

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held at 7:00 P.M., April 8, 2008 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street.

Mr. William Angelo presided and opened the meeting with the Flag ceremony.

**ATTENDANCE:**

The following Council members attended: Mr. William Angelo, President; Mr. Keith Adams, Vice-President; Mr. Albert Bobinas; Mrs. Helen Droskinis; Mr. James Kimmel; Mr. Jamie Kuehn; Mr. Paul Vuksta; Ms. Aubrey Kendig, Junior Council Person; and Mayor David Dutcavich; Solicitor Albert Evans; and Megan Paul, Secretary. Also attending were Scott Graver, Infrastructure Manager; Police Chief Robert Bergan; Fred Bainbridge, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jeffrey Enders, Street Supervisor.

Seven Council members were present, which constituted a quorum.

Mr. Kimmel made a motion to approve March's Secretary Minutes; seconded by Mr. Bobinas. Motion passed as presented.

**VISITORS:**

Minersville Area Jr/Sr High School "Teens Against Tobacco" presented a Certificate of Thanks to the Borough Council for adopting the youth tobacco ordinance and making the South Fourth Street Recreational Complex Tobacco Free.

Ms. Anna Mae Romberger, 312 Pottsville Street, stated nothing has been done to repair her home since the last meeting she attended. Mr. Bainbridge stated the contractor has been up three times since the last meeting and he has not heard any complaints since that time. Mr. Bainbridge stated the contractor has fixed the problems but he will set up a meeting with Ms. Romberger, High Road Contracting and himself to go over the problems.

Mrs. Betty Brennan, stated nothing has been done to the property at the corner of Lewis and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets in a couple years. The property has no second floor because demolition was started and never finished. She feels it is a health and safety hazard to the residents in the area. Mr. Bainbridge stated the building is secure a currently poses no code hazards.

**COMMITTEES:**

***Streets, Highways & Electric Lights:***

Mr. Kimmel stated he would like to meet with Mr. Graver to discuss possibly paving some streets and snow removal.

Mr. Graver stated the sewer project is completing phase 3 and will begin blacktopping when Pennsy Supply opens on April 21<sup>st</sup>. At the Lewis Street Tunnel project the contractors will be placing the tops on the next section and curbs and sidewalks should begin next week.

***Fire:***

All council members received a copy of the fire report submitted for March by Fire Chief Eric Eichenberg.

Mr. Vuksta stated he attended the zoning hearing for the New Minersville Hose Company expansion. New Minersville was granted the zoning variance.

Mr. Vuskta read correspondence from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency approving Eric Eichenberg as Minersville Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator.

***Law & Order:***

Mr. Richard Donlin, 437 Carbon Street, submitted a handicap application to Council. Chief Bergan approved the application. A motion was made by Mr. Kuehn to approve the application; seconded by Mr. Kimmel. Motion passed as presented.

Chief Bergan stated the Attorney General is proposing a Drug Task Force. Approving the agreement would allow the county to do drug investigations with Borough officers assisting. The mayor has reviewed the policy and is in agreement with the Drug Task Force. Council asked the Solicitor to review the agreement.

Chief Bergan reported that the police department is receiving a CDAP grant for new computer software and computer equipment. The system is comprehensive, including training.

***Community Development & Public Property:***

Mr. Kuehn stated Cass Township has requested to allow their residents to use the Borough's compost site to dispose of compost materials. Mr. Graver does not have a problem with Cass Township using the facility. Natural Soil Products removes the compost at

no cost to the Borough. The cost associated is the price to run the loader, gas and personnel. Mr. Enders stated Cass Township residents have more land and could potentially bring more compost than can be handled at the site and currently space is tight with two contractors storing materials and the water company putting in a pole building. Mr. Enders stated previously he gave Cass Township permission to bring compost in and Officer Willinsky stopped them because they made 10 trips per day. Mr. Adams stated he feels the issue should be tabled until construction is done.

Mr. Kuehn stated he would like to get prices for photographs for historical preservation. Council agreed to allow Mr. Kuehn to get prices.

***Finance & Sanitation:***

The monthly bills were read and signed. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the bills properly signed and pay the bills as presented seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the reports of all officers; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Adams made a motion to reallocate the fire alarm siren maintenance line item to be split among the Assistant Fire Chiefs; seconded by Mr. Vuksta. Ms. Paul asked which line item it would be. Mr. Adams rescinding his motion to further research which line item would be used to reallocate since no money was allocated for fire alarm system maintenance.

Mr. Adams stated the First Quarter 2008 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Compared to Budget is in Council's packets.

***Water & Sewer:***

Nothing to Report.

***Personnel:***

Nothing to report.

***Senior Citizens & Recreation:***

Mr. Graver stated he would like to place signage at the playgrounds to prohibit visitors after dark. This would try to help stop vandalism. Chief Bergan stated currently the curfew in the borough is 10 pm for sixteen and under and seventeen year olds need a family member or guardian to be present to be out after 10 pm. Chief Bergan stated the signage would allow officers to cite the individuals for trespassing. Mrs. Droskinis made a motion to erect signage closing Borough playgrounds at dusk; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

A letter was read from the Hillside SPCA requested to erect a sign to advertise for their benefit dance at the New Minersville Hose Company on April 10, 2008. Mr. Bobinas made a motion to grant the request; seconded by Mr. Vuksta. Motion passed as presented.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Solicitor Evans stated he will look into whether the Borough can pass a blanket ordinance amending penalties for old ordinances. Mr. Bainbridge stated when the matter is taken to court the judge usually sets the fine.

Mrs. Droskinis stated Council received a copy of the Occupancy Permit Ordinance from Shenandoah Borough. Mr. Bainbridge stated he only issues occupancy permits on new constructions. If the Borough would like to pass a similar ordinance for moving permits it cannot be called an occupancy permit. The matter was referred to committee to review.

Mrs. Droskinis stated the nomination for Citizen of the Year needs to be done by next meeting. Mrs. Droskinis questioned whether the group who helped remove the graffiti at the Church of the Broken pieces was last year. Chief Bergan stated he would look into when the incident occurred.

Mr. Kimmel made a motion to enter into a settlement agreement with H&P Contracting for the parcel of land they are currently encroaching on; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

After comparing other communities' swimming pool rates, Mr. Adams made a motion to keep the season pass and admission rates the same as last year; seconded by Mrs. Droskinis. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn stated the Miners Journal will be mailed for May 1<sup>st</sup> delivery to Borough residents.

Mr. Adams would like Council to look into whether the Borough should adopt the Axel Ordinance like Cass Township has.

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. Droskinis made a motion to adjourn seconded by Mr. Kimmel. Motion passed as presented.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Paul  
Borough Secretary