

February 11, 2020

The regular meeting of the Council of the Borough of Minersville was held February 11, 2020 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 February 11, 2020 meeting: Mr. Paul Vuksta, Ms. Katielynn Milbrandt, Mr. Mike Firestine, Mr. Jamie Kuehn, Mr. Steve Darosh, Mr. Robert Umbenhen, Mayor Sean Palmer, Solicitor Day, Kyle Crouse, Robert Mahalchick, Borough Manager and Police Chief Combs.

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion, second by Mr. Umbenhen, to approve the minutes from January 14, 2020. The motion passed as presented.

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

Ms. Milbrandt made a motion to approve the Officers' Reports. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. The motion passed as presented.

Citizens' Comments: Mark Hammer, of Hammer towing questioned the towing of several cars within the borough by Trail Towing. Mr. Hammer has the towing contract with the borough. Police Chief Combs responded that the cars were on private property and the property owner can call whoever they would like to tow the vehicles.

Mrs. Raczka questioned an empty home on the top of North Third Street that she sees people coming in and out of. Mr. Crouse stated that home is bank owned.

Communications:

The request by the Minersville Band and Choir Association to financially support their Chinese Auction was denied, as per past practice.

Mr. Darosh made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta to approve the request of the Minersville Little League to play games until 11pm during the season, if necessary. The motion passed as presented.

New Business:

The first reading of the Quality of Life Ordinance was completed. The modifications to the ordinance in sections 4 and 10 will be published prior to the second reading. Mr. Kuehn complimented Kyle Crouse on performing a great job.

Jim Wormer inspected the Teaberry Hill playground and suggested it be closed until repairs can be made. The seats on the swings need to be replaced and the hooks closed. The merry-go-round and seesaws need to be removed and holes filled. Mr. Mahalchick stated it might be done next week. A new piece of equipment is under consideration.

The Vacancy Board appointment needs clarification.

National Night Out will be held August 4th from 5pm to 7pm. The work session for that evening will be cancelled. Mr. Firestine made a motion, second by Mr. Vuksta to pay the \$35 registration fee. The motion passed as presented

The Council met in Executive Session for personnel matters from 7:35 to 7:40.

Mr. Vuksta made a motion for reorganization. Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. Mr. Firestine made a motion to remove the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman and approve Ms. Milbrandt as Chairman. Solicitor Day stated that visitors could express their opinions. Monica Raczka stated that she feels Mr. Kuehn is doing a good job. Mr. Kuehn stated that council was displeased with his choices for committees. Solicitor Day stated the decision to remove the current officers could be debated. Since no debate was begun, Mr. Vuksta seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, with Mr. Mahal participating by phone, Ms. Milbrandt was approved 5 yes to 2 no. Mr. Vuksta made a motion to approve Mr. Darosh as Vice-Chairman, Mr. Firestine seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, with Mr. Mahal participating by phone, Mr. Darosh was approved 5 yes to 2 no. Ms. Milbrandt continued to chair the meeting.

Unfinished Business

The appraisal of the building on Fourth Street is complete at \$330,000. Architect renderings will be complete by the end of the week. March 1st is the planned public forum. Mr. Firestine questioned having a public forum when only fifteen people came to a council meeting when the subject was discussed. Mr. Firestine questioned how nonresidents would be kept from stating their opinions at a forum. Mrs. Raczka questioned the cost of the appraisal. Mr. Mahalchick stated the cost was \$1500. Council had approved a cost of \$2500.

Council Committee Reports

Recreation-Mr. Darosh reported that Mr. Wormer is continuing with fundraisers for his non-profit which will be building a handicapped playground. Fundraisers are planned for 2/29, 8/15 and 9/19. Mr. Darosh reported that the non-profit is interested in having an Adult Splash Party, which would include alcoholic beverages. The Solicitor stated he feels that opens the borough to liability. The non-profit will be meeting with the Little League next Monday.

Community Updates

The annual Egg Hunt will be held on April 11, 2020.

Council discussed trees being taken down at the Little League complex without Council's knowledge until after they were removed.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Capik, Secretary

