wall. He stated he had spoken to Shirley about a month and half after council okayed that donation and she explained to me that there is issues that some of council is having about that donation. Mr. Clancy stated he would have appreciated someone calling him and asking him about the issues. Here it is three months later and we're still here. He talked with Tony about writing checks to the vendor and Mr. Clancy stated he would prefer not to pay the contractor the full amount up front and he'd like to have some hold back for retainage. He stated he is under time restraints and he needs to get it done. Mr. Difilippo stated what was said is when bills come in turn them over to the borough and we would pay them from the amount pledged to the project instead of sending that money to the West Brownsville Legion. Mr. Clancy stated they are a 5013C and that is the only reason we went through them so they are tax write off donations. Mr. Clancy stated I see the concern with sending it to him since his wife is employed here. He stated they did set up a bank account, a non-profit account set up at PNC Bank and it's not a 5013C and it requires two signatures for all expenses paid. Ms. Evan asked council if they would have a problem depositing the money into that PNC account because a tax write off wouldn't apply to the borough and the funds would go directly into the account intended to pay the bills for this project. Mr. Alfano asked Mr. Clancy what the name is on the checking account. Mr. Clancy stated it is Committee for the California PA Vietnam Veterans Honor roll. Mr. Glab asked about the timeline of the sidewalk repairs being done and the Veterans wall. Mr. Clancy stated he will have the memorial installed but about the sidewalks he's unsure. He stated he spoke to a couple of engineers and the handicap access ramps and you 4' behind the flare so what you need now is 5' and clearly what is there now is no sufficient so he's concerned about the timeline if we wait on the sidewalks before doing the honor roll so he's concentrating on the honor roll and the landscaping installed by Memorial day and if we can the sidewalks afterwards or parts of sidewalks afterwards, but he's not going to push the dedication date for the honor roll back. He stated he can gain access from either driveway on either side of the memorial.

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to authorize payment to the Committee for the California PA Vietnam Veterans Honor Roll duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Alfano stated we are going to adjourn into executive session and report back at the next regular meeting.