

August 13, 2019

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held August 13, 2019 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street. President Kuehn opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the August 13, 2019 meeting: Mr. Paul Vuksta, Mrs. Jenn Beach, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mayor Kerry Kerschner, Solicitor B.J. Evans, Kyle Crouse, Robert Mahalchick, Borough Manager and Police Chief Combs.

Citizens' Comments:

Mrs. Beach made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the minutes from July 9, 2019. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Mrs. Beach seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

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

Mr. Chris Gulotta reported that there were no responses to the RFP for the Sunbury Street properties. Mr. Gulotta feels the price may be out of line and suggested having the property at 150 Sunbury Street appraised before producing a new RFP. Additionally, Mr Gulotta will get a better distribution list for the new RFP. Mr. Vuksta voiced concerns of possible sewer and water lines under those properties. Mr. Mahalchick will research if the properties are free and clear of sewer and water obstructions before proceeding with an appraisal.

Mr. Gulotta reported on discussions held at the community meeting on blight. Some strategies that require Council's action are-conservatorship of properties, charging violators with a criminal offense, turning over properties to the Land Bank and taxing programs with the school district.

Communications:

Police Chief Combs will contact Mr. Laughlin with the request from the Tamaqua Fire Department for our fire police for the Schuylkill County Fireman's Convention on August 24.

The Council refused the request of the Minersville Skate Park to cover their insurance. The Council will research the lease with the Minersville Area Skate Park, if there is no insurance the park needs to be shut down.

Patton and Company will no longer be doing municipal audits. Their employees who have been doing the audits for the borough are now working at Jones and Co. The current audits are complete.

Old Business:

There was no Old Business to discuss.

New Business:

Mrs. Beach made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the handicap parking renewal application for 510 Sunbury Street. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Darosh to approve the handicap parking application for Lewis Street submitted by Yocko's. Mr. Vuksta abstained from voting. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve payment #2 to Performance Construction in the amount of \$36,198.72 for the Legion Park Project. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal, to approve the payment of \$17,640 retroactive to July 18, 2019, to Womer Landscaping for the Fourth Street Playground Project. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to approve the proposal for drainage work at the Little League Complex associated with the Fourth Street Playground Project, retroactive to July 18, 2019, in the amount of \$6,200.00. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to approved change orders #1, #2, and #3 for the Legion Park Project with the exception of paragraph #3. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to approve the updated proposal for BSN Sports for netting at the Little League Complex. The motion passed as presented.

The work order for Entech to prepare a cost estimate on the Fire Rescue building was tabled. A discussion was held on the future home of the Borough and Police Offices and the future of the Borough Hall.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the Winter Maintenance Agreement with PennDOT. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach for an Easement Agreement for properties on 6th and Sunbury Streets for the Green Light Go Project. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Kuehn questioned why people are living in buildings that are "condemned". Chief Combs replied that unless there is a health or fire hazard, there is no eviction. The Chief asked what he would do with people who are evicted.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kerschner thanked everyone for making the Borough's first annual National Night Out a success. A Habitat for Humanity meeting will be held at Penn State, Schuylkill.

Council Committee Reports

Streets and Highways-Mr. Vuksta reported we need to find a solution to the compost problem. Mr. Kuehn suggested researching what our ordinance addresses. Mr. Vuksta stated that the gate and entry cards for the recycling center are ready to be installed. Signs for the area need to be prepared.

Public Property-The Fourth Street Playground Project is complete. New streetlights at the playground are complete.

Water and Sewer-Timbering continues for the Water Company. John Hopkins turned down the open position with the Water Company. Another candidate has not been named. Don Cuff has addressed flooding on Laurel Street. The Wolf Culvert is causing problems on Carbon Street. An access to the culvert needs to be found.

Community Updates:

Spirit Day will be held September 8.

Me. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary