

September 11, 2018

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held September 11, 2018 in the Council Chambers, North Delaware Avenue and East Carbon Street. Mr. Kuehn opened the meeting with The Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed to remember the victims of 9/11.

Attendance:

The following Council members attended the September 11, 2018 meeting: Mr. Paul Vuksta, Ms. Katielynn Milbrandt, Mrs. Jenn Beach, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Ian Mahal, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mr. Bob Umbenhen, Mayor Leo Securda, Solicitor Evans, Don Cuff, Borough Engineer, Robert Mahalchick, Borough Manager and Police Chief Combs. Seven Council members were present which created a quorum.

Mrs. Beach made a motion to approve the hiring of Patrolman Harry Brown. Mr. Darosh seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mrs. Beach made a motion to approve the hiring of Patrolman Timothy Walsh. Mr. Vuksta seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Mayor Securda swore in new Police Officers Harry Brown, V and Timothy Walsh.

Citizens' Comments:

Joe Post, 443 North Street, presented a contribution to the upkeep of the Union Cemetery in Memory of his Grandfather who is buried there.

Mike Firestein, 122 South Street, spoke on flood issues on South Street. Mr. Firestein had 3 ½ feet of water in his basement. Mr. Mahalchick stated that Penn Dot had put in berms on South Third Street last week hoping that will help with flooding. Mr. Kuehn questioned if there had been any flooding issues in the last couple of days with the rainfall we received. Mr. Firestein stated there had not been. Mr. Vuksta stated that during the previous flooding event, the manhole cover popped off. Mr. Vuksta stated that Mr. Sukeena stated it might be an issue with the box culvert. Don cuff stated that that with the intensity of the storm that caused flooding no storm inlet could handle the water. Mr. Cuff stated that pipes and inlets are going to be televised. Additionally the intersection at South and Second Streets needs to be looked into. Mr. Cuff stated that the belief that a former project caused the problem is not the case. The project was a sanitary project not a storm water project, but he will investigate further.

Monica Raczka, Baker Street, questioned the condemned notice at 461 Sunbury Street, but the Bakery is open. Police Chief Combs stated that it is not always a sanitary issue. Mrs. Raczka asked about a property where the owner has been deceased for twenty years. Police Chief Combs stated to call the code Enforcement Officer and they will try to find the current owner and notify them.

Mrs. Raczka thanked the Borough for taking down tree limbs overhanging that property.

Mr. Kerschner, South Street, expressed thanks for looking into the flooding issues, but it is still happening every few weeks.

Mr. Kerschner asked for the current Police Report. Police Chief Combs stated he was tied up and did not make copies.

Mr. Kerschner asked the status on nuisance violations. Mr. Mahal stated that the Solicitor is studying them.

Brandon Kopinetz, High Road, with the Minersville Youth Soccer Association spoke on the recent accident of a child being hit by a car. The Association is asking for permission to install permanent fencing at the fields and institute one-way traffic during games. Ms. Milbrandt stated that congestion in the area is a concern. Changing start times of games should be considered. Jess Moran with the Soccer Association stated that this was a traffic accident and could have happened at any time. Mr. Kopinetz stated he would be meeting with parents and players to stress safety and to enforce the one-way traffic. Jess Moran stated that the Association would like to extend their parking lot. Mr. Vuksta asked how opposing teams would be aware of the one-way traffic pattern. Mr. Kopinetz stated that the message would be sent out Countywide. Mrs. Milbrandt stated that she was at the soccer field when the accident happened and every one was stuck there. She stated everyone needs to work together on a solution. Jess Moran asked why soccer should be penalized by changing starting times for one accident and staggering start times is no help. Mr. Kopinetz stated that the Association is having an emergency meeting tomorrow. Mr. Mahal stated he would attend and meet with the board. Mr. Kuehn stated his concern of installing a permanent fence and feels that needs to be studied before approval is given. Jess Moran stated this was a pedestrian accident. Police Chief Combs stated that there will be a police representative at the meeting.

Brandon Kopinetz asked if there were any open parking slots in the community lot. Police Chief Combs believes there are, but suggested calling the Borough Office. Mr. Kopinetz inquired if he could get a discount if he rented several spaces.

Mr. Kerschner thanked Mr. Kopinetz for securing spaces in the lot, which will free up parking for residents.

Ms., Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Darosh to approve the minutes from August 2018. The motion passed as presented.

Mrs, Beach made a motion to approve the bills as presented. Ms. Milbrandt 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.

Communications:

Mr. Umbenhen made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to approve the request of the Goodwill Fire Co. to hold a boot drive on October 21 from 8am to 4p, at Sixth and Sunbury Street with the stipulation that Police Chief Combs will communicate with the company regarding precautions in the area. The motion passed as presented.

The request of the Youth Soccer Association to install a permanent fence at the soccer complex was tabled until the October meeting.

A thank you note was received from Ashley Securda, Chairwoman of Spirit Day, for the Borough's cooperation with the event. Mrs. Securda stated that for the first time a profit was realized and will be donated to the Minersville Library. The Council thanked Mrs. Securda on a job well done.

Old Business:

Mr. Mahalchick stated that the Bureau of Mines has denied that the hole at the South Fourth Street Complex is a mine issue. The hole is approximately 17 feet deep. A letter will be sent to the Bureau of Mines confirming their opinion. Mr. Darosh made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta that following a written confirmation from the Bureau of Mines, the hole will be filled with stone and topped with a cement cap. The motion passed as presented.

New Business:

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Umbenhen to award the contract for tree removal at the Union Cemetery in conjunction with St. Michael's Church sharing the cost 50%, to Jason's Tree Service in the amount of \$6,000.00. The motion passed as presented.

Don Cuff informed Council that services of Borough workers would be needed to help with the mapping and maintenance of storm inlets throughout the Borough.

Mr. Mahalchick stated that plans for Memorial Park would be available prior to the October meeting. Any changes to the plans need to be forwarded to the consultant before the meeting so that plans can be approved for bid.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt to approve the in-kind contributions by the Borough for the Dirt and Gravel Road Project. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta to approve the Resolution for 2018 CDBG funding. The motion passed as presented.

Mrs. Beach made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt to approve the hiring of Felicia Stine as a crossing guard for the Elementary Center. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt to approve the Civil Service list as follows-1. Gerald Daley 2. Timothy Walsh 3. Harry Brown

The motion passed as presented.

Mayor Securda swore in Angela Hean to the Fire Police.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Umbenhen to approve the installation of a new steel dump bed on the 2008 Chevrolet truck by EM Kutz in the amount of \$13,143.00, which was the only quote received. On the question, Mr. Vuksta stated the truck cannot be inspected without replacing the bed. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Mr. Mahal to advertise for sale the blue 1998 truck with plow. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt, to junk the 2002 blue pickup truck but keep the plow. The motion passed as presented.

Mr. Vuksta informed the Council that the recycling truck is in need of repairs in the amount of \$12,820. With no guarantee on the life of the engine. Mr. Kuehn suggested contacting other Boroughs to inquire they handle recycling. Mr. Mahalchick stated we have applied for a recycling grant and should have that decision by the end of September but the money from the grant would not be available until the New Year.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mrs. Beach to accept the bid of Mr. Ernest Scott of \$300.00 for two generators and a trailer. The motion passed as presented.

Fencing for the Sunbury Street property that was demolished needs to be purchased, as the demolition contractor wants his fencing returned or bought by the borough.

Community Updates:

Fall cleanup will be held September 17-22.

The Halloween Parade will be held October 27, with October 28 being the rain date.

The Haunted House will be held October 27th and 28th.

Trick or treat is October 31, with November 1st being the rain date.

Santa will come to town on November 25.

Mr. Mahal reported that the Playground grant awards should be released next week. Mr. Mahal reported that the Blight Committee is receiving a lot of interest with residents wanting to serve.

Mr. Mahal reported that there would be a conference call with CDBG

Mr. Mahal made a motion, second by Ms. Milbrandt to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary

