

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held at 7:00 p.m., December 1, 2009 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street.

Mr. William Angelo presided and opened the meeting with the Flag ceremony at 7:01 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

The following Council members attended: Mr. William Angelo, President; Mr. Keith Adams, Vice-President; Mr. Albert Bobinas; Mr. Jamie Kuehn; Mr. Paul Vuksta; Mayor David Dutcavich; Solicitor Albert Evans; Norman Woodford, Treasurer and Megan Paul, Secretary. Also attending were James Cleary, Infrastructure Manager; Fire Chief Eric Eichenberg; Fred Bainbridge, Code Enforcement Officer; Jeffery Enders, Street Supervisor; and Donald Troutman, Water Authority Laborer. Mrs. Helen Droskinis and Mr. James Kimmel were absent.

Five Council members were present, which constituted a quorum.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion to approve November's Council Meeting Minutes; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

VISITORS:

None.

COMMITTEES:

Streets, Highways & Electric Lights:

Mr. Kimmel stated there is an issue with parking on Spring Street. Ms. Kim Kotroches has problems receiving oil because of residents parking her area in.

Fire:

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

The second reading was held eliminating the position of Fire Marshall and instituting the position of Fire Chief. Mr. Vuksta made a motion to approve the ordinance as read; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

Law & Order:

Mr. Kuehn wanted to state that Council cannot act on anonymous letters. He would like residents to know that follow-ups on complaints cannot be done if letters of complaint are not signed.

Mr. Kuehn wanted to thank Mayor Dutcavich for his years of service to the Borough and for serving the Borough without compensation because he donated his salary to the reconstruction of the Community Swimming Pool.

Mr. Kuehn wanted to thank Patrolman Bowers for getting 150 gallons of used oil for the waste oil burner in the Borough garage.

Mr. Paul Olenick, 320 Laurel Street, submitted a handicap application for Council's approval. Deputy Chief Daniels reviewed and approved the application. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the application; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

The second reading was held repealing all prior Police Pension Ordinances and replacing it with a new restated plan developed by Conrad Siegel Actuaries. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the ordinance as read; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn stated currently to department is trying to clear outstanding warrants.

Community Development & Public Property:

Mr. Cleary stated he will be meeting with people from the State regarding the American Disability money available for rehabbing homes. The meeting will be Friday December 14, 2009 at 10 a.m. in the Borough Office. Mr. Cleary stated his goal for 2010 would be to create a housing commission in the Borough. Those appointed to the board would then deal with the slum and blight properties in the Borough. Mr. Cleary stated there are two properties the Borough needs to look at possibly demolishing. They are 411-413 Pottsville St and 326 Pine St. Also, there is a new bishop who may be more receptive to doing things with the church properties.

Mr. Kuehn stated he and Mr. Cleary surveyed land at the Little League field that can be timbered and graded to add additional parking to the recreation complex. This lot would be closer to the Teener and Softball fields. Mr. Cleary stated he has contacted a timber company to see if the trees can be removed. The Borough would then have to stone and roll the area until it can be financially feasible to pave. Mr. Kuehn stated he would also like to see two roadways going into the lot. Mr. Adams stated he would like ideas on the size so a budget can be formulated.

Finance & Sanitation:

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the bills properly signed and pay the bills as presented and the reports of all officers; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

The first reading of the 2010 Tax Levy ordinance was held. The ordinance does not reflect a tax increase. Council agreed to advertise the ordinance as read.

Water & Sewer:

Mr. Cleary reported the Water Authority is being mandated by the DEP and EPA to institute a Public Notification System. Every customer will be receiving a letter explaining the regulation and allowing them to choose either phone or e-mail notification for Tier 1 emergencies. Tier 1 emergencies are boil advisories, chemical spills, etc. This does not include every day water line breaks. The Authority must continue to try to get the information from residents.

Mr. Bainbridge reported the separation of downspouts in the sewer system is still an ongoing project. The process is slowing down but inspections are still ongoing.

Personnel: Nothing to report.

Senior Citizens & Recreation:

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve payment to L&K Construction in the amount of \$37,350; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. The work is expected to be completed by the end of December. Motion passed as presented.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was read from the West End Outlaws requesting use of the Teener League field for 2010. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the request; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The 2010 meeting schedule was presented. Mr. Bobinas made a motion to add a second meeting in December. The motion died for a lack of second. Mr. Adams made a motion to advertise the schedule as presented; seconded by Mr. Bobinas. Motion passed as presented.

An executive session was held from 7:59-8:40 p.m. regarding personnel issues.

Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the 2010 budget as read and advertised; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented

Mr. Robert Davis stated the Black Diamond Navy Club will be holding a Pearl Harbor Remembrance on December 6th at 2 p.m. Admiral Nancy Lescavage will be the speaker. All are invited to attend.

Mr. Angelo presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Mayor Dutcavich for his service to the Borough.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Adams made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Vuksta. Motion passed as presented.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Paul
Borough Secretary