

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held at 7:00 P.M., March 11, 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; Attorney Arlen Day; Norman Woodford, Treasurer; and Megan Paul, Secretary. Also attending were Scott Graver, Infrastructure Manager; Police Chief Robert Bergan; Mr. Paul Lohin, Chairman Sewer Authority; Jeffrey Enders, Street Supervisor. Solicitor Albert Evans was absent.

Seven Council members were present, which constituted a quorum.

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

VISITORS:

Anthony Ciotti attended the meeting for his Government Class at Nativity BVM.

COMMITTEES:

Streets, Highways & Electric Lights:

Nothing to report.

Fire:

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

Mr. Vuksta read a letter from Emergency Management Coordinator Allen Reber. Mr. Reber resigned his position. Mr. Vuksta recommends appointing Fire Chief Eichenberg to the position. Chief Eichenberg has the certifications required for the position and has acquired the background clearance. Mr. Vuksta stated he will recommend deputies for approval at a later date. Mr. Vuksta made a motion to appoint Eric Eichenberg to Emergency Management Coordinator; seconded by Mr. Kimmel. Mr. Kuehn questioned whether there is a conflict with being both fire chief and Emergency Management Coordinator. Mr. Vuksta stated in the past the Borough Fire Chief has held this position. Motion passed as presented.

Law & Order:

Mr. Robert Sinko, 435 Carbon Street, submitted a handicap application to Council. Chief Bergan approved the application. Chief Bergan stated the sign would have to be placed across the street. The sign would not infringe on another's property since the stadium is across the street. A motion was made by Mr. Kuehn to approve the application; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

Community Development & Public Property:

A brief executive session was held from 7:07 p.m. to 7:17 p.m. to discuss a legal issue in regards to H&P Land lawsuit. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to accept the monetary settlement, of \$14,000 and legal costs; seconded by Mrs. Droskinis. Motion passed as presented.

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. Vuksta. 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.

The second reading of the Local Services Tax was held. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the ordinance as read and advertised; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

Water & Sewer:

Mr. Bobinas stated the sewer plant has saved approximately 30% in electricity due to the sewer aeration system upgrades.

Ordinance #114 regarding the Sewer Authority needs to some kind of penalty for violators put into the ordinance. Attorney Day stated the Code Enforcement officer would have to enforce the penalties added to the Borough Ordinance. Mr. Graver stated he is proposing allocating CDBG funds to help people remove violations of the ordinance from the sanitary systems and redirecting it into the storm systems. Homeowners would have to meet income qualifications. Mr. Graver stated the CDBG Public Hearings will be held on April 1, 2008 and April 8, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Personnel:

Nothing to report.

Senior Citizens & Recreation:

Mr. Kuehn stated the deadline for submissions for the upcoming newsletter is the last week of March. Articles may be submitted to minersnewsletter@hotmail.com. The separation of storm water will be addressed in the first issue.

The Recreation Board has 15 programs set for this year.

Mrs. Droskinis questioned whether security cameras were purchased for the pool. Mr. Graver stated we are waiting for grant funding before purchasing.

Mr. Graver stated the advertisement for pool employees will be advertised next week.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEES:

All Council members received copies of the Reports of Officers.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter was read from the Minersville Business and Professional Association requesting approval to hold their annual Spirit Day celebration on September 7, 2008 from 10 am to 6 pm. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the request; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

A letter was read from Johnny's Tavern requesting to erect a sign on the highway to advertise for their "Five for Four Bar Tour" on April 26, 2008. Mrs. Droskinis made a motion to approve the request; seconded by Mr. Adams. Mr. Bobinas questioned if this would be a problem for the police. Chief Bergan stated the officers will be patrolling. Motion passed as presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Adams stated Council received a copy of the performance evaluations done in the past. Mr. Adams feels it is a good idea to institute the policy again. Mr. Adams feels it would help with deciding on whether employees should receive a pay raise. Mr. Adams made a motion to have the personnel committees look into re-instituting the policy and work out the details to present to Council; seconded by Mr. Bobinas. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Bobinas questioned if Council should work with a civic organization to recognize Joseph Balsis, World Champion pool player from Minersville with a sign. Mr. Kuehn stated he believes the historical society is looking into doing that kind of recognitions.

Mr. Bobinas would like Council to look into instituting a parking permit program that would allow residents to purchase a parking pass to park in front of their homes.

Mr. Graver stated a letter was sent to the railroad regarding the debris collecting at the bridge. If there is no response, a citation will be sent to the District Justice.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Paul

Borough Secretary