

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, January 12, 2017

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

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Alfano, Mr. Bittner, Mr. Difilippo, Mr. Encapera, Mr. Glab, and Mr. Mariscotti

ABSENCE Mrs. Gutosky and Mayor Weld

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

Mr. Glab added rescind previous motion and replace with new motion regarding a subdivision.

Mr. Alfano stated we will approve the agenda as printed and amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MINUTES

Regular meeting of December 8, 2016

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to approve the December 8, 2016 minutes carried with all members present stating aye.

Continued Meeting of December 19, 2016

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to approve the minutes of the continued meeting of December 19, 2016 carried with all members present stating aye.

SECRETARY'S REPORT –MS. EVANS

Ms. Evans read the accounts payable and account balances as of December 31, 2016

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to approve the secretary/treasurer's report carried with all members present stating aye.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO

ANNOUNCE TRI COUNTY BOROUGH MEETING

Mr. Alfano announced the Tri county Borough meeting will be held in Cokeburg on January 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

GRINDER PUMP REQUEST

Mr. Alfano stated we have a request from Vincent Dentino who is going to build a house and he has requested that the tap in fee be waived since he's going to have the costs of putting a grinder pump in. Mr. Bittner stated the inspection fee will not be waived because we still have to inspect. Mr. Mariscotti stated we haven't always done this with tap in fees. Mr. Glab stated he thinks we have. Mr. Alfano stated it's been so long but he thinks we have waived a couple. Mr. Mariscotti stated Mr. Mohney said he paid \$1,000 or \$1,200 but he's sure he paid something, but it was a reduced amount. Mr. Bittner asked Ms. Evans if she checked the records. She stated she has not pulled the files and looked but was told yes. Mr. Glab stated he is fairly certain that we did and he thinks there were one or two over in the Furlong plan. Mr. Baker stated there are a couple of them over there and it is his understanding those were waived. Mr. Glab asked if the grinder pump will be inspected by our sewer dept. and meet their specifications. Mr. Baker stated we do not request a specific pump because the home owner is purchasing it and maintaining it and if we dictated what they would have to buy then we'd end up doing the maintenance and things on it.

Motion by Difilippo/Encapera to waive the Tap in Fee for Vincent Dentino since he will have to put a grinder pump in duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT- DR. MARTIN

SEWER ISSUE BEAZEL & SECOND

Dr. Martin stated just a brief update. The sewage department has been involved with a problem at the corner of Second & Beazel Street and they've made significant progress on that today and the root of the problem has been corrected and they will be resetting the box tomorrow and finishing up. They did an excellent job getting this done. Doug Baker stated when they tapped that house they ran a pipe to the top of the main and just set it there then they built some kind of barrier contraction instead of installing a saddle they built some kind of brick barrier and with all the work the college did down there their brick barrier collapsed. We went in and installed the saddle, a clean out, and schedule 40 and it goes to the line on Second St.

NATIONWIDE 457 PLAN

Dr. Martin stated a few members of the police department came to see him. They are interested in establishing a 457 plan for the borough employees and he's thoroughly view this with the union rep and the nationwide representative and what they are asking for is council's permission to establish a payroll deduction with no cost to the tax payers, no cost to the borough, they simply want to do a pretax payroll deduction so they can invest that money into something akin to an IRA plan. The gentleman from Nationwide is present this evening and if council has any questions he'll be happy to answer them for you. Mr. Glab asked if this is the same plan Mr. Vitchoff had. Dr. Martin stated no and this has nothing to do with the borough, nothing to do with the retirement, it is essentially the same as if one of our employees wanted to walk across the street and put a few dollars into a savings account, we are just simply withholding it for them and sending the withholdings to Nationwide. Mr. Alfano stated so each contributor will be the owner of their account and the borough won't be the owner of the plan. Mr. Glab asked if they leave service here is it transferable. The Nationwide rep Steven Schmittauer stated absolutely it follows the employee not the employer. He stated it is entirely voluntary and they can choose it or not. Mr. Agrafiotis asked if a prior employee had this same plan. Dr. Martin stated this is nothing like that. Mr. Agrafiotis stated go ahead and pass the motion and if we need a resolution we can ratify it later.

Motion by Encapera/Difilippo to authorize a payroll deduction for those borough employees who wish to participate in the 457 Savings plan duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC HOUSING - MR. GLAB

ZONING UPDATE

Mr. Glab stated they have been out patrolling and have been very busy contacting and citing some people for violations. They were in contact with several individuals this past week who were negligent in maintaining their sidewalks by removing the snow. The Code Enforcement officer indicated to them that this was their final warning and next time they will be cited under the quality of life ordinance. Mr. Glab reminded everyone that if there is a public sidewalk in front of your property you are required to maintain it and have the snow removed within 24 hours from the completion of the snowfall. If you are incapable of doing this due to age or illness in the past the University had a program where the students would come and do it for you but it has to be because of age and or illness not because you choose not to do a little physical labor.

WIDMER ENGINEERING INVOICE #21611399A – CALTECH 7

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to pay Widmer invoice 21611399A in the amount of \$315.00 for Caltech 7 retention pond duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

CODE ENFORCMENT DATA PACKAGE – COMCATES

Mr. Glab stated we budgeted for this in the fall when we were doing the budget and our computers are cable of handling it. He stated it will make the process that much smoother. Dr. Martin stated in your packets you will find more information about this. He stated this was something that Mike has been researching for several months and he feels this package will certainly help us to keep better track of the rental properties and times and dates for inspections and help us to keep better records and better track of our operation. Mr. Alfano stated this is all web based right. Dr. Martin stated this is everything we'll need.

Motion by Glab/ Mariscotti to purchase a code enforcement data package from Comcates in the amount of \$3,600.00 and this is a budgeted item duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

STETAR SUBDIVISION – 683 PIKE RUN DRIVE

Mr. Glab stated there was some confusion there along the way. Mr. Stetar thought that he was waiting for some additional information that was not necessary and his 90 day recording time has lapsed since it was approved October 13, 2016. So John came up with a solution to give him an extension. On Oct. 13th I made a motion and Mr. Difilippo seconded it to approve the subdivision and he would like to rescind that motion.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to rescind the motion of Oct. 13, 2016 approving the Stetar subdivision duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to approve the Stetar subdivision with the condition that the sewage facility planning module would be approved by the Department of Environmental Protection duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC WORKS – MR. MARISCOTTI

STREET DEPT. UPDATE

Ongoing operations at the Street Dept. the guys have been out salting and doing regular maintenance on the vehicles.

WIDMER ENGINEERING INVOICE # 21612478B- \$375.00

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to pay Widmer Engineering invoice #21612478B in the amount of \$375.00 for Skyline Drive washout duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT – GENERATOR

Mr. Mariscotti stated there are two proposals one in for an annual inspection fee of \$1,722.00 and the other one is for service agreement of 5 years \$2,597.92. Dr. Martin stated they will come and do everything and this is for the generator here at this building. He stated we called them out and the service call was going to cost us as much as the service agreement for the year. So they recommended that we adopt the service agreement and we'd be good for the year and it would kind of a wash. Mr. Alfano stated so no matter what if we call them they will come and service the machine. Mr. Mariscotti asked if the inspection agreement is included in the full service agreement. Dr. Martin stated yes it is included. Mr. Bittner stated it would be worth our while to get a maintenance agreement for the generator at the plant also.

Motion by Mariscotti/Bittner to purchase the 5 year maintenance agreement in the amount of \$2,597.92 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER

FIRST AID TRAINING

Mr. Bittner stated we had a first aid update for the police department here and the invoice will be forthcoming.

Motion by Bittner/Glab to pay the invoice for the First Aid update training not to exceed \$500.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ANNOUNCEMENT – CARS BEING BROKEN INTO

Mr. Bittner stated there were 22 cars entered and property taken from them and they were unlocked so please lock your vehicles and do not leave anything of value in your vehicle. It was not an isolated area it was from River hill over to the Harris plan and other areas of the borough. If you see any suspicious people or activity please call 911.

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY

Mr. Alfano asked for a motion to pay the bills.

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

PUBIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO

WIDMER INVOICES

Motion by Difilippo/Glab to pay Widmer Engineering invoice #2161399B-E in the amount of \$725.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to pay Widmer Engineering invoice #21612478A in the amount of \$330.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Difilippo thanked Doug Baker and Don Towner for coming out Sunday morning in freezing weather for a resident who had an issue with the sewer. They took care of the problem and he thanked them for it.

PERSONNEL – MR. ENCAPERA AND MR. MARISCOTTI

Motion by Encapera/Mariscotti to adopt the 2017 Non contractual salary scheduled duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

MAYOR’S REPORT – MR. WELD

Nothing to report

ENGINEER’S REPORT – MR. EBY

Mr. Eby stated the Highland Drive project we did not receive funding from the LSA application we filed. The Coal Center pump stations we did get a response back stating they won’t award the PA Small water grant until March so that is on hold until then.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

GASILL’S JUDGEMENT

Mr. Agrafiotis stated the release for William Gaskill and he has advised us that he is not interested in signing it. If he had an attorney he would understand the purpose of this release agreement. However, he stated he is satisfied since he won’t be able to file any further action due to the way the decision was made. So to put this matter behind us he is asking council to make a motion to pay Mr. Gaskill \$933.02 and the memo should state “full and final payment on docket #CV-44-2016.”

Motion by Mariscotti/Bittner to pay Gaskill his judgement amount of \$933.02 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Glab who voted no.

ALFANO ENT. EASEMENT AGREEMENT

Mr. Agrafiotis stated Mr. Alfano provided him a copy of an easement agreement he’ll need for a property owned by Alfano Enterprises. He has provided a revised plat and he feels it is appropriate that council authorize him to modify it so he can have it recorded. The only provisions he would request is that since Mr. Alfano is involved in the project it would be better if he abstained from this vote and council direct the Vice President of council to sign the utility easement. Mr. Alfano stated he would like to explain what this is about. There is a piece of property that he would have to cross to get an electric service to the garage. It’s about 40’ that is in front of the pump station down on Union Street, but West Penn will not cross anyone’s property without an easement in place. So this easement would allow West Penn to put an electric service to the garage.

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to authorize the Solicitor to modify the existing easement and have it recorded as soon as possible and authorize the Vice President to sign the easement duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Alfano who abstained.

TBI

Mr. Agrafiotis asked Mr. Tудay if he has heard anything else from Ken Kulak or TBI. Mr. Tудay stated he hasn't heard anything since he sent them the final punch list. Mr. Tудay stated he hasn't responded.

RESOLUTIONS

Mr. Agrafiotis stated he has two resolutions that were passed in 2016 and he'll have to speak with Shirley to make sure the numbers are correct. The one was passed on Nov. 10th to ratify the civil service rules and the other was passed on Dec. 19th on the zoning fees.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

Mr. Maddiex stated the Planning Commission met and reorganized and the officers remained the same. The next meeting is on the 31st of January at 6:30. He stated now he is not speaking for the Planning commission he is speaking for himself on this. A question was asked at the Planning Commission meeting what can we do to bring California forward and he's been giving it some thought and he thinks we are headed in the right direction. Last year they approved an overlay district for the downtown district which relaxed some of the regulations, we've completed the comprehensive plan and we're working on the zoning. In and of itself that is not going to change things a lot but it's going to lay the foundation to build on. If we want to increase the population which would justify reasons for businesses to come in we need to put in infrastructure sewer, water, etc. Mr. Vitchoff asked Mr. Maddiex if he is running for office. Mr. Maddiex responded the petitions don't come out yet. Mr. Alfano stated we are a step ahead of you Jim we have a meeting planned tomorrow with the Mon Valley Alliance and the Mon Valley Chamber of Commerce, California University and some members of council to start discussions about how to develop the Valley.

VITO DENTINO

Mr. Dentino asked what the status of the camera in town are. He had heard some rumors that most of them are not working. He's had issues with graffiti on some buildings and the fire escape that Mr. Yablonski owns has been hit three times and we've had it replaced. In all of these cases the cameras should have saw something, but hasn't. Officer Sheehan stated they are all working except one down at the basketball court. Mr. Alfano stated we haven't had them all installed yet and are still owed he thinks 9, Mr. Tудay stated we're owed 5. Mr. Dentino asked for one behind his building and he would pay for the light to go up. He also made a suggestion to have them put on the cable tv channel that would deter crime. Mr. Mariscotti stated that is a great idea. Mr. Dentino stated do you know how many people would be glued to the tv. Mr. Sheehan stated the business in Donora share with the municipalities so the business can watch the borough's cameras and the borough can watch the businesses cameras so we could have someone talk to the Chief down there.

Motion by Bittner/Difilippo to adjourn at 7:30 on carried with all members stating aye.