

August 14, 2018

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held August 14, 2018 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street. Mr. Kuehn opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the August 14, 2018 meeting: Mr. Paul Vuksta, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mr. Bob Umbenhen, Mayor Leo Securda, Solicitor Evans, Robert Mahalchick, Fire Chief Eric Eichenberg, Borough Manager, Police Chief Combs and Kyle Crouse, Code Enforcement Officer. Five Council members were present which created a quorum.

Citizens' Comments:

Mr. Kerschner, South Street, spoke on the recent flooding again on South Street. Mr. Vuksta stated that the manhole covers popped off as well. Mr. Mahalchick said that a home on South Third Street, which he believes may not be in the borough, had recently done yard work, which may have hindered erosion control. Mr. Mahalchick stated the South Third Street storm inlets, which are the responsibility of Penn Dot, might have been blocked. Mr. Mahalchick stated that the railroad removed debris out of the creek or flooding would have occurred. Mr. Mahalchick stated the Street Department deserves credit for their work during the rainstorm.

Mr. Kerschner questioned why the officers on duty do not have a duty phone. He stated he tried to call the station to report a problem and got the answering machine. Chief Combs stated you can always call the non-emergency number the dispatcher will contact an officer.

Mr. Kerschner questioned the last time a manpower survey had been done for the police department. Mr. Kuehn responded it was done in 2009, but could be done in house. Police Chief Combs stated that he is limited by his manpower.

Mr. Hranchock, 400 Lewis Street, suggested addition handicapped parking places be added at the Little League Complex, as close to the field as possible.

Mrs. Helen Droskinis, Lytle Street, questioned if a decision had been made to place an additional streetlight. Mr. Mahal made a motion to place a street light at the corner of East and Maple Streets on the condition it is no cost to the borough. Mr. Darosh seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion approving the June and July meeting minutes. Mr. Umbenhen seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

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

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

Communications:

The request of Mr. Scott concerning the extension of Water Street was referred to the Solicitor.

Mr. Mahal reported he has been in contact with Veteran organizations concerning the sidewalk issues of Mr. Kostura, 249 North Street.

Mr. Umbenhen made a motion to approve the request of the Lions Club to place a sign advertising their Halloween Festival on October. 27. Mr. Mahal seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Old Business:

Mr. Mahal made a motion to disapprove and object to the repository sale of 19 Spencer Street and 124 Spruce Street based on concerns about the potential landlord. Mr. Vuksta seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal stated that the Land Bank would demolish 228 North Street. The Land Bank will deed 218 Third Street to Minersville Fire Rescue.

Residents interested in serving on a committee for proposals for a Comprehensive Plan should contact the borough office.

New Business:

Mr. Mahal made a motion to approve the Repository Sale of 157 South Third Street. Mr. Darosh seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

The problem of residents feeding wildlife on the walking path was tabled.

The road leading to the Lions Pavilion has been temporarily filled in and will be graded. Our only cost for a Schuylkill Conservation District Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Maintenance Grant will be engineering fees.

Vegetation in the area of the upper parking lot of the Recreation complex needs to be cleared from walking and driving areas only as it is needed for erosion.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta for the Borough to retroactively approve a temporary easement agreement to Miners Loft Senior Housing LP for grading of sidewalks on Lewis Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Umbenhen to approve the handicap parking application for 446 Lewis Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Darosh to approve the purchase of five computer workstation from Nerdy IT at a cost of \$6500, the cost to be split 2/5 by Borough and 3/5 by Water and Sewer Authorities. The motion passed as presented.

Police Chief Combs needs to confer with the Solicitor concerning amending the Police Ordinance for “No Soliciting”.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. Mahal made a motion authorizing Mr. Mahalchick to re-advertise the sale of the GMC dump truck as described. Mr. Darosh seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

The Solicitor reported there are concerns regarding the agreement hiring a resource officer for the Minersville School District.

Kyle Crouse reported that seasonal pools of residents would be addressed before next summer.

The future of the Penn Street playground will be discussed in the next issue of the Community Newsletter.

There is nothing new to report of the River Street wall.

Committee Reports:

Mr. Umbenhen commended everyone on the cleanup after the storms and flooding.

Mr. Darosh reported that Green Energy has terminated their agreement with the Water Authority. Mr. Darosh reported that additionally the Water Authority has had no communication concerning their current timbering agreement.

Community Updates:

This year’s Spirit Day will include a 5K and Fun Run.

The State Girls’ Championship Basketball sign, which was previously approved, is being erected

The Council went into Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters at 8:25. The Council returned at 9:05.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Umbenhen seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary

