

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held at 7:00 p.m., October 14, 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; Mayor David Dutcavich; Solicitor Albert Evans; and Megan Paul, Secretary. Also attending were James Cleary, Interim Infrastructure Manager; Fred Bainbridge, Code Enforcement Officer; Fire Chief Eric Eichenberg; Jeffery Enders, Street Supervisor; and Donald Troutman, Municipal Authority Laborer.

Seven Council members were present, which constituted a quorum.

Mrs. Droskinis made a motion to approve September's Secretary Minutes; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

VISITORS:

Roseann Roscoe, 534 School Street, wanted to thank the men for leveling the alley behind her house. She stated there is now a gully opening up. Mr. Cleary stated he will have the men look into the problem.

Carol Palmer, 118 N Fourth St, stated kids have been loitering and causing problems at her property. She stated she has called the police and the kids leave but come back later. They have damage the Pottsville Republican box. Mrs. Palmer would like the curfew enforce. She also stated the group of kids is from the Zion Lutheran Church to Rodnick's Grocery. They are loitering at different times of the day but mostly around 7-8 p.m. Mr. Angelo stated he will have the police patrol the area.

Sandra Davis, 214 Lewis St, state she is getting cockroaches because of the sewer project in the area. She has made a report at the office. Mr. Angelo stated the health officer will be notified. Mrs. Davis stated her porch was damaged during the project and has since been fixed. She would like the problem of the cockroaches to be fixed.

Jean Mesavage, 413 Pine St, stated she is also having problems with the kids loitering and leaving their trash. Also, the kids are smoking tobacco and she would like to see the police enforce the tobacco laws for minors. Mr. Angelo stated the police will be informed.

COMMITTEES:

Streets, Highways & Electric Lights:

Mr. Cleary stated they have been in contact with Bob Weaver Chevrolet in regards to a new plow truck for the street department. The truck will be purchased through the state piggy back program and paid from liquid fuels funding.

Mr. Cleary stated the Liquid Fuels contact will be in the office on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. to explain the program. All are welcome to attend.

Mr. Cleary stated he and Mr. Angelo attended a meeting in Senator Rhoades office to discuss the truck traffic on Front Street. Penn DOT will look at assessing a weight limit but this will not affect Front Street. Mr. Cleary will continue to look into the situation with the possibility of adding meters at the intersection of Front and Sunbury Streets and closing River Street to Local Deliveries Only.

A letter was received from St. Nicholas School requesting to close Parsonage, Quality, and Kantner Streets on October 16, 2008 for the Annual Race for Education. Mr. Kimmel made a motion to approve the request; seconded by Mr. Bobinas. Motion passed as presented.

Fire:

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

Mr. Vuksta stated the Rescue Hook & Ladder will hold an open house from 6-8 p.m. all are welcome to attend. Also, there will be a seminar called "Courage to Stay Safe" presented on October 22 from 6:30 – 10:00 p.m. at the High School Auditorium. All are welcome to attend.

Law & Order:

Mrs. Edith Lescavage, 347 New Castle St, submitted a handicap application for Council approval. Chief Bergan reviewed and approved the application. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to approve the application; seconded by Mr. Adams. Motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn stated the study has been received from the Department of Community and Economic Development office. Financial information needs to be completed at the office before it can be completed.

Community Development & Public Property:

Solicitor Evans stated he has completed the supplemental rental ordinance. The new ordinance includes:

- All buildings need an agent within a 10 mile radius to handle any emergencies with the unit.
- Any occupancy fee for each tenant when moving.
- Annual license fee
- Police, Code or Fire Departments can monitor tenants and violations.
- Increased penalties for violators.
- A mandatory \$50,000 minimum for liability insurance.

Mr. Bainbridge stated currently the Borough has approximately a 30% housing stock of rentals. There is no way to stop rentals but we can regulate the rentals.

Solicitor Evans held the first reading of the Supplemental Rental Ordinance.

Solicitor Evans is looking into the purchasing of 140-142 New Street and 600-602 School Street for \$1. A title search will be done to verify no liens are existing on the properties. Mr. Bainbridge stated the owners are willing to sign the properties over to the borough but the Borough needs to get the funding to tear down the structures.

Mr. Kuehn stated the Christmas Tree Lighting and Annual New Year's Eve Ball Drop will be announced in the next newsletter due out November 7, 2008.

Mr. Enders requested to advertise to sell the Old Christmas Lights that are in storage in the Globe Hall. Mr. Adams made a motion to advertise to sell the lights; seconded by Mr. Kuehn. Motion passed as presented.

Finance & Sanitation:

Mr. Cleary stated the recycling truck will be here in Mid-December.

Mr. Adams stated Council received a rough draft of the 2009 Budget. All items in red need to be addressed before the budget is passed.

Water & Sewer:

Solicitor Evans held the first reading on an ordinance allowing for additional EDU's to be charged to residents who have not had their roof leaders, sump pumps, and foundation floor drains inspected to verify they are not tied into the sanitary sewer system. All work must be completed prior to April 1, 2009 to avoid additional charges. Mr. Cleary stated all residents have previously received letters making them aware of the situation.

Personnel:

Nothing to report.

Senior Citizens & Recreation:

Mr. Charles Fritz requested infield mix for the Teener League Field. Council instructed Mr. Enders to get prices on the mix for the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Kuehn read correspondence from the Youth Tobacco Coalition. This is a free seminar at the Sovereign Center. They will be presenting the Minersville Ordinance for other municipalities to review for possible adoption. All are invited to attend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Kimmel stated the Streets, Highway and Electric Lights committee will be meeting next week to discuss the proposal for the purchasing of our street lights.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Dutcavich wanted to address the complaints made against the police department last month. The police patrolled the area of Veteran's Street during 11 observations no violations were observed. Also, the area is sufficiently marked with proper signage.

Mayor Dutcavich stated in regards to the drug activity. Arrests were made days after the September meeting. Mayor Dutcavich stated drug enforcement is a slow process, he would ask the public to be patient. All suspicious activity should be report to the police department or the county hotline.

Also, the matter of the police knocking on the door of a suspected dealer and telling the individual he was being watched. The officer in question knocked on the door to serve a warrant, but the door was not answered and no contact was made with the individual.

Finance & Sanitation (cont.):

The monthly bills were read and signed. Mr. Adams made a motion to approve the bills properly signed and pay the bills as presented, to approve the Treasurer's Report and the reports of all officers; seconded by Mrs. Droskinis. Motion passed as presented.

Streets, Highways & Electric Lights (cont.):

Mr. Cleary stated he would like to purchase the snow plow truck prior to the next meeting. Mr. Kuehn made a motion to allow the Streets, Highway & Electric Lights committee to authorize the purchase of the truck on the state piggy back program; seconded by Mr. Bobinas. Motion passed as presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Bobinas would like to send invitations to all the county municipalities inviting them to a meeting to discuss and share information with each other. The meeting would be held on November 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rescue Hook and Ladder Co. Mr. Cleary recommended inviting only the butting townships. Mayor Dutcavich recommended inviting the townships in the school district and Norwegian Township.

A brief executive session was held at 7:56 p.m. to discuss a police personnel issues.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan Paul
Borough Secretary

