

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held at 7:00 P.M., February 13, 2007, in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street.

Mrs. Helen Droskinis presided and opened the meeting with the Flag ceremony.

ATTENDANCE:

The following Council members attended: Mrs. Helen Droskinis, President; Mr. Joseph Post, Vice-President; Mr. Keith Adams; Mr. William Angelo; Mr. James Kimmel; Mr. Jamie Kuehn; Mr. Walter Miscavage; Megan Paul, Secretary; and Mr. Norman Woodford, Treasurer. Also attending were Police Chief Robert Bergan; Fire Chief Eric Eichenberg; and Fred Bainbridge, Code Enforcement Officer. Nichole Davis, Junior Council Person; Solicitor Thomas Pellish; and Mayor David Dutcavich were absent.

Seven Council members were present, which constituted a quorum.

A motion to accept January's Secretary Minutes was made by Mr. Miscavage and seconded by Mr. Post. Mr. Angelo questioned why there was nothing in the minutes regarding Mr. Miscavage opposition to nepotism with regards to the appointment of Mr. Michael Hashin to the Municipal Authority Board. Mr. Angelo stated he would like to respond to Mr. Miscavage's claim. Mr. Angelo stated section 1102 of the law states a conflict of interest may only exist if the appointment involves immediate family members and a minimal economic impact. Immediate family members are defined as a parent, spouse, child, brother or sister. Mr. Hashin is a cousin. Mr. Angelo stated Mr. Hashin's appointment is not a significant economic impact because Mr. Hashin gets paid the same fee as the Minersville Borough Council members. Mr. Miscavage stated nepotism is favoritism as appointment to a job based on kinship. Mr. Miscavage stated that one case of nepotism with regards to Mr. Hashin was after the summer flood. The carpet/flooring bids were received from Reliable Home Supply, owned by Mr. Hashin, and M&M Carpeting. M&M Carpeting bid according to specifications and Reliable Home Supply did not. Mr. Hashin was then given another opportunity to rebid, M&M was not. Reliable Home Supply was then given the bid. Mr. Miscavage stated the bid from Reliable Home Supply should have been rejected. Mr. Kuehn stated that Mr. Angelo had nothing to do with the carpet/flooring bid that he asked Mr. Hashin to clarify his bid. Mr. Kuehn stated he is tired of personal agendas. Mr. Miscavage stated that this is a public hearing which follows the private hearing he received last week. Mr. Kimmel stated it was not a private hearing because the questions were brought up at the public work session. Mr. Kimmel stated at the work session Mr. Miscavage was questioned as to the matter in which the resignation was handled and why Mr. Miscavage did not inform Council of his decision prior to the meeting. Mr. Miscavage stated he was elected as a Republican and does not feel he has to inform his opposition of his actions. Mr. Miscavage then questioned why Mr. Kuehn requested that Solicitor Pellish attend the work session since the Solicitor does not normally attend a work session. Mr. Kuehn stated he was asked to attend to answer legal questions. Mr. Miscavage then stated that there were no legal questions asked at the meeting. Mr. Miscavage stated the only thing he was guilty of at the last meeting was bad manners. Mrs. Droskinis then stated that at the work session Mr. Adams questioned why the letter withdrawing Mr. Miscavage's resignation was read first. Mrs. Droskinis stated she read the letter first on the advice of the Solicitor. Mr. Kimmel then questioned if the minutes could be accepted as they are since the order of the minutes was not according to the order of the meeting. Mrs. Droskinis stated as long as everything is recorded then they should be fine to accept. With no further questions to the motion, motion was passed as presented.

VISITORS:

None.

COMMITTEES:

Streets, Highways & Electric Lights:

Mr. Miscavage stated after contacting the surrounding neighbors of the Mountaineer Hose Company and only receiving two oppositions to reclaiming the parking space next to the Hose Company, Mr. Miscavage recommends reclaiming the spot and making it "NO Parking". Council agreed.

Mr. Miscavage stated the Street Department is presently out plowing because of the storm and have been instructed to remove the pedestrian crossing signs from Front Street to allow for better plowing.

Fire:

All council members received a copy of the 2006 yearly fire report submitted by Fire Chief Eric Eichenberg. Mr. Angelo stated there were only 3 firefighters injured for the year and the estimated fire damage was \$171,000.

Mr. Angelo made a motion to allow the Goodwill Fire Co. to tag onto the Borough of Minersville Ford Fleet number to allow them to purchase a 2007 E350 Ford Chasis at fleet prices; seconded by Mr. Miscavage. Motion passed as presented.

Law & Order:

Nothing to report.

Community Development & Public Property:

Ms. Smarowsky, 311-313 Short Street, submitted a driveway application to Council. Mr. Bainbridge approved the application. A motion was made by Mr. Miscavage to approve the application; seconded by Mr. Post. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn stated the Borough needs to form a UUC Appeals Board. Mr. Bainbridge stated the appeals board will hear challenges brought about by the code officers findings. The person appealing would pay for the hearing. Council would need to appoint 3 members to the board. The individuals would have to have knowledge of the UCC Codes. Council would need to set costs for a hearing. Mr. Kuehn stated Council should bring names to the next work session for discussion. Mr. Miscavage made a motion for Mr. Bainbridge to contact Solicitor Pellish for more guidance on the subject; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn stated he will be in contact with the Lions Club and the Minersville Youth Soccer in regards to the parking issues at the field.

The first reading for the Youth Tobacco Ordinance was held. The ordinance will be advertised for approval at next months meeting.

Finance & Sanitation:

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

Mr. Post made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Mr. Miscavage. Motion passed as presented.

Mrs. Droskinis stated the bank quotes have been received. The quotes were as follows:

Minersville Safe Deposit & Trust Co. PO Box L Minersville PA 17954	4.15% APY
The First National Bank of Minersville PO Box J Minersville PA 17954	3.82% APY
Sovereign Bank 247 Sunbury Street Minersville PA 17954	4.82% tied to the LIBOR

Mr. Miscavage made a motion to have the Finance Committee, Solicitor, and Treasurer review the quotes and award the depository as they see fit; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

Water & Sewer:

Mr. Miscavage stated the Lewis Street CSO Elimination Project is now at the 400 Block of Lewis Street because PennDOT will not allow Front Street to be disturbed with the cold weather.

Mr. Post stated the Sewer Authority is starting the Aeration Project at the Sewer Treatment Plant and the Water Authority is working on ongoing projects.

Personnel:

Nothing to report.

Senior Citizens & Recreation:

Mr. Angelo made a motion to pay Heim Construction's application for payment #6 in the amount of \$ 34,350.52 for the swimming pool construction; seconded by Mr. Miscavage. Motion passed as presented.

Mrs. Droskinis stated she inquired about the Minersville Area High School Soccer Field for possible youth soccer usage. Mr. Rich Dry, Athletic Director, stated work is being done to make the field playable but the High School will use the field on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES:

All Council members received copies of the Reports of Officers.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Miscavage stated he would like to recommend that John "Jack" & Loretta Flynn be nominated for Citizen of the Year for 2007. Mrs. Droskinis stated the nominations will remain open until April.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Paul
Borough Secretary