

Regular Meeting of California Borough Council, April 8, 2021

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

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Alfano, Mr. Bittner, Mr. Glab, Mrs. Gutosky, Mr. Maddiex, Mr. Mariscotti, and Mr. Beckinger

ABSENCE: Mr. Difilippo, Mayor Stetar

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Bittner added the Computer Guys Invoice -\$837.50

Sidewalk repairs moved to Mr. Bittner's agenda

Dr. Martin waiving of fees on the street opening and the zoning permit for pavilion project.

President Alfano stated the agenda stands as printed and amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No comments at this time

MINUTES

Motion by Mariscotti/Maddiex to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 11, 2021 carried with all members present stating aye.

OPEN BIDS FOR 2021 PAVING PROJECT

President Alfano authorized the Engineer to open the 2021 street paving bids and to provide the bid amounts later under Mr. Bittner's agenda.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ms. Evans read the accounts payable and bank balances as of March 31, 2021

Motion by Mariscotti/Gutosky to accept the Treasurer's report carried with all members present stating aye.

Mr. Alfano questioned the Rose Plastic's storm water escrow still being held and Mr. Petro stated he's talked to them on several occasions and told them they have to record the plan and have not yet done so.

PRESIDENT ALFANO'S REPORT

Mr. Alfano stated he just opened a piece of mail and it is information to participate in Washington County's hazard and mitigation plan process. There are two webinars one in the morning and one in the evening.

TEAM MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Mr. Alfano stated we have a renewal in our packets for our membership to TEAM for \$300.00. Ms. Evans stated we have not used them for the past two years because typically all of our legal questions go to Chris Gerber, Siana Law or the Borough Solicitor. Council did not to make a motion to renew.

MECHANIC STREET RECREATION AUTHORITY PROJECT

Mr. Alfano stated we need a motion to reject all bids received on this project. Mr. Maddiex asked why are we rejecting them. Mr. Alfano stated the amounts came in way too high and the authority did not get the grant they applied for so there are not enough funds. He stated we will scale the project down and rebid it.

Motion by Gutosky/Mariscotti to reject all bids for the Mechanic Street project duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR – DR. MARTIN

Dr. Martin stated he has a number of updates for council. He stated he spoke to Ron Santo today and has brought to my attention a couple of sewage issues that need addressed. He stated he camera'd the lines on Fifth Street in preparation for paving and he was able to do most of the street and those lines are fine. He was not able to camera from Ash Street to the end of the street down there by the property that Tony owns. He says the reason for that is that there is no access and there needs to be a manhole there and has never been. In order to maintain that aging system he needs a manhole there. He said it is deeper than our people can safely do so he's going to be reaching out to the four or five contractors we normally get to do these things and try to find the lowest cost for putting the manhole in there so we can camera the lines and have this all done before the paving season. He asked Ron if this is something that council needs to be formally approved and he said no this is just normal maintenance in the sewage dept but make them aware of it. He stated if council wants to vote on authorizing the expenditure to put a manhole there, but we do not have a cost yet.

The second update is also a sewage issue. He looked at the list that Jeff provided him for streets that were going to be paved and he pointed out that we still have not addressed a problem that council is aware of up on Orchard and Zulu. He said that those lines up there under that section that is about to be paved definitely need to be replaced. Whatever the problem was that was the obstruction in the line that caused the problem that you are all familiar with was never fully addressed and those lines are deteriorated to the point that he can't even tap a lateral into those now. He said that line needs to be replaced and that section needs done prior to paving up there and he will be moving forward on that. That work can be done in house because it's not too deep. Mr. Alfano stated it may be a good idea to get Steve to take a look at it and see what kind of costs we're talking about.

Next he stated he's been having some difficulty getting the county to pay for the disinfecting of the chambers after last years Spring primary and for 11 months I get a past due bill from the cleaning company. So he stated he went to the court house and talked to several people and raised a little heck and they emailed him today that the check will go out in the mail tomorrow.

Dr. Martin thanked Councilman Maddiex for donating a table for the lunch room and an 8' table.

PAVILION PROJECT

He stated he received something from the architect or the engineer working for the redevelopment authority concerning the pavilion project. He sent him two questions today, one is if the borough is willing to waive the fees for the street opening permits and zoning permits and although he did not list it he is assuming the building permit fees because those need to be included in the bid specs if the contractor needs to pay those. He said if the borough is willing to waive those it will save the contractor and he encouraged us to do that. He stated he doesn't know if we can waive McMillen's fee but we can certainly waive the zoning and street opening fees. He would differ to Tom on that. Mr. Alfano stated they waived their fees on the playground equipment. Mr. Agrafiotis stated he would assume they would do that again. Mr. Bittner stated we waive all contractor fees that do work for the borough. Dr. Martin stated he needs a motion to that effect.

Motion by Maddiex/Gutosky to waive zoning permit, building permit, and street opening fees associated with the pavilion project duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Glab who voted no.

The second question he had sent is apparently a technical matter and council needs to authorize using our entity as a costars eligible entity in order to get the pavilion kit and restroom kit and they apparently cannot go through costars unless you authorize them to.

Motion by Bittner/Maddiex to use the borough entity to get the costars pricing on this duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Glab who voted no.

**PUBLIC HOUSING – MR. MADDIEX
DEMOLITION OF 81 HIGHLAND DRIVE**

Mr. Maddiex stated we had quotes received for the demolition project. The quotes are; Mornack- \$9,050.00, Tyhonas - \$7,500.00, Slusarczyk- \$7,500.00, Britton & Sons - \$7,900.00, and Maund Industries- \$6,499.00.

Motion by Maddiex/Gutosky to award the demolition to Maund Ind. at a cost of \$6,499.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Maddiex made a motion to lien the property once the demolition is complete. Mr. Agrafiotis stated we should not lien it since the borough is in repository sale already so it's going to sell through there. Mr. Maddiex stated he changed his mind but being that it is a safety hazard it needs to come down but he thinks it is a bad policy to have the taxpayer pick up the cost of tearing down someone else's property without any way to recoup those funds. Mr. Maddiex withdrew his motion. He stated the demolition project should be paid out of the demolition fund. He asked Mr. Petro to resurrect the list of properties that needed demolished and send it to him. He stated he asked Mike to prepare a report for June to present to council on the progress of the rental housing payments and inspections.

PUBLIC WORKS – MR. BITTNER

2021 PAVING PROJECT

Mr. Bittner asked Mr. Bell to read the results of the bids: He stated he will read the base bid which is the bulk of the paving being 15 locations and then the alternate bids which are alternate #1 is East Alley and the second alternate is First St. from Wood to Mechanic.

CONTRACTOR	BASE BID	ALTERNATE#1	ALTERNATE #2
Derry Const.	\$202,321.50	\$16,312.50	\$27,391.00
El Grande Ind.	\$218,526.30	\$ 9,800.00	\$29,750.00
Mele & Mele & Sons	\$201,722.25	\$ 8,050.00	\$25,840.00
Morgan Excavating	\$196,636.55	\$ 9,738.25	\$27,013.00
Redstone Excavating	\$201,573.00	\$14,262.00	\$28,560.00
Ten Mile	\$271,200.24	\$19,404.45	\$36,451.40
Tresco Paving	\$204,715.00	\$ 9,320.00	\$28,220.00
CHD Enterprise	\$185,309.95	\$ 8,985.00	\$24,820.00

Mr. Alfano asked where CHD is located and Mr. Bell stated they are from New Stanton and he's never done any paving with them. He stated their bids have references and jobs completed in it.

Motion by Maddiex/Bittner to award the paving project to CHD Enterprise with a total bid of \$219,114.95 contingent on the approval by the Engineers, the Solicitor, and our PennDOT representative duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

COMPUTER GUYS INVOICE

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti stated he has an invoice for Jeff's laptop from the Computer's Guy in the amount of \$837.50 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

SIDEWALK REPAIR PROJECT

Mr. Bittner stated we had discussed repairing the sidewalks at the corner of Wood & Third and along Mechanic St. going toward Coal Center. He spoke with Mr. Tудay and he thinks the borough crew could do the work and the material would be \$2,500.00.

Motion by Bittner/Maddiex to have our Borough crews repair the sidewalks on the corner of Wood & Third at a cost of \$500.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mr. Bittner stated Mr. Tудay also got an estimate to do the sidewalk into Coal Center with our crew doing the work would be approximately \$4,000.00 for materials.

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to have the road crew repair the sidewalks going to Coal Center at a cost for materials at \$4,000.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Mrs. Gutosky asked how do we make sure folks don't drive over it. He stated where the bull pen is down there they certainly drive over it. However our ordinances says it should be 6" there. Ms. Evans asked if the curbs are bad and could they be done also perhaps taller to deter folks from driving over them. Mr. Bittner stated he'll ask Jeff to get a bid to do the curbs down there also.

PUBLIC SAFETY- MR. DIFILIPPO

Nothing to report

FINANCE – MRS. GUTOSKY MONTHLY BILLS

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

Mrs. Gutosky stated concerning the profit and loss statement for the first quarter we are in pretty good shape so far. There are some items that are out of line and she reviewed those with Dr. Martin and dues and subscriptions are a little high because that was the SWAT dues which were not budgeted for and building supplies were high too. She stated overall we are only at 25% at the total budget so that's good. She stated kudo's to Shirley for kicking those delinquent fees up in the sewage budget. Dr. Martin stated the overage in the building cost were those AED's. Ms. Evans stated those were paid from Act 13 however it is all general fund money.

PUBLIC HEALTH- MR. MARISCOTTI WIDMER INVOICE

Motion by Mariscotti/Maddiex to pay Widmer invoice #22102452 in the amount of \$1,040.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

PURCHASE RISERS AND STORM WATER INLETS FOR PAVING PROJECT

Motion by Mariscotti/Maddiex to purchase risers and lift inlets for the storm and sewer repairs on the paving project not to exceed \$10,000.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – MR. GLAB

Nothing to report

JUNIOR COUNCIL MEMBER – MR. BECKINGER

Mr. Beckinger stated today was our first day back following Spring break. The softball restarted after quarantining due to a covid case. The softball team defeated Beth Center 17 to 16 yesterday, the baseball team is playing at Uniontown today and the track team attended four track meets at Charleroi today. The high school Musical will be on May 6 and 7th. The school is now offering summer school for those who need to make up credits or just want to get ahead. He stated they are also offering summer camps such as Stem camp with Mr. Fabre and using 3d printers offered by Mr. Jacobs and there are several others. The senior project restore the courtyard has been put on hold do to a covid outbreak. The high school was closed for a few days due to 12 seniors contracting covid but he elementary/middle school remained open.

MAYOR'S REPORT – DR. STETAR

RESERVED PARKING REQUEST – 401 GREEN ST.

Dr. Martin stated the first thing on his list is a parking request. He asked Shirley and she stated there are documents in council packets. She stated at the corner of Fourth & Green the meter was removed for gas work done and was never replaced. He has a duplex and currently rents one stall and now he requesting a second stall. Dr. Martin stated he's not sure if we are talking about renting a space or assigning a space or what. Mr. Bittner stated we rent those. Ms. Evans stated the application states reserved parking which means he pays to reserve it at \$360.00 per year.

Motion by Bittner/Maddiex to grant the parking request for Mr. Niccolai for his property at 401 Green Street duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

UPDATE ON THE CHIEF'S SEARCH

Dr. Martin stated the note he has states there are currently 4 candidates. He stated I told him when I got this that there have been two applications on his desk that he's not seen yet.

KENNYWOOD DAY – JULY 21ST

Dr. Martin announced that Kennywood Day will be July 21st.

SWAT INFORMATION

Dr. Martin stated there has already been SWAT team information provided by Acting Chief McCarthy and he has an additional thought he would like council to consider; he thinks council should approach the school district to share the cost because they will benefit from this as well. Mr. Alfano stated he feels the Mayor should approach the school district.

TRAINING ON APRIL 27TH - \$250.00 – MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE PISTOLS

Dr. Martin stated there is training that Officer Kurilko would like to attend and that is for servicing of the officer's pistols so they can service their personal weapons in house as opposed to sending them out.

Motion by Maddiex/Gutosky to approve Officer Kurilko to attend training on April 27th on serving Glock pistols at a cost of \$250.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

DUI ENFORCEMENT TRAININ

Dr. Martin stated he would also like to send Officer VanDivner and Officer Short to DUI enforcement training and that is no cost to the borough but would involve their work hours for three days. Acting Chief McCarthy stated it will be at the California Fire Dept. and Officer Nunley will be teaching it. Ms. Evans asked if Short is going to request overtime since he's not a dayshift officer. Acting Chief McCarthy stated he believes he can manipulate the schedule but these are the only two officers in the department that don't have this training.

Motion by Maddiex/Bittner to send Officers Short and VanDivner to attend DUI enforcement training at the California Fire Dept. at no cost to the borough duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes except Mr. Glab who voted no.

FCC CALL NUMBER RENEWALS

Dr. Martin stated the next thing on his list is the Call Sign Renewal and he says he's asked Tom to check on this with the County and determine whether this is a legitimate cost or not. Tom stated as far as the FCC bills you've been receiving are all fraudulent and the County is the only ones to be paying the FCC bills per the Commissioner he spoke with today. So we don't worry about those the county pays all costs to the FCC.

LETTERING FOR NEW POLICE VEHICLES

Dr. Martin stated the next thing he wants is to get direction from council by motion to whether we are going to send the police cars for lettering to the company that was a little more expensive to do it sooner or send it to Evans where we usually send it. Mr. Bittner asked if they were outfitted yet so there is no rush for the decals. Acting Chief McCarthy stated he thinks we are three to four weeks out with Evans. Mr. Bitter stated we can still use them if they are outfitted with the lights and such. Evans graphics was \$750.00.

Motion by Bittner/Gutosky to have the lettering on the new police vehicles done by Evans Graphics duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

Dr. Martin stated Mayor Stetar wanted him to announce the Riverfest will be held in August.

RANKING SYSTEM

Dr. Martin stated he has a notation from the Mayor on this that Chris Gerber is still looking into the ranking system for our department. Mr. Gerber is talking with other departments and using his network to try and determine the best way to meet our needs for our borough size.

SWAT OVERTIME

Ms. Evans asked if we are acting on the SWAT as far as overtime for the officers. Mr. Alfano stated we will only have one swat officer attend for now correct. Acting Chief McCarthy stated that is correct. Ms. Evans stated she just needs to know if she is to pay the overtime for SWAT call outs. Mr. Bittner stated we paid the \$2,000.00 and not send a man to the training we got to do what we got to do this year. Acting Chief McCarthy stated we can use the benefits SWAT offers and he will reach out to them to see what they can provide us as far as Riverfest and

homecoming. He stated we are paying for it so why not use it. Mr. Bittner stated he and Chip talked to Curtis who is involved in Charleroi's regional police and he was saying the big push down in Charleroi was the school district to reap the benefits of it if they needed it.

ENGINEERS REPORT – MR. EBY

Mr. Bell stated outside of the paving bids under Steve's agenda is a sewage project and it is his understanding that you all met with Steve and reviewed the projects. Mr. Alfano asked council if they are prepared to select one of the projects Steve provided to us. Mr. Bittner believes this one is the one that we do first then can tie the others into it later on. Dr. Martin stated yes we had discussed phases and this was identified as phase 1. Ms. Evans asked if we were going to use our bond proceeds on this, which is \$370,000.00 in that account.

Motion by Bittner/Mariscotti to select the Third Street extension replacement project at a cost of \$528,000.00 to be paid from bond proceeds and contingent upon the Engineer's okay that this is what we should do first duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

AUTHORIZE SIGNING OF 537 PLAN REVISION

Ms. Evans stated Steve had provided her the plan 537 revision to sign but she didn't feel comfortable signing it until after council actually selected a project.

Motion by Mariscotti/Maddiex to authorize signing the 537 plan revision carried with all members present stating aye.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – MR. AGRAFIOTIS UPDATES

Mr. Agrafiotis stated he is finalizing two ordinances that he was directed to repair and he's working on the SAI litigation.

LOTS IN GRANVILLE

He stated last month you authorized to sell two lots in Granville to Mr. DeFranco and you had to wait 30 days and no one has objected so as Sunday we can record those deeds. He will reach out to Mr. DeFranco to get paid and execute those deeds. He asked Mr. Mariscotti to email a copy of Mr. DeFranco's letter requesting to purchase those properties to himself and Ms. Evans for the file.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Glab asked Dr. Martin where we are at with finding a new camera person. Dr. Martin stated we had some camera problems that Acting Chief McCarthy and he discussed yesterday and he reached out to the current company since we are still under our one-year contract. Basically what he ran into with the other company is they need specific information about cameras that we need to get from our current company and give to them so they can tell me if they can tie into our system or not. He stated he's been having difficulty getting that from our current camera company. He stated we have three cameras down right now and the gentleman is supposed to come tomorrow and look at them. He emailed me late today that he may not be able to get her before 1 in the afternoon and if it is later than that he'll reschedule for Monday. Mr. Mariscotti stated perhaps send him a letter requiring him in a certain time to respond to the information you need. Dr. Martin stated that is essentially the conversation he will have with him tomorrow and if he doesn't respond then we can start sending letters. Mr. Mariscotti stated he would not wait just send him the letter. Dr. Martin stated this guy is not someone he enjoys doing business with. Acting Chief McCarthy stated if we were to change systems he is recommending looking into a better-quality camera. He says the current cameras are great from afar but for identification purposes they just don't cut it.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Glab stated we got an email about a schedule power outage for some residents on Green & Ellsworth Streets and asked if that could be put on the website. Ms. Evans stated it was done this morning shortly after she received the email.

Dr. Martin stated he had a request from an employee to possibly place a picnic table out on the patio since the concrete is all fixed. He suggested adding a trash receptacle also. He recommends putting something weather proof out there and he thinks we could do that for about \$500-\$800.00. He is just passing the request along.

Motion by Maddiex/Mariscotti to purchase a picnic table and trash receptacle at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00 duly carried on a roll call vote with all members present voting yes.

There was a question as to what fund this would be taken from. Mrs. Gutosky asked if it would be open to the public. Ms. Evans stated it is public property it would have to be.

Ms. Evans asked if we could move the municipal fund into the general fund and keep it separated by a line item number. Council stated as long as the auditors are okay with that. Ms. Evans stated we no longer collect tax revenue for this and she is out of checks and we are spending it away with small purchases.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS

No citizens spoke at this time

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Maddiex/Glab motion to adjourn carried with all members present stating aye.