

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, January 8, 2015, 6:30 pm

President Alfano called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Alfano, Mr. Bittner, Mr. Difilippo, Mr. Glab, Mrs. Gutosky, Mr. Mariscotti, and Mayor Weld

ABSENT: Mr. Encapera

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

The solicitor added Mutual Release and settlement – Elizabeth Potts case
Mr. Alfano added cleaning of the borough building

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to accept the agenda with changes duly carried with all members present stating aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Maddiex stated when council does the assessment on this property they may want to include any other properties at the same time instead of later on adding individual assessments.

MINUTES

Motion by Gutosky/Mariscotti to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of Dec. 4, 2014 duly carried with all members present stating aye.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Dec. 11, 2014 duly carried with all members present stating aye except Mr. Glab who abstained because he wasn't in attendance at that meeting.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to accept the minutes of the Continued Meeting of Dec. 18, 2014 duly carried with all members present stating aye.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – MS. EVANS

Ms. Evans read the accounts payable and account balances for December 31, 2014.

Motion by Bittner/Gutosky to accept the treasurer's report duly carried with all members present stating aye.

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT – ANGEL FUNK

Nothing to report

PRESIDENT'S REPORT –MR. ALFANO

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DEC. 18, 2014

Mr. Alfano stated the executive session of Dec. 18th was to discuss personnel issues and as a matter of fact the same personnel issues we discussed after Monday's meeting and we'll address those later at this meeting tonight.

PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE

Mr. Alfano stated the Planning Commission met on Tuesday and the public hearing has been set for January 27th here at the borough building at 4:30 pm for the overlay district and work has begun on the rest of the comprehensive plan as well. A lot of people called in with their input on different items on the comprehensive plan.

WHARF PROJECT

Mr. Alfano stated he attended a meeting at the DEP today in Pittsburgh to make our application for permit from the DEP to start on the wharf project and as usual it didn't go as we expected it. The project is a little more involved than the DEP wants to see for the General Permit which would be a pretty simple thing in DEP terms. We would have to shorten up the docks, change some of the design, we are bound to meet handicap accessibility issues there that we are bound to meet so we have to do an increased specialized application that will be a joint application

between the Army Corp. of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Protection as well. The review period for the simple application is 45 days and of the course the other grant will be 93 business days so it is going to push things out. We had expectations of having it bid and construction beginning in early spring. Unfortunately that is not going to happen. We are hoping to get some of the infrastructure done there late spring early summer so we don't interfere with the boating season and then in the fall after Labor Day we'll do the rest of the work and try to get it finished up before winter. He stated the project will still be done just a few more hoops we have to jump through.

STREET LAMP REPLACEMENT

Mr. Alfano stated the street lamp replacement has started on Third Street and he asked Mr. Tудay if he's still looking to see how we are going to replace the meters there. Mr. Tудay stated yes.

APPRAISAL – PROPERTY AT WOOD & THIRD ST.

Mr. Alfano stated he has a quote from Merico Lignelli, a real estate appraiser, to appraise on our property on the corner of Third & Wood Street, the former Nautilus building. He stated at some point we anticipate selling this property so we need a value put on it. His cost is \$750.00 and it is a professional service.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to hire Merico Lignelli to appraise the borough property at the corner of Third & Wood Street at a cost of \$750.00 duly carried with all members present voting yes.

CUSTODIAL PROPOSAL FOR BOROUGH BUILDING

Mr. Alfano stated he got two interested parties that submitted a proposal to clean the borough building and he doesn't know if council wants to open them now or have an executive session after to discuss it. Mr. Alfano stated it wasn't bid out or anything. Mr. Agrafiotis stated go ahead and open them. The first one is from Kristie Tудay and the cleaning of the borough bldg. with the borough providing all the supplies and equipment at a rate of \$32.00 and cleaning the holding cell and holding cell restrooms is \$45.00 an hour. The second one is from Melanie's Clean up & Out cleaning service and that is estimating 2 – 5 hour days, Sunday through Thursday, and the rate is \$50.00 per man hour and includes cleaning supplies. She did include a certificate of liability insurance. Mr. Alfano asked council what is their pleasure. Mr. Glab asked if the second one is per man hour. Mr. Alfano stated yes if she brought in someone else then that would be \$100.00 an hour he guesses. Mr. Difilippo stated he thinks we should discuss this further and have a description of exactly what we want them to do. Mr. Alfano stated we can put that on the back burner for now. Mr. Agrafiotis stated none of these services are something that you would have to bid or quote out anyone. Mr. Agrafiotis stated it wouldn't be a contract but it would be done on a time to time basis.

PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB

ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Mr. Glab stated there was \$1,230.00 in deposits from various licenses and inspections from the previous month.

RESIGNATION OF ZONING OFFICER

Mr. Glab stated we received a letter of resignation from Shannon Kratzer effective immediately from his position of Zoning officer of the borough. Mr. Glab stated he would like to thank him for his service.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to accept the resignation of Shannon Kratzer. Mr. Alfano asked him to amend his motion to include Mr. Kratzer returning his borough keys and any other borough property.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to accept the resignation of Shannon Kratzer and notify him to return his keys and any other borough property he may have duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

COLUMBIA GAS

Mr. Glab stated we need to voice our dissatisfaction with Columbia Gas for the patching on various streets in the borough specifically, Kalluran, Harris, & Pennsylvania Ave. Mr. Glab stated they did the patching back in September or early October and they through the cold patch in and rolled it with the back wheels of their back hoe and you can actually still see the indentation of the rear wheels of the machine. Mr. Glab stated we need to make Columbia Gas aware via letter that we do not feel this as acceptable and it needs to be resolved before they open up any other streets in the borough. Mr. Glab stated as soon as the plants open in March or April they need to resolve these issues. Mr. Alfano asked Mr. Tудay who we need to speak to at Columbia Gas. Mr. Tудay stated he thinks Tim Brewer. Mr. Bittner asked if we could also request a meeting with Columbia Gas and council prior to the onset of the spring construction season and ask them to update us throughout their projects as well. Mr. Agrafiotis stated the letter can say that council voted to notify you.

Motion by Glab/Bittner to send a letter to Columbia Gas of council's dissatisfaction with the issues in the Borough duly carried with all members present stating aye.

Mr. Alfano asked Ms. Evans to type it up, Mr. Tудay to provide name and address of who to direct it to.

PUBLIC WORKS – MR. MARISCOTTI

STREET DEPT. UPDATE

Mr. Mariscotti stated the street department is in full winter turn out. We are plowing and salting whether we like it or not.

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER

Nothing to report

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY

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

PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO

Mr. Difilippo stated we need to set some dates to conduct interviews for the borough manager position and engineers. Mr. Difilippo stated we should do the borough manager interviews first. Council set the dates of either January 20th or January 22nd. Ms. Evans will contact the applicants and see which date would work for them. Mr. Difilippo stated to try and make them for one night.

PERSONNEL – MR. MARISCOTTI & MR. ENCAPERA

Mr. Mariscotti stated the TEAM program is Mr. Encapera's interest however we need to appoint a councilmember as a representative.

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to appoint councilman Encapera to be the borough's T.E.A.M Representative duly carried with all members present voting yes.

MAYOR'S REPORT – MR. WELD

Mr. Weld stated we have spoken to Mike Garrow about a K9 and he would like to see someone make a motion so we can proceed with that. Mr. Alfano stated there was a meeting with Mike Garrow, an officer in Uniontown, and he has been a long time police dog trainer and handler and he has offered to the borough to provide, through one of his clients, a police dog at no cost for the animal itself however, the borough would be responsible for the maintenance of the dog, feeding, insurance, and training sessions totaling \$6,000.00. Mr. Alfano asked council if they would like to make a motion and name a handler as well. Mr. Maddiex stated this was not on the agenda but he is in favor of it. Mr. Agrafiotis stated we should handle this under new business since it wasn't added to the agenda

ENGINEER'S REPORT – MR. POUNDS

PAYMENT REQUESTS

Mr. Pounds stated we have a payment request from Mele & Mele for \$16,871.50 leaving a balance on the contract of \$253,465.09.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to pay Mele & Mele request #17 in the amount of \$16,871.50 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes. .

Mr. Pounds stated we also have a payment request from A1 Electric in the amount of \$49,140.00 leaving a contract balance of \$64,860.00.

Motion by Gutosky/Bittner to pay A1 Electric their request #6 in the amount of \$49,140.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

GENERATOR START-UP

Mr. Pounds stated the third thing he has which is not on council's report is they are suggesting that council prepare a check to a company by the name of PALCO in the amount of \$1,060.00. The equipment purchase made for the generator at the sewer plant has approximately \$5,380.00 left on that contract to be paid for start-up on the generator. Mr. Pounds stated that Steve made some calls and it didn't make sense to bring these people in from New Jersey or Ohio when we have local people who will honor the warranties. PALCO is a local company so Steve contacted the generator contractor, Kraft, who agreed to waive the balance of \$5,380.00 for start up and let the local company PALCO come in and do the start up on the generator for \$1,060.00. In essence we're saving \$4000.00. If council is in agreement with cutting that check PALCO can schedule the start-up. Ms. Evans stated that would be for a \$1,000.00 because we are tax exempt so the \$60.00 we wouldn't pay and I will submit a tax exempt form with the payment.

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to pay PALCO \$1,000.00 for initial startup contingent upon Kraft Power signing a release for the balance of their contract in the amount of \$5,400.00 and PALCO honoring the manufacturer's warranty on the generator duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PAYMENT REQUEST – BELLA

Mr. Pounds stated this is also not on council's list. Mr. Pounds stated he received that payment request on the 18th but before we make any sort of payment on this we need to review and settle the items on the punch list. We recommend that Bella's payment request does not get paid until we get those punch items taken care of. They have a bigger request of \$120,961.51 and that will need to be adjusted based on the \$20,000.00 agreement so they will have to adjust that payment request accordingly. Mr. Alfano asked if that was for the paving. Mr. Pounds stated that is for change orders #2-6 and he's not familiar enough with those change orders to answer that. Mr. Pounds stated he will have Von make sure that change order is documented. Mr. Pounds explained that Mr. Leer was unable to be here tonight because he and his family have been very ill this week.

TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE

Mr. Pounds turned the Engineer's report over to Steve Eby. Mr. Eby stated that Xylem has the majority of the plant and they were here a week or so ago and all the equipment has been running ever since that time. We're running as skeleton but it is operational. Duperon came out on the 12th and started up the mechanical screen and that is ready to go. We started the pump station today and that went okay. Next week we're going to fire the centrifuge on Monday and the generator on the 22nd and Trojan will be out on the 27th for the UV. Once that gets fired up that plant can take sewage. We are going to release Mele & Mele, who is bringing in the equipment today, to tie into the Coal Center pump station starting next week. The tanks have enough capacity to hold that flow. He got a hold of A1 and wanted to get an update on the change orders to date so we council can have those. The total of \$11,450.00 in change orders at the plant. Not all were checked and some were pre-existing but between him and Jeff Taday they will verify all of them. The only one he has outstanding is we need to hook-up the Effluent flow meter to the Scadis system because we are required by the DEP to know how much we discharge. Without the scadis system we don't have any way of knowing that. We're going to have to have an electrician wire that up so that should be the only change order we should have upcoming. Mele& Mele's change orders to date we have are a pressure regulator on the water line coming

into the plant, some plumbing for a suspended solids meter. Next week for the Coal Center pump station force main we need to put an air release on that line which wasn't included in the contract. Next week we are going to analyze the flow to the plant. The pre-existing there are three 12" crosses that are in the force main and we've figured out that the rest of the line is 18" and for some reason we put in 12" crossings in three locations. What we need to do is one of them is in the mid force main from the plant to the new plant and right now it is full of clean water so before we tie in the pump station we'd like to get that cross out of the system. The calculation says with each cross you have 860,000 gallons pumped daily through those crosses. So we'd like to get at least that one done so the guys are working in clean water without sewage going through it. With council's approval and he will get a price first, to get that voted on and done then we will shut down the old plant and the transition can take place. Inside the building they've started locking rooms off that are complete so they don't get dirty. He talked to Jeff and he's going to go and look at some furniture next week. We'll get the computers up next week. There are two items that he spoke to Doug about and one is to get the effluent up so we now how much we are discharging, but he's talked to the sales guys on this and he's getting a price of \$2,100.00 to get a chart reporter on there. Doug expressed some interest in having that. Mr. Eby stated that is not a requirement but we can get that installed while we're doing all the data lines. The last issue he has is the Scada system can do a lot of monitoring of the plant but the effluent is not being monitored at all but it has the capability but there is nothing in the system to monitor it at all. So if council wanted to monitor these things, they can add it while they are doing all these hook-ups. You will be able to know what is coming in and how much of capacity your using just be looking at your computer. Mr. Alfano stated why wouldn't we want to know this information from the start it just seems like the common sense thing. Mr. Eby stated he doesn't have any installed at any of the other plants he's done because they are part time operated. Full time operators may want the Scada systems. It's not a requirement it is just something that we can put in if you want to have it. Mr. Glab asked if we would install that system would that then alleviate the possibility that in some point in the future of having a part time operator there. Mr. Eby stated the plant can run itself the only thing you would have to do is monitor the centrifuge and discharge the sludge but it is all automated. Mr. Eby stated by putting in effluent just lets you have another number that you wouldn't have but it has nothing to do with having a full time or part time person there.

Mr. Pounds stated he wants to update Council on something that Mr. Eby mentioned. Those cross T's that we're proposing to replace. Right now your plant is rated at 4.9 millions of gallons per day. Right now from what they are able to see from their calculations is that you have the capacity to ship to the plant 3.6 million gallons per day. Mr. Pounds stated at some point in time we as engineers have to certify that the plant has a certain amount of capacity which is the 4.9. So we have to make up that number somewhere. By replacing these crosses that will give us a big jump along with level adjustments inside the pump station we should be close to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million gallons a day so that gets up to a capacity of 4.4 million gallons a day. The other thing that they are looking at is they are talking with the manufacturers' of those pumps to see if we can trim the impellers or something we can do inside those pumps to get the additional capacity. We still have a little ways to go but we are looking at the least expensive options of doing that first and we are making pretty good headway on that. He thinks those crosses should never have been put in those reducers should have never been put in, you got an 18" line and put it down to a 12" and put in a 12" cross. You have so much turbulence when you are pumping through them that you lose all your energy. So we're putting 90° bends in to get back some of that lost energy. There are three locations where we can do this. We can make up a large capacity just by changing out those three crosses. We're still working on this and will provide you updates as more information becomes available. Mr. Eby stated if we could get council to approve at least the first cross so your men can work in clean water prior to the sewage flowing through it. Mr. Bittner asked Mr. Eby to give an estimate of what one of those cross changeovers would cost. Mr. Eby estimated it not to exceed \$20,000.00. Mr. Agrafiotis stated that too will have to be done under new business.

Mr. Difilippo asked that the chart that Doug wants is that needed or is that just something that makes his job easier. Mr. Eby stated without the chart you can go outside and get the numbers or you can sit at your computer and get it daily if you like. That is one thing he does install at all his plants so charts are generated weekly and so that charts were generated since the system goes online. Mr. Bittner stated it would be a shame to have a state of the art facility and not have this tool at their fingertips for a couple thousand dollars. Mr. Difilippo stated lets address this under new business also.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – MR. AGRAFIOTIS

ORDINANCE #548

Mr. Agrafiotis stated the ordinance has been sent to the County Planning Commission and it will be in the paper this Friday and next Friday for the 27th at 4:30 and he will give the paper a copy of that tomorrow. He has the stenographer ready to go and he stated Mr. Petro will post this property one week prior to the public hearing. Mr. Agrafiotis stated we did meet and there were some changes made to the original ordinance. He spoke to Mackin and they will provide a new zoning map for the public hearing that will show the overlay district.

MUTUAL RELEASE – ELIZABETH POTTS CASE

Mr. Agrafiotis stated he spoke to Mr. Gerber on the Elizabeth Potts case today who also emailed Mr. Bittner and myself a general release settlement that states she will get \$10,000.00 in exchange for signing this release. So we need a motion to enter into this settlement agreement, then Mr. Alfano can sign it tonight so he can get Mr. Gillen and everyone else to sign it.

Motion by Difilippo/Bittner to enter into settlement release agreement in the Elizabeth Potts case duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

DAMAGE OF LIGHT POLE

Mr. Agrafiotis stated that Mr. Tудay sent him some pictures of the light pole that was damaged by the US Food truck so he will be including those along with a letter to their insurance company. They are claiming that the lines were too low but their truck was going down the wrong way in a one way alley was cited and plead guilty.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Difilippo asked if we are supposed to have an outside inspector on every project that goes on in town and if so was there one on this lighting project. Mr. Alfano stated not that he's aware of. Mr. Difilippo stated should there be one on this lighting project. Mr. Alfano stated that is Redevelopment Authority's project but with our money. Mr. Difilippo stated their last project cost us a lot of money. Mr. Tудay stated yea and \$60,000.00 in inspection fees. Mr. Tудay stated all they are doing are changing out lights and they are using the same wiring and stuff so he doesn't think that warrants a private inspector. Mr. Difilippo stated so are you the inspector. Mr. Tудay stated well they are working. It's not like they're doing handicap ramps or curbs and they are a reputable company.

NEW BUSINESS

SNOW REMOVAL

Mr. Glab reminded everyone that you have 24 hours after a snowfall to clear your sidewalks and if not you will be cited and appear in front of the magistrate to resolve that issue and the property owner is held solely responsible for their properties.

Mr. Glab asked Mr. Tудay where we are at the pole replacement of the pole on Third St. extension and Malden Road. Mr. Tудay stated he talked to Mark from A1 and he's supposed to give us a bid that we can submit to the insurance company. We can't find the submittals for that particular pole. He stopped and talked to Penndot and they told him to run down the maintenance shed in Elizabeth. He talked to Mark this morning and he said he would stop there because he was on his way down that way today so he'd get the submittal from the state for that light pole. Then once he gets that he can do a price from that. Mr. Glab stated we are not under any time constraints on this. Ms. Evans stated their insurance company has opened the claim and is waiting on our estimate.

K9 OFFICER

Motion by Mariscotti/Difilippo to accept the K9 dog donated to the borough at no cost from Mike Garrow and to pay the training at a cost of \$6,000.00 to be paid out of Local Share monies duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

There was a Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to appoint Officer Thomas McCarthy to be the K9 handler. Mr. Agrafiotis asked Officer Sheehan, as the union steward, if there is any additional money, services, fees, or costs due Officer McCarthy as the K9 handler. Mr. Sheehan stated no there is not and there used to be a K9 agreement but it didn't have anything to do with fees and

things. Mr. Bittner stated yes and that was never adopted. It is his opinion that that agreement should be written and approved and in place before we inform Mr. Garrow that we are going to take this dog. It needs to be in the agreement how that officer will be paid for training and all the specifics so we don't get bit with that Garcia Act. So we need the solicitor to write that and spell it out specifically and have it as a memorandum of understanding and attached to the contract.

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to appoint Officer Thomas McCarthy to be the K9 handler contingent upon the signed memorandum of understanding, union authorization, and agreement by Officer McCarthy duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

MUNICIPAL BUILDING ADDITION

Mr. Alfano stated he spoke to Mr. Kulak today concerning the borough building addition and since there has been a change in the heating portion of this contract the general contractor is formalizing his two bidders that he's been dealing with and once that is done he will formalized his bond and then they will be starting. Mr. Kulak will be down on day next week to start looking at some furniture because he has a costar vendor that he deals with so we can order furniture for wherever we need it. Mr. Mariscotti asked Mr. Taday if they have a furniture order for the new sewer plant yet. Mr. Taday stated he and Doug are going to Pittsburgh next week to look at furniture and get prices. Ms. Evans asked if they are costar people and Mr. Taday stated he will ask them.

SEWAGE CHARTING SYSTEM

Motion by Difilippo/Mariscotti to purchase the sewer charting system at a cost of \$2,100.00 plus installation at a total cost not to exceed \$2,500.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

REPLACE CROSS T'S

Motion by Difilippo/ Mariscotti to approve the purchase of 90' pipes to change out the cross T's at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ADVERTISE ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to advertise for a Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer using the prior specifications duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Ms. Evans asked what deadline does council want these in by. It was decides by the end of January.

BONDING ROADS

Mr. Bittner asked what we wanted Tom to check on concerning the bonding of the roads. Mr. Bittner asked Tom if we could adjust the cost that we charge for bonding roads. Mr. Agrafiotis stated no that is set by Penndot which is ridiculous because you could never fix a mile of road for the amount they specify.

SIDEWALK/ROAD OPENING PERMITS

Mr. Bittner stated the other thing is the Street/Sidewalk opening ordinance. If the water company starts at one of end of town and has a continuous opening down several blocks it is still one permit cost and we'd like to adjust that according to sq. footage.

DYE TESTING

Mr. Alfano stated that Mr. Baker has done some leg work on a dye testing properties when they change hands and we've seen that we have some properties that may have been separated initially but are back in the sanitary sewer system. Mr. Agrafiotis stated they have given us a copy of the ordinance and Fallowfield actually passed that ordinance and now the authority does them for any homes that are sold and Washington Sewage council that does them for on sewage systems. He stated that Charleroi Authority stated it has been a big help. Mr. Alfano stated we are probably one of the only towns that doesn't require that when properties change hands. Mr. Pounds stated he has seen firsthand that this is helpful. Mr. Vitchoff stated and no-one has spent the amount of money that we have. Mr. Alfano stated Charleroi has spent a lot of money. Mr. Mariscotti asked Mr. Vitchoff if he is saying that we spent too much. Mr. Vitchoff stated yes we've spent a lot over and over again. Mr. Vitchoff stated his point is that no community in this valley has spent what we have spent on sewer/storm water separation and this engineer has only

been here two weeks and he is agreeing with me. Mr. Vitchoff stated he doesn't know why you spent it but you spent it. Mr. Mariscotti asked if we are ahead of the game or not. Mr. Vitchoff stated well he guesses they will find out. Mr. Bittner stated we are not under DEP mandate either and he would rather us spend a little extra up front than have the DEP on our backs.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

JIM MADDIEX

Mr. Maddiex stated he has two things and the first one is the old lamp posts he understands the borough is going to keep those. Mr. Alfano stated yes. Mr. Maddiex stated is there any ownership conflicts since the Community Block Grant money paid for those. Mr. Alfano stated no it was our money. Mr. Bittner stated a few people are interested in buying them. Mr. Maddiex stated the second thing is the planning commission met and reorganized and he read off the officers. Mr. Maddiex stated they will be working on the comprehensive plan this year and hopefully council will like it. Mr. Maddiex stated the changes on the overlay district he agrees with. Mr. Bittner asked Jim why he did report about the Mon Valley Transit funding being restored. Mr. Maddiex stated he didn't get the news but that is something we need to keep an eye on because it affects our budget and the future of the borough.

ADJOURNEMENT

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm