

April 7, 2020

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held April 7, 2020 via telephone conference call. Due to the Covid19 Virus social distancing rules, there will be no work session in April. President Milbrandt opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended via telephone the April 7, 2020 meeting: Ms. Katielynn Milbrandt, Mr. Mike Firestine, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mr. Robert Umbenhen, Mayor Sean Palmer, Solicitor Evans, Robert Mahalchick, Borough Manager and Police Chief Combs.

Filling the vacant council position due to the resignation of Paul Vuksta was the first order of business.

Mr. Mahal nominated Ashley Securda, Mr. Kuehn seconded the motion, on a roll call vote, Mrs. Securda failed to receive a majority vote (2 yes, 4no). Mr. Kuehn nominated Mr. Terry Lafferty, the motion failed to receive a second. Mr. Umbenhen nominated Sarah Newton. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. On a roll call vote Ms. Newton received a majority of yes votes-4yes, 2 no. Mayor Palmer swore in Ms. Newton to the Borough Council.

Mr. Umbenhen made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine, to approve the minutes from March 2020. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Umbenhen made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Mr. Darosh seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Darosh made a motion to approve the Officers' Reports. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Citizens' Comments:

Cheri and Mark Hammer had questions on vehicles being towed in the borough, as they have the towing contract. Mrs. Hammer stated that when they contacted Superintendent McBreen, he stated he did not tell the Police Department to contact Trail Towing. Chief Combs stated that he was not the officer on site so he will need to discuss the matter with Officer Brown. The Chief maintained that the towing was not a breach of the towing contract with Hammer Towing. The Solicitor will need to study the current contract. Mrs. Hammer stated there had been another incident when a vehicle was stopped and they were again not notified. The Police Chief stated it is an ongoing investigation and will not comment. Solicitor Evans will be in contact with Police Chief Combs, The Mayor and the Hammers to settle the matter.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to discuss.

New Business:

Mr. Firestine made a motion to put the towing contract, which begins June 1, out for bid. On the question, Sherri Hammer asked if the contract was for towing and repairs. Ms. Milbrandt responded it is just for towing. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

The first reading of the ordinance to vacate a portion of an unopened alley running between North and Lewis Streets parallel to North Delaware Avenue was completed.

Mr. Kuehn made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to extend the Declaration of Emergency until further notice. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Firestine to approve the work order from Entech Engineering for the Multimodal project. The motion passed as presented.

Communications:

There were no Communications to be read.

Council Committee Reports

Law and Order-Mr. Firestine stated the committee has been working on the towing contract.

Sewer and Water-Mr. Darosh reported the meetings have been cancelled due to the Corona Virus.

Streets-Mr. Firestine noted that workers are practicing social distancing. The Compost site is almost ready for the new card system to begin in June.

Fire-Mr. Umbenhen reported that meetings were postponed due to the Corona Virus.

Ms. Milbrandt reported that Dustin's Adventure land has received its 5013C status.

Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Umbenhen, to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary