

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, October 13, 2016

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

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

ABSENCE: Mr. Bittner and Mr. Mariscotti and Mayor Weld

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

Mrs. Gutosky added Solicitor's bills

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Maddiex suggested using the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for demolition and work on the trail at Rotary Park but he would put demolition higher on the list

ALAN BENYAK

Mr. Benyak addressed council and stated is he the democratic nominee for the State House of Representatives. He continued to explain what he would do for California and surrounding communities.

MINUTES

Regular meeting of September 8, 2016

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

Special Meeting of September 19, 2016

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 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 September 30, 2016

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – MR. ALFANO

MACKIN ENGINEERING INVOICE

Mr. Alfano stated we have an invoice from Mackin Engineering # 43856 in the amount of \$1,468.19 for work they've done on the zoning update and comprehensive plan.

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to pay Mackin Engineering invoice # 43856 in the amount of \$1,468.19 duly carried with all members present voting yes.

LENON, SMITH & SOULERET ENGINEERING INVOICE

Mr. Alfano stated we have a bill from our consulting engineers on the sewer and pump station issues and that who we met with prior to this meeting. The amount of their invoice is \$6,225.00.

Motion by Glab/Gutosky to pay Lenon, Smith, & Souleret Engineering's invoice in the amount of \$6,225.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING (CDBG)

Mr. Alfano stated the amount of the 2017 funding will be 81,400.00 and we need to meet with Kerry Fox very soon to establish and begin a project. Dr. Martin stated Mr. Fox was in and stated he spoke with Kerry and will be sharing those with council in the upcoming days.

GHOORAY EASEMENT

Mr. Alfano stated he had a meeting with the Ghooray family and there is strip of land at the end of town between borough property and Rotary Park and we would like to obtain an easement for safe passage to the trail along the creek to Rotary Park and the stream area. They are considering it now and hopefully we will be able to come up with an easement acceptable by all parties.

PUBLIC HEARING – COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Mr. Alfano stated we had a public hearing prior to this meeting and it was convened by Mr. Agrafiotis and we had some public comments but nothing that was detrimental to the plan itself so he feels that if it is council's pleasure he will entertain a motion to pass a resolution to accept the new Comprehensive Plan for California Borough. Mr. Agrafiotis read the resolution.

Motion by Encapera/Difilippo to approve Resolution 16-005 adopting the Comprehensive Plan of California Borough duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

HAYES LINE SHIFT

Mr. Alfano referred this to Dr. Martin. Dr. Martin stated he has been in touch with Mr. Agrafiotis about this and he was looking at the assessed value of the property and Dr. Hayes was in yesterday and reiterated that he is willing to pay the \$1,200.00 to get this matter resolved. He stated he left it with Tom beyond that. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he knows Mr. Lignelli's bill was \$500.00 and Widmer's bill was to be the difference between \$500.00 and \$1,200.00 if he understood it. Mr. Eby stated he thinks the bill has been submitted to the borough. Ms. Evans stated that is correct it is in Mrs. Gutosky's bill folder. Mrs. Gutosky stated it is and the amount is \$1,800.00. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he will review this with council and make a determination.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – DR. MARTIN

Dr. Martin stated he has no actionable items this evening but has a few informational updates he would like to provide to council.

MEN POSING AS WEST PENN POWER EMPLOYEES

He stated we have received thus far this week four complaints about two gentlemen in a white van going door to door to select individuals representing themselves as West Penn Power employees and they are trying to get into houses. The police department has been apprised of this situation and are watching for this on all patrols and we are encouraging any citizen who is approached at their home to know that West Penn vehicles are clearly marked and all West Penn employees carry an identification credential, a badge. Do not let anyone in to your home and if you are approached and they cannot provide the identification credentials lock your door and call the police immediately.

ATTORNEY NEWCOMER – RESEARCHING DEEDS

Dr. Martin stated Attorney Newcomer is still researching the chain of ownership on the Wyatt Park parcel and I may need to talk to council about the condition of that parcel down there and some concerns that have arisen about erosion and land sliding on that hill. He stated we may not want to take formal ownership of that parcel right now but we will discuss that more as we get additional information.

LED STREET LIGHTS

Dr. Martin stated he has been informed by West Penn Power that their subcontractor are moving into the borough to begin the process of changing over the old sodium and mercury vapor overhead street lighting to the much more efficient Led lighting. He believes he saw a couple of the crews up on Malden Road today.

He is happy to report that he and Mr. Taday were able to get the lights on Wood Street alongside the Rite Aid are now working as they should be.

PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. GLAB

CODE/ZONING UPDATE

Mr. Glab stated Mike is down to 7 properties not yet inspected or paid fees for rental housing licenses and he is in the process of tracking them down and filing the necessary paperwork in the

event they do not comply. Mr. Glab stated he has filed several citations at the Magistrate's Office for various violations.

SUBDIVISIONS

PORTER SUBDIVISION – 190 CALIFORNIA DRIVE

Mr. Glab referred these to Mr. Petro. Mr. Petro asked Mr. Agrafiotis to comment on these. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he reviewed both of these with Mr. Petro today and he believes they should be conditionally approved as long as the changes that are noted in Mr. Eby's two letters on these subdivisions are addressed. Mr. Petro stated as far as the Porter's subdivision Mrs. Porter is in attendance tonight and he will go over the changes that are needed on the subdivision with her and they will comply so it should be ready to go here shortly. Mr. Petro stated he would like to have the Porter subdivision at 190 California Drive conditionally approved upon the conditions submitted by Widmer Engineering's letter dated Oct. 6, 2016. Mr. Glab asked Mrs. Porter if she is in agreeance with all the conditions set forth on that memo. Mrs. Porter stated she has not seen the memo but he explained them to me.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to conditionally approve the Porter's subdivision contingent upon the Porter's complying with all the points in the memo that John Petro provided dated Oct. 8, 2016 and Widmer Engineering's letter dated Oct. 6, 2016 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

STETAR SUBDIVISION – PIKE RUN DRIVE

Mr. Petro stated as far as the Stetar subdivision he did a review of it and has no problems with it. He sent it to Steve Eby of Widmer Engineering today and he added two minor changes which probably don't even need to be changed; on the plat it shows acreage of .457 acres and their application shows a larger piece of ground. He stated he can have them change the application and that's no big deal. The other one is the scale is off and should be 1" to a 100'. Mr. Petro stated because of the size of the subdivision it wouldn't make sense to make it 1" to 100' so he thinks they can keep it the way it was submitted. Mr. Petro asked council to make a motion to approve the Stetar subdivision conditioned upon the application being changed to correct the actual acreage as stated on the plat. Mr. Agrafiotis stated what about the monument descriptions that Steve had in his letter that should part of the condition also. Mr. Petro stated they are existing lots that are sitting there and this is a consolidation plan. Mr. Agrafiotis stated if council is okay with that then he will go along with it. Mr. Petro stated he has two parcels next to each other and he is just combining them into one lot he is not adding additional property he's just consolidating two parcels that he owns into one parcel.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to conditionally approve the Stetar subdivision providing that they change the application to reflect the actual acreage duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Glab thanked the Planning Commission for their diligent work on the comprehensive plan.

PUBLIC WORKS – MR. MARISCOTTI

Dr. Martin stated he has his material to present

STREET DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Dr. Martin referred council to Mr. Taday's weekly reports for that.

REQUEST FROM STREET COMMISSIONER – PESTICIDE LICENSE

Dr. Martin stated as a public municipality we are required to have someone in the borough certified in integrated pest management programs. In order for him to maintain that certification he has to take continuing education classes each year and some of them are core classes. Davies tree service is sponsoring a group of trainees from nearby municipalities so he's asking for a motion to allocate \$300.00 for the street commissioner to attend Integrated pest management. Mrs. Gutosky asked if this is an overnight training. Dr. Martin stated it is two days and it is online but they do have a couple meetings they have to attend.

Motion by Encapera/Difilippo to allocate \$300.00 for the Street commissioner to attend an Integrated Pest management class duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PUBLIC SAFETY – MR. BITTNER

Dr. Martin stated he has some of his report items as well

POLICE CONTRACT

Dr. Martin stated council was presented a copy of the final negotiated agreement between the Borough and the Teamsters representing the police department. He stated the contract was ratified by the police department and at this time he is respectfully requesting that council vote to adopt the final Bargaining agreement between the California Borough Police and California Borough.

Motion by Difilippo/Encapera to approve the five year, 2017- 2021, Collective Bargaining Agreement between the California Borough Police and California Borough duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PARKING MATTER NEAR AMBULANCE BUILDING

Dr. Martin stated we have been contacted several times by the Washington County Housing Authority because some of the people working at the ambulance are parking in an area that impedes access to a handicap ramp into the Riverview housing facility. On the recommendation of the parking enforcement person he is asking for permission from council to designate the two parking places at the end of Wood Street, closest to the railroad tracks and river as Ambulance Personnel parking. We will simply move the signs that are already existing and then remove the meters on those two spaces.

Motion by Glab/Encapera to designate the last two stalls on Wood Street closest to the railroad tracks as ambulance personnel parking only duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

TREES NEAR GALUPPO'S ON SCHOOL STREET

Dr. Martin stated there are large Northern Ash trees there that are posing a harmful threat if they would fall. He is seeking council's authorization to see that those trees are safely taken down. Mr. Alfano stated he believes Dave Arnold's tree service gave us a cost of \$300.00. A resident out there went to Penndot first thinking the trees are on their right of way but Penndot explained to her that Penndot is only responsible from curb to curb because we are a borough and they are not responsible for anything in the right of way.

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to have Arnold's Tree service remove the trees near Galuppo's on School Street at a cost not to exceed \$300.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

Dr. Martin announced that the Halloween parade will take place on Wednesday, October 26th. Line up at 6:00 at the public library and parade begins at 6:30.

TRICK OR TREAT

Trick or treat will be on Saturday, October 29th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY

MONTHLY BILLS

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

SOLICITOR'S BILL - \$4,305.05

Motion by Gutosky/ Encapera to pay the Solicitor's bill with the breakdown being Administrations - \$1,875.30, Zoning - \$2,286.75 and the Sewer fund - \$143.00 for total bill of \$4,305.05 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

BANK ACCOUNTS

Motion by Gutosky/Glab to move the Fire Escrow account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to move the Erdely Fire Escrow account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Gutosky/Glab to move the Act 13 Gas well bank account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to move the Capital Reserve Gaming Revenue bank account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to move the Bond Proceeds bank account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to move the Sewer fund Checking bank account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to move the Sewer Fund Maintenance Fee bank account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Gutosky/Glab to move the Pennvest Storm water bank account from PNC to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

CHECK SCANNER

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to acquire a check scanner from First National Bank for use of in house sewer bill collection duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ON LINE BILL PAY

Motion by Gutosky/Difilippo to proceed changing online bill pay from plgit to First National Bank duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mrs. Gutosky announced that we will have a budget workshop on October 24th at 6:00 pm

PUBLIC HEALTH – MR. DIFILIPPO

WIDMER INVOICES

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to pay Widmer Invoice # 21608228 (A-C) in the amount of \$3,955.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to pay Widmer Invoice # 21609331 (A-F) in the amount of \$7,855.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PROPERTIES POSTED FOR WATER TERMINATION

Mr. Difilippo announced that properties were posted and five water terminations took place.

PERSONNEL – MR. ENCAPERA AND MR. MARISCOTTI

Mr. Encapera announced that next weekend is homecoming and hopes everyone comes out and takes part in the festivities.

Mr. Encapera announced that the polling place for precinct 1 and 2 is back here at the Municipal Bldg. and it's going to be an intense and exciting election so make sure you come here to vote.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Nothing to report

ENGINEER'S REPORT – MR. EBY

RESOLUTION TO SIGN PA SMALL WATER & SEWER GRANT

Motion by Difilippo to authorize President Alfano to sign the Resolution to apply for the PA Small Water Grant duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

Mr. Eby stated we also need a letter supporting the Coal Center pump station project and guaranteeing the 15% match. Mr. Eby stated the match would be around \$45,000.00.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to authorize a letter of support and commitment for a 15% match on the Coal Center Pump station project duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

ADVERTISE 537 PLAN 30 DAY REVIEW PERIOD

Mr. Eby stated we need to advertise the 537 Plan 30 day review period for the Highland Drive project.

Motion by Difilippo/Gutosky to advertise the 30 day review period for the revised 537 Plan duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

SEWER PLANT UPDATE

Mr. Eby stated the pump station phase monitor is acting up again so he called both the electrician and power company and we're going to try and figure out why the phase monitor is tripping. The power company will put a chart recorder inside the station.

PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Eby stated we're proceeding on getting the grant for the Highland Drive project and we've completed the Coal Center pump station design for the PA Small water & sewer grant.

SOLICITOR REPORT – MR. AGRAFIOTIS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Agrafiotis requested an executive session following this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business at this time

NEW BUSINESS

RENTAL LICENSE ORDINANCE

Mr. Glab stated that Mr. Petro brought it to his attention that the rental license ordinance needs updated.

Motion by Glab/Difilippo to authorize the solicitor to review and make the necessary changes to bring it up to current standards duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

Mr. Maddix stated the Planning Commission will meet November 1st and the 29 and will not meet in December. He encouraged everyone to get out and vote.

Mr. Alfano stated he thinks it would be appropriate at this time to ask council to approve a resolution that we name the 14th day of October President Geraldine Jones Day for the Borough of California in light of the fact that she will be installed as the 7th President of California University tomorrow.

Motion by Glab/Encapera to adopt a resolution proclaiming tomorrow as Geraldine Jones Day in California Borough duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

The camera man for the Cal U Tv asked if there is a way to obtain a parking space for a day or so. Mr. Alfano suggested he speak to the Police Department and see what the options are.

President Alfano stated council will adjourn into an executive session.