

## **Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, January 11, 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, Mr. Mariscotti, Mr. Goroncy and Mayor Stetar

**ABSENCE:**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Mrs. Gutosky added the Solicitor's bills - \$ 2,346 and \$2,400.00

Dr. Martin added Street light on Second & Wood Street

Mr. Agrafiotis requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to review all pending litigation.

President Alfano stated the agenda stands as printed and amended

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS**

**MINUTES – REGULAR MEETIN OF DEC. 14, 2017**

Motion by Encapera/Mariscotti to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Dec. 14, 2017 carried with all members present stating aye.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT –MS. EVANS**

Ms. Evans read the accounts payable and account balances for December 31, 2017.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO**

**DEPARTMENT COMMITTEES**

Mr. Alfano stated everyone agrees that committee heads will remain the same as in the past.

**SET TAX COLLECTOR BOND AMOUNT**

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to set the bond amount for the tax collector at \$202,788.00 which reflects 30% of the 2017 tax at face amount duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

**ANNOUNCEMENT – TRI COUNTY BOROUGH ASSOCIATION MEETING**

Mr. Alfano stated the TRI County borough association meeting will be Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Donora Municipal Bldg.

**PAY STATE WORKERS INSURANCE FUND FOR 2016-2017 AUDIT**

Motion by Mariscotti/Bittner to pay State Worker's Insurance fund \$2,120.00 for audit duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

**EP& D INVOICE - \$1,937.35**

Mr. Alfano stated we have an invoice from Environmental Planning & Design for the work on the wharf project in the amount of \$1,937.35. He stated the recreation committee has given their permission to council to pay these EP & D invoices as they come in and then they are asking the borough to pay them out of the gaming funds and invoice them and they will pay them when they start getting their tax dollars in.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to pay EP & D invoices from the general fund and invoice the recreation authority for reimbursement duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

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

### **UPDATES**

#### **NEW SOLID WASTE HUALER FLIERS**

Dr. Martin stated we have completed the transition to County Hauling, our new solid waste hauling company. Mondays will be the regular pick up day for the borough which is a change from Fridays. Recycling will be on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The dumpsters that are being picked up in time will have a pick up day of Tuesday and those few accounts that have two day pick ups will be on Tuesday and Fridays. A mailing was sent out at council's request and he believes most of those were received today. He stated we will continue to pick up electronics on the first Friday of each month as long as they call and let us know they are setting out electronics. The street department will pick those up and place them in our storage dumpster at the plant and once the dumpster is full we will have it emptied and taken care of. Any questions or concerns the public may have the number to County Hauling is on the card and if someone has an issue they will work directly with County Hauling to resolve their specific issues.

#### **DEDICATION PLAQUE**

Dr. Martin stated six months ago we ordered the dedication plaque for the police station and he received a phone call today that the gentleman will be here in the morning at 10:00 to install that plaque.

#### **IDENTIFICATION SIGNAGE ON INTEIOR DOORS OF MUNICIPAL BLDG.**

Dr. Martin stated you may have noticed as you walked around the borough building today that the internal signage is up on all the doors and that is complete and he thanked Mr. Taday for taking the time to help get those installed.

#### **LARGE GLACIER IN FRONT OF MUNICIPAL BLDG.**

Dr. Martin stated in this most recent storm we had a rather large glacier out in front of this building. The sidewalk as you may recall has sunk nearest the building so the water pools against the building. As it froze in the subzero temperatures we had a very unsafe situation out there that encroached clear out to the steps. The street department placed cones out there to direct folks away from that area. He stated in looking at the basement with the mayor this morning we can see where water is now beginning to seep down through and it's coming through the basement wall downstairs. There is no pool or anything but you can see the wall is wet and streaked. He spoke to Mr. Taday about this and he says the only way to properly fix it is to jack hammer it out and to re-pour that slab at a slope going away from the building rather than going toward the building. He stated there is an electrical conduit that runs the middle of that wall and it is badly corroded and it's a bad situation that can't be allowed to continue indefinitely. It needs to be addressed. He is asking for council's permission to allow him to work with Mr. Taday to work up some costs and find some contractors to provide information on what it would take to correctly do that work and get it fixed in the Spring when the weather breaks. It's only going to get worse if we don't address it. Mr. Bittner stated we have another issues with the gutters on this building. Dr. Martin stated that is where he was going next the gutters on this building need to be replaced with seamless gutters. He asked council's permission to explore prices on getting this done. Council stated when he gets the information bring it back to them for a motion.

#### **RESERVED PARKING STALL REQUEST**

Dr. Martin stated we have a request that was emailed to all of council from Keybank and they are requesting to be able to rent the first four angled spaces on Liberty Street for employee parking. They had been renting spaces from the Washington County Housing Authority but they can no longer rent those spaces due to room constraints. Dr. Martin stated he has no recommendation to make but he had learned from the Parking Enforcement Officer just yesterday that apparently we had a request from another businessman wanting to rent those spaces for his office and that request was not approved. Mr. Alfano stated he doesn't have a problem renting them stalls on Liberty Street but wouldn't rent the first four from Third Street., he would rent them the first four from Second St. Mr. Bittner stated these are prime spots. Mr. Glab stated we have that parking area down on Second Street next to Signatures bar between Ash and Union and that is only two blocks away. If they were parking in the city of Pittsburgh or someplace else that would be a hop and a skip and there are no issues about safety or security. Mr. Alfano asked if council wants to tentatively approve renting them four stalls on Liberty Street closest to Second Street. Mr. Mariscotti stated he's not up for offering them any stalls our lot is right down the alley. Mr.

Bittner stated it is only a block and a half more than what they are walking now. Mr. Mariscotti stated we have a perfectly good lot down there that is paved. Mr. Glab stated weather they park at stalls or our lot it is still guaranteed income. Mr. Encapera stated if the spots on Liberty at the Second street end aren't being used that is closer for them than our lot down on Second St. Mr. Difilippo stated we have a parking lot down let's try and push them that way it is only a block and half. Mr. Mariscotti stated he thinks we should offer them 4 or 6 spots in our parking lot of Second Street. Dr. Martin stated he will relay that information to this gentleman tomorrow and see where it goes.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBERS MICHAEL GORONCY**

Dr. Martin stated Mr. Goroncy is featured in this month's edition of the Pennsylvania Borough News magazine and it is a nice biography they prepared and he was highlighted very effectively and he wanted to offer councils' congratulations as well as his own.

#### **INSTALLATION OF LIGHT AT SECOND AND WOOD STREETS**

Dr. Martin stated council had asked him to explore the cost of installing a streetlight at the corner of Second & Wood St. He received the information from West Penn and stated it is actually cheaper to install a new light rather than move an existing one. The cost of the bracket and the span is \$651.50 to put that light on that second pole.

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to have a light installed at Second & Wood Streets at the PNC bank side at a cost of \$651.50 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

#### **PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB**

##### **UPDATES**

The Code Enforcement Officer has been out daily looking for violations and trying to bring them into compliance. As a reminder you are required to have your sidewalks shoveled within 24 hours after a snow event.

#### **VACANCY ON THE ZONING HEARING BOARD**

Mr. Glab stated we need an alternate on the zoning hearing board. Mr. Frank Kubicko has offered to serve in that position.

Motion by Glab/Bittner to appoint Frank Kubicko as an alternate on the Zoning Hearing Board duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

#### **VITCHOFF SUBDIVISION**

Motion by Glab/Mariscotti to approve the Vitchoff plan#4 dated Dec. 14, 2017, located on Knob Road creating three new buildable lots (7, 8, and 9). It was reviewed by the Washington County Planning Commission, the Zoning Officer, the Borough engineer and they all recommend approval with the observations. Mr. Alfano stated he has no problem with the subdivision but we have some outstanding business with Mr. Vitchoff about this location and need to get it straightened out before we move on and approve subdivision of lots. Mr. Alfano stated the solicitor has been working on these issues for a while and asked if there is any kind of upcoming resolution yet. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he's not sure this matter can be resolved quickly. Mr. Alfano stated we still have to resolve it one way or another. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he's not disagreeing with Mr. Alfano but doesn't think it is likely resolution. Mr. Vitchoff stated council is trying to hold him up here. Mr. Alfano asked if he has people ready to purchase. Mr. Vitchoff stated yes the agreement is already signed. Mr. Alfano stated okay then we won't hold you back, but he thought you were just expanding your subdivision. Mr. Vitchoff stated nobody asked. Mr. Difilippo stated we have to get that other issue resolved. Mr. Agrafiotis stated it is on his list. Mr. Glab asked what the recommendations were. Mr. Petro asked Mr. Eby to explain. Mr. Eby stated the only thing he was concerned was there was no contours on the drawings and the water run off can be an issue so that needs addressed. Mr. Glab asked Mr. Petro if he has anything else. Mr. Petro stated no.

Motion by Glab/Mariscotti to approve the Vitchoff plan#4 dated Dec. 14, 2017, located on Knob Road creating three new buildable lots (7,8,9) with the recommendations and observations duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Dr. Martin recognized Mr. Garlowich for his diligence and work with the transitioning of the trash haulers. He's really done a good job and he wanted council to know that.

**PUBLIC WORKS – MR. MARISCOTTI**

Nothing to report

**PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER**

**SIANA BELLWOAR – TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT FOR 2018**

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to accept Siana/Bellwoar's terms of engagement for 2018 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

**SIANA BELLWOARD INVOICE - \$565.00**

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to pay Siana Bellwoar invoice # 73543 in the amount of \$565.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

**FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY**

**PAY MONTHLY BILLS**

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

**SOLICITOR'S BILL – RETAINER - \$2,400.00**

Motion by Gutosky/Mariscotti to pay the meeting retainer invoice from the solicitor in the amount of \$2400.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

**SOLICITOR'S BILL – MONTHLY BILL**

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to pay the Solicitor's monthly bill in the amount of #2,346.00 with \$44.00 being sewer department, \$900.00 for the zoning department, and \$1,402.00 for the police and admin. department duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

**PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO**

**WIDMER INVOICES**

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to pay Widmer invoice #21712521 in the amount of \$225.00 for the PA Small water grant duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to pay Widmer invoice #21712522 in the amount of \$525.00 for the NPDES Permit renewal duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to pay Widmer invoice #21712526 in the amount of \$5000.00 for the Highland Drive/Blaine Road sewer design duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

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

Motion by Encapera/Mariscotti to donate \$10,000.00 from the gaming revenue fund to the group that is working on erecting a veterans wall duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Encapera asked about the sidewalk around the veterans wall and do we know if we have to bid this or not. Mr. Difilippo stated we had Widmer estimate a cost. Mr. Eby stated basically he talked to a contractor and he feels that we the numbers will fall into the bidding requirements at \$27,500.00. He stated he had sent Dr. Martin a drawing with what was in the price. Mr. Mariscotti stated he and Mr. Bittner thinks this would be a good community project and that they could get some folks to donate materials and labors along with our street department and it could be done that way. He stated with the cold weather nothing is going to get done right away so we have some time until February and he knows we have enough capable people in this borough who will step up to do that.

### **JUNIOR COUNCIL – MR. GORONCY**

Mr. Goroncy stated last Friday school canceled due to extreme temperatures and that will made up on the Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. Semester 1 ends the 16<sup>th</sup> at that time honor roll will be posted and everyone will be switching to their semester 2 classes. Girls & boys basketball teams won both their games this week and the girls' team is tied for first in their division.

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

Mayor Stetar stated his office hours were posted on Facebook and the website and starting next week when California University is back in session they will switch to Monday and Wednesday from 10 am to 1 pm.

### **LETTER OF RESIGNATION – OFFICER MILLER**

Mayor Stetar stated an occasional part time police officer Jonathan Miller has taken a position with the Pennsylvania State Police and submitted his letter of resignation which is in your packets.

Motion by Encapera/Bittner to accept the resignation of Officer of Jonathan duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

### **WEST PENN POWER POLE AGREEMENT**

Mayor Stetar stated he is still catching up but knows there is an issue with cameras being mounted on telephone poles and Chief Encapera told him yesterday that there is an agreement that current cameras are grandfathered in and any new installations will be a one- time fee of \$75.00. Mr. Agrafiotis stated both the Chief and Shirley gave him a 10 page agreement between West Penn power and the Borough

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to approve the West Penn Power pole agreement which requires a \$75.00 one-time fee for any new cameras installed on West Penn Power poles duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

### **CHAIRS FOR MAYOR'S OFFICE**

Mr. Bittner stated he was in the Mayor's office and he is in need of some chairs so he asked Dr. Martin to get some prices on nice respectful chairs.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT – MR. EBY**

#### **MS4 PLAN**

Mr. Eby stated he's still working with DeP on the MS4 plan. He stated they are asking about California University if their storm water is in our system or they have their own system.

#### **LSA FUNDING**

We did not receive any funds from the LSA application this year. Mr. Eby stated he will finish the DCED application and get it submitted.

#### **COAL CENTER PUMP STATION**

He stated he's working with the Turnpike and Penndot on the location of Coal Center pump station. Once he gets that information he'll bring those locations back to council.

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Agrafiotis stated we had passed a resolution last year to join the Mon Valley C.O.G. but Chris Whitlach upon review needs it done by Ordinance instead of by Resolution. Additionally the first year dues will be paid for by the Mon Valley Alliance.

Motion by Encapera/Bittner to advertise the Ordinance joining the Mon Valley C.O.G. duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Glab who voted no.

#### **BANKERS INSURANCE COMPANY QUESTIONNAIRE**

Mr. Agrafiotis stated Shirley sent to him a questionnaire from Bankers Insurance who is TBI Contracting's insurance company requesting the status of the work they did here. Dr. Martin stated we have still not resolved the issue of the sewage line in the police locker room nor the bulletproof glass in the police secretary's office and their a number of issues with the paint

around the building. Jeff Tудay has gone over this with them time after time and nothing happens. Mr. Glab stated Mr. Tудay flushed that line last week to eliminate the odors. Mr. Agrafiotis suggested getting some quotes to finish the work and keep their money.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Difilippo asked how long we've been fooling around with these cameras. Ms. Evans stated since Mr. Buchanan was here. Dr. Martin stated we have had some issues with them but he believes right now the Chief is satisfied with the way they are working but that has not been the case for very long. Mr. Difilippo asked if they are all installed. Dr. Martin stated no the ones that we have paid for have been installed but it's been pay as you go and they still owe us six as per the contract. Mr. Difilippo asked if the Solicitor should send a letter. Mr. Glab stated if these cameras would have all been installed we wouldn't have to pay \$75.00 for the last six cameras to be installed. Mr. Alfano stated Mayor Stetar can get involved and get this resolved.

#### **COMMITTEE HEADS**

Mr. Agrafiotis stated after he's thought about it we should probably do a roll call vote on everyone keeping their department committees.

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to have everyone keep the same committees that they had in 2017 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Petro asked council if they want to cancel the Public hearing for the Zoning Hearing Board on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Glab/Mariscotti to rescind their Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> meeting motion authorizing advertising of the public hearing on Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

#### **RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS**

Mr. Maddix stated the time and place of the next planning commission meeting and said that council should have the minutes of the planning commission's reorganization meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to adjourn into executive session and report back at the next meeting carried with all members present stating aye.