

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, July 10, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

President Alfano called the meeting to order at 6:30 p,

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

ABSENT: Mr. Bittner, Mr. Encapera

Mr. Bittner arrived at 6:45 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AUDITOR'S REPORT

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Bittner added Engineer for Technology Drive
and bond for Borough Manager

Mr. Alfano added comments for Recreation Authority

Mr. Alfano stated the agenda is approved as typed and amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA

There were no public comments on the agenda at this time.

MR. ENCAPERA – PROCLAMATIONS

The proclamations were not presented in Mr. Encapera's absence.

MINUTES

CONTINUED MEETING OF June 5, 2014

Mr. Mariscotti made the motion to approve the minutes of the continued meeting of June 5, 2014. Mrs. Gutosky seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present stating aye.

REGULAR MEETING JUNE 12, 2014

Mr. Difilippo made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 12, 2014. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present stating aye.

CONTINUED MEETING – JUNE 30, 2014

Mr. Mariscotti made the motion to approve the minutes of the continued meeting of June 30, 2014. Mr. Difilippo seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present stating aye.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – MS. CLANCY

Ms. Clancy read the accounts payable and account balances as of June 30, 2014.

Mr. Difilippo made the motion to approve the Secretary's Report. Mrs. Gutosky seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members stating aye.

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER – ANGEL FUNK

The Junior Council Person was not present.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO

2014 LIQUID FUELS PAVING PROJECT

Mr. Alfano stated that the 2014 Liquid Fuels Paving Project was tabled at the last meeting. The Solicitor will set up a meeting with Bella and this Council Meeting will be continued to resolve this issue.

TRANSFER BOND PROCEEDS TO GENERAL FUND - \$13,687.88 FOR CM SERVICES

President Alfano called for a motion to transfer Bond Proceeds to the General fund in the amount of \$13,687.88 to pay CM Services invoices # 14-064 and # 14-066. Mr. Mariscotti made the motion and Mr. Defilippo seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion called with all members voting yes.

PIRMA RENEWAL (PROPERTY & LIABILITY COVERAGE) – 8/1/14 TO 8/1/15 - \$119,385

President Alfano called for a motion to pay PIRMA Renewal. Mr. Difilippo made the motion to pay PIRMA Renewal, Property and Liability Coverage, August 1, 2014 to August 1, 2015 in the amount of \$119,385.00. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mrs. Gutosky questioned if

this is paid in a one time payment. Mr. Alfano felt it was a one time payment. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION – 8/1/14 TO 8/1/15 - \$94,366

President Alfano called for a motion to pay the Workers' Compensation. Mr. Mariscotti made the motion to pay Workers' Comp (Higbee Insurance), from August 1, 14 to August 1, 2015 in the amount of \$94,355.00. Mr. Glab seconded the motion. Mr. Glab asked if this is through Higbee Insurance. President Alfano stated yes. On a roll vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

RECREATION AUTHORITY UPDATE

Mr. Alfano stated that the Bud Greb League Games have been going great. The new score board is a definite advantage. A couple lights need replaced.

RIVERFEST - \$1,000.00 DONATION

President Alfano reported that the Riverfest is coming up, August 18, 2014 and the Recreation Authority is asking that council donate \$1,000.00, the same as last year to help defray the expenses. Mr. Mariscotti make the motion to donate \$1,000.00 to the Recreation Authority for the Riverfest. This is to be paid from the LSA monies. Mr. Difilippop seconded the motion. Under discussion Mr. Difillippo asked if there would be bike races. President Alfano stated no. Last year there were canoe races but there were finished early. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

MR. GLAB

ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

There are ongoing inspections for the rental licenses. They are doing the follow ups that Mr. Leer of Fayette Engineering will talk about on some of the blighted buildings.

CERTIFICATION CLASSES

Mr. Alfano stated Mr. Kratzer just discovered this class coming up in the Fall so Mr. Alfano had it put in the packets at the last minute so all of Council would be able to look at it. Mr. Alfano stated it would be another certification for him. There were no fees listed.

WELD RENTAL HOUSING FEE REFUND - \$60.00

Mr. Glab reported that there was a fire at 313 First St., a rental property owned by Mr. Weld. Prior to this they had paid their rental housing fees in the amount of \$60.00 for the year. The house has since been demolished. Therefore Mr. Glab made the motion to refund the rental housing fees in the amount of \$60.00 to Mr. Weld. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

MR. MARISCOTTI

Street Department Update

Mr. Mariscotti stated the Street Department's 800 truck would be going to Hill International for repair of the clutch. It does not have to be towed.

Mr. Mariscotti asked Mr. Tудay to speak with Stephanie Whitlatch about the ADA ramps to find out if the borough could wait a year after paving to put them in and if liquid fuel money can be used to repair them.

WATER SERVICE – ROTARY PARK

Mr. Alfano stated it has been discussed through Recreation about getting water to Rotary Park. He asked if there is water service that goes past there. Mr. Tудay stated there is sewage there, a tap and forced main. The Recreation Authority is interested in getting water there.

Mr. Alfano inquired about obtain a digital recorder. Mr. Buchanan stated he has gathered all the information along with a picture of the object to be purchased from a CoStar vender.

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER

LSA GRANT – TECHNOLOGY DRIVE

Mr. Bittner stated the LSA Grant was received for Technology Drive. The Borough is also putting towards this project along with Redevelopment. The Borough is also going for monies from the Appalachian Regional Grant. Occupants of Technology have been complaining about the condition of that road.

ENGINEERING FEE FOR TECHNOLOGY DRIVE

Mr. Bittner stated the Borough agreed to the engineering fee for Technology Drive. The Redevelopment Authority would like the engineer by Fall and they are working on extra funding from the Marcellus. Mr. Bittner made the motion for Council to give the Redevelopment Authority the right to advertise for bid for the engineering design for reconstruction of Technology Drive in an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00. Mr. Difilippo seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Glab asked if an engineering study has a finite life or does it good for perpetuity. Mr. Leer of Fayette Engineering stated the findings could change if the regulations change, that the study is based on. Mr. Glab then asked if the Appalachian Regional Grant doesn't come through and an engineering study is done, who is responsible for the unfunded portion of the project. Mr. Bittner felt the Borough would because the road does need attention. Mrs. Gutosky stated they said the study would be between \$45,000.00 and \$55,000. Mr. Alfano stated if the cost is higher, amend the motion. Mr. Buchanan noted that this does not cover all of Technology Drive. Mr. Alfano stated this covers up to Rose Plastic. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members present voting yes.

BOROUGH MANAGER – BOND

Mr. Bittner stated according to Ordinance No. 511, the Borough Manager is to procure a bond which the Borough will pay for. Mr. Bittner made the motion that the Borough Manager, obtain a bond in the amount of \$50,000.00. Mr. Buchanan stated he has contacted other Borough Managers and Township Managers and asked what is in their contracts. He stated there is employee insurance and also employee bonds. These are two entirely different things. Mr. Buchanan already has employee insurance. All employees have insurance up to \$100,000.00. The difference is the insurance is automatically paid so each employee is automatically covered. The bond is entirely different from the insurance in that by receiving a bond you are making the pledge if there is a claim against X amount of the money, the Borough can sue you personally. There would be the insurance for \$100,000 and the secondary bond would be up to \$50,000 to sue you personally. He contacted them and looked over their contracts, from the Borough Managers from Charleroi, Donora and Peters Township. Most of them have \$25,000 to \$50,000. For the most part Borough Managers don't handle checks. Mr. Alfano asked the cost. Mr. Buchanan stated he contacted the Charleroi Borough manager and he gave the name of the company that their insurance and bonds are through. He contacted at least three. They are going to mail him the information based on \$50,000. Mr. Glab seconded the motion. Mr. Alfano stated the Borough will pay for a bond of \$50,000.00. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members present voting yes.

THE RIVER TOWN PROGRAM – “MEET THE LENDERS”

Mr. Bittner received a brochure from the River Town Program. At the Point Marion Fire Hall, on July 31, 200 with registration at 8:30 a.m., there will be a program called “Meet the Lenders.” Mr. Bittner would leave the brochure with Ms. Clancy and if anyone is interested, they can contact her.

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Mrs. Gutosky made the motion for payment of the regular monthly bills. Mr. Difilippo seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting yes.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF \$4,352 FOR MATCH FOR STATE OPERATING FOR THE MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Mrs. Gutosky made a motion for authorization of a payment of \$4,352.00 for the Borough's match for State Operating for the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority. This is paid yearly. Mr. Glab seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

AUTHORIZE SIGNING THE RESOLUTION PLEDING \$4,352.00 FOR THE 2015 MID MON VALLEY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Mrs. Gutosky made a motion to authorize signing of the resolution pledging \$4,352.00 for the Mid Mon Valley Transit Authority. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Agrafiotis asked that Ms. Evans give him the next ordinance number. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

**PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO
TAP IN LETTERS**

Mr. Difilippo asked about the tap in letters. Mr. Agrafiotis stated the letter was done. Mr. Difilippo asked that he get the letter to Ms. Evans so she could mail them out.

SEWAGE LATE FEE

Mr. Difilippo would get an update from Ms. Evans regarding the sewage late fee of ten percent and Council will work to release that amount of late fee.

**PERSONNEL – MR. MARISCOTTI
BOROUGH MANAGER CONTRACT**

Mr. Mariscotti asked the Solicitor where he was with the Borough Manager's contract. Mr. Agrafiotis stated the draft is done.

**MAYOR'S REPORT – MR. WELD
SAI FARM HOUSE**

Mr. Weld stated that the SAI Farm House is open and it is beautiful.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT – MR. LEER
PROGRESS REPORT**

Mr. Leer stated that the sewage plant is progressing. The storage building is essentially completed, the municipal service building superstructure is 70% installed, the UV channel equipment has been set, installed air piping in SSBR & digester tanks, completed directional drill for effluent piping and the general contractor performed some of the site landscaping and planted trees. The electrical contractor placing conduit to facilitate activities of general contractor.

PAYMENT REQUEST MELE & MELE & SONS – ESTIMATE #11 - \$431, 902.83

Mr. Leer stated there is a payment request from Mele and Mele and Sons, request #11 in the amount of \$431,902.83. Mr. Mariscotti made the motion and Mr. Difilippo seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

PAYMENT REQUEST – A 1 ELECTRIC – REQUEST #1, \$33,480.00

Mr. Leer stated there is a payment request from A 1 Electric, the electrical contractor, request #1, in the amount of \$33,480.00. Mr. Difilippo made the motion and Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

PEACH ALLEY SANITARY SEWER PROJECT

Mr. Leer stated regarding Bella Enterprises on Peach Alley, the project is on hold awaiting resolution of certain matters. Sanitary Sewer is completed, all but type seven inlet at Strawberry Way and Peach Alley and the paving of trench is completed on all areas except Peach Alley between Fourth and Fifth Street.

GIS PROJECT

Regarding the GIS Project, Mr. Leer is working with staff to vet mapping, conducting supplemental field survey as required and are coordinating the installation of the reader software and mapping files. Mr. Glab asked if this system would utilities, such as gas lines. Mr. Leer stated just sewage lines because the Borough is not responsible for gas lines. The gas company is responsible for their lines using the One Call process.

BLIGHTED PROPERTIES

Mr. Leer stated the last two blighted property inspection, that were completed are 922 Green St. and Pike Run Drive. The reports have been forwarded to the zoning staff to take appropriate actions.

Mr. Alfano asked if the boxes have been open and inventoried at the sewage plant. Mr. Leer stated they have but are not done 100 percent complete inventory

SOLAR PANNELS

Mr. Leer spoke to Mele & Mele and they stated it is not possible to put solar panels in this building. They would have had to know that when the building was designed. Right now it is designed to standard code, not to support the panels.

SMOKE TEST LETTER

Mr. Leer will give spread sheet and letter to Ms. Evans regarding the smoke test unless Council wants Fayette Engineering to mail those out. Mr. Difilippo directed Mr. Leer to give the information and letter to Shirley to mail out

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – MR. AGRAFIOTIS

ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 544 – UPDATING ICC PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE

The Solicitor stated that last Thursday the ad appeared in the Valley Independent Paper for Ordinance No. 544, Adopting the 2012 Edition of the International Property Maintenance Code. Mr. Difilippo made the motion to adopt Ordinance 544. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Glab stated it is written in the manner that as the code is adopted whether every two year or three that this ordinance reflects in some manner that the Borough go by the most current. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he put in the ordinance “any amendments thereto” but Mr. Melenyzer is of the opinion that a separate ordinance would have to be done. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members voting yes.

DRAFT ORDINANCE ON UPDATING THE TOWING ORDINANCE

Ordinance No. 545 amending Ordinance No. 459, this changes that before the owner of a towing business had to be a resident of the Borough but now is branching out to abutting municipalities. The minimum amounts of the insurances were double, from \$300,000.00 to \$600,000.00 for liability and from \$15,000.00 to \$300,000.00 for property. Mr. Agrafiotis passed this ordinance out for everyone to review.

DRAFT ORDINANCES ON SNOW AND GRASS REMOVAL

Proposed Ordinance No. 546, updates three grass ordinances and two snow removal ordinances. The solicitor combines these into one and put new language and stiffer penalties in the new ordinance. This is a draft for everyone to review and comment on.

DYE TEST SAMPLE

Mr. Agrafiotis circulated a Dye Test sample at the last meeting and asked if anyone had any comments or questions on this. Mr. Alfano stated this would be further reviewed.

MR. DENTINO'S DEED

Mr. Agrafiotis will be sending out for Mr. Dentino's review, the deed and once he approves it is hoped to avoid the kind of subdivision problem that the County could give. There are provisions where they will give you a pass if the municipality sends a letter. The deed does not have to be recorded necessarily. The contract is a deal once both parties sign.

BOROUGH MANAGER – MR. BUCHANAN BOROUGH AFFAIRS SUMMARY

Mr. Buchanan stated that the end of June brought the sixth month financial structure so he and Mrs. Gutosky are going to go back and look and see where the Borough is in reference to budget verses actuals. There are some very nice surprises over the last four or five years. First of all a purchasing procedure has implemented which is stringently abided by. By using Costar vendors and requiring at least two quotes for each thing the Borough is saving 17 to 18%. Mr. Buchanan has negotiated a contracts with the phone company, Armstrong that will save between \$5,5000 \$7,000 per year. Analysis of the police department and the zoning office and each of them have already exhibited some of the ways of looking over the last five years and trying to find the way to steer the ship rather than sitting seaworthy and landing ashore. Along with that we are 594% up in citations and income from violations over last year. They are very seriously enforcing these. There is tremendous compliance and you will notice when driving around that people are mowing their lawns and taking care of the things that they are expected to do so. There are some areas where no amount of citations will provide compliance. So the staff is systematically getting out there and getting these citations done and making things look the way they need to. One of the other things was a meeting with council people and recently hired two full time officers. So recently when we looked at the budget we were able to understand the money was already there. Since that time what we have seen is that regular salaries have gone up 17.5% and overtime has gone down by 17.8% and that is more than a 36% change for the betterment of the finances of the Borough. So Mr. Buchanan is very pleased to see that we were able to take this information that we are getting and actually use it driving forward to make good financial decisions.

The Olympic Spa Building demolition people contacted Mr. Tудay regarding a place to store their equipment.

The camera situation in the Borough has been discussed for some time for public safety. The chief and I actually went out and looked at the systems, identified the company that is most effective and had a specialist came in. Mr. Alfano stated the system is amazing. The Borough has been talking about the potential to get the downtown area cameraed and it was always cost prohibitive because it had to be hard wired and other issued the Borough could not get around. Now everything has a radio control and with three or four strategically placed cameras the whole downtown area can be monitored. These cameras have a PTZ capability which is point, turn and zoom. They are very high definition. The gentleman showed on his cell phone what was going on in another town. A face or license plate could be zoomed in on. The technology is amazing and the price is not near what was anticipated with the other systems. Mr. Alfano would like a quote on cameraing of the downtown area because he felt that for a very reasonable price this could have this in place in the early fall. The new sewage facility needs cameras, not just from the prospective of crime but weather and emergencies and parks and recreation. So we are using a Google map and creating positions.

ROTARY PARK

Recently the Quakers came into Rotary Park, and spent four full days and did really an amazing job. Originally, Borough staff and other volunteers went in and cut trees.

EGOV

Mr. Buchanan stated each council member has a quote for Egov.

Mr. Bittner made the motion that the Borough pays for the final set up of the Egov system in the amount of \$1,894.88. Mr. Glab seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Bittner made the motion to pay the E-Gov registration and subscription, of \$15.00 per month per person for the entire year. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Glab asked how soon the borough could use this system. Mr. Buchanan stated this system was effective yesterday.

OLD BUSINESS

DIGITAL TRANSCRIBER

Mr. Glab made the motion to authorize the Borough Manager to purchase a digital transcriber from the CoStar Program at a price not to exceed \$1,000.00. Mr. Gutosky seconded the motion. On a roll call vote motion carried with all members present voting yes.

DEMO SPECS

Mr. Difilippo stated when the Borough puts a property out for bid demo specs are included. He then asked if demo specs are given when an owner of property obtains a permit to demo. Mr. Bittner stated he was told that there was another structure burned down in the community and he knows if the Fire Department wants to burn down a structure for training, you can't believe the amount of red tape the fire department has to go through. Mr. Petro stated after a Zoning Certificate is issued, the person has to go to McMillen for a Demo Permit and he does not know if they have specs through the state. Mr. Difilippo stated he is just wondering why the Borough has to spend a lot more money to rip a building down than private citizens. Mr. Alfano stated that McMillen inspects the property after town down.

MATSKO PROPERTY

Mr. Glab stated the Borough it a snag with the Matsko property on High St. and a certified appraisal has to be done by Lignelli's to proceed with this in the event that the same thing would occur with this property that did on Second St. Mr. Glab made the motion to have Lignelli's organization do a certified appraisal on the building not to exceed \$500.00. Mr. Mariscotti seconded the motion. Under discussion, Mr. Agrafiotis if this is the property? Mr. Alfano stated wanted to give to the Borough. Mr. Bittner stated the Borough it is to the point where everything has been exhausted under the Zoning Ordinance to get the property owner to take care of that piece of property. Mr. Petro stated that is true. Mr. Difilippo stated everyone will feel that if they have a crappy piece of property they will not do anything under California Borough tears it down at the tax payer's expense. He then asked if anything can be done to these people. Mr. Petro stated a notice of violation through property maintenance. Mr. Difilippo does not want this to take a year. Mr. Glab rescinded the motion so that more research could be done and Mr. Mariscotti rescinded his second.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

MARQUELL MARCELLAS ATKINSON

Mr. Atkinson gave all members of Council an Order from the Court of Common Pleas dated April 16, 2014, that granted him the return of his firearm. He questioned the fact being his firearm was returned but he has yet to be able to obtain his license.

JIM MADDIEX

Mr. Maddiex stated the Planning Commission is doing the Comprehensive Plan, the next meeting is August 5, 2014 and asked if Council would be obtaining grants for the Comprehensive Plan to help with financing.

Mr. Maddiex read in the paper that California Borough is receiving \$100,615 from Act 13. He saw in the budget that there is 149,490.70 does that include what the Borough is getting or is that with the new amount added on.

Mr. Maddiex reminded everyone that California's Community Picnic in Kenny would be on July 23, 2014.

Mr. Alfano stated this meeting would be continued to July 24, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Alfano stated Council would now adjourn to an Executive Session.